



MINUTES OF THE SOUTH EAST AREA COMMITTEE MEETING

HELD ON MONDAY 10 JULY 2017

- 1 Election of Chairperson South East Area Committee
Order: Cllr. Paddy McCartan was proposed by Cllr. Ruairí McGinley and seconded by Cllr. Chris Andrews and the nomination was approved by the committee.
- 2 Election of Vice Chairperson South East Area Committee
Order: Cllr. Sonya Stapleton was proposed by Cllr. Frank Kennedy and seconded by Cllr. Dermot Lacey and the nomination was approved by the committee.
- 3 Presentation on Proposed Part 8 Works Interventions to the former Caretaker's Apartment at the Mansion House for use as a Formal Guest Apartment.
Order: Agreed to initiate the Part 8 process.
- 4 Presentation and Report on Proposed Part 8 Works at Temple Bar Square
Order: Agreed to initiate the Part 8 process.
- 5 Minutes of the South East Area Committee meeting held on 12 June 2017
Order: Agreed.
- 6 Environment and Traffic Department Matters
 - i. Minutes of the Traffic Advisory Group meeting held on 27th June 2017.
Order: Agreed.
- 7 Culture, Recreation and Economic Services Department Matters
 - i. Report on proposed grant for swimming pool at Marian College.
Order: Agreed to recommend to city council.
 - ii. Part 8 Report on Bushy Park Tea Rooms.
Order: Agreed to recommend to city council.
- 8 Planning and Property Development Department Matters
 - i. Report on proposed disposal of fee simple in no. 30 Merlyn Road, Ballsbridge, Dublin 4 to Karen Heatley.
Order: Agreed to recommend to city council.

- ii. Report on proposed disposal of property at nos. 15 – 30 Beech Hill Terrace, Dublin 4 to The Royal Hospital Donnybrook Voluntary Housing Association Ltd.

Cllr. Dermot Lacey declared an interest: membership of the Board of the Royal Hospital Donnybrook Voluntary Housing Association Ltd.

Order: Agreed to recommend to city council.

9 South East Area Matters

- i. Update on Community Development, Environmental Services Unit, Housing Projects & Local Area Improvements and Sports & Recreation Sections.

Order: Noted.

- ii. Report on proposed naming of a development on Hanover Street East, 1 – 56, Ropemaker Place.

Order: Agreed.

- iii. Report on proposed naming of a development on Lime Street, 1 – 100, Timberyard Square.

Order: Agreed.

10 Motions

Motion 1 from Councillor Dermot Lacey

This committee agrees to ask the manager to take urgent action to have the footpath on Baggot Street Upper, as detailed below, checked and repaired.

As a resident who lives just around the corner from Baggot Street Upper, I would appreciate if you could liaise with Dublin City Council, as a matter of priority, to ensure the re-paving of both footpaths on either side of the road. As our local public representative, you must be aware of the poor and dangerous state of the footpaths on both sides of the street.

For the last couple of years, both pavements have deteriorated to a stage that many of the paving stones are broken, loose and jagged, and it is a veritable obstacle course walking on either footpath. Between offices, businesses and residents, there is a huge amount of footfall daily on this street. Given the amount of footfall, the neglected condition of the paving stones is an ongoing serious problem, it is dangerous and a health and safety hazard.

Unfortunately, on Thursday 1st June, my 57 year old sister stepped on a paving stone located between Eathos coffee shop and Baggot Wines and she had a bad fall and was injured. On closer inspection, we discovered that the paving stone was split down the middle and completely loose (see photo below). My sister had to be taken by ambulance to St. James's Hospital Emergency Department and they confirmed she had fractured a bone in her foot and has considerable bruising including soft tissue. She has to wear a medical walking boot for at least five weeks, and we do not know what the long term impact of her fall may be. Her fall would have been completely avoidable if the paving stones had been maintained in good condition. A very concerned Garda came along, Garda Niall Burke from Donnybrook Garda Station, and he must have notified Dublin City Council that same day, as I note that the offending paving stone has since been repaired with tarmac but the rest are as bad as ever.

I know, from talking to staff in various businesses in Upper Baggot Street, that this is not an isolated incident. Another lady fell outside Eathos at Christmas and broke her ankle very badly. A man fell outside Boots Pharmacy a few months

ago. The staff in Meaghers' Pharmacy said that a number of people have come into them after falls on the pavements and one of their own staff fell and fractured her arm on the same pavements as long as two years ago. I know that, in the fortnight since my sister fell, two ladies had bad falls on a loose paving stone between Meaghers' and No. 8 News-agency, one lady as recently as yesterday evening!

Repairing individual faulty paving stones after they cause a fall and injury is not a solution. The council needs to assess and re-pave the whole street as a matter of urgency, as it is evident that accidents are happening on a regular basis and people are being injured.

I am sure you will understand our frustration, on paying our Property Tax; that we see no obvious benefit, nor do local businesses paying rates. Instead, we see our built environment deteriorate to the point that it is unsafe for citizens to walk there.

I am asking you, as our local public representative, to ensure that Dublin City Council assesses and re-paves both footpaths as a matter of priority, in order to protect people from injury. I would appreciate if you could let me know what practical action you intend to take to address this very serious Health and Safety issue, when you have taken that action and the outcome. I look forward to a positive response.

Order: Report to councillor.

Motion 2 from Councillor Dermot Lacey

There will be a new development at the Hawkins House site bordered by Tara Street and Poolbeg Street, through which a main street will run. In recognition of the previous location of the Theatre Royal at this site, this committee requests the manager to take the necessary steps - including advance contact with the owners of the site - to have the road crossing the site named "Theatre Royal Way".

Order: Agreed.

Motion 3 from Councillor Ruairi McGinley

That the manager report to this committee on the condition of open space in Rutland Grove and steps taken to deal with unauthorised occupation on the space and resulting mayhem and anti social behaviour of a serious nature.

Order: Report to councillor.

Motion 4 from Councillors Patrick Costello and Ruairi McGinley

That this area committee agrees that the following issues in Rutland Grove are addressed as soon as possible:

- Installation of "Cul De Sac" sign at the start of the estate.
- Cleaning of walls and removal of graffiti around the open green area.
- Increased monitoring of parking difficulties and illegal parking by parking enforcement.

Order: Report to councillor.

Motion 5 from Councillor Mary Freehill

That funds be included in the 2018 budget to fill in the canal wall along Parnell Road. There are major gaps in this wall which leaves it level with the footpath. This is where the canal overflowed along with the Poddle in 2011 which caused loss of life.

Order: Moved by Cllr. Dermot Lacey. Report to councillor.

Motion 6 from Councillor Dermot Lacey

This committee agrees to request the Traffic Engineer to develop a comprehensive traffic plan (signage, etc.) for Lansdowne Park, Ballsbridge, Dublin 4.

Order: Agreed.

Motion 7 from Councillor Claire Byrne

That this area committee calls on the area manager to resurface the pavements on both sides of the road on Upper Baggot Street. There have been numerous accidents due to uneven paving stones on the road and therefore this needs to be addressed as a matter of urgency.

Order: Report to councillor.

Motion 8 from Councillor Claire Byrne

That this area committee supports the residents of Ringsend and Irishtown in their efforts to erect a 'Welcome to Ringsend' sign in the area and that this be included as part of the Ringsend and Irishtown Local Environment Improvement Plan. Suggested locations are around Ringsend Bridge and just after the Garda Station on Irishtown Road.

Order: Report to councillor.

Motion 9 from Councillor Claire Byrne

That this area committee agrees that any redevelopment of the Central Bank should include the following:

- a skate park or skate ramp
- an indoor play area for children
- the provision of artist studios

and that the area manager ensures that these are taken into consideration when making any decisions on planning applications for this site.

Order: Report to councillor.

Motion 10 from Councillor Claire Byrne

That this area committee calls on the area manager to retain John Sweeny in his role as sports development officer in Irishtown Stadium.

Order: Report to councillor.

Motion 11 from Councillor Patrick Costello

That this committee agrees to install recycling bins for glass and cans at the open space at Portobello Harbour.

Order: Agreed.

Motion 12 from Councillor Frank Kennedy

Having regard to the many great successes which communities, towns and villages in the South East Area have enjoyed in recent years in the Tidy Towns competition, this area committee resolves that there should be a ban on erecting any posters in any towns and villages in the city of Dublin which are competing as registered entrants / nominees in the Tidy Towns competition during the month of June and July (which are the adjudication months for the Tidy Towns) and that, if approved, this motion shall form part of the brief of the South East Area Committee to be placed before the members of Dublin City Council for approval at its September meeting.

Order: Report to Councillor.

Motion 13 from Councillor Frank Kennedy

In the event that the immediately preceding motion is, on the advice of the law agent, unlawful having regard to legislation concerning the erection of election posters, then, having regard to the many great successes which communities, towns and villages in the South East Area have enjoyed in recent years in the Tidy Towns competition, this area committee resolves that there should be a ban on this city council approving any applications for permission to erect any posters in any towns and villages in the city of Dublin which are competing as registered entrants / nominees in the Tidy Towns competition during the months of June and July (which are the adjudication months for the Tidy Towns) and that, if approved, this motion shall form part of the brief of the South East Area Committee to be placed before the members of Dublin City Council for approval at its September meeting.

Order: Report to Councillor.

Motion 14 from Councillor Frank Kennedy

This committee shall write to An Post to ask it to clarify the position regarding the Post Office in Donnybrook which it is understood will close in August 2017, and, if the Post Office at its current location is not to re-open, to ask what steps are being taken to ensure that a Post Office is opened in Donnybrook as a matter of urgency.

Order: Agreed.

Motion 15 from Councillor Frank Kennedy

This committee shall write to An Post to request a full report on its efforts to ensure that a new post office is opened in Sandymount and to emphasise that this issue needs to be resolved as a matter of urgency.

Order: Agreed.

Motion 16 from Councillor Frank Kennedy

Owing to the very severe traffic problems in the South East Area, which encompasses some of the most significant parts of Dublin city centre including College Green, Grafton Street and St. Stephen's Green, this committee resolves to write to the Minister for Transport to express its grave disappointment at the lack of progress on important transportation issues in our city since the minister assumed office in May 2016, and to respectfully request that the minister channels his energies into his own cabinet portfolio rather than pursuing matters which fall within the remit of other government departments, particularly in any matters in which he lacks both objectivity and expertise.

Amended to: Owing to the very severe traffic problems in the South East Area, which encompasses some of the most significant parts of Dublin city centre including College Green, Grafton Street and St. Stephen's Green, this committee resolves to write to the Minister for Transport to express its grave disappointment at the lack of progress on important transportation issues in our city since the minister assumed office in May 2016, and to respectfully request that the minister channels his energies into his own cabinet portfolio rather than pursuing matters which fall within the remit of other government departments, particularly in any matters in which he lacks expertise.

Order: Agreed as amended.

Motion 17 from Councillor Mannix Flynn

That this South East Area committee of Dublin City Council (DCC) call on DCC Planning Department to inform all social housing residents of any private developments that are taking place within a close proximity to their residence or homes. DCC as landlord and planning authority are neglecting their care of duty to their tenants. They are not looking out for their well-being, their safety or their health or indeed the enjoyment of their homes. Examples of this are in the

Docklands area and also in the Golden Lane area and the Glovers Court area. If these were private blocks of flats the management company would be to the forefront of protecting residents' interests and welfare during, beginning and after the planning process.

Order: Agreed.

11 Questions to the Chief Executive 10 July 2017

Order: Noted.

Cllr. Paddy McCartan
Chairperson
Monday 10 July 2017

Attendance:

Members:

Chris Andrews
Patrick Costello
Frank Kennedy
Ruairí McGinley

Members:

Kieran Binchy
Mannix Flynn
Dermot Lacey
Claire O'Connor

Members:

Claire Byrne
Mary Freehill
Paddy McCartan
Sonya Stapleton

Officers

Brian Hanney
Fiona O'Brien
Eileen Martin
Neil O'Donoghue

Rose Kenny
Jennifer Wall
Gerard Geoghegan
Lenzie O'Sullivan

Brian Kirk
Paul McCann
Rossana Camargo

Apologies:

Anne Feeney

Non-Members:

Patrick McCabe, Redscape

Q.1 Councillor Ruairí McGinley

To ask the manager to take steps to remedy (details supplied).

Reply:

Waste Management Services will monitor the cleanliness of details supplied to ensure that the servicing of the nearby bring centre isn't causing extra litter there. The main cause of litter in this area is usually the problem of seagulls tearing open rubbish bags left out by the residents for their Monday collection. We will do all we can to keep details supplied as clean as possible.

Road Maintenance Services are making arrangements to carry out a permanent roadway reinstatement here.

Q.2 Councillor Dermot Lacey

To ask the manager why the waste collection depot in Rathmines was closed at 3.55pm on Monday 12th June, depriving a resident of the opportunity to deposit empty bottles there?

Reply:

Our member of staff has five gate entrances and the depot building itself to secure safely when closing the facility. He has been advised to stick as rigidly as possible to the 4pm closing time to avoid such an unfortunate incident happening again. We regret any inconvenience this matter caused the above mentioned resident.

Q.3 Councillor Ruairí McGinley

To ask the manager to prune the tree at *details supplied.

Reply:

This tree is now scheduled for pruning. Work will be carried out over the next 2 months.

Q.4 Councillor Ruairí McGinley

To ask the manager to initiate a plebiscite to introduce residential disc parking on Clareville Road, Harold's Cross. This matter has become urgent after the introduction of residential disc parking on nearby Westfield Road.

Reply:

The criteria for the consideration of requests for Pay and Display and Permit Parking Schemes require that written supporting evidence in favour of a Parking Scheme be received from 25% of households of the road concerned before the request can be referred to the Traffic Advisory Group for examination and report. The full criteria are being forwarded to the councillor.

Q.5 Councillor Dermot Lacey

To ask the manager if she can clarify if Dublin City Council owns the piece of waste land at the entrance to Peter Place housing estate (beside number 28 approximately) also to ask the manager to arrange for the green area at the centre of the complex to be cleaned, pruned and upgraded.

Reply:

The triangular shaped plot of ground at the entrance to Peter Place is not in the ownership of Dublin City Council.

The South East Area Office will establish ownership and pass on the request to have it cleaned up.

Q.6 Councillor Ruairí McGinley

To ask the manager to provide Dublin Fire Brigade report on April 28th 10pm callout including inability to access Hannaville Park via Mayfield Road East.

Reply:

Dublin Fire Brigade responded to a car fire at Hannaville Park, Terenure (Incident Number DF-17-006505) on the 28th, April 2017. A fire appliance from Dolphins Barn Fire Station was mobilised at 21:56, arrived at the scene at 22:03 and this incident closed down at 22:35.

On arrival the driver of the fire appliance found extreme difficulty gaining access to the road due to the nature of parked vehicles. The fire appliance had to withdraw from the initial entry point and enter from the far end of the road. The Officer-in- Charge instructed a number of people on the road to move their parked vehicles to a more appropriate space to allow emergency vehicle access.

A large crowd of neighbours and residents had gathered on the street to watch fire-fighting activities. The Fire Officer requested that they be more cognisant of their parking as it could cause an issue for emergency vehicles responding in the area.

They appeared to have accepted this and taken it as constructive criticism.

Q.7 Councillor Dermot Lacey

To ask the manager to outline the reasons for the low water pressure in Canon Mooney Gardens; there has been low water pressure intermittently with no explanation for the residents. Can the manager furnish a report as to the cause and the steps that are being taken to ensure that residents have a safe reliable water source in their homes?

Reply:

This matter has been referred to Irish Water and a reply will issue to the councillor in due course.

Q.8 Councillor Chris Andrews

Can the manager explain why *details supplied has not had central heating for the last two years and why the blockage has not been fixed and can the manager also say when this work will be carried out to ensure they are not without heat for a third year?

Reply:

Housing Maintenance has attended to a heating issue with one radiator in one bedroom in this dwelling on a number of occasions. The heating system is working. The radiator in one of the bedrooms is not heating correctly. There is a blocked heating circuit pipe in a concrete floor. Recently the system was flushed. However, this did not remove the blockage. The entire heating circuit pipe work needs to be replaced as a surface circuit. This was explained to the tenant and the tenant has refused to allow works to commence. Further contact was made with the tenant who to date has not agreed to allow this work.

Q.9 Councillor Chris Andrews

Can the manager have the three balcony lights rewired at *details supplied so they last longer than three days when replaced, leaving the balcony in darkness, which is dangerous for the 91 year old resident.

Reply:

Regrettably we have an ongoing issue on the circuit feeding the 3rd floor balcony in details supplied flats. The fault has not yet been located. It may require rewiring the complete circuit. Our Electrical Services team is attending to restore the balcony lights as soon as possible.

Q.10 Councillor Chris Andrews

Can the manager have the balcony railings at *details supplied repaired as they have separated from the flooring?

Reply:

Housing Maintenance Steel Fabrication Unit will carry out the necessary repairs to the railings at this location.

Q.11 Councillor Chris Andrews

Can the manager put in place for a play area in Digges Street to be installed?

Reply:

There are no budget provisions for a play area at the above location.

Q.12 Councillor Chris Andrews

Can the tree be cut down and replaced to the rear of *details supplied, as it is completely overgrown and overshadowing this flat and others close to it. It is blocking out the light and can be touched from the balcony.

Reply:

This tree will be inspected in relation to pruning.

Q.13 Councillor Chris Andrews

Residents have an issue with people misusing a specific bin that is on the corner of Arnott Street and Lombard Street. This bin is being used by people to dump their domestic waste; bottles etc. and is constantly overflowing with rubbish blown all over the place.

Can you advise if it would be possible to remove this bin completely? The consensus from the residents, particularly at that end of the street, is that they would prefer to see it gone. The council is very good at cleaning up the mess when it is reported but it would seem to make more sense not to have the bin at all.

Reply:

Waste Management Services will monitor the usage of the above mentioned litter bin over the coming weeks to see if there is any merit in having this bin removed. The councillors for this area will be informed if any decision to remove this bin is made.

Q.14 Councillor Chris Andrews

Can the manager have the tree to the rear of *details supplied pruned back as it has lost all shape and is severely blocking the light into the flats it is growing in front of?

Reply:

This tree will be inspected and works carried out if deemed necessary.

Q.15 Councillor Chris Andrews

When will Bishop Street flats be painted and when were they last painted?

Reply:

Bishop Street flats were last painted October 2009. It is estimated that painting of this complex will commence last quarter 2017 to early 2018.

Q.16 Councillor Chris Andrews

Can the manager arrange to have *details supplied inspected and have the damage to the walls repaired?

Reply:

This dwelling has been inspected. Arrangements have been made to have vents installed in the next few weeks.

Q.17 Councillor Chris Andrews

Can the manager have the tree to the rear of *details supplied replaced with a smaller tree that does not block the light, as it is growing up against their window?

Reply:

This tree will be inspected and works carried out if deemed necessary.

Q.18 Councillor Paddy Smyth

To ask the manager to ensure that the drains west of Templemore Avenue (i.e. in the lane way behind Templemore Avenue) are unblocked as soon as possible, as this poses a serious health risk and is attracting rats.

The residents (details supplied) have employed a drain expert on two occasions to fix the problem, but were told the blockage is beyond their property and to call Dublin City Council.

Reply:

On the 29th June the Drainage Section inspected the sewers and gullies in the laneway to the rear and west of details supplied. The public sewers were found to be clear and flowing freely. However, the gully to the rear of No 18 was completely blocked. The Drainage Crew spent a considerable amount of time clearing and freeing this gully. It was sealed with concrete/mortar which it is suspected came from building works on nearby properties. It is now operating correctly. The lane was also swept by Dublin City Council Cleansing Section on 3rd July to remove debris which could potentially be washed into the drainage system in due course.

Q.19 Councillor Chris Andrews

Bearing in mind the large number of cars in Pearse House and the increasing numbers looking to park will the manager allow for residents to park their cars on Hanover Street East when they can't get parking in Pearse House in a similar manner to some residential streets can park on neighbouring streets when they can't get parking on their own street?

Reply:

Provision of parking permits to tenants and enforcement arrangements for parking within Dublin City Council flat complexes is managed by the Housing Department separately under a different regime and contract to on-street parking.

The Dublin City Council Parking Control Bye-Laws regulate with regard to all on-street parking schemes and set out the eligibility and entitlement to Resident Parking Permits. As is the case for other flat and apartment complexes residents of Pearse House are not eligible for permits for use on adjoining streets.

Given the number of apartment and flat complexes located throughout the city any change to the eligibility in the bye-laws to allow for such an arrangement would result in demand for parking massively exceeding the parking space available on-street.

Q.20 Councillor Paddy McCartan

A lime tree located on Haddington Road at the entrance to Beggars Bush has its roots protruding, thus making the path surface uneven and potentially dangerous. Can the manager arrange to have the tarmac area surrounding the tree resurfaced?

Reply:

Arrangements will be made to carry out a repair at this location.

Q.21 Councillor Paddy McCartan

Late in 2016 the footpath outside 24 St. Alban's Park, Sandymount was dug up and then temporarily filled in. This may have been due to a suspected water leak. Could the manager clarify when the pavement will be re-concreted?

Reply:

This is on our works list and will be reinstated as soon as a crew is available.

Q.22 Councillor Paddy McCartan

To ask the manager to deal with the issue of the state of the pavements on Upper Baggot Street, as outlined in the following email from a constituent.

"As a resident who lives just around the corner from Baggot Street Upper, I would appreciate if you could liaise with Dublin City Council, as a matter of priority, to ensure the re-paving of both footpaths on either side of the road. As our local public representative, you must be aware of the poor and dangerous state of the footpaths on both sides of the street.

For the last couple of years, both pavements have deteriorated to a stage that many of the paving stones are broken, loose and jagged, and it is a veritable obstacle course walking on either footpath. Between offices, businesses and residents, there is a huge amount of footfall daily on this street. Given the amount of footfall, the neglected condition of the paving stones is an ongoing serious problem, it is dangerous and a Health and Safety hazard.

Unfortunately, on Thursday 1st June, my 57 year old sister stepped on a paving stone located between Eathos coffee shop and Baggot Wines and she had a bad fall and was injured. On closer inspection, we discovered that the paving stone was split down the middle and completely loose (see attached photo). My sister had to be taken by ambulance to St. James's Hospital Emergency Department and they confirmed she had fractured a bone in her foot and has considerable bruising including soft tissue. She has to wear a medical walking boot for at least five weeks, and we do not know what the long term impact of her fall may be. Her fall would have been completely avoidable if the paving stones had been maintained in good condition. A very concerned Garda came along, Garda Niall Burke from Donnybrook Garda Station, and he must have notified Dublin City Council that same day, as I note that the offending paving stone has since been repaired with tarmac but the rest are as bad as ever.

I know, from talking to staff in various businesses in Upper Baggot Street, that this is not an isolated incident. Another lady fell outside Eathos at Christmas and broke her ankle very badly. A man fell outside Boots Pharmacy a few months ago. The staff in Meaghers' Pharmacy said that a number of people have come into them after falls on the pavements and one of their own staff fell and fractured her arm on the same pavements as long as two years ago. I know that, in the fortnight since my sister fell, two ladies had bad falls on a loose paving stone between Meaghers' and No. 8 Newsagency, one lady as recently as yesterday evening!

Repairing individual faulty paving stones after they cause a fall and injury is not a solution. The council needs to assess and re-pave the whole street as a matter of urgency, as it is evident that accidents are happening on a regular basis and people are being injured.

I am sure you will understand our frustration, on paying our Property Tax that we see no obvious benefit, nor do local businesses paying rates. Instead, we see our built environment deteriorate to the point that it is unsafe for citizens to walk there.

I am asking you, as our local public representative, to ensure that Dublin City Council assesses and re-paves both footpaths as a matter of priority, in order to protect people from injury. I would appreciate if you could let me know what practical action you intend to take to address this very serious Health and Safety issue, when you have taken that action and the outcome. I look forward to a positive response."

Reply:

These footpaths will be considered for 2018's footpath renewal programme. In the meantime arrangements will be made to carry out repairs in this area.

Q.23 Councillor Paddy McCartan

Following a request from me to have an inspection carried out of a perceived derelict building at 13 St. Mary's Road, Ballsbridge, their response was that the building is considered to be in reasonable condition and is not deemed to warrant entry on the derelict sites register at present. I communicated this to the complainant who responded as follows:

"Thank you. I am shocked by this. Having looked at the definitions of a derelict site:

Structures which are in a ruinous, derelict or dangerous condition, or

- The neglected, unsightly or objectionable condition of the land or of structures on it, or*
- The presence, deposit or collection of litter, rubbish, debris or waste*

... my theory is that it mistakenly failed under the "unsightly or objectionable condition of the land" criteria. One of the neighbours on the road arranged to have the 'jungle' cleared as it had become so unsightly. I think ironically that this might have backfired now! Having said that, as you can see from the attached photos of the front garden, some people might take the view that it looks neglected and unsightly and that there is a build up of debris and waste. I do wonder whether they looked at the correct house?

While 'Derelict Sites' might not realise it is derelict, I think it is fair to say that most casual observers including children would. The gate is unlocked so there is a potential safety issue as a result.

My understanding is that the house itself has not been touched for about eight to ten years so I presume it is now in a very poor condition. However, if we need to wait for the roof to cave in or a wall to collapse I guess this could take another 30, 40, maybe 50 years! I believe the house was owned by a developer who ran into financial difficulty after starting work on the site. I don't know what the ownership situation is now but it has effectively been a closed site since the developer left."

Reply:

A Section 9 notice (under the Litter Pollution Act 1997) can be served on the owner in this case requiring all debris from the front garden, which is visible from a public place, to be removed. However, the owner's name and address details will need to be known in order for this notice to be served.

This site was inspected by the Derelict Sites Section on 3rd July, 2017 and it is in a neglected and unsightly state. Therefore, it is intended to take formal action under the Derelict Sites Act, 1990, with the service of a Notice under Section 8(2) of the Act, i.e. Notice of Intention to enter this site on the Derelict Sites Register and unless it is rendered non derelict it will be entered on the register with the imposition of a levy of 3% per annum plus interest.

Q.24 Councillor Paddy McCartan

To ask the manager to deal with the issues raised by a constituent in relation to road and footpath works at Sandymount Village at the corner of the AIB building. He has concerns about how dangerous the crossing between Ryan's and AIB is since the works have been completed as the photos included will indicate.

- 1) Who in DCC was responsible for drawing up this set up?
- 2) How was contractor selected?
- 3) Did anybody in DCC supervise contractor (SIAC)?
- 4) Did anybody in DCC sign off on it as satisfactory?

- 5) How much did it cost?
- 6) Has contractor been paid?
- 7) When are the puddles going to be drained?
- 8) Could the previous much safer (not perfect) arrangement be reinstated urgently?



Reply:

Please find below responses to the questions;

- 1) This was proposed by the Area Engineer in Dublin City Council (DCC) and went through the TAG process.
- 2) The contractor was selected from a framework.
- 3) Yes the contractor was supervised by DCC staff during construction.
- 4) This job has not being signed off yet.
- 5) €9,485 excl. VAT.
- 6) The contractor has not being fully paid for the works.
- 7) The issue of the puddles is being addressed at the moment. DCC will have this issue rectified by the end of August 2017.
- 8) No the previous arrangement will not be reinstated. This issue will be rectified by the end of August 2017.

Q.25 Councillor Anne Feeney

To ask the manager to extend the double yellow lines just beyond the entrance to the western end of Grosvenor Lane, Rathmines, Dublin 6 i.e., between 83a and 83b Grosvenor Lane, to allow access to the off-street parking spots of these two residences and to facilitate access onto the lane for fire engines or ambulances in case of emergency.

Reply:

This request will be added to the Traffic Advisory Group agenda for examination and report by the Area Traffic Engineer. The councillor will be informed of the recommendation in due course.

Q.26 Councillor Anne Feeney

To ask the manager to urgently address the anti-social and completely unacceptable erection of a tent, littering of furniture and graffiti on Rutland Green. The residents of Rutland Grove and Green have been working hard over many months to enhance their area and the ongoing issues around the Bring Centre and the nearby Eamonn Ceannt Park.

Reply:

The site was cleared on the 30th June 2017. Appropriate support services are engaged.

Arrangements have been made to have the wall cleared of graffiti.

Q.27 Councillor Anne Feeney

To ask the manager to extend double yellow lines along Terenure Road West from the shops opposite Terenure Park to the Garda Station and from Greenlea Road to the Garda

Station and also to consider extending double yellow lines on the opposite side of the road for a distance both left and right of the Presentation School. The request is that this would be auctioned before school starts back again end of August / early September. The issue of cars parking up on the kerbs and blocking entrances to houses while dropping off and picking up children from the school is causing considerable inconvenience and frustration to residents, traffic hold-ups on a narrow stretch of Terenure Road West and is posing a potential safety risk to children who are walking between cars and can't be easily seen on such a busy road. The Gardaí in Terenure are very supportive of the extension of yellow lines for safety reasons.

Reply:

The placing of parking restrictions in the form of double yellow lines is not recommended where restrictions are already in place, as this would lead to a proliferation of unnecessary lining and associated maintenance costs throughout the city.

The installation of double yellow lines along Terenure Road West from the shops opposite Terenure Park to the Garda Station are not recommended as under the Road Traffic (Traffic and Parking) Regulations, Section 36 paragraph (2) k, it is illegal to park "in a manner in which it will interfere with the normal flow of traffic or which obstructs or endangers other traffic."

There is a solid white line at the junction of Greenlea Road. Under Section 36 (2)(d) of the Regulations a vehicle shall not be parked "on a section of roadway with less than 3 traffic lanes and where traffic sign number RRM 001 [continuous white line] has been provided."

In references to placing double yellow lines at the Presentation Primary School on Terenure Road West, the Environment and Transportation Department is of the opinion that the provision of additional double yellow lines will not alleviate the problem of illegal parking by parents. In general, there is a disregard for double yellow lines by parents. In the event that parking restrictions are ignored by parents, it is not feasible to provide enforcement at every school in Dublin. The Gardaí or Dublin City Council's parking enforcement contractor does not have the resources to patrol all schools. The request, therefore, for double yellow lines is not recommended.

There are School Keep Clear (zig-zag) road markings already in place outside the school, at the two entrances, for a distance of 43.5 metres and 25.5 metres respectively.

Q.28 Councillor Anne Feeney

To ask the manager to initiate a full traffic study of Mountpleasant Avenue with a view to addressing the many issues of safety for pedestrians, cyclists and motorists on this very busy road, which has had a changing demographic over recent years, increase in traffic volumes and inappropriate speed limit for such a narrow road with narrow footpaths in parts of the road. As part of the traffic study, local councillors for the area and residents' groups should be part of the input to the study and finding short, medium and longer term solutions.

Reply:

Traffic Advisory Group (TAG) Section does not have the necessary resources or allocated funding to undertake traffic studies of large areas that incorporate multiple roads. It will also lead to delays in closing tag / non tag service requests which is at the moment our priority in order to provide an efficient service to the community. However, if there remains an ongoing concern at a specific location, details should be provided.

Mountpleasant Avenue has been assessed by the Area Engineer in the last 18 months and the existing road is already traffic calmed with the provision of speed ramps spaced between 85m – 95m apart as per the Traffic Management Guidelines.

At the moment, the TAG engineer has requested a speed survey at the junction of Richmond Hill and Mountpleasant Avenue Lower, and at Richmond Place with Mountpleasant Avenue Upper. As soon as the results arrive and are reviewed, the situation will be assessed further to see if any others measures are needed.

- Narrow footpaths in parts of the road

The Traffic Advisory Group is looking into the matter of improving the width of the footpaths at Mountpleasant Avenue Upper and is liaising with Public Lighting Services as the narrow footpath is located at the lamp stand number 12 and 13.

At the moment Public Lighting & Electrical Services Division is looking at the possibility of replacing all the concrete columns (as these columns take up a large space of the footpath) on both Mountpleasant Avenue Upper and Mountpleasant Avenue Lower. The light poles being considered are 12 & 13. The replacement steel poles would have a smaller diameter than the existing concrete ones.

Public Lighting & Electrical Services Division are limited to where they could potentially relocate poles 12 & 13, as all lights have a limited spacing range where they can be situated in order to maintain the required lighting levels on any given road.

The Public Lighting & Electrical Services Division are looking into this matter and are checking to see if they can replace these poles as underground surveys are required..

On residential streets the street lights are there to provide guidance for all road users which include pedestrians, cyclists and motorists.

The Traffic Engineer will decide which measures based on health and safety are deemed appropriate for the road in question.

Q.29 Councillor Anne Feeney

To ask the manager to arrange for pruning of the overhang of trees around the park on Neagh Road.

Reply:

Following inspection, there does not seem to be any obstruction for pedestrians due to overhanging trees around Neagh Road. If there is a particular problem the District Parks Officer can be called to investigate further- Eamonn Dunne 0868151168.

Q.30 Councillor Anne Feeney

To ask the manager to remove the tree on the footpath outside 5 Rathdown Crescent as it has raised the concrete and has caused people to trip and fall over it.

Reply:

The damage to the footpath outside at 5 Rathdown Crescent is not of a scale that would merit the removal of the tree at this time.

Q.31 Councillor Ruairi McGinley

To ask the manager to put a "No Through Road" sign at entrance to Rutland Grove.

Reply:

A Cul De Sac sign was erected on 3rd July 2017.

Q.32 Councillor Ruairi McGinley

That the manager reports on progress on works due to be completed in Rutland Grove estate.

Reply:

Please see attached table detailing the status of the works requested: Appendix A.

Q.33 Councillor Claire Byrne

To ask the area manager to immediately address the issue of illegal dumping at the bin on Lombard Street West, Dublin 8 and to outline the exact measures that will be taken to deal with this ongoing issue in the this location and in the Portobello area as a whole.

Reply:

Waste Management Services will monitor closely the usage of the litter bin on Lombard Street West. Our litter warden will include this location and the general Portobello area as part of his regular patrol. Any evidence found in the illegally dumped rubbish will result in the issuing of fines. Every effort will be made to deal with this problem.

Q.34 Councillor Claire Byrne

To ask the area manager what immediate measures can be taken to address the issue of drug dealing on Castle Street and the 40 Steps beside Dublin Castle and if the manager could write to Kevin Street Garda Station and request a greater Garda presence in the area as one measure to address this ongoing issue.

Reply:

The South East Area Office will write to the Gardaí at Kevin Street regarding the councillor's report and to the Office of Public Works who maintains the 40 steps.

Q.35 Councillor Claire Byrne

To ask the area manager who installed the new source separation bins on South King Street, how many of these bins have been installed in the city and whether the use of these bins is being closely monitored.

Reply:

Two of these bins have been installed in the city centre on a trial basis. A report will be issued to the councillor on the outcome of segregation characteristic studies of the bins that are to be carried out shortly.

Q.36 Councillor Claire Byrne

To ask the area manager for an update on what is being done to address the issues caused by Airbnb rentals in residential apartment blocks in the city, in particular *details supplied.

Reply:

All complaints received by the Planning Enforcement Section regarding alleged breaches of any aspect of planning are investigated. There have been thirty six complaints received in relation to short term lettings from 2015 to date. Eleven enforcement files have been closed following investigations, which concluded that either the use had ceased or there were no planning breaches. There are currently twenty five ongoing investigations. There is no active enforcement file for details supplied. If a complaint is received relating to the use of a specific apartment at details supplied, the Planning Enforcement Section will initiate enforcement procedures in accordance with Part VIII of the Planning & Development Acts 2000 – 2016 and issue a Warning Letter. The council is required by legislation to allow the recipient of the enforcement letter up to four weeks to respond to the complaint made. The council will undertake an inspection to establish if the development requires further enforcement action. Additional investigations may also be necessary to obtain sufficient evidence to sustain legal proceedings. The councillor will be advised of the outcome of the investigation in accordance with the provisions of Section 154 of the Planning & Development Acts.

Further information in relation to enforcement procedures can be obtained from www.dublincity.ie

Q.37 Councillor Claire Byrne

To ask the area manager if she can provide a full list of proposed renovation and upgrade works in 2017 for Dublin City owned residential buildings in the South East Area.

Reply:

Housing Maintenance Engineering Unit has the following roof repairs/works planned in this area:

- McDonagh House
- Whitefriar Gardens.
- Saint Andrew's Court (small block).
- Beech Hill Villas

All properties categorised under phase one of the Insulation/retrofit programme in the South East Area have been upgraded. Funding for Phase 2 of the energy efficiency fabric upgrade programme has yet to be announced. Further information on the programme will be provided following confirmation of the funding allocation for Phase 2.

Q.38 Councillor Claire Byrne

To ask the Area Manager to outline the process and steps that would be required for an individual to start a business as a mobile coffee unit along the Grand Canal.

Reply:

This matter is the responsibility of Waterways Ireland who may be contacted directly at 868 0148.

Q.39 Councillor Patrick Costello

To ask the manager to provide an update on each item in the motion relating to Rutland Grove passed at the meeting of June 13th 2016, many of the requests by residents are still outstanding.

Reply:

Please see attached table detailing the status of the works requested: Appendix A.

Q.40 Councillor Patrick Costello

To ask the manager to repair the damage to footpaths on Wellington Lane caused by bin trucks mounting the footpath and to ask what steps will be taken to prevent this damage happening again.

Reply:

Arrangements will be made to carry out repairs at this location.

These footpaths are too narrow to accommodate bollards to prevent bin trucks mounting them. We will endeavour to carry out the repairs at a sufficient concrete depth so as to prevent future damage.

Q.41 Councillor Patrick Costello

To ask the manager to place a solar compactor bin in Mount Argus Park as the current bin and cleaning schedule leads to overflowing and littering.

Reply:

The Waste Management Division does not currently have any bins installed within Mount Argus Park and has no plans for the installation of bins in the park. The Parks Department

have been made aware of the complaint regarding the current cleaning schedule and the request for the addition of a solar powered compactor bin.

Q.42 Councillor Patrick Costello

To ask the manager details supplied.

Reply:

The site was cleared on the 30th June 2017. Appropriate support services are engaged.

Q.43 Councillor Claire O'Connor

Can the manager please arrange for the underlined works to be carried out to enable a student who is in a wheelchair to be able to make his own way from Ferrard Road to Cowper Road when he starts secondary school in September?

Upgrading of paths on Ferrard Road would facilitate the outset of his journey. Then turning left onto Terenure Road East; the small lip at the corner of Brighton Road and Terenure Road East needs attention. Then down to the lights at Rathgar; he has to cross at O'Connell's pharmacy and then cross a second time to the deli as a result of a lack of alternatives; is there any way to make a more direct crossing here? Moving onto Highfield Road; he has to cross again just after the church on the left at a pedestrian crossing because if he keeps going down there are deterrents. A lip at Oaklands Crescent would support him to stay on the right hand side of Highfield Road because in staying on the left there is multitude of deterrents, i.e. one lip change at Oaklands Crescent will save four sets of crossings in quick succession at one junction.

Moving onto Palmerston Road there is no pedestrian light half way up at the junction with Cowper; so there is no crossing possibility so his journey has to stop. A pedestrian light at junction of Cowper and Palmerston Road would enable him to turn right onto Cowper and access school across the bridge. Notwithstanding this student's need Palmerston Road is a very busy road all day and I would respectfully suggest that pedestrian lights be installed for the following reasons:

1. There are many young families living in the area that use this road crossing in the morning when going to school and when going to Palmerston Park.
2. The Cowper Luas is nearby so this road crossing is used throughout the day by Luas users.
3. It's is a very wide road so crossing takes time for both elderly and young kids so it is imperative for safety reasons that pedestrian crossing are installed.
4. It is a busy pedestrian crossing as there is a retail area on top of Rathmines Road that is used by residents.

Reply:

Arrangements will be made to adjust the footpath at these locations.

There are pedestrian crossings on three arms of the junction of Rathgar Road / Terenure Road East / Orwell Road. The area traffic engineer has confirmed that there are no further changes proposed to the existing crossing arrangements. Works are progressing at present on the provision of a pedestrian crossing on the final arm of the junction, from Coman's public house to the Bijou Deli premises.

There is a request listed on the Traffic Advisory Group agenda for a pedestrian phase at the existing traffic lights at the junction of Cowper Road and Palmerston Road. The area traffic engineer has indicated that it is expected that the request will be assessed later this year when the schools have re-opened. The councillor will be informed of the recommendation in due course.

Q.44 Councillor Claire O'Connor

Can the manager arrange for a gate to be placed at the entrance to the alley that leads from Leinster Place to the main Harold's Cross Road, beside Centra? A gate used to be in place here that was closed at night time. The quiet nature of the cul de sac allows for a quick get-away for those who wish to vandalise. It may also help with the dumping issue that has arisen lately also.

Reply:

The laneway in question is under Dublin City Council's charge and a public right of way exists over it. Accordingly, in order to gate this laneway the public right of way over it will need to be extinguished. To begin the statutory procedure, a formal written application needs to be submitted to the South East Area Office by someone in the locality representing local residents and possibly local businesses also, requesting that the city council considers extinguishing the public right of way at this location. It is unlikely that this proposal would attract support as this un-named laneway is a short cut and popular route from Harold's Cross Road into Leinster Place and other residential streets beyond. However, if a formal written application is submitted by the applicant/s to extinguish a public right of way at this location, the South East Area Office will initiate this procedure and invite observations, as is normal.

Any reports of illegal dumping in the laneway will be investigated by our Litter Warden Service. Lighting was improved in the laneway in April 2014.

Q.45 Councillor Claire O'Connor

Can the South East Area manager have the following graffiti removed?

1. A large piece of graffiti on the Church of Ireland primary school on Rathgar Avenue. The graffiti is on the Winton Avenue & Rathgar Avenue corner.
2. Three pieces of graffiti on the wall next door to the Jehovah Witnesses church on Wesley Road just off Rathgar Road; beside the Mehek Restaurant.
3. Three pieces of graffiti on the corner of Winton Avenue and Rathgar Road. Graffiti on the side of 54 Garville Avenue. The wall is actually on Rathgar Avenue. A piece of graffiti on the corner of Kenilworth Square and Rathgar Avenue.

Reply:

The various pieces of graffiti mentioned above are on private property and it is the responsibility of the owner / occupier in each case to arrange removal. The South East Area Office will contact these owners and notify them accordingly.

Q.46 Councillor Claire O'Connor

Can the manager arrange for the footpath outside 4 Oaklands Crescent to be repaired?

Reply:

Arrangements will be made to carry out a repair at this location.

Q.47 Councillor Claire O'Connor

Can the pavements on Merton Road be repaired?

Reply:

Arrangements will be made to carry out repairs to these footpaths.

Q.48 Councillor Claire O'Connor

Can the end of Corrib Road near the Centra shop have more frequent cleaning than is currently accounted for on rota?

Reply:

Waste Management Services will arrange more frequent cleaning of the above mentioned location due to the proximity of the Centra shop.

Q.49 Councillor Claire O'Connor

Can a "children at play" sign be placed at entrance to the cul de sac encompassing 14 - 38 Merton Drive?

Reply:

Children crossing signs are only erected at the entrances to residential estates from main traffic routes and not generally provided on cul de sac roads, as they are shown to be ineffective at reducing speeds. It is therefore not recommended to install a Children Crossing sign on 14-38 Merton Drive.

Q.50 Councillor Claire O'Connor

Can the yellow lines be extended from corner of Highfield Road past the entrance gates to the lodge on Oaklands Crescent to facilitate cars and ambulances exiting?

Reply:

Oaklands Crescent is a private road and not in the charge of Dublin City Council. It is not possible, therefore, to consider the request for double yellow lines.

Q.51 Councillor Claire O'Connor

Can pedestrian lights be considered for junction of Garville Road and Rathgar Road?

Reply:

The request for pedestrian lights for the junction of Garville Road and Rathgar Road has been referred to the Traffic Advisory Group for examination and report. The councillor will be informed of the recommendation in due course.

Q.52 Councillor Claire O'Connor

Can the cracks in the footpaths along Melvin Road be repaired?

Reply:

Arrangements will be made to carry out repairs to these footpaths.

Q.53 Councillor Claire O'Connor

Can Oakley Road be maintained to include repairing and cleaning of footpaths together with the installation of dog bins?

Reply:

Waste Management Services have Oakley Road cleaned on a weekly basis. Dog fouling bins are currently installed at the entrance to parks and open spaces and some other areas of very high footfall dog walking. There is no proposal at present to install a dog fouling bin on Oakley Road. Arrangements will be made to carry out footpath repairs on Oakley Road.

Q.54 Councillor Frank Kennedy

I asked the following question at the South East Area Committee in May 2017:

Q.72 Councillor Frank Kennedy

*To ask Dublin City Council to visit and repair the structural damage to the house of *details supplied in circumstances where serious damage has been caused by truck vibrations.*

Reply:

Dublin City Council Housing Maintenance will investigate this.

The resident has had no contact from Dublin City Council since this question was asked. To ask the manager to (a) provide a full report on the progress of the investigation to date and (b) to contact the resident as a matter of urgency to arrange a site visit in order to investigate this issue properly.

Reply:

Housing Maintenance has called to this dwelling to inspect and determine if/what repairs are required, however access was not gained. Contact details for the tenant have been gained and arrangements will be made with the tenant to carry out an inspection of the dwelling.

Q.55 Councillor Frank Kennedy

In light of queries raised from the Adelaide Road Presbyterian Church Committee concerning rough sleeping on their premises, to ask the manager to arrange a meeting between the relevant officials and the church committee to work towards a compassionate and effective solution to this issue.

Reply:

The Dublin Regional Housing Executive (DRHE) referred this case to the Housing First Intake Team on the 04/07/2017. This team have responsibility for responding to rough sleepers in the Dublin Region. The Intake Team will target these rough sleepers in the area specified on the 4th or 5th of July to attempt to engage with them and assess their current situation. An update will be provided to the DRHE. They will also make contact with the Adelaide Road Presbyterian Church Committee to ascertain background information.

Q.56 Councillor Frank Kennedy

On 16 December 2016 I received the following e-mail:

*An Roinn Comhshaoil agus Iompair,
Oifigí na Cathrach, An Ché Adhmaid, Baile Átha Cliath, 8.*

*Environment and Transportation Department,
Civic Offices, Wood Quay, Dublin 8.
T. 01 222 2257 F. 01 222 2609 E. traffic@dublincity.ie*

Our Ref: 28314/SH/CK

Please quote Our Ref:

16th December, 2016

Councillor Frank Kennedy.

Email: frank.kennedy@dublincity.ie

Re: Reqs for double yellow lines outside 16 Merlyn Drive, Dublin 4

Dear Councillor

I refer to Question 19 submitted to the South East Area Committee meeting 14th December 2015, regarding the above.

I wish to inform you that the Traffic Advisory Group at its meeting of 29th November, 2016, recommended to rescind pay and display and permit parking on the northern side of Merlyn Drive, from a point 1.3 metres southwest of lamp standard No. 3 to a point 3.7 metres northeast of lamp standard No. 3 (1 space), and replace with double yellow lines.

*Please note the above measures will be implemented subject to the completion of the statutory consultation process with the Gardaí.
Yours sincerely*

Stephen Hickey, Senior Staff Officer, Administration/Traffic Advisory Group, Tel: 222 2528.

As seven months have now passed, to ask the manager when this change will be implemented.

Reply:

The Traffic Inspector has confirmed as at 6th July, 2017 that the double yellow lines concerned have been installed.

Q.57 Councillor Frank Kennedy

To ask the manager for a dedicated report on all Traffic Advisory Group (TAG) requests currently outstanding in respect of Merlyn Drive, Dublin 4.

Reply:

There are no outstanding traffic service requests in respect of Merlyn Drive, Dublin 4 as at 6th July 2017.

Q.58 Councillor Frank Kennedy

To ask the manager to clarify what is the current zoning of St. Mary's Home, Pembroke Park, Dublin 4.

Reply:

St. Mary's Home, Pembroke Park, Dublin 4 is located in Zone Z2: To protect and / or improve the amenities of residential conservation areas.

Q.59 Councillor Frank Kennedy

In September 2014 I asked the following question at the South East Area Committee:

Q39. Councillor Frank Kennedy

To ask the area manager to arrange for the repair of the wall on Sydney Parade Avenue which connects the Merrion Court complex with the side wall on the road, in circumstances where the wall is structurally damaged at the corner, and poses a safety risk to residents in the event that it collapses, which appears to be a real possibility (photos attached)?

Reply:

An Inspector from the Dangerous Buildings Section will inspect the wall as soon as possible and a report will be issued to the Councillor in due course.

I raised this issue again on at the April 2015 and November 2015 meetings. The issue has still not been determined. As it is almost three years since it was first raised, to ask the manager to provide a comprehensive report on the matter.

Reply:

The Dangerous Building Inspector for the area has again inspected and reported on this structure as of 29/06/2017 further to previous reporting in 2014, 2015, & 2016, and continuous periodic monitoring as is the DB remit under the **Local Government Sanitary Services Act 1964**.

Dangerous Buildings Inspector comments that the wall in question does not appear dangerous at this time. No deterioration noted, no further Dangerous Building action warranted.

Note: - It is the responsibility of the owner to maintain a safe / secure boundary structure at all times. The structure appears to lie within the curtilage of (details supplied). However, we understand this ownership is disputed.

Dangerous Buildings Section will continue to periodically monitor.

Q.60 Councillor Mannix Flynn

Can the area manager give a full update with regards the ongoing works on the Grafton Quarter? What repair works are being done to the broken pavements? What new works are to be carried out with the street improvements?

Reply:

Improvement works to Grafton Street, Johnson's Court and Wicklow Street (from Clarendon Street to Grafton Street), are complete.

Tenders are being processed and it is hoped to award a construction contract shortly in relation to improvement works for the Chatham Street, Harry Street, Balfe Street area. The improvement works are expected to commence in September 2017 with completion by end of 2018.

Following a report to the South East Area Committee on 12th June, the Part 8 Planning application was lodged on 30th June in relation to the proposed improvement works at Clarendon Street / Clarendon Row. Closing date for submissions is 29th August. A report on this matter is expected to be brought to the October city council meeting.

In relation to repairs to streets in the Grafton Street Quarter, this is managed by the Roads Maintenance Division who attends to repairs as required. Reports in relation to repairs may be submitted to roadmaintenance@dublincity.ie

Q.61 Councillor Mannix Flynn

Can the area manager ascertain from the Norma Smurfit Famine Foundation when they propose to begin the works on Merrion Square Park or can they confirm that they cancelled this project. The City Council needs to know whether this project on Dublin City Council park land is going ahead. There has been no movement whatsoever with regards this diaspora project. There are many interested parties and artists willing to work on this site and bring a much more interesting project to bear here. Also, the fountain that is there could be brought back into use as a worthy public project.

Reply:

The foundation will be requested to clarify their intentions with regard to the 'Legacy' Pavilion project.

As part of the Conservation Plan for Merrion Square Park it is proposed to restore the fountain of the Rutland Monument.

Q.62 Councillor Mannix Flynn

Can the manager issue a full report with regards the ongoing criminal activity and antisocial behaviour in the York Street, Glovers Court, Mercer Street social housing estates? Many tenants at these locations are being intimidated and threatened by individuals and gangs. There is photographic evidence of heroin smoking on the stairwells at the new York Street apartments, as well as ample evidence of criminal and threatening behaviour against the residents in Glovers Court and Mercer House A and B block as well as in the general area. This is a Dublin City Council (DCC) housing estate management issue. What has DCC done to date to assist the residents in this area and what do they propose to do in the future to stamp out this growing nuisance?

Reply:

The South East Area Office has received some reports of anti-social behaviour by teenagers in Glovers Court and this is currently under investigation by the Estate Officer. There have also been reports of anti social behaviour by children in Mercer Street and they are currently being investigated and dealt with by the Estate Officer for the area. The area office has received no complaints of any anti-social behaviour in the York Street complex. The Estate Officer for this complex is aware that some residents are leaving the doors to the complex open and allowing some homeless individuals to gain access to sleep in the stairwells. A circular has been drafted and is being circulated to all the residents in the complex reminding them to insure that the doors to the complex are closed after they enter and exit the building and of their responsibilities in keeping both themselves and their neighbours in the complex safe. However, if the councillor has contact details of any person who wishes to report any incidents to the Estate Officer could he please furnish same to the area Housing Manager? The councillor could also forward a copy of the photographic evidence to allow this matter will be investigated.

Contact will be made with An Garda Síochána to enable them to carry out a criminal investigation into any illegal activities in these complexes regarding drug behaviour. A request will also be made to the Gardaí to increase their patrols of the named complexes.

Q.63 Councillor Mannix Flynn

Can the manager have the seat that was removed from South Georges Street replaced? Also, can a report be given as to what happened the seat and who took it away?

Reply:

The removal of the top of this seat is currently under investigation. The South East Area office is looking at options for repair / replacement.

Q.64 Councillor Mannix Flynn

Can the area manager request a much more appropriate proclamation to be hung in City Hall? The present offering in a lit-box lying on the floor is inappropriate, insulting and demeaning to the significance of the 1916 proclamation. Dublin City Council has shown complete disregard in the manner in which presented this proclamation at one of the most significant buildings in the city and it is now time that this document be given prominence in the City Hall Rotunda and displayed properly.

Reply:

An original copy of the 1916 Proclamation, one of only thirty in existence, is on permanent display in the City Hall Exhibition. Dublin City Council was presented with the original copy of the proclamation by the family of Nurse Elizabeth O'Farrell who was an Irish nurse and member of Cumann na mBan, best known for delivering the surrender in the Easter Rising of 1916.

A copy of the proclamation is also on display in the Richard O Carroll Room.

The display of the copy of the proclamation in the City Hall Rotunda will be reviewed in the context of the review of the use, layout and content of, the exhibition space in City Hall.

Q.65 Councillor Mannix Flynn

Can the area manager issue a report regarding the removal of graffiti in the South East Area (SEA)? This report to include the costs, how often graffiti is removed and the exact locations and premises graffiti is removed from. Also, have the Garda Síochána been involved in the investigation of the criminal damage caused by graffiti in the SEA; i.e. how is it reported to an Garda Síochána as an act of malicious damage, what prosecutions or cautions, if any have been issued to offenders?

Reply:

Graffiti is removed on an ongoing basis from Dublin City Council owned property including bridges and street furniture. To date in 2017, almost 2,000 sq. metres has been removed by the Dublin City Council appointed contractor at a cost of approximately €13,500 in the South East Area. Graffiti is also regularly removed by Dublin City Council Waste Management and other departmental crews along with individual traders and residents and other various groups. The South East Area Office supplies paint, brushes and graffiti wipes to resident and community groups for this purpose.

Occupiers / owners of private property have a legal onus to remove graffiti from their own property.

This office maintains a record of 'TAGS' in the area. The South East Area Office liaises with An Garda Síochána in relation to graffiti in the area, particularly where patterns of TAGS emerge and photographs and locations are provided. The South East Area Office also provides evidence including statements and photographs to An Garda Síochána for inclusion in case files for potential prosecutions, as requested.

The Gardaí have been asked to provide statistics and comment. Their response will be forwarded on receipt.

Q.66 Councillor Mannix Flynn

Can the area manager examine the ongoing issues of anti-social behaviour and drug dealing at the Lord Edward Street end of Castle Street between the Lord Edward pub and the Bull and Castle steakhouse pub? In recent weeks there has been wholesale mayhem in this area with violent fights, drug dealing, and general criminal and anti-social behaviour. Many residents and businesses are now demanding that something be done. Indeed, it is just a stone's throw away from Civic Offices. Surely, the powers that be see this daily.

Reply:

The South East Area Office will write to the Gardaí at Kevin Street regarding the councillor's report and update the councillor on receipt of their response.

Q.67 Councillor Mannix Flynn

Can the manager fast forward the double yellow lines for Dame Lane - west end? It is almost impossible most days to get up this laneway. I have many photos of vans, trucks etc., blocking the entrance onto Georges Street. Can the manager place a bollard at the entrance at Georges Street beside the George Pub? This is a major health and safety issue in this area and needs immediate attention.

Reply:

The above matter will be referred to the Traffic Advisory Group to determine the appropriate measures to eliminate illegal parking at this location. The councillor will be informed of the recommendation in due course.

Q.68 Councillor Mannix Flynn

Can the area manager issue an update with regards the intended relocation of the Bring Centre and Bottle Bank at Milltown Carpark? Also, what measures have been taken to deal with the rat infestation that has been identified here?

Reply:

There no current plans to relocate the bottle banks at Milltown car park. The bottle banks at this site have an established use and are well used by the local community.

I can confirm that pest control is being carried out at this site on an ongoing basis. The site is also power washed at least once a month to avoid any smells attracting vermin.

Q.69 Councillor Mannix Flynn

Can the manager address the issue of a loading bay in Essex Street West at Cow's Lane? Many of the traders here are very concerned about the level of illegal parking at the entrance of Cow's Lane. It creates a very dangerous situation for pedestrians, it also blocks out visibility for businesses, as well as blocking a fire exit. There is an opportunity to create a loading bay at the Smock Alley Side of the street which is the north side of the street which would give proper place for deliveries.

Reply:

The request for a loading bay on the north side of Essex Street West has been added to the Traffic Advisory Group agenda for examination and report by the Area Traffic Engineer. The councillor will be informed of the recommendation in due course.

Q.70 Councillor Anne Feeney

To ask the manager to give a specific date as to when the footpaths and road will be repaired on Gulistan Terrace following the installation of water meters in early 2016. They were left by Irish Water in a disgraceful state.

Reply:

Road Maintenance Services are making arrangements to carry out permanent reinstatement here.

Q.71 Councillor Anne Feeney

To ask the manager to switch the disabled parking spot outside Rathmines Post Office from the middle of three parking spaces to the one nearest the bus stop itself, to make it easier for drivers with a disability to park their car.

Reply:

The Traffic Advisory Group at its meeting of 21st January, 2017, recommended to increase the disabled parking bay on Rathmines Road Upper by 1.1 metres to 7 metres in length.

The area traffic engineer has confirmed that it is not possible to move the existing disabled parking bay as requested due to the telephone kiosks and lamp standard on the footpath at this location which would restrict access for drivers with a disability.

Q.72 Councillor Anne Feeney

To ask the manager to arrange to have the lamp posts around Belgrave Square repainted as they are in a bad state and undoubtedly will deteriorate over time if not maintained.

Reply:

The public lighting columns here will be investigated, and if painting is required we will add them to our list for inclusion on a future painting programme, subject to finances made available.

Q.73 Councillor Anne Feeney

To ask the manager to source stronger plastic refuse bags/other solution for houses that do not have wheelie bins. Given the growing number of foxes in the city, bags are easily torn by foxes during the night and litter scattered.

Reply:

There is already a wide variety of different plastic bag types, strengths and sizes freely available in many retail outlets such as supermarkets and gardening centres and it is open to members of the public to purchase any of these for the presentation of their refuse. The relative strength of these bags is very often related to the cost of the bag itself with the heavy duty bags commonly the more expensive. The strongest plastic bag type is usually that used for the purchase of building rubble and stones etc. Dublin City Council cannot realistically impose a restriction on the required strength of bags to be used by residential

households when they are presenting their refuse and in the vast majority of cases the standard all purpose black bag is generally sufficient to ensure that refuse is secure and does not cause litter.

When it comes to the matter of foxes/dogs or scavenging birds such as seagulls we are not aware of any plastic bags which could withstand the teeth, beaks or claws of such creatures. The City Council's Bye Laws for the Presentation and Collection of Waste establish restrictions on what times waste can be presented and in what manner of receptacle. It is established practice that whenever possible all premises be they commercial or domestic, present waste for collection in a secure receptacle (Bin). For properties that can only accommodate one bin, regulations have designated the brown bin or food waste bin as the priority in order to prevent such waste from attracting foraging animals. In order to minimise the instances when bags are torn open the city council has also limited the number of streets that are permitted to present bags for collection and these remain constantly under review.

Q.74 Councillor Anne Feeney

To ask the manager to allocate parking permits to York Road Residents for both York Road and York Avenue. Currently York Avenue residents can legitimately park on York Avenue or road, which sometimes results in no parking for York Road residents on their own road. Recently some have been clamped for parking on York Avenue (unaware that they this was not allowed).

Reply:

Other than residents of a road and residents of dwellings that immediately adjoin a road, e.g. dwellings located on the corner or junction of roads, there is no automatic entitlement to inclusion of additional roads on any Resident Parking Permit.

Aside from those mentioned above requests for additional roads to be included on permits are considered on a case by case basis and will only be granted where the council is satisfied that the resident encounters significant difficulty obtaining parking on their own road and there is sufficient spare capacity remaining on the road being sought as an additional road on a permit.

There are in the region of 105 parking spaces available on York Road and 81 Resident Parking Permits issued to the residents of York Road, 4 of which also have York Avenue included on their permit. There are only 13 parking spaces available on York Avenue and 7 permits issued to residents of York Avenue, 6 of which also have York Road included on the permit.

There are therefore, in total, already 11 permits issued that may be used in the 13 parking spaces on York Avenue and 87 permits issued that may be used in the 105 spaces on York Road. Further extending eligibility to park on York Avenue would result in significant additional difficulty for residents of the road.

Appendix A Table relating to Q32 and Q39 Rutland Residents' Association Works Requested.

Request/Comment	Response
<p>A. Traffic volumes and parking chaos at entrance to Rutland Grove arising from traffic at top of Rutland Avenue at entrance to park. Concern that blind spots created by parked cars will lead to accidents. Corner needs to be kept free of parked cars. Illegal parking needs attention. (Completed)</p>	<p>Visits from Parking Enforcement were carried out on the 15th, 22nd and 29th October the 5th November and the 12th November. As per our usual protocols, warning notices were issued on initial visits. Six warning notices were issued on Rutland Avenue on the 15th October with one on Rutland Grove. No illegal parking was noted on the 22nd October. One vehicle was warned on Rutland Avenue on the 29th. No illegal parking noted on the 5th November and one warning issued on Rutland Grove on the 12th November. The initial visit seems to have addressed the main issue. On subsequent visits some local residents objected to enforcement in the area. Dublin City Council's parking enforcement contractor, Dublin Street Parking Services, was previously notified of complaints from residents regarding parking at Rutland Grove and was instructed to monitor the location with increased frequency. The location continues to receive a heightened level of monitoring with multiple visits scheduled each week.</p> <p>Provided vehicles are parked legally, e.g. not within 5 metres of junctions or blocking driveway access, etc. there is no action that can be taken with regard to parking by non-residents.</p>
<p>B. Residents on Rutland Avenue are unable to park at their houses due to parking by park users and would like some designated parking spaces, possibly on large footpath area. (Not recommended)</p>	<p>During a number of site inspections, no adverse problems were observed with vehicles blocking entrances to houses. Parking restrictions are not recommended where restrictions are already covered under the law. The Road Traffic (Traffic & Parking) Regulations, Section 36 paragraph (2) g provides: "A vehicle shall not be parked in any place, position or manner that will result in the vehicle obstructing an entrance or an exit for vehicles to or from a premises, save with the consent of the occupier of such premises". Infringements should be reported to Dublin Street Parking Services tel no. 01 6022500 or the Gardaí as they occur.</p>
<p>C. Commitment to reduce footpath size on park side to increased car parking when Lourdes Celtic clubhouse was built has not been followed through on. (Not recommended)</p>	<p>Following examination, reducing the footpath width would narrow access and therefore pose difficulties for the disabled and people pushing prams. It would also hinder safe access for children walking to and from schools. It would also be against Dublin City Council's best design practice standards to reduce footpath widths.</p>

<p>D. Bring centre entrance is a location for dumping - one suggestion is to remove indent - have wall in line with path – bring centre wall was never rendered. (Not recommended)</p>	<p>Parks and Waste Management Services believe that alteration of the entrance would create problems with visibility for vehicles entering and leaving the depot.</p>
<p>E. CCTV cameras needed to deter dumping. (Partially completed)</p>	<p>The Waste Management Section recently engaged the services of a CCTV company in an effort to reduce illegal dumping at the site. The cameras will be mounted on anti-climb poles in an effort to prevent the new cameras from being vandalised.</p>
<p>F. Planting needed to remove very harsh concrete aspect to estate entrance – greening of estate needed on all grey walls. (Partially completed)</p>	<p>Parks: Pine trees have been planted at the entrance to the estate. Once these develop they should make the entrance more attractive. A ‘Tree of Hope’ was also planted on the green. Some trees will be planted in the estate during the planting season (Winter 2017/18) We were unable to include the planting of climbers in our 2017 works programme but will be considered again next year</p>
<p>G. Footpath repair programme needed within estate - some sections done - much remains to be done.</p>	<p>These repairs are on our works list and will be carried out when a crew are available.</p>
<p>H. Trees in estate need pruning and wires protruding from trees need attention. (Partially completed)</p>	<p>The trees have been inspected but were not felt to be in need of immediate attention at the time, however if residents feel that any tree is in particular attention this year (2017) please contact Eamonn Ceannt park depot at 4540799. Public Lighting have examined the public lighting in Rutland Grove and found no overhead public lighting cables protruding through trees.</p>
<p>I. Road surface at estate entrance needs attention as it is breaking up in particular in proximity to bring centre. (Completed)</p>	<p>Potholes filled before 29.06.2016</p>
<p>J. Some trees root systems are causing severe damage to paths and creating hazards for residents many of whom are now elderly – location at 41/42 to be removed – prune 40/39. (Partially completed)</p>	<p>These repairs are on our works list and will be carried out when a crew are available. Both trees were pruned during summer 2016.</p>
<p>K. There is a brown field site to side of bring centre that is detracting from estate appearance and residents wish to know what plans are – site needs to be cleaned up. (Partially completed)</p>	<p>A hedge was planted during Winter 2016/17</p>

<p>L. Residents are very happy for bring centre to remain, once issues with dumping are addressed. (Partially completed)</p>	<p>The Waste Management Section recently engaged the services of a CCTV company in an effort to reduce illegal dumping at the site. The cameras will be mounted on anti-climb poles in an effort to prevent the new cameras from being vandalised.</p>
<p>M. Footpath outside No. 18 needs particular attention – resident using a walking rollator and footpath is not suitable, also 40, 53, 43, 70, 78 (garden being damaged), 112 – note there have been claims in past arising from trips.</p>	<p>These repairs are on our works list and will be carried out when a crew are available.</p>
<p>N. Public light fittings - colour needs to change from yellow to white as estate is dark.</p>	<p>There is no Public Lighting improvement programme for 2017. However, we will investigate the existing lighting here, and any improvements considered necessary will be added to a list for consideration for inclusion in a future public lighting improvements programme, subject to available finances. We will continue to carry out routine maintenance works on the existing lights and will replace existing lamps as required.</p>
<p>O. Street cleansing needs attention, in particular weeds growing on edge of road. (Completed)</p>	<p>Waste Management Services had a comprehensive clean up carried out on Rutland Avenue and Rutland Grove on the 26th May 2016.</p>
<p>P. Remove railings at top of Mount Argus wall as no longer needed and would visually improve estate. (Not recommended)</p>	<p>The railings on top of the boundary wall were put up and paid for by the residents of Mount Argus and they do not want them removed.</p>
<p>Q. Soft landscaping needed in avenue 57 - 74 – couple of trees, also possible fencing on top of end wall to improve security. (Partially completed.)</p>	<p>Some trees will be planted in suitable areas in the estate during the planting season (Winter 2017/18) We were unable to include the planting of climbers in our 2017 works programme but will be considered again next year</p>
<p>R. Possibility of mural on one of large walls.</p>	<p>The residents may contact the Area Office to discuss wall treatment. Please note that murals may require planning permission.</p>
<p>S. Footpath needs to be constructed on left hand side route into estate – on visit both elderly and young children noted going onto public road due to lack of footpath with obvious safety issues. (Not recommended)</p>	<p>There is a continuous footpath on the western side of Clogher Road leading onto the southern side of Rutland Grove, which is available for pedestrians and vulnerable road users. There are no plans to construct any additional footpaths in this area at this time.</p>

T. Wall to boundary of Sundrive Park and bring centre is very grey – the area to top of road has greened up nicely, the remaining area could do with similar treatment – area that is at risk from Halloween bonfires needs particular attention.

We were unable to include the planting of climbers in our 2017 works programme but it will be considered again next year