

QUESTIONS LODGED PURSUANT TO STANDING ORDER NO.16 FOR REPLY AT THE MONTHLY MEETING OF DUBLIN CITY COUNCIL TO BE HELD ON MONDAY, 08th MAY 2017

Q.1 COUNCILLOR RUAIRÍ MCGINLEY

To ask the Chief Executive to set out the level of staff resignations and retirements in 2017 and the number of staff recruited in 2017.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY

Approximately 80 employees have retired or resigned from the City Council in 2017 to date. As per our Dublin City Council Workforce Plan 2015 – 2017, it is expected that staffing numbers will be retained at our December 2015 level of 5624. This is subject to business requirements, ongoing restructuring and adequate financial arrangements.

Q.2 COUNCILLOR RAY MCADAM

To ask the Chief Executive to provide (**details supplied**)

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY

A reply has been issued to the Councillor.

Q.3 COUNCILLOR SEAN PAUL MAHON

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

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY

A reply has been issued to the Councillor.

Q.4 COUNCILLOR RAY MCHUGH

To ask the Chief Executive to arrange for speed restrictions ramps and children at play signs erected at (**details supplied**)

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY

A reply has been issued to the Councillor.

Q.5 COUNCILLOR CHRISTY BURKE

To ask the Chief Executive that works be started (**details supplied**)

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY

A reply has been issued to the Councillor.

Q.6 COUNCILLOR CHRISTY BURKE

To ask the Chief Executive when the grant will be agreed for (**details supplied**)

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY

A reply has been issued to the Councillor.

Q.7 COUNCILLOR CHRISTY BURKE

To ask the Chief Executive if DCC have plans to demolish or refurbish (**details supplied**)

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

A reply has been issued to the Councillor.

Q.8 COUNCILLOR CHRISTY BURKE

To ask the Chief Executive to outline the plans for (**details supplied**)

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY

A reply has been issued to the Councillor.

Q.9 COUNCILLOR DERMOT LACEY

To ask the Chief Executive to clarify on what date the set of Visitors Discs including Disc number 0259397 was sought by the applicant and issued by Dublin City Council?

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY

Residents who have a valid parking permit can apply for up to 80 visitor permits. Upon receipt of payment for visitor permits they are issued by Customer Services but the serial number of permits issued are not recorded.

Q.10 COUNCILLOR DERMOT LACEY

To ask the Chief Executive why a resident was told in writing by Dublin City Council that there are no Dublin City Council signs indicating three hour parking restrictions located on parking time signs - when clearly there are?

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY

Pay and Display parking is subject to a maximum period of 3 hours unless otherwise stated. In areas where Pay and Display parking is allowed for a lesser period signs are erected to advise the maximum time allowed.

In the absence of a sign advising the time limit allowed for parking then the maximum (3 hours) applies.

The correspondence referred to specifically stated.

"I'm informed by the relevant traffic officer that there is no such sign for P&D/permit parking as three hours is the default maximum parking time. Signage is provided where the maximum stay is less."

Any confusion that may have been caused is regretted.

Q.11 COUNCILLOR DERMOT LACEY

To ask the Chief Executive why no parking enforcement measures were taken against a car improperly using a visitors disc on Meades Terrace, Dublin 2 between December 15th 2016 and the end of February 2017 when Dublin City Council officials had been expressly informed of the impropriety and to ask the Chief Executive why a simple phone call (as a phone number or email is a requirement under the bye laws) was not availed of to assess the residential status of the permit holder.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY

This matter is currently being investigated and a report will issue to the Councillor when this is complete.

Q.12 COUNCILLOR DERMOT LACEY

To ask the Chief Executive how he can reconcile his reply to Question Number 9 at the April meeting of the City Council with this letter from the Department of Housing, Planning, Community and Local Government and to further request the Chief Executive to have placed on the agenda of the City Council ANY necessary motion to achieve the provision relating to fees as provided for in the second paragraph of the same letter.

Dermot Lacey
In answer to your query;

The €20 fee does not apply at area and other official meetings. In relation to discussions on planning applications, councillors may oppose, support or reject applications. However, any specific observations/comments made by elected members do not open the planning application decision to legal challenge. The Planning and Development (Amendment) Bill 2016 provides for Regulations to be made to waive or reduce fees required in the making of observations on applications for planning permissions. It provides that elected members may pay a reduced fee or no fee for making such a submission on a planning application. This is in response to the Mahon Tribunal planning recommendation no. 8 which seeks for interventions made by elected members in respect of specific applications to be noted on file.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

I understand that rather than a letter what is being referred to is an email from a spokesperson from the Department Housing, Planning, Community and Local Government to a journalist who referenced it in an article in the Inquirer (issue 8/3/17). The email was not sent to this office. The response to Question Number 9 at the April meeting of the City Council was issued as there has been no further update to this office from the Department since the response received in November 2016 which indicated that the Minister is considering the suggestions made in the context of the review of legislation currently underway.

Suggested wording for a motion in this regard is as follows:

Dublin City Council calls on the Minister to make without delay the necessary regulations to exempt elected members, when undertaking their representative duties, from paying the prescribed fee for making a submission or observation in relation to a planning application.

Q.13 COUNCILLOR RAY MC HUGH

To ask the Chief Executive to arrange for extra seating in Willie Pearse Park, Crumlin. Another 2 seats are needed to cater for the many senior citizens that take to walking in the park on a daily basis.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY

Two benches will be installed in Willie Pearse Park during the summer.

Q.14 COUNCILLOR SEAN PAUL MAHON

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

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY

A reply has been issued to the Councillor.

Q.15 COUNCILLOR DECLAN FLANAGAN

To ask the Chief Executive (**details supplied**)

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

A reply has been issued to the Councillor.

Q.16 COUNCILLOR DECLAN FLANAGAN

To ask the Chief Executive (**Details Supplied**)

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY

A reply has been issued to the Councillor.

Q.17 COUNCILLOR DECLAN FLANAGAN

Can the Chief Executive provide an update on the following (**detail supplied**):

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY

A reply has been issued to the Councillor.

Q.18 COUNCILLOR DECLAN FLANAGAN

To ask the Chief Executive to provide a response to the following:

There is currently at least 39% of the units in Belmayne are in use for social housing. The current proposal will raise this to 46.5%. This is a clear breach of the original planning application for Belmayne (Planning Register Reference Number: 4315/03 as extended under Planning Register Reference Number: 4315/03/x1) made provision for 10% social and 10% affordable housing within the overall Belmayne development.

- The concentration of social housing in one location instead of pepper spotting it throughout the development is also in contravention of the original planning application.
- Furthermore, the proposed Ayrfield development contravenes the objective of the LAP to create sustainable, inclusive communities.
- The lack of amenities in Belmayne is manifest, placing an unacceptable burden on Belmayne residents and is undermining efforts to create a sustainable community. Further residential development, especially social housing, whose tenants are more dependent on local amenities, should not be permitted until the lack of amenities is addressed.
- Residential Densities and Land Use within the Development

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY

The Councillor's question raises a number of issues relating to sustainable communities including tenure mix, amenities and density of development.

The Belmayne residential area as constructed was granted planning permission under two key planning applications, Reg. Reg. 0354/02 (as modified by Reg. Ref. 4044/04) and 4315/03 (as modified by a number of subsequent permissions). From these permissions a total of 942 residential units were constructed (plus a number of commercial premises). Under Part V agreements DCC acquired 185 no. units as social and affordable housing. Due to the timing of the construction and the collapse in the housing market only 27 no. of the 51 no. affordable housing units were sold. The remaining unsold 24 no. units were transferred for social housing. In addition, Cluid Housing Association directly leased from the Receiver a total of 75 no. unsold units in P7 for social rental. A further 8 no. units are allocated for a combination of RAS and of the relocation of Priory Hall residents, thus bringing the total social / voluntary housing figure to 241 no. units or 25.6% of the total build to date. It should be noted that the transfer of the unsold affordable and private housing units to social rental took place at a time when the housing market had collapsed and leaving these unsold units empty would not have benefited the local area or helped to create a sustainable community.

The Housing Strategy of the Dublin City Development Plan 2016-2022 seeks the provision of mixed tenure housing developments. This can be mixed within an individual scheme or mixed within a neighbourhood/ community. This approach allows for savings in construction and maintenance costs; while still ensuring the community is mixed. The children will still attend the same schools, sports clubs, playgrounds; people will visit the same parks, shops etc. The neighbourhood / community achieves a balance.

The Ayrfield proposal, located to the immediate west of Belmayne, includes provision for 150 no. new social housing units. This should be seen in the context of Parkside to the immediate east. Here 166 no. units have been constructed and occupied, with a further 212 no. units on site or granted permission. The Part V requirement for these new schemes has previously been met within Belmayne as constructed. As such the social/ voluntary percentage for the combined area of Ayrfield, Belmayne and Parkside would be 26.6% once constructed.

It is furthermore noted that the Ayrfield proposal includes provision for 50 no. senior citizen units, which will be located in close proximity to the commercial heart of the area and with the existing and future town centre amenities, as promoted under Section 5.5.4 of the Dublin City Development Plan. The proposal also includes provision for new amenities in the form of a new MUGA and crèche to serve not just the Ayrfield development but also the adjoining Belmayne community. A detailed Social Infrastructure Audit is being prepared as part of the Ayrfield proposal which will allow for further detailed consideration of this matter. The Clongfiffin-Belmayne LAP also provides a key context for the provision of local amenities, indicating appropriate locations for schools, open spaces, commercial units etc. The site at Ayrfield has and remains ear-marked for predominately residential use. Its development will bring additional population to the area thus assisting the viability of future commercial developments sought to the south of the site, in keeping with the LAP.

The final point raised is that of residential densities and land use. As per Section 7.6 of the LAP, it is noted that the LAP is located within a public transport corridor and based on the guidelines published by the Department of Environment, Heritage and Local Government on Sustainable Residential Development in Urban Areas, a general minimum net density of 50 units per hectare should be achieved subject to appropriate design and amenity standards. Higher densities will be promoted and sought within 500 metres walking distance of a bus stop and 1km of the rail station. Belmayne as constructed achieves in the order of 85 units per ha (based on net site area). The Parkside housing scheme to the east, is in the order of c. 40 units per ha. This lower level of density was accepted based on location further from the main public transport arteries and the need to kick-start development to deliver housing. Future schemes adjoining the Main Street, the Malahide Road and in the vicinity of the rail station will be acquired to achieve higher densities in keeping with the Department guidance and the LAP in order to achieve sustainable communities.

Q.19 COUNCILLOR LARRY O'TOOLE

To ask the Chief Executive (**details supplied**)

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY

A reply has been issued to the Councillor.

Q.20 COUNCILLOR LARRY O'TOOLE

To ask the Chief Executive (**details supplied**)

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

A reply has been issued to the Councillor.

Q.21 COUNCILLOR LARRY O'TOOLE

To ask the Chief Executive to have the **(details supplied)**

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY

A reply has been issued to the Councillor.

Q.22 COUNCILLOR CRIONA NI DHALAIGH

To ask the Chief Executive **(details supplied)**

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY

A reply has been issued to the Councillor.

Q.23 COUNCILLOR CHRIS ANDREWS

To ask the Chief Executive if the old decommissioned and derelict phone box's across Dublin and in particular in areas like Donnybrook and Nassau Street that have advertising on them have permission to have this advertisement and who receives the income from these telephone advertising boxes?

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY

EIR have the responsibility for the provision and maintenance of pay phones throughout the country. EIR has a programme for removal of derelict or unnecessary pay phone kiosks. A double kiosk opposite Kiely's Public House in Donnybrook has been identified for removal. However, none have been identified for removal on Nassau Street. Advertising on payphones is not authorised under planning legislation and any breach of this legislation is followed up by Planning Enforcement.

Q.24 COUNCILLOR CHRIS ANDREWS

To ask the Chief Executive who is responsible for the management of Heskin Court estate maintenance - Is it DCC and if not who is responsible?

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY

Liaison Officer

We have been working to identify a replacement officer following the recent staff assignments and hope to have one in place shortly. In the interim the members of staff in the area office are dealing with issues as they arise.

Lighting

Bulb replacements are the responsibility of the management company who have replaced a substantial amount of bulbs lately. However, there was an issue where one of the tenants who has been shutting off breakers in the basement boards. To prevent any further interference the boards have now been locked.

Common Areas

Cleaning of communal areas is the responsibility of the management company. Stairs and walkways are maintained by the management company who will have a contractor look at the stairs and walkways and have them power washed where required.

The South East Area Community Team has been working with a group of residents on gardening initiatives. All garden space is communal. No garden space is the responsibility of any individual tenant.

Cutting of grass and trimming back hedging are carried out by the management company. Window cleaning is the responsibility of the management company who will have it carried out straight away.
Electrical Services in Dublin City Council is responsible for keeping lifts operational.

Gates

Gates are maintained by the management company. The car park gate was open last weekend as a result of a faulty bearing and this was repaired on Monday.

Magnet on wooden gate at Block 1

This is the responsibility of the management company. It is possible it is due to the breaking of one of the break glass units, which are regularly broken by residents. The management company will investigate.

Q.25 COUNCILLOR CHRIS ANDREWS

To ask the Chief Executive, bearing in mind that being a pedestrian in Grand Canal Square in the Docklands is very dangerous as a result of the lack of regulation for cyclists, can the Chief Executive state what is being done to make it safer for pedestrians and when will this process be complete?

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY

Dublin City Council, with the support of the National Transport Authority (NTA) was in the process of developing proposals for safety improvements for all users of Grand Canal Square during 2016. However Grand Canal Square is not part of the current priority projects for the NTA and no funding has been allocated to this project to date in 2017. It will not be possible to advance proposals for this area until funding is secured.

Q.26 COUNCILLOR CHRIS ANDREWS

To ask the Chief Executive whether Councillors will decide if cyclists will have to dismount when crossing the pedestrianised College Green Plaza when it is complete and if not who makes this decision?

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY

The proposed design for the new Civic Space at College Green incorporates a defined route for cyclists to traverse the space. Outside of this defined route, cycling will be prohibited.

Q.27 COUNCILLOR MANNIX FLYNN

To ask the Chief Executive to have a full independent examination of all data relating to footfall emanating from Dublin City Council traffic cameras and other such DCC cameras independently verified. There is grave concern within certain business quarters that data derived from DCC traffic camera and pedestrian camera systems is being used inappropriately to bolster up footfall numbers within the City Council commercial and business district. DCC have an obligation and a care of duty to verify this information that is being brought into the public domain by a private company. Further, can the Chief Executive include in the report all arrangements that DCC has with the Dublin BID with regards sharing this camera data? What contracts are in place, protocols and arrangements? Also was this ever put out to public procurement etc?

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY

At present DCC do not use their Traffic Cameras for any footfall counting and do not provide any information to any third parties regarding any footfall information. DCC does not use a private company to undertake footfall counting.

I am not aware of any arrangement with Dublin BID re sharing of information or of any contracts which may be in place.

Q.28 COUNCILLOR MANNIX FLYNN

To ask the Chief Executive can he issue a full report with regards the Dublin City Council initiative Culture Connects, including all expenditure to date. To include all personnel involved, all community groups engaged and grants allocated, all criteria regarding selection process, all contracts regarding PR, all temporary/new staff taken on board in relation to this initiative, all pay and salary grades and fees paid to date.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY

A reply to this question is found as an attachment.

Q.29 COUNCILLOR MANNIX FLYNN

To ask the Chief Executive to ascertain from their executive officers who is member of the board of the BID/Dublincity Company whether consent was sought by the board of BID for the issuing of threatening legal letters which were sent out to individuals in the past two weeks in relation to submissions regarding the renewal of the BID scheme? It would appear that these legal letters have an implication for Dublin City Council and its staff member on the board of the BID and fly in the face of the democratic process of being able to make such submissions in the public. There would also appear to be a conflict of interest here with regards Dublin City Councils position regarding oversight and administration of the BID plebiscite and renewal scheme and its election process. Can the Chief Executive issue legal clarification with regards to this matter?

As a public representative and former member of the BID board, I made a detailed submission and as a result received threatening legal letters from the BID Company with regards the content of my submission. It is my belief, that this has implication for Dublin City Council and its staff member who is appointed by the Chief Executive of Dublin City Council to the board of the BID Company.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY

This is not a matter of concern to Dublin City Council. The BID company is a separate legal entity to DCC and the Council cannot interfere in the way in which it conducts its business. Any Council staff or Councillors who are on the Board of the Company owe a fiduciary duty to the company and must put the Company's interests first. It is quite inappropriate for them to in any way explain or justify the actions of the Company to DCC.

Q.30 COUNCILLOR MANNIX FLYNN

To ask the Chief Executive to issue a full report detailing the amount of legal fees Dublin City Council has spent over the last 2 years on cases taken by Dublin City Council. This report to include - how many cases are before the courts at present? The length that these cases have been before the courts? The amount of adjournments in all legal cases? The breakdown of all legal fees in relation to adjournments in these cases. Also, a full report on how DCC acquires its legal services and defences in cases before the courts. What procurement processes? What value for money processes and a detailed analysis of the outcomes of such cases. i.e. those in favour of DCC and those where we failed. Also who has oversight of all legal actions involving Dublin City Council that are before the courts? Where does the legal department of DCC or the law agent report these matters and how often?

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY

The reply to Councillor Flynn's question will take some time to assemble and is not available for the May Council meeting. When all the data is assembled it will be sent to Councillor Flynn.

Q.31 COUNCILLOR NOELEEN REILLY

To ask the Chief Executive (**details supplied**)

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY

A reply has been issued to the Councillor.

Q.32 COUNCILLOR NOELEEN REILLY

To ask the Chief Executive (**details supplied**)

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY

A reply has been issued to the Councillor.

Q.33 COUNCILLOR NOELEEN REILLY

To ask the Chief Executive (**details supplied**)

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY

A reply has been issued to the Councillor.

Q.34 COUNCILLOR NOELEEN REILLY

To ask the Chief Executive (**details supplied**)

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY

A reply has been issued to the Councillor.

Q.35 COUNCILLOR CRIONA NI DHALAIGH

To ask the Chief Executive (**details supplied**)

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY

A reply has been issued to the Councillor.

Q.36 COUNCILLOR CRIONA NI DHALAIGH

To ask the Chief Executive why there is such a delay in addressing the following issue as I have raised this matter on a few occasions but no action has been taken following inspections. Can I please have a copy of the report following on from the inspection and a time frame for addressing the problem? (**details supplied**)

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY

I inspected the location on 21/04/17 and confirm that the joints surrounding the existing concrete slabs have been in-filled and over-banded. I see no signs of subsidence at this location, the joints have opened slightly and were previously sealed with hot bitumen binder but due to Health & Safety concerns Road maintenance no longer use that specific method. Road Maintenance has previously sealed all the joints to the side of this residence at the junction. We have an alternative that isn't as flexible in its uses and is more suited to straight lines. As a last resort Road Maintenance will schedule a final visit to see if we can seal any other joints there.

Q.37 COUNCILLOR CRIONA NI DHALAIGH

To ask the Chief Executive to consider locating a tourist/heritage office in the Liberties area. This area has one of the biggest tourist attractions in the country with

1.6m visitors to the Store House last year. The area is rich in history not just in distillery but much more and the locating of a tourist office here would greatly increase footfall in the area not just to the Store House.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY

This proposal has been discussed and supported at the Area Committee. The Area Office is fully supportive of the proposal. The facility however should be more than a tourist/heritage office. The facility should provide information and a starting point for walking tours of the Liberties and Dublin 8. It could also host and make available a digital historical archive for the area. It should also provide a Business Investment/start –up information, referral and advice service. This facility could also be availed of by tourists as overseas visitors are themselves potential investors. These services could be run under the umbrella of the Liberties Business Forum as a social enterprise. The Area Office will research options and costs. One option is to promote local businesses that may choose to contribute to operating costs. It would be ideal if the proposed office was in a facility that could also house Dublin City Council's Area Office and be effectively a Civic Partnership Hub for Dublin 8. Ideally such a facility should be located as close as possible to Thomas Street to maximise the engagement with tourist footfall. Perhaps such a facility could be contained within a redeveloped Iveagh Markets.

The Area Office will prepare a report on the feasibility and options for the above.

Q.38 COUNCILLOR RAY MC ADAM

To ask the Chief Executive to undertake the necessary steps to begin the process of adding **(Details Supplied)** to the List of Protected Structures and to outline what further steps are needed in order to ensure this property is protected?

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY

Following a number of submissions by residents to the Conservation Section in early April, officers of the Section undertook a preliminary investigation of the architectural character and special interest of the building and recommended that a consultant be appointed promptly to assess the location for the purposes of its proposed addition to the Record of Protected Structures (RPS). A consultant has now been appointed to undertake this assessment and report back to the Conservation Section, with their recommendation, by the end of May.

Q.39 COUNCILLOR RAY MC ADAM

To ask the Chief Executive to review the proposed parking scheme for **(Details Supplied)** following the recent successful vote of residents to introduce Pay & Display and Permit Parking as it proposes the installation of double yellow lines in front of a number of homes on the avenue, thereby negatively impacting them, meaning that those residents will only be able to park there every second day if they are lucky?

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY

The residents concerned at **(details supplied)** were balloted in November/December, 2016, on the introduction of a Parking Scheme. The ballot papers included a map of the Scheme which indicated two-sided parking on the majority of the road. Due to insufficient road width, a stretch of one-sided parking, with double yellow lines on the opposite side, was recommended by the Traffic Advisory Group. This layout is in accordance with the City Council's criteria for the provision of one-sided parking.

Q.40 COUNCILLOR ANTHONY CONNAGHAN

To ask the Chief Executive if it is possible to **(details supplied)**

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY

A reply has been issued to the Councillor.

Q.41 COUNCILLOR ANTHONY CONNAGHAN

To ask the Chief Executive to provide **(details supplied)**

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY

A reply has been issued to the Councillor.

Q.42 COUNCILLOR LARRY O'TOOLE

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

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY

A reply has been issued to the Councillor.

Q.43 COUNCILLOR DAVID COSTELLO

To ask the Chief Executive in light of the imminent opening of the LUAS Line in Cabra can he respond to the following concerns of local residents:

a. The Residents have requested tree planting on the lower Cabra Road and we want inclusion here for 2018, considering that 2017 budget has been allocated already. We are one of the main arterial roads into town and excluded yet again and overlooked by our representatives.

b. The Residents have applied for Pay and display due to commuters parking on the Lower Cabra Road and the difficulty already for residents to park. With the LUAS starting this December we expect this problem to increase further and we want this application speeded up. We see that there is only one other application in the area for meters, that is on Shandon Crescent. Our reference with the advisory group is Ref: 308 34794.

c. The Residents are looking for bollards at the junction of Dowth Avenue/Cabra Road and a yellow box at Charleville/Cabra Road. A similar question from Councillor David Costello (question 63) was put to the manager on Tuesday 19 April. They have major illegal parking issue in this area (as highlighted on the minutes) where cars are parked on the footpath and we want this addressed by our representatives. They are engaging with Kevin Meade but we feel his response is unsatisfactory and it needs a better response/action. They are looking for bollards and tactile paving in this area.

d. The Residents have also emailed Councillors to ask that for our support in getting the CE to approve proper paving at the Phibsborough LUAS stop on the Cabra Road Bridge. Can the CE approve proper paving at the future Phibsborough Stop on the Cabra Road? There will be no cost incurred here by DCC as it's covered by Tii/NTA on this project.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY

a) This issue is being investigated by the Parks Department and a report will issue to Councillor.

b) The undersigned has approved that a proposed residential parking scheme be put to residents in a ballot. It is expected that ballots will issue shortly to the residents concerned. The Council has recently met with representatives of

- the Shandon Residents Association and it is expected that an application for residential parking for all of the Shandon area will be lodged shortly.
- c) The location where residents are seeking bollards to prevent parking is a private landing and, as previously advised, there is no action that the Council can take where vehicles are parked on private property. The vehicles have however, in crossing the public footpath, been guilty of a motoring offence which is a matter for the Gardai to enforce. The Council cannot prevent access to a private landing and indeed the Council has in the past had legal action threatened when it attempted to block access to a private landing similar to this location.
 - d) The issue of a yellow box at the junction of Charleville Road/Cabra Road was referred to the Traffic Advisory Group for examination in March.
 - e) The matter of paving has been referred to the Luas Cross City Office for report and a reply will issue to the Councillor when this is completed.

Q.44 COUNCILLOR SEAN PAUL MAHON

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

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY

A reply has been issued to the Councillor.

Q.45 COUNCILLOR SEAN PAUL MAHON

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

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY

A reply has been issued to the Councillor.

Q.46 COUNCILLOR NIALL RING

To ask the Chief Executive referring to the reply received to my Question No 58 in April 2017 in light of the fact that the answer revealed that more than 1 in 5 (22% - 5,159 of the 23,446 applicants) of those on the Housing List in 2016 have now been removed due to "No Reply to 2016 Assessment" can the Chief Executive confirm whether, or not, DCC has in place a robust appeals procedure available to those removed from the list whereby they can outline the reason they were unable to reply and, if applicable, may be reinstated onto the list?

If such an appeals mechanism is not in place, can the Chief Executive agree that the feasibility/possibility of introducing an appeals procedure will be examined and reported back to the Housing SPC? Finally, and in particular, can the Chief executive outline what procedure is currently in place to ensure contact is made with housing applicants who have literacy difficulties?

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY

Any cancelled applicants had until 31st March 2017 to contact Housing Allocations to have their application re-opened from the Housing Needs Assessment 2016.

We will however look at any of the cancelled applicants from the Housing Needs Assessment 2016 on a case by case basis if they wish to appeal to have their application reinstated.

Any applicant that presents to the counter or contacts Housing Allocations and makes it known that they have literacy difficulties will have it noted on their file and staff will correspond via phone going forward or any other form of communication they prefer.

Q.47 COUNCILLOR NIAL RING

To ask the Chief Executive to indicate the timescale as to when a formal lease will be executed between Dublin City Council and the North Wall Community Training Centre Ltd. As the Chief Executive is aware the Board of the North Wall Community Training Centre Ltd is a City of Dublin Education Training Board funded organisation providing training opportunities to early school leavers. The centre operates (since 1999) from a premises on St. Laurence Place East, off Seville Place, Dublin 1, for which the legal ownership transferred from the Dublin Docklands Development Authority to Dublin City Council . As the Chief Executive is further aware, the North Wall Community Training Centre Ltd must, as part of the ongoing reporting/funding requirements, provide its funders with confirmation that it has a valid lease on the premises from which it operates. Alternatively, written confirmation from Dublin City Council that such a lease is forthcoming would suffice the funder. As mentioned above, can the Chief Executive indicate when the lease will be executed or can he confirm that an appropriate letter of comfort (indicating same) can be provided to the North Wall Training Centre Limited.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY

Dublin City Council will grant a lease to the North Wall Training Community Training Centre Ltd. subject to terms and conditions being agreed and the statutory approval of the Elected Members being obtained.

It is not possible at this stage to indicate a timescale for the granting of the formal lease but every effort will be made to bring a report on the disposal to the Central Area Committee at the earliest possible opportunity.

The Council is agreeable to providing written confirmation of the proposed grant of lease, as outlined above, should the North Wall Training Community Training Centre Ltd. require same for the purpose of seeking funding.

Q.48 COUNCILLOR NIAL RING

To ask the Chief Executive, having regard to the Motion passed at the Monthly Meeting held on 6th March 2017, to detail what steps have been taken to reintroduce the free bulk waste collection and to indicate when this service will be resumed. Also, to ask the Chief Executive for a progress report on the City Council's efforts to be reimbursed by the NTA for the loss of income resulting from the permanent loss of c.440 parking bays in the City, the ring fencing of this reimbursement amount having been agreed as the funding source for the reintroduction of the bulk waster collection service.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY

In response to the motion passed at the City Council Meeting on the 6th March 2017, it was pointed out that the reintroduction of a free citywide household bulky waste collection service was contrary to the core principle that the person(s) generating the waste should pay for its disposal regardless of the type of waste being generated.

The costs of providing this service had become unsustainable and the service had therefore being discontinued in favour of a service for which households would pay a nominal fee. The paid service is available to customers all year round and when it suits the customer needing to dispose of the waste. The free service was very limited from a customer service point of view in that it was one collection once every three years with fixed dates and times for collection. There is no provision in the budget for 2017 to reintroduce this service and consequently any consideration of its reintroduction will be dependent on funding being provided in the budget for 2018. It is anticipated that the cost of providing the service as heretofore would be in excess of €500,000 per annum.

There has been no development in relation to the reimbursement by the NTA for the loss of income resulting from the permanent loss of parking bays in the city and there is unlikely to be any settlement until the project is fully complete. The final total cost of spaces will only be known when works and associated traffic management issues are finalised. Parking Meter income is ring fenced for expenditure on traffic related projects and therefore will not be available for reallocation to fund the reintroduction of the free bulk waste collection. Consideration of the provision of this service would be a matter for elected members as part of the 2018 budgetary process.

Q.49 COUNCILLOR NIAL RING

I refer to my Question to the Chief Executive (Question 113 - March City Council Meeting) and the answer thereto (reproduced below). The answers to the various parts of the question have, due to some aspects of the question being ignored/overlooked, resulted in my having to ask a series of supplementary questions to, hopefully, get the full answer/information requested. To facilitate the process, I have inserted the supplementary questions (plus comments/observations) below each original answer.

Q.113 COUNCILLOR NIAL RING MARCH

To ask the Chief Executive to explain reasoning behind the decision to have a "non-statutory" consultation under Section 37 of the Roads Traffic Act 1994 in relation to the proposed Traffic Management changes for the North and South Quays and to detail what influence, if any, can the public, city councillors and other stakeholders have on this proposal. Also, to ask the Chief Executive specifically:

QUESTION PART A.

Is the Public Consultation just a PR exercise or will any observation/suggestion/idea of a member of the public be in any way evaluated or taken into account?

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY.

The scheme is out to public consultation to obtain as wide a range of views as possible and a report on the consultation and any changes proposed will be presented to next Transportation SPC meeting.

ADDITIONAL/SUPPLEMENTARY/CLARIFICATION QUESTION:

Who decides what changes will be considered? It's non-statutory so I would submit that where comments/suggestions/ideas which don't fit the DCC agenda they will simply be ignored. Is this the case?

QUESTION PART B.

Has any thought at all been given to how private motor vehicles will be impacted under this proposal?

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY

Under this proposal a comprehensive signage and car park access routing will be developed.

ADDITIONAL/SUPPLEMENTARY/CLARIFICATION QUESTION:

Only car parking is addressed in this answer. No comment/answer on the overall impact – environment, increased driving time, effect on motorist mood/mental health. Are there any proposals to deal with the foregoing?

QUESTION PART C.

Has the economic impact of the proposal been looked at and if not, can the Chief Executive now, even at this late stage, commit to an Economic Impact study being commissioned and its recommendations taken into account?

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY

An economic impact assessment was conducted on the impacts of the proposals within the city centre study.

ADDITIONAL/SUPPLEMENTARY/CLARIFICATION QUESTION:

As the terms of reference did not include economic effect on DCC rates base or regard to modal change, does the Chief Executive agree that the Economic Impact study was not only selective, but fundamentally flawed as it does not address some of the most important economic impacts of the proposals?

QUESTION PART D.

What is the Chief Executive's reasoning behind using the RTA to exclude City Councillors from the decision making process and again, even at this late stage, can the Chief Executive commit to recognising local democracy by amending the proposal to a Part 8 process?

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY

As set out in the report to the SPC, we are precluded from using the part 8 process for this scheme.

ADDITIONAL/SUPPLEMENTARY/CLARIFICATION QUESTION:

Has legal opinion been sought or are we 100% legally sure that, in the words of the CE, "the Part 8 process does not apply and can no longer be sought". I believe that DCC should seek a legal opinion on this to alleviate the concerns of the public and councillors alike and publish same. In any event, I would welcome a legal challenge to this use of the Planning Acts and the Transportation Acts as described. Can the Chief Executive agree to undertake obtain a definitive legal opinion on this matter? Furthermore, is the Chief Executive aware that other parties who have made submissions have indicated that legal opinion obtained indicates that the traffic changes must have the approval of councillors before they could be introduced?

In case I get a straightforward answer of "No". I can state the opinion/position of Dublin Town/BIDS as City Council appointed Director and therefore in a position to be aware of the views of the membership. Essentially, the legal advice that Dublin Town/BIDS received stated that the use of S.38 is a reserved function and therefore, Councillors should be involved where it is proposed to use it. Secondly, the legal opinion is that it is unsafe for the Council not to treat the current proposals with the other proposed traffic changes that are clearly integral to it and which are going to An Bord Pleanála. If the Bord make changes to the plans that they are considering, there

will be impacts for the plans being considered by way of a separate process. The foregoing forms part of the submission of Dublin Town/BIDS and I would ask the Chief Executive address this in particular, given the status of Dublin Town/BIDS visa vie Dublin City Council.

QUESTION PART E.

Is the Chief executive aware of the misgivings of many City Councillors about the proposed imposition of this non-democratic process and the disquiet amongst the public which has also arisen?

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY

The period of public consultation is to allow for the views of the public and their representatives to be heard and taken into account.

ADDITIONAL/SUPPLEMENTARY/CLARIFICATION QUESTION:

How can the views of the public and their representatives be "taken into account" when it is clear that there is no intention to allow councillors to decide on this issue? Can the Chief Executive again commit to a legal review with instructions to the lawyers that the possibility of the process being subject to a Part 8 process be fully investigated?

QUESTION PART F.

Finally, in light of the many decisions unilaterally taken by City management at the exclusion of elected public representatives can the Chief Executive commit to involving City Councillors in this particular proposal by allowing this proposal to be processed under Part 8?

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY

As already stated above in the report to the SPC it sets out the reasons why we cannot use the part 8 procedure for this scheme, for clarity the relevant section of the report is set out below.

Dublin City Council has, in the past, sought Part 8 approval for the construction of schemes, using Section 179 of the Planning and Development Act of 2000.

However the Public Transport Regulations Act 2009 amends this section, meaning that where works to enhance public bus services or improve facilities for cyclists, then the Part 8 process does not apply and can no longer be sought.

ADDITIONAL/SUPPLEMENTARY/CLARIFICATION QUESTION:

The above is stated as fact. However, in view of the issues which have been mentioned in the previous comments etc. again, can the Chief Executive confirm that he will commission an independent legal opinion on the application of the Planning and Development Act of 2000 and/or the Public Transport Regulations Act 2009 in this case? Simply put, can we get a definitive legal opinion as to whether, or not, this can be dealt with as a Part 8 approval process. Alternatively, can the Chief Executive come out from behind the veil of "executive function" and, in a nod towards the democratic process, actually allow councillors to have their say on the issue and be guided by their decision?

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY

The report on the public consultation was presented to the Transportation Strategic Policy Committee on 3rd May, 2017 and was noted. The issues were addressed and changes made as a result of the public consultation.

Q.50 COUNCILLOR ALISON GILLILAND

To ask the Chief Executive (**details supplied**)

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY

A reply has been issued to the Councillor.

Q.51 COUNCILLOR ALISON GILLILAND

To ask the Chief Executive to indicate the guide ratio used to ascertain the requirement of community space and open green free play space for residential areas e.g. (no of persons: square meters of indoor community space/square meters of open green free play space)

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY

In all new developments, the Planning Authority requires the provision of private, communal and public open space. The Dublin City Development Plan applies the following standards;

- A standard of 4, 5, 7, and 9sqm private open space is applied to studio, one bed, two bed and three units respectively.
- A standard of 4, 5, 7, and 9sqm communal open space is applied to studio, one bed, two bed and three units respectively.
- A standard of 5-8sqm of private open space per bedspace is applied to houses

In addition to the above, 10% public open space is required for all residential developments.

In laying out the communal open space for apartment schemes of 25 or more units, small play spaces of 85-100 sq.m. are required for toddlers and children up to the age of six, with suitable play equipment, seating for parents/ guardians. For larger schemes of 100 or more apartments, play areas of 200-400 sq.m. for older children and young teenagers are required.

Internal communal facilities may be provided in apartment schemes, particularly in larger developments such as community or meeting rooms, laundry rooms etc. which are accessible to residents only. Other communal facilities such as childcare or gym use may be open to non-residents

In schemes with 50 or more units, proposals are required to make a contribution to an area in terms of community facilities and social infrastructure where significant shortfalls are identified. When submitting plans for large-scale residential, typically over 50 units depending on local circumstances, and/or mixed-use schemes (i.e. circa 5,000 sq.m and above), developers are required to submit an audit of existing facilities within the area and to demonstrate how the proposal will contribute to the range of supporting community infrastructure

Q.52 COUNCILLOR ALISON GILLILAND

To ask the Chief Executive (**details supplied**)

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY

A reply has been issued to the Councillor.

Q.53 COUNCILLOR ALISON GILLILAND

To ask the Chief Executive (**details supplied**)

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY

A reply has been issued to the Councillor.

Q.54 COUNCILLOR ANTHONY CONNAGHAN

To ask the Chief Executive to identify area's in the Dublin Northwest area which may be able to accommodate a purpose built Senior Citizens complex whether public or private land. Can the Chief Executive then call on the Department to provide funding to develop this accommodation.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Details of all public sites under consideration for construction of social housing in the North West Area are contained in the Housing report circulated to the City Council, Area Committees and the Housing SPC. A copy of this report regarding the North Central / North West areas is attached for your information. Decisions regarding the nature and category of Housing (such as Homeless or Senior Citizen etc) to be delivered on sites are primarily determined by the requirement for social housing in the general area.

Q.55 COUNCILLOR ANTHONY CONNAGHAN

To ask the Chief Executive to arrange for a (**details supplied**)

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY

A reply has been issued to the Councillor.

Q.56 COUNCILLOR GREG KELLY

To ask the Chief Executive (**Details Supplied**)

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY

A reply has been issued to the Councillor.

Q.57 COUNCILLOR GREG KELLY

To ask the Chief Executive (**Details Supplied**)

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY

A reply has been issued to the Councillor.

Q.58 COUNCILLOR GREG KELLY

To ask the Chief Executive (**Details Supplied**)

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY

A reply has been issued to the Councillor.

Q.59 COUNCILLOR GREG KELLY

To ask the Chief Executive (**Details Supplied**)

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY

A reply has been issued to the Councillor.

Q.60 **COUNCILLOR GAYE FAGAN**
To ask the Chief Executive (**Details supplied**)

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

Q.61 **COUNCILLOR GAYE FAGAN**
To ask the Chief Executive (**Details supplied**)

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

Q.62 **COUNCILLOR GAYE FAGAN**
To ask the Chief Executive (**Details supplied**)

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

Q.63 **COUNCILLOR DEIRDRE HENEY**
To ask the Chief Executive to refer to green at location as per (**details supplied**) which was recently used as a “dumping ground” by someone with large amounts of garden waste and say if he can investigate/report on the matter and say if the City Council is aware that the green is being used as a dump and if so, who is responsible for same or if any enforcement action can be taken against the culprits and if he will say if the area can be cleared of dumped green waste material

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY
The green waste referred to was wood chippings dumped there, from somebody, not DCC or anybody contracted to DCC, carrying out private tree works. The material was suitable for use in the location and has been used as a mulch, in-situ.

All open spaces are monitored regularly and there are no records of this location being a regular ‘dumping ground’ and as nobody witnessed the dumping it is not possible to ascertain who the offender was

Q.64 **COUNCILLOR DEIRDRE HENEY**
To ask the Chief Executive to refer to very large trees at location as per (**details supplied**) and say if he will arrange to prune/lop same as residents say the trees are blocking sunlight into their homes

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY
Housing Maintenance Mobile Unit will visit this complex and assess the trees. If pruning is required this work will be carried out.

Q.65 **COUNCILLOR DEIRDRE HENEY**
To ask the Chief Executive to refer to senior citizen dwelling at location as per (**details supplied**) and say if he can arrange to carry out the necessary repairs listed below as soon as possible to give this man back his home as it was prior to the flood overhead

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY
The Area Maintenance Foreman has made arrangements to inspect this dwelling over the next few days. Any necessary repairs will be carried out.

Q.66 COUNCILLOR DEIRDRE HENEY

To ask the Chief Executive to refer to serious continuous problem with dumping at location as per **(details supplied)** and say what action he can take to stop this problem and carry out enforcement against the culprits and prevent same continuing to occur.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY

The Local Litter wardens have called to the addresses **(details supplied)** and spoke to the residents to inform them that they could not put bags or any items on the public footpath.

The Public Domain called to these houses but could not communicate with the man who answered the door as he did not speak English. Environmental Health were also contacted regarding the dumping at these locations as was Waste Management who informed us that the people living in the houses are not paying rent as the homes are been looked after by a Solicitors Company namely Mazars Solicitors on behalf of Nama.

Title searches carried out on the addresses **(details supplied)** show that Mazars Solicitors are the legal representatives of the property on behalf of Nama. They have informed me there are a number of problems with the previous owner of the properties and with the tenants and that they are in the process taking legal action.

Q.67 COUNCILLOR CIARAN CUFFE

To ask the Chief Executive whether he could add the following links to the Dublin City Council webpage below:

<http://www.dublincity.ie/main-menu-services-recreation-culture/animal-welfare>

Dept of Ag - <https://www.agriculture.gov.ie/animalhealthwelfare/>

My Lovely Horse Rescue - <https://www.mylvelyhorserescue.com/pages/report-an-incident>

Donkey Sanctuary - <http://www.thedonkeysanctuary.ie/report-donkey-cruelty>

Hungry Horse Outside - <http://www.hungryhorseoutside.com/contact-us/>

ISPCA - http://www.ispca.ie/if_you_suspect_animal_cruelty/

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY

Dublin City Council's responsibility under the Control of Horses Act 1996 is to ensure all horses are licensed within the administrative area and to control the keeping of horses, to prevent nuisance, annoyance or injury to persons or damage to property by horses.

Dublin City Council engages a contractor to seize stray and wandering horses and the contractor has the sole responsibility under a tender agreement.

The welfare of horses is dealt with under the Animal Health & Welfare Act 2014 and is enforced by the DSPCA who have a dedicated and trained force of Animal Welfare Inspectors.

Dublin City Council has no input into any of the organisations listed and has no knowledge of their remit so will include the Dept of Agriculture, Food & Marine and the DSPCA on our website.

Q.68 COUNCILLOR CIARAN CUFFE

To ask the Chief Executive whether the Council has provided financial support to businesses in the Temple Bar area for the project Love the Lanes and for infra-structural work, and to make a statement on the matter.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Love the Lanes is a joint initiative between Dublin City Council and the Temple Bar Company to pilot solutions and interventions to address issues in the laneways of Temple Bar. It is a public realm enhancement of laneways along the Dublin route. Over the years these lanes have fallen into disuse and have become magnets for anti-social behaviour. The main focus for the project is Adair and Bedford Lanes, Copper Alley and Crampton Court.

In March 2014 there was an open call out for ideas and 60 proposals were received. An advisory panel of nominees from Dublin City Council, Temple Bar Company, 1 Business Representative, 1 Resident and 1 Elected Representative assessed the proposals and 10 were shortlisted for implementation. The Panel recommended that additional feature lighting in Adair/Bedford and Crampton Court should be considered to enhance the laneways. The panel also recommended that improvement works to the surfaces of Adair and Bedford lanes should be considered.

To date eight proposals have been implemented. In addition feature lighting has been installed in Crampton Court, Bedford Lane has been reconstructed and resurfacing works have been carried out on Adair Lane. Dublin City Council did not provide financial support to businesses in the Temple Bar Area for the project Love the Lanes or for infra-structural work. Payment was made directly to the successful applicants and the contractors following completion of works. The project is mainly funded by Fáilte Ireland through the Dublin initiative.

Q.69 COUNCILLOR CIARAN CUFFE

To ask the Chief Executive what legal process has occurred or will be required prior to works being undertaken to reduce the height of the Clontarf sea wall, and could he give the estimated costs of reducing the height, and state whether the proposed works will reduce, increase or have no effect on possible future flooding events in the area.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY

A Part 8 planning process is underway, with regard to the proposed reduction in height of 470m of Clontarf sea wall beside St. Annes Park. The cost of this proposal will depend on whether this Part 8 is successful and if any alterations or conditions are attached to it. The proposed reduction in height will increase flood risk in the area and will require a yearly assessment as to when it should be restored to a height of 4.25m above average sea level which is close to its current height.

Q.70 COUNCILLOR CIARAN CUFFE

To ask the Chief Executive whether he can inspect **(details supplied)** which is a two-bedroom flat with a hallway, living-room/kitchenette and one bathroom/toilet from a fire safety perspective as it appears to be overcrowded with perhaps ten persons in occupation.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY

An Environmental Health Officer who will ascertain the landlords details, undertaken an inspection under Housing (Standards for Rented Houses) Regulations 2008 and take any appropriate enforcement action.

Q.71 COUNCILLOR GAYE FAGAN
To ask the Chief Executive **(details supplied)**

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY

A reply has been issued to the Councillor.

Q.72 COUNCILLOR PAUL HAND

To ask the Chief Executive of Dublin City Council (**details supplied**)

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY

A reply has been issued to the Councillor.

Q.73 COUNCILLOR CIERAN PERRY

Can the Chief Executive provide a report on the 'Name & Shame' use of publicly displayed photos of illegal dumpers in the Central Area and any communication with the Data Commissioner? A similar campaign has begun in Ballymun.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The Central Area relies on the Litter Management Plan 2016 – 2018 set out below to manage particularly difficult littering:

1. Identification of blackspots : - this may be done by a number of means including, but not restricted to, the mapping of CRM Data or Local Area Office/Departmental operational knowledge
2. The inclusion of additional informational signage within the area with a tailored message related to ongoing offences.
3. Intensive evidence recovery from identified sites. These may be specific streets/laneways/green spaces or areas containing a multitude of locations depending on the scale of the offences.
4. Official correspondence to each residence or commercial premises within the area.
5. Identification of owners and responsible persons within residences, multi-let or commercial premises.
6. Official correspondence with identified individuals.
7. Door to door compliance surveys to be undertaken.
8. Issuing of advisory notices re non- compliance.
9. Installation of targeted CCTV and associated signage to identify offenders.
10. Installation of signage indicating intention to publish images for prevention of further incidents.
11. Publication of imagery

Application of this process does not offend the Data Protection Act.

Q.74 COUNCILLOR CIERAN PERRY

Can the Chief Executive provide statistics on the various income rates among council tenants, including those dependent on social welfare?

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

A response will be issued directly to the Councillor.

Q.75 COUNCILLOR CIERAN PERRY

To ask the Chief Executive provide an update on the anti-social behaviour case taken by South Dublin County Council under the new legislation?

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY

There is no update available yet to Dublin City Council in relation to this case. When information becomes available it will be sent to the Councillor.

Q.76 COUNCILLOR CIERAN PERRY

To ask the Chief Executive to provide a report on the uptake of the new Repair & Lease scheme?

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY

Dublin City Council commenced the Repair and Leasing Scheme in April 2017. Details of the scheme, application form and frequently asked questions as to the administration of the scheme are available on the City Council's main webpage www.dublincity.ie The Housing Department has received a number of general queries in relation to the scheme on it's email address RLS@dublincity.ie It has also received a number of applications to join the scheme and these are currently being processed as to their suitability to be included in the scheme. A Nationwide media campaign will commence shortly on the RLS Scheme and this will be followed by a City Council campaign in June to inform the Public of the scheme. The City Council is currently in discussions with the six Approved Housing Bodies that have been chosen to help the City Council deliver housing units under this scheme.

Q.77 COUNCILLOR EDEL MORAN

To ask the Chief Executive (**details supplied**)

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY

A reply has been issued to the Councillor.

Q.78 COUNCILLOR EDEL MORAN

To ask the Chief Executive (**details supplied**)

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY

A reply has been issued to the Councillor.

Q.79 COUNCILLOR EDEL MORAN

To ask the Chief Executive (**details supplied**)

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY

A reply has been issued to the Councillor.

Q.80 COUNCILLOR EDEL MORAN

To ask the Chief Executive (**details supplied**)

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY

A reply has been issued to the Councillor.

Q.81 COUNCILLOR GARY GANNON

To ask the Chief Executive the plans to reinstate the balustrade of Tolka Bridge in view of its poor condition and its prominent position

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY

The bridge over the Tolka referred to is Drumcondra Bridge. The Road Design and Construction Division are aware of the condition of the balustrade on the inbound side of the bridge where one baluster is missing and another is irreparably damaged. The balusters are cast iron and the replacements will have to be cast in foundry. A quotation was received to replace the two balusters and carry out remedial work to the parapet was received in April 2017. It is planned to carry out the work this summer.

Q.82 COUNCILLOR GARY GANNON

To ask the Chief Executive if the loss of monies previously expected from the An Bord Pleanála condition 15 for application number 3638 of 12 will be compensated

for by Dublin City Council or the Department in view of the fact that this figure of approximately €250,000 had been earmarked for the redevelopment of facilities in Ellenfield Park and will he make a statement on the matter.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

A report will be issued to the Councillor within two weeks.

Q.83 COUNCILLOR ANDREW KEEGAN

To ask the Chief Executive to provide an update and a recent report on the Metro Hotel Ballymun mast installations. Also can he provide deadlines or a report for compliance of planning so we can ascertain fully what is in fact going to happen and to what timeline.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY

An Enforcement Notice pursuant to section 154 of the Planning and Development Act, 2000 (as amended) was served in October 2106 requiring "The removal of the unauthorised Mobile Phone Antennae, dishes, support poles etc and all associated equipment, cabinets, cable trays, cables and any other telecommunication paraphernalia".

The notice was not complied with and the matter has been referred to the Council's Solicitor to institute legal proceedings. However we are aware that a planning application is being prepared by the owners.

Q.84 COUNCILLOR ANDREW KEEGAN

To ask the Chief Executive to please review our latest study on Student accommodation and considering the DCC management statement (which I welcome) can management comment on what is their near future strategy in the control and management of this type of accommodation. We have an enforcement deficit in this area and the area of single use homes being used as bespoke hostels (file included for your perusal)

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The study of planning applications included in the file attached to the Question has been reviewed. Some of these have been refused or declared invalid, or are on appeal, or are the subject of Further Information. Other applications relate to the same site and are for amendments to existing permissions.

The City Planner recently made a detailed presentation to the Planning & Property Development SPC and the Central Area Committee on issues relating to the supply of purpose built professionally managed student accommodation. This presentation set out that in the Central Area there were approximately 2,500 bedspaces permitted since 2008 with a further 935 bedspaces permitted at the Point Hub in the Docklands SDZ, in the context of the student population of 80,000 in the city.

The recently approved City Development Plan contains detailed policies and guidelines in relation to student accommodation. Policy QH31 is "to support the provision of high-quality, professionally managed and purpose-built third-level student accommodation on campuses or in appropriate locations close to the main campus, in the inner city or adjacent to high-quality public transport corridors and cycle routes, in a manner which respects the residential amenity an character of the surrounding area, in order to support the knowledge economy. Proposals for student accommodation shall comply with the 'Guidelines for Student Accommodation' contained in the development standards".

The Guidelines for student accommodation are contained in section 16.10.7 of the development plan, and may be summarised as follows:-

- Student accommodation to form “house” units rather than dormitories so as to be similar to the layout of standard housing.
- Maximum of 40% of units can be one bedroom/studio units.
- Permission would be required to change to other residential housing.
- All applications must show how they will support integration into the community i.e. design relationship to street, not affecting provision of standard residential housing, and not creating over-concentration of such use within 0.25km.

The Deputy City Planner and Head of Development Management recently issued a statement responding to negative comments in the media regarding the assessment of current planning applications noting that,

“The City Council sees the provision of student accommodation as a valuable asset for the city and essential for the growth of Dublin as an international City of Education in accordance with policies set out in the Development Plan” and that

The Planning Authority always seeks to achieve the right balance between respecting existing residential amenities and the character of an area, and facilitating new development.”

The future strategy is to assess all applications in accordance with all of the relevant policies, objectives and standards set down in the Dublin City Development Plan, including the ‘Guidelines for Student Accommodation.

It is a stated requirement of the Development Plan that the applicant submits evidence, as part of a planning application, to demonstrate that the development will not result in an overconcentration of student accommodation within an area. “In this regard at the February Meeting of the Central Area Committee it was agreed to initiate a Variation to the Development Plan, such that the map showing all student accommodation within 0.25km on an application site be increased to 1.0km.

The Question also refers to ‘homes being used as bespoke hostels’; one of the benefits of purpose built professionally managed student accommodation is that it relieves the pressure on standard housing in the vicinity of third level colleges being occupied by students.

Q.85 COUNCILLOR ANDREW KEEGAN

To ask the Chief Executive to inform me of what plans they have to improve their enforcement of single dwelling property's that are not turned into MDP without planning. There is a trend of the purchase of commercial and large domestic dwellings being purchased for the sole purpose, in contravention of planning law, as multiple dwelling accommodations. It would seem planning is ill equipped to ensure planning is complied with on this matter. It would seem according to recent media articles that DCC has to come up to speed with these shysters rather than these speculators complying with planning.

The old Santry Post Office premises is now a multiple dwelling, as it resides in Fingal I haven't a clue whether it is legal or not. And I would say this is typical across the county.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

When a complaint is received regarding alleged multiple dwelling accommodations the planning enforcement officer investigates to determine if there has been a

material change of use i.e. has subdivision occurred or has there been a substantial increase in the scale or nature of occupancy.

Planning permission is required to subdivide a residential house into a number of separate residential units and where evidence of subdivision is shown, enforcement action is taken to restore the property to its original condition.

Planning permission is required where the scale of occupancy is such that the property could be considered to be operating as a short term hostel and where evidence of this is shown enforcement action is taken to restore the property to its original condition and use. However if the landlord/owner can demonstrate that the individual occupants have long term leases an allegation of short term letting/hostel use would not be substantiated.

Enforcement action can only be taken when a breach of the planning legislation has been identified. Where no sub-division has occurred and where long term leases are in place there is no action open to planning enforcement.

Q.86 COUNCILLOR ANDREW KEEGAN

To ask the Chief Executive to inform me of the state of play in the planning process relating to the Lidl Shop project in Drumcondra.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

A planning application was submitted under plan ref.4248/16 to demolish existing structures and construct a new part 2 storey, part 3 storey supermarket and office building at 25 / 27, Drumcondra Road Upper, Drumcondra, Dublin 9.

Further information was requested on the 3rd February 2017 as follows:

1. *“Having regard to Policy RD17 which promotes active uses at street level in Z4 district centres the Planning Authority requests the applicant to consider the provision of active use(s) at ground floor level”*

2. *There are concerns regarding the potential negative impact the proposed building could have on the existing streetscape, in particular on St. Patrick's College (DCU) Cregan Library. The applicant is requested to: (a) submit site and floor plan drawings showing the proposed development in the context of the adjoining sites; (b) amend the front building line of the proposed development to respect the building line established by the front of the houses to the north of the application site (31A – 43 Drumcondra Road Upper) and the southern most elevation of the Cregan library building which fronts onto Drumcondra Road Upper; and (c) submit a visual impact assessment including views of the proposed development from the north and the south along Drumcondra Road Upper.”*

The applicant has not submitted a response to date.

Q.87 COUNCILLOR DAITHÍ DOOLAN

To ask the Chief Executive **(details supplied)**

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY

A reply has been issued to the Councillor.

Q.88 COUNCILLOR DAITHÍ DOOLAN

To ask the Chief Executive **(details supplied)**

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY

A reply has been issued to the Councillor.

- Q.89 COUNCILLOR DAITHÍ DOOLAN**
To ask the Chief Executive (**details supplied**)

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY

A reply has been issued to the Councillor.

- Q.90 COUNCILLOR SÉAMUS MC GRATTAN**
To ask the Chief Executive (**details supplied**)

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY

A reply has been issued to the Councillor.

- Q.91 COUNCILLOR SÉAMUS MC GRATTAN**
To ask the Chief Executive (**details supplied**)

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY

A reply has been issued to the Councillor.

- Q.92 COUNCILLOR SÉAMUS MC GRATTAN**
To ask the Chief Executive (**details supplied**)

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY

A reply has been issued to the Councillor.

- Q.93 COUNCILLOR SÉAMUS MC GRATTAN**
To ask the Chief Executive (**details supplied**)

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY

A reply has been issued to the Councillor.

- Q.94 COUNCILLOR CIARAN O'MOORE**
To ask the Chief Executive (**details supplied**)

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY

A reply has been issued to the Councillor.

- Q.95 COUNCILLOR CIARAN O'MOORE**
To ask the Chief Executive (**details supplied**)

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY

A reply has been issued to the Councillor.

- Q.96 COUNCILLOR CIARAN O'MOORE**
To ask the Chief Executive (**details supplied**)

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY

A reply has been issued to the Councillor.

- Q.97 COUNCILLOR CIARAN O'MOORE**
To ask the Chief Executive (**details supplied**)

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY

A reply has been issued to the Councillor.

Q.98 COUNCILLOR TERESA KEEGAN

To ask the Chief Executive the proposed timescale for the consultation, design, tendering, planning and construction of the proposed major housing development at the Lawrence Lands / Oscar Traynor Road Site.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY

The consultation on the project will be via the established Consultative Forum which held its inaugural meeting on Thursday 30th March and will be in place until such time as the development is complete.

It is intended to go to market and initiate a procurement process within the next two months.

Statutory procurement periods then dictate a tendering period (from publication of tender to signing of contracts) of at least 179 (working) days which brings us up to February/March 2018.

It will then be incumbent on the successful bidder to design, apply for planning and start on site, as per the tenets of any Development Agreement which may be agreed with the City Council. This process is estimated to take an additional 270 (working) days. This indicates that the construction stage could commence at the earliest in latter part of 2018 and may last for up to 3/4 years

Q.99 COUNCILLOR TERESA KEEGAN

To ask the Chief Executive if he will make contact with Irish Rail to ensure they address ongoing residents concerns regarding severe noise disturbance arising from new platform fencing at Drumcondra Station.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY

The new Platform fencing at Drumcondra station was installed in July 2016 as part of station enhancements funded under the Phoenix Park tunnel Project (PPT). Irish Rails Building & Facilities Department had advised that there were ongoing privacy issues related to the old timber fence whereby local residents were complaining that the old fence did not offer sufficient visual screening to their properties.

The PPT project team specified and agreed the design of a lightly perforated metal fence with our Building and Facilities Department. The installed fence consisted of series of perforated aluminium fence panels connected to galvanised steel posts. This fence is known to give excellent screening properties but also prove to be low maintenance, robust and aesthetically pleasing.

On 31st March 2017 an email was received by our colleagues in the Building & Facilities Department from a resident adjacent to the station. The email contained an audio clip recording by the resident of a whistling noise coming from the location of the fence on a very windy night.

On two occasions in April a project Engineer and the fence installation Contractor visited the Drumcondra site on windy days to see if they could hear of any noise emanating from the fence or fence posts. No noise was audible on either occasion. It was noted on these days the wind was blowing from a prevailing south/westerly direction as is the norm.

We are now looking to get the same personnel on site when the wind is blowing significantly from a north or in particular easterly direction to see if the noise is audible. A report on the outcome will be issued.

Q.100 COUNCILLOR TERESA KEEGAN

To ask the Chief Executive at what stage is the planning application at the Rotunda Hospital for the new building for the proposed new Neo Natal Unit. HIQA has stated that this building is essential for the future health and safety of the Neo Natal Unit and Emergency Surgery.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY

The Planning Authority has not received a planning application for a new neo natal unit. However, planning permission has been granted in 2017 for two new developments on the site of the Rotunda Hospital (a) a new colposcopy clinic and (b) clinical accommodation in a new four storey structure. Both developments will allow for the provision of improved medical facilities on site.

Q.101 COUNCILLOR TERESA KEEGAN

To ask the Chief Executive what conditions are set out by Dublin City Council on the Ambassador Cinema regarding their right to serve food and drink to the public? Regarding the advertising of events that have been staged at the venue, is there any restrictions in the type of material which can be displayed to the public? Presently there is public concern regarding the advertising material showing dead human bodies on display to young children and adults alike. Is there any regulation as in the case of posters?

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY

The Ambassador Cinema operates as a public theatre and the serving of drinks and light refreshments to visitors to the exhibitions and shows held in the theatre may be considered to be ancillary to the principal use. It is noted that two separate planning applications for the provision of an external café to the front of the main entrance onto Parnell Square South were withdrawn.

Regarding concerns relating to the display of material to the public, it is the role of the Advertising Standards Authority for Ireland to address complaints regarding advertisements and promotional material including online or digital media.

Q.102 COUNCILLOR VINCENT JACKSON

To ask the Chief Executive to please give me a full report on the reason / rational for not sweeping the Residential side of Ballyfermot Main Street facing the shopping district from the Church of the Assumption to Ballyfermot Civic Centre, residents on the housing facing the Roundabout on both sides of Kylemore Road / Ballyfermot Road at the Church of the Assumption have told me they clean this area all the time as it never done by DCC can I ask that the area be regularly maintained. One resident (**details supplied**) is at the end of trying to keep the area clean without proper support.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY

Waste Management Services clean both sides of this road on a daily basis. We have thirty seven litter bins on this road which are emptied twice a day. We had a comprehensive cleaning, including power washing, carried out there on the 13th February 2017. Every effort will continue to be made to keep this area as clean as possible. Bags and tools if required can be provided to assist local groups in their clean-up efforts.

Q.103 COUNCILLOR VINCENT JACKSON

To ask the Chief Executive that the perimeter of the Old OLV Youth Centre Sarsfield Road Ballyfermot Dublin 10 which is due to close shortly be maintained while a decision on the future of the building is made, adjoining residents are very concerned that the lane-way etc will be used for anti-social behaviour, can I have an assurance on the following possible future uses, maintenance of the exterior of the building, securing of the physical structure.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY

Under Indenture of Lease dated 12th May 1977 a premises at Sarsfield Road, Ballyfermot, Dublin 10 was demised by Dublin City Council to the Trustees of Our Lady of Victories Youth Centre for a term of 99 years from 5th November 1991.

Following enquiries by the Council's Property Management Section the Council has discovered that the group to whom the lease was granted has since disbanded and do not occupy or have any involvement in the running of the premises. Accordingly the Council in order to protect its interest in the property has decided to seek to forfeit the aforementioned lease and repossess the property.

This is expected to happen very shortly and once the Council is in possession the Property Management Section in conjunction with the Area Office will arrange to have all the locks changed and the building secured as required. No decision has been taken as of yet on the future use of the premises which requires a complete renovation. The Development Department will be seeking the views of the Area Office and the Community Section of the Housing & Residential Services Department in this regard.

Q.104 COUNCILLOR VINCENT JACKSON

To ask the Chief Executive that DCC come up with some plans to help traders / shoppers in the Claddagh Green Area of Ballyfermot with some additional car-parking, flower planters, waste bins etc. Claddagh Green traders feel they are forgotten about when it comes to area improvements, nothing can be done is unacceptable to traders who pay substantial rates etc.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY

Following an onsite meeting with traders in 2016 a number of issues have been addressed. The street lighting has been upgraded to LED standard. A new waste bin has been installed, which is serviced on a daily basis and as part of a pilot scheme the waste bin is being monitored with a view to assessing the need for extra waste bins. The area is also swept each morning.

The only area available for additional parking is the common area between the Youth Club and the Older Persons' Complex. It is not recommended to alter this area however as it is not the policy of DCC to remove a public shared facility in favour of parking facilities for individual motorists. It should remain as a public amenity as in accordance with the Dublin City Development Plan 2016-2022 – *"To promote built environments and outdoor shared spaces which are accessible to all"*.

Should the traders wish to engage in future environmental projects the local Community Development Officer would be happy to engage again with them.

Q.105 COUNCILLOR VINCENT JACKSON

To ask the Chief Executive can I be given a full report on **(details supplied)**

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

A reply has been issued to the Councillor.

Q.106 COUNCILLOR ANDREW MONTAGUE

To ask the Chief Executive can the council provide a schematic map of the under floor heating system for the Family Resource Centre, in Shangan Green, Ballymun. They need this map in order to carry out repair and maintenance.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY

The Assistant Area Manager has located the map and it has been sent to the Resource Centre.

Q.107 COUNCILLOR ANDREW MONTAGUE

To ask the Chief Executive will the council investigate the recurring problems with the blocked sewer outside the city council tenant's house (**details supplied**). The council have cleared it a number of times recently, but it keeps blocking up every few days.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY

The choke car most recently attended this address to clear the sewer on 15th February 2017. The outfall manhole was blocked by papers and grease. Wastewater Planning and Development Control had only one call from house on 30th November 2016.

Q.108 COUNCILLOR ANDREW MONTAGUE

To ask the Chief Executive can the Council prune the trees on Lorcan Road? Some residents would like the biggest trees replaced by smaller trees, but there would need to be consultation on the street, if this was to be considered.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY

Parks and Landscape Services will add trees as per details to tree pruning schedule for Autumn 2017. We do not recommend the removal of these trees

Q.109 COUNCILLOR ANDREW MONTAGUE

To ask the Chief Executive will the council (**details supplied**)

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

A reply has been issued to the Councillor.

Q.110 COUNCILLOR PAUL HAND

To ask the Chief Executive of Dublin City Council (**details supplied**)

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

A response will be given to the Councillor within a period of 2 weeks.

Q.111 COUNCILLOR PAUL HAND

To ask the Chief Executive (**details supplied**)

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY

A reply has been issued to the Councillor.

Q.112 COUNCILLOR PAUL HAND

To ask the Chief Executive (**details supplied**)

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY

A reply has been issued to the Councillor.

Q.113 COUNCILLOR FRANK KENNEDY

To ask the Chief Executive:

- (a) To rectify the extremely poor state of the cycle lanes on North Circular Road, Portland Row and Seville Place, and in particular, to segregate drivers and cyclists as far as possible on these lanes; and
- (b) To reconfigure the junctions along Seville Place/North Circular Road to provide dedicated traffic lights for cyclists and green filter lights for motorists which prohibit turning other than when such dedicated lights are illuminated.

On 12 April last at 4.30pm a cyclist was involved in a collision with a van on the corner of North Circular Road and Glengarriff Parade. A van driver turned left onto the cycle lane without noticing the cyclist, and the front wheel followed by the remainder of the bike were dragged under the van. The cyclist was able to jump off his bicycle just in time, and, but for this good fortune would have been seriously or perhaps fatally injured. This incident follows the tragedy in September 2016 when a cyclist was killed after being hit by a vehicle at the junction of Sherriff Street and Seville Place. The cycle lanes on North Circular Road, Portland Row and Seville Place are in an extremely poor state and give little to no protection to cyclists who must share roadspace with vehicular traffic. The problem is compounded by vehicles turning at junctions where there is no feeder light and where motorists break red lights in order to make the turn.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY

Advisory on-road cycle lanes are in place on both Seville Place and North Circular Road (from Dorset Street inbound) where operational hours are 7am to 7pm. Parking is permitted (where appropriate) in these areas outside operational hours. The condition of existing cycle lanes on North Circular Road in the vicinity of Portland Row and Seville Place will be reviewed by the Area Traffic Engineer in relation to segregation.

The junction of Seville Place/North Circular Road, (5 Lamps Junction) is part of the Clontarf to City Centre Cycle Route and includes improvements to the junction for cyclists on Amiens Street/North Strand Road. The request for dedicated traffic signals for cyclists for Portland Row/Seville Place will be reviewed at this junction. A preliminary report will be prepared for the Councillor within a three month timeframe on the above two items.

Q.114 COUNCILLOR FRANK KENNEDY

To ask the Chief Executive to rectify the grossly misleading signage outside Beshoff Bros on Mespil Road, Dublin 4 by making the "No Parking" position abundantly clear. At present motorists are frequently clamped and there is a real concern that the position as it stands constitutes entrapment. On Good Friday a motorist was clamped at this location having parked on what all motorists present at that time agreed did not appear to be a freeway. As the attached photographs show, the freeway start sign is side on and so it is not visible when approaching, which is in contrast to the freeway end sign, which is face on. The effect of this is that motorists will only see the pay and display signage which gives the impression that one can park unmetered after 4pm. (Photos attached)

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The signage in question was realigned on 28th April 2017 in order to ensure that oncoming traffic can see that a clearway is in operation and the times that it is in force. The sign in place at this location indicates that the clearway is in operation from Monday to Saturday between 07.00 and 10.00 and between 16.00 and 19.00.

There is also and Pay and Display / Permit Parking sign advising the hours of operation are Monday – Saturday from 10.00 – 16.00. In addition this information is provided on the parking meter which is also programmed not to accept payment during Clearway operational hours.

Should any individual wish to appeal a clamping Dublin City Council operates a two stage appeals process. In the first instance appeals should be made, in writing to Dublin Street Parking Services, P.O. Box 9965, Dublin 2. If not satisfied with their determination a second stage appeal can be made to the Independent Parking Appeals Officer.

Q.115 COUNCILLOR FRANK KENNEDY

To ask the Chief Executive to provide a breakdown of payments from the Dublin City Council Community Grants Scheme for the South East Area by whichever is the more convenient of (a) town/village (i.e. Sandymount, Ringsend, Ranelagh etc.) or (b) Local Electoral Area (e.g. Pembroke East A etc.). This is not a request for a list of the individual grants made but rather seeks a specific breakdown of the number of grants made and the total sums granted by geographic area.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY

We provide from the South East Area Office Community grants each year broken down as the following:

General Community Grants: €63,500

Informal Adult Education: €15,471

Tom Clark Bridge Grants: €61,950

Grant application information is not collated by either town / village or by local electoral area.

Q.116 COUNCILLOR FRANK KENNEDY

To ask the Chief Executive

- (a) to liaise with appropriate community and residents groups living west of Ringsend Bridge up to and including Pearse Street (i.e. residents of Ringsend Road, South Lotts Road, Macken Street etc.) as to what signage or area name(s) and the locations for same would be appropriate for signage in this area and
- (b) to erect such signage.

Attractive village signs have recently been installed in, for example, Sandymount, Donnybrook and Ranelagh. As yet no signs have been installed for the South Docks /Pearse Street area.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY

Signs have been installed in a number of urban villages in the South East Area over recent years. However, the area described above does not clearly outline the site of a recognised urban village and is therefore not considered to be an appropriate location for village signage at present.

Q.117 COUNCILLOR DAMIAN O'FARRELL

To ask the Chief Executive (**details supplied**)

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY

A reply has been issued to the Councillor.

Q.118 COUNCILLOR DAMIAN O'FARRELL

To ask the Chief Executive (**details supplied**)

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY

A reply has been issued to the Councillor.

Q.119 COUNCILLOR DAMIAN O'FARRELL

To ask the Chief Executive (**details supplied**)

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY

A reply has been issued to the Councillor.

Q.120 COUNCILLOR JOHN LYONS

To ask the Chief Executive with regard to the Land Initiative Projects, to provide an evaluation of the value for money expected to be achieved through procurement of these projects by means of the Public-Private Partnership model and to outline how the city council will ensure transparency around the contracts and governance oversight of these Land Initiative Projects.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY

The three Housing Land initiative Sites (O'Devaney Gardens/Infirmary Road, Oscar Traynor Road and St Michaels Estate/Emmet Road) are not part of the current Public Private Partnership Bundles. However, as part of the assessment process, outlined in The Public Spending Code, consideration must be given to viable options, which may include, amongst other options, the Public Private Partnership route. The assessment process obliges Local Authorities to carry out a Cost Benefit Analysis/Economic Appraisal for each site. The Cost Benefit Analysis/Economic appraisals will help identify the option which presents the best value for money.

The Housing Land Initiative has adopted a Corporate Governance Structure based on the following guideline documents

- *"Guidelines for the Appraisal and Management of Capital Expenditure Proposals in the Public Sector"* (Department of Finance, Jan 2005).
- *Guidelines for the Reporting Arrangements, Role and Functions of a Process Auditor"* (Department of Finance, June 2004)
- *The Public Spending Code"* (Department of Public Expenditure and Reform, July 2012)

The Corporate Governance Structure also includes the establishment of a Project Board, Project Teams for each site, Working Groups made up of Legal, Financial and Technical Advisors along with the innovative introduction of an independent Process Auditor.

Q.121 COUNCILLOR JOHN LYONS

To ask the Chief Executive to provide a value for money analysis of the rapid build programme to date, namely the 22 units located in Ballymun.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY

The 22 Rapid Delivery homes constructed in Ballymun comply with all of the requirements of the Public Spending Code. The contract for the design and building of the 22 houses was less than €20million and a cost benefit analysis was not required. A total of 22 three bedroom houses were constructed over a 16 week period on the site. The houses are A3 energy rated and cost €181,000 to construct and are considered good value for money.

Q.122 COUNCILLOR JOHN LYONS

To ask the Chief Executive to provide a report on the monies paid to the Lord Mayor, Deputy Lord Mayor and the Chairs of the SPCs.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY

The Lord Mayor receives an allowance €50,000 per annum, of which €10,000 is non-taxable. The Deputy Lord Mayor received an untaxed amount of €5,000 per annum. The allowance for the chair of a strategic Policy Committee is €6,000 per annum, non-taxable.

All these allowances have been approved by the City Council. Full details of all payments to the Lord Mayor and Members, including the above-mentioned, are available on our website, www.dublincity.ie

Q.123 COUNCILLOR JOHN LYONS

To ask the Chief Executive to provide a report on commercial rates, the number of businesses paying them, the annual amounts projected and actually collected over the past six years and the number and nature of businesses currently exempt from paying commercial rates in the city and the reasons for the exemptions and the projected lost income.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY

In respect of 2017, 20,497 businesses are liable for commercial rates. Schedule 4 of the Valuation Act 2001 sets out details of relevant property not rateable. The schedule includes land used for agriculture, horticulture, forestry and sport. Also, buildings used exclusively for public religious worship, caring for sick persons, educational institutions, any art gallery, museum, library, park or national monument which is open to the public and not maintained for the purpose of making a private profit, community halls and buildings used for charitable purposes by a charitable organisation (see sec. 16). Buildings occupied by members of either house of the Oireachtas or a member of the European Parliament exclusively as his/her constituency office. Public water services properties are not rateable.

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

The Valuation (Amendment) Act 2015 provides a new **partial exemption** from commercial rates for Community Sports Clubs that are registered under the Registration of Clubs (Ireland) Act 1904. Buildings or part of buildings used for or in conjunction with the sale or consumption of alcohol or food, retail use or hire to non-community organisations continue to be liable for rates.

The Valuation Office assess each property and use in order to establish if it is list rateable or exempt in accordance with legislative provisions.

Prior to the revaluation of Dublin City, property directly occupied by the state was valued and entered on the valuation list but was not rateable. This is no longer the case. The Valuation Office no longer value state occupied property or relevant properties not rateable and therefore it is not possible to determine the income foregone in respect of exempt properties.

The table below provides details in respect of collection:

Year	Arrears 01-Jan	Charge	Write Off	Total for Collection	Receipts	Arrears at 31-Dec	Specific Doubtful Arrears *	% Collected
	€m	€m	€m	€m	€m	€m	€m	
2011	63.4	325.1	12.9	375.6	301.7	73.9	0.0	80.0%
2012	73.9	341.3	36.8	378.3	302.0	76.3	0.0	80.0%
2013	76.3	341.2	37.8	379.7	305.7	74.0	0.0	81.0%
2014	74.0	342.2	33.7	382.5	319.9	62.6	0.0	84.0%
2015	62.6	336.3	33.6	365.2	314.1	51.1	7.1	88.0%
2016	51.1	324.5	31.4	344.2	303.1	41.1	5.7	89.5%

- A change in accounting treatment provides that the value of specific doubtful arrears are included in rate collection performance data from the financial year 2015 onwards

Q.124 COUNCILLOR PAT DUNNE

To ask the Chief Executive to ask our maintenance section to bring our tenants (**details supplied**) house up to proper standards in terms of insulation and heating. Our tenant reports that she has no central heating, the windows and doors are over 20 years old and are draughty and the house is damp throughout and in need of insulation. She has ENT medical problems and a letter from her GP stating that her problems are made worse by exposure to the damp environment.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The Area Maintenance Officer is making arrangements to inspect this dwelling in relation to the issues raised. From a visual inspection the windows and door to the front are PVC double-glazed and in good condition. This is a solid built dwelling therefore can be considered under our insulation programme Phase 2 when it commences.

Q.125 COUNCILLOR PAT DUNNE

To ask the Chief Executive to provide a report on future recruitment policy for staff vacancies within DCC. Can the report detail the type of vacancies likely to occur and provide details as to how interested persons can be keep updated regarding their interest in applying?

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY

Dublin City Council recruits staff in accordance with the Workforce Plan agreed with the Department of Housing, Planning, Community & Local Government. Cognisant of both the operational requirements and financial resources of the organisation, business cases are required to be made in respect of any vacancy arising across the organisation. Where there is a requirement to respond to national issues, such as the Housing crisis, business cases are made to the Department of Housing, Planning, Community & Local Government for the recruitment of appropriate staff.

Positions are advertised in national newspapers, the City Council's website, dublincity.ie, publicjobs.ie, localgovernmentjobs.ie, Twitter and Facebook.

Q.126 COUNCILLOR PAT DUNNE

To ask the Chief Executive to report on the progress to date since the adaptation of Motion No 1 at this February's council meeting. The motion called upon Dublin City Council to enter into discussions for the removal or relocation of the railings at the College Green bank so as to enhance the public plaza. Additionally has full

consideration of the possible hazards that partly sighted persons may have in sharing the plaza with cyclists been taken into account by the design team.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY

Following the motion agreed by Council, discussions took place with the Bank of Ireland with regard to the removal of the railings. The Bank authorities emphasised the importance of the railings from a security perspective and also referred to the history of the railings and to their heritage value and setting within College Green and to their relationship with the railings opposite at Trinity College. The Bank authorities were not amenable to the removal of the railings. It was agreed that further discussions would take place with the Bank authorities in the context of the development of the Civic Space and ways in which the use and management of the space could be enhanced.

The Design Team in developing their proposals for the new Civic Space have taken account of the issues faced by all people who will be using the space, including people with visual impairment.

Q.127 COUNCILLOR PAT DUNNE

To ask the Chief Executive to provide a list of current voids including acquisitions in Area K showing if they are with the depot or contactors and the expected date for them becoming available for allocation.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

There are currently 30 vacant units in Area K as indicated on the chart below

Type of Unit	Address	No of Beds	Status	Expected Due Back Date
House	CAPTAINS ROAD	3	RTL	Unit available for letting
House	CASHEL AVE	3	WF	Jul-17
House	CLONARD RD	2	WF	End May 17
Senior Citizens	CLONMACNOISE GROVE	0	WF	End May 17
Apartment	CRUMLIN ROAD	1	RTL	Unit available for letting
Apartment	DAVITT HOUSE	0	RTL	Unit available for letting
House	DOWNPATRICK ROAD	2	WF	End June 17
House	ERRIGAL ROAD	3	WF	End June 17
Senior Citizens	FATHER KITT COURT	1	DLIP	End May 17
Senior Citizens	FATHER KITT COURT	1	RTL	Unit available for letting
House	GALTYMORE ROAD	2	RTL	Unit available for letting
House	KEEPER ROAD	2	RTL	Unit available for letting
House	KILWORTH RD	3	WF	May-17
House	LALLY ROAD	3	WF	May-17
House	LISMORE ROAD	2	WF	Jul-17
House	LISMORE ROAD	3	WF	May-17
Senior Citizens	LISSADEL COURT	0	RTL	Unit available for letting

Apartment	LISSADEL COURT	0	DLIP	May-17
Maisonette	LISSADEL ROAD	2	FF	6/8 Weeks after Task Order Issued
Maisonette	LISSADEL ROAD	2	RTL	Unit available for letting
Senior Citizens	LORCAN O TOOLE COURT	0	DLIP	May-17
Senior Citizens	LORCAN O TOOLE COURT	0	WF	May-17
Senior Citizens	LORCAN O TOOLE COURT	0	DLIP	May-17
House	OLD COUNTY ROAD	3	RTL	Unit available for letting
House	PROSPECT TCE	3	FF	6/8 Weeks after Task Order Issued
Senior Citizens	ROCKMEADE COURT	1	RTL	Unit available for letting
House	RUTLAND AVE	2	WF	End May 17
House	SAUL ROAD	2	WF	May-17
House	SLIEVEMORE ROAD	2	FF	6/8 Weeks after Task Order Issued
House	RUTLAND GROVE	2	FF	6/8 Weeks after Task Order Issued

RTL = Unit Available for letting

DLIP = Unit being refurbished by Direct Labour

WF = Currently with Framework Contractor

FF = Unit identified for refurbishment by Framework Contractor - Task Order to be issued

Q.128 COUNCILLOR EMMA MURPHY

To ask the Chief Executive (**details supplied**)

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY

A reply has been issued to the Councillor.

Q.129 COUNCILLOR EMMA MURPHY

To ask the Chief Executive (**details supplied**)

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY

A reply has been issued to the Councillor.

Q.130 COUNCILLOR EMMA MURPHY

To ask the Chief Executive (**details supplied**)

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY

A reply has been issued to the Councillor.

Q.131 COUNCILLOR EMMA MURPHY

To ask the Chief Executive (**details supplied**)

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY

A reply has been issued to the Councillor.

Q.132 COUNCILLOR MICHAEL MULLOOLY

To ask the Chief Executive in a reply to Question 80 to the April Meeting it was accepted that 25 vehicles were removed from the street where a clamp had been illegally removed on a previous occasion. The charges levied in respect of these vehicles varied. Can I have a breakdown of each charge and an explanation why the charges are different in respect of some vehicles.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY

The exact breakdown of the charges referred to is being reviewed and a report will issue to the Councillor shortly.

Q.133 COUNCILLOR MICHAEL MULLOOLY

To ask the Chief Executive to set out the legal basis (which was requested in question 80 in the April meeting) for the practice of removing vehicles from the street and imposing additional charges which are different from the way other vehicles parked illegally are treated. Can the legal basis for this practice be set out in detail.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY

The legal basis for immobilisation and removal of vehicles is provided by the Road Traffic Act, as amended by Section 101(B) of the Dublin Transport Authority (Dissolution) Act, 1987.

Statutory charges that apply are as follows,

1 st Clamp (Release fee unpaid)	€80.00
2 nd Clamp	€80.00
Removal to Pound	€80.00
<u>Total</u>	<u>€240.00</u>

(Per Day Pound Storage €35.00)

In addition to statutory charges that apply for immobilisation, removal and storage Dublin City Council imposes a €500 penalty charge where the vehicle has been subject to the unauthorised removal of a clamp. These charges are considered reasonable and have been endorsed by the courts in previous rulings where legal action has been taken.

The breakdown of this charge is as follows,

Replacement clamp:	€121.00
Replacement Abloy Lock:	€157.30
Associated Delivery Costs:	€40.00
Staff Wages (@ 2 hours):	€103.64
Truck and Diesel Costs:	€40.00
Administration Fees:	€38.06
<u>Total</u>	<u>€500.00</u>

Grand total €740.00 plus any additional daily storage fee.

Q.134 COUNCILLOR NORMA SAMMON

To ask the Chief Executive (details supplied)

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY

A reply has been issued to the Councillor.

Q.135 COUNCILLOR NORMA SAMMON

To ask the Chief Executive (**details supplied**)

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY

A reply has been issued to the Councillor.

Q.136 COUNCILLOR NORMA SAMMON

To ask the Chief Executive (**details supplied**)

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY

A reply has been issued to the Councillor.

Q.137 COUNCILLOR NORMA SAMMON

To ask the Chief Executive (**details supplied**)

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY

A reply has been issued to the Councillor.

Q.138 COUNCILLOR DAMIAN O'FARRELL

To ask the Chief Executive (**details supplied**)

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY

A reply has been issued to the Councillor.

Q.139 COUNCILLOR TINA MAC VEIGH

To ask the Chief Executive to provide a report on the introduction of the boiler fee charged to our tenants to include: date implemented, rate of calculation, date of council meeting at which it was voted and copy of management report that was voted on.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY

At the meeting of the Budget Consultative Group held on 21st October 2016 it was agreed that a note would be circulated to the BCG members outlining the background to the proposed increase in the charge for boiler maintenance. The report below was circulated on Tuesday 3rd November 2016 and the charge was introduced in March 2017. The attached slides were also circulated.

Dublin City Council provides a boiler service, repair and replacement service across its stock of domestic gas boilers. The service charge proposed as payable by tenants amounts €5 per week, €260 per year. This charge covers:

an annual service,

a breakdown service including the replacement of any parts as and when required,

the replacement of the existing boiler when the boiler is deemed beyond repair.

The costs of any one of these elements can vary but the annual service is generally €55 to €60, the replacement boiler, €2200 to €2500. All of these costs are covered by the annual charge payable by tenants.

The table below sets out the costs charged to the tenant over the ten year cycle and the value of services receive by the tenant over the same period. Services are valued both at that maximum price and minimum price, largely influenced by the cost of the replacement boiler. The net benefit to the tenant over this ten year period (i.e. benefits above the value of the charge paid) is **€150 at minimum and €500 at maximum.** This is in addition to the reduced energy bills which will follow when boilers are replaced. New high efficiency boilers provide an increased efficiency of

18% to the average cost per annum giving an annual saving of **€173.52 on household energy costs.**

	Annual	Over 10 Years
Charge paid by tenants	260	2600
Boiler Service Cost (Min)	55	550
Replacement Boiler Cost (Min)	2200	2200
Value of services received (Min)		2750
Charge paid by tenants	260	2600
Boiler Service Cost (Max)	60	600
Replacement Boiler Cost (Max)	2500	2500
Value of services received (Max)		3100

Gas Boiler Charges – Financial Analysis		
Example 1 – Minimum Price	Annual	Over 10 Years
Charge paid by tenants	260	2,600
Annual Service	55	550
Replacement Boiler		2,200
Value of Services Received		2,750
Net Benefit to Tenant		150
Reduced cost of energy bills	173	1,730
Total Benefit to Tenant		1,880
Example 2 – Maximum Price	Annual	Over 10 Years
Charge paid by tenants	260	2,600
Annual Service	60	600
Replacement Boiler		2,500
Value of Services Received		3,100
Net Benefit to Tenant		500
Reduced cost of energy bills	173	1,730
Total Benefit to Tenant		2,230

All tenants were notified in writing of this increase. The Boiler Maintenance Charge includes:

Breakdown response to call-outs (24 to 48 hour),

Boiler service as required

Maintenance and repairs,

Testing and RGII certification of boiler and gas installation.

Replacement of spare parts as required to include cost and installation

New boiler replacement and heating system where required.

Q.140 COUNCILLOR TINA MAC VEIGH

To ask the Chief Executive (**details supplied**)

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

A reply has been issued to the Councillor.

Q.141 COUNCILLOR DAITHÍ DOOLAN

To ask the Chief Executive how much did it cost to originally install and operate the CCTV camera that was recently vandalised in Cherry Orchard and how much, approximately, will it cost to fully repair?

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The total cost of the installation of CCTV in Cherry Orchard which included two poles and eight cameras and wireless links etc. to Ballyfermot Garda Station was approximately 61,353 Euro. The quote received for attending the site on Monday 17th April to inspect the damage, attend the site on Tuesday morning to remove the pole for health and safety reasons, and re-instatement of pole and replacement of five cameras is approximately 19,950 Euro.