

**QUESTIONS LODGED PURSUANT TO STANDING ORDER NO.16 FOR REPLY AT THE MONTHLY MEETING OF DUBLIN CITY COUNCIL TO BE HELD ON MONDAY, 2<sup>nd</sup> OCTOBER 2017**

**Q.1 COUNCILLOR PADDY SMYTH**

To ask the Chief Executive how much in rates were paid by Clontarf Golf Club and Elmpark Golfclub and how were these rates calculated.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Clontarf Golf Club has a rateable valuation (RV) of 118,000.00. The rates charge for 2017 was €30,444.00 and this charge has been cleared in full.

Elmpark Golf Club has a rateable valuation (RV) of 185,800.00. The rates charge for 2017 was €47,936.40 and this charge has been cleared in full.

The Valuation Office determines the rateable valuation of a property and the rateable valuation is then multiplied by the annual rate on valuation as determined by the City Council at the annual statutory budget meeting.

**Q.2 COUNCILLOR LARRY O'TOOLE**

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

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

A reply has been issued to the Councillor.

**Q.3 COUNCILLOR NORMA SAMMON**

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

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

A reply has been issued to the Councillor.

**Q.4 COUNCILLOR NORMA SAMMON**

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

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

A reply has been issued to the Councillor.

**Q.5 COUNCILLOR NORMA SAMMON**

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

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

A reply has been issued to the Councillor.

**Q.6 COUNCILLOR GAYE FAGAN**

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

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

A reply has been issued to the Councillor.

**Q.7 COUNCILLOR GAYE FAGAN**

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

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

A reply has been issued to the Councillor.

**Q.8 COUNCILLOR GAYE FAGAN**

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

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

A reply has been issued to the Councillor.

**Q.9 COUNCILLOR GAYE FAGAN**

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

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

A reply has been issued to the Councillor.

**Q.10 COUNCILLOR RAY MC HUGH**

To ask the Chief Executive to arrange for a cleanup of the park and road at **(details supplied)**

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Waste Management Services had **(details supplied)** cleaned on the 12th September 2017. The open space at **(details supplied)** is cleaned on a weekly basis. Sporadic dumping can occur on open spaces and this can be dealt with once Park Services are notified.

**Q.11 COUNCILLOR JANE HORGAN JONES**

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

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

A reply has been issued to the Councillor.

**Q.12 COUNCILLOR JANE HORGAN JONES**

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

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

A reply has been issued to the Councillor.

**Q.13 COUNCILLOR JANE HORGAN JONES**

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

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

A reply has been issued to the Councillor.

**Q.14 COUNCILLOR JANE HORGAN JONES**

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

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

A reply has been issued to the Councillor.

**Q.15 COUNCILLOR LARRY O'TOOLE**

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

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

A reply has been issued to the Councillor.

**Q.16 COUNCILLOR LARRY O'TOOLE**

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

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

A reply has been issued to the Councillor.

**Q.17 COUNCILLOR LARRY O'TOOLE**

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

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The applicant (**details supplied**) is on Band 2 of the Housing list for three bedroom accommodation with the following position:

- 29 for Area B (Coolock/Artane/Kilbarrack/Clontarf)
- 14 for Area D (Ballymun/Poppintree)
- 51 for Area E (Finglas/Cabra)

Dublin City Council allocates properties based on time on the list and currently there are applicants on the Waiting List of longer standing who have to be considered as suitable vacancies arise. It is not possible to indicate accurately the prospect of an offer for any applicant. The number of vacancies arising will be a determining factor in the length of time applicants could expect to be on the waiting list.

**Q.18 COUNCILLOR ANTHONY CONNAGHAN**

To ask the Chief Executive to arrange a low cost loan scheme for tenants to help build extensions where there are overcrowding issues in the home.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Housing Maintenance plan to commence initial drawings over the next 6 months with a view to building a bedroom extension for a number of tenants with overcrowding situations using our existing extension/adaptations budget. There is currently no budget allocation to introduce a loan scheme for tenants with an average cost per extension estimated at €65,000-€70,000.

**Q.19 COUNCILLOR ANTHONY CONNAGHAN**

To ask the Chief Executive if there is a scheme to entice employees who can claim mileage in vehicles to use bicycles instead. Aside from health benefits and benefits to the environment, I would imagine there would be a saving in assisting employees to use bicycles rather than cars/vans. Can the Chief Executive investigate providing such a scheme if one doesn't exist already.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Dublin City Council offers the Cycle to Work Scheme to employees. The scheme is available for all permanent employees to encourage the use of bicycles to travel to and from work. Under the scheme an employer may incur the expense of providing an employee with a bicycle and bicycle safety equipment up to a maximum limit of €1,000 (Inclusive of VAT). The cost is then recouped from the employee by way of payroll deductions, over a maximum period of 12 months, without the employee being liable for benefit-in-kind taxation. This tax exemption can only be availed of once in any five year period.

**Q.20 COUNCILLOR ANTHONY CONNAGHAN**

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

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

A reply has been issued to the Councillor.

**Q.21 COUNCILLOR ANTHONY CONNAGHAN**

To ask the Chief Executive to arrange for the potholes at the top of McKee Avenue near the Lidl roundabout to be filled and the road re-instated when resources are available.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Road Maintenance Services informs that this request will be added to the Road Maintenance Services work list. It will be scheduled for repair on a priority basis, when there is a crew available in this area, subject to other Road Maintenance Services' similar priorities.

**Q.22 COUNCILLOR CRIONA NI DHALAIGH**

To ask the Chief Executive if the policy regarding presenting as homeless has been changed **(details supplied)**

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

A reply has been issued to the Councillor.

**Q.23 COUNCILLOR PAUL MC AULIFFE**

To ask the Chief Executive to provide me with a report on any plans there may be for free wifi in senior citizen complexes and facilities? Many state services are online and older people are increasingly being required to use the internet.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The City Council currently has no plans to provide free wi-fi services in DCC Older Persons complexes. The responsibility for installing this service lies with the individual tenant.

**Q.24 COUNCILLOR DAVID COSTELLO**

To ask the Chief Executive that he provides information on the current housing statistics in the Finglas area (including a breakdown for Finglas south). That is we wish to find out how many houses / residential units are currently:

- OAP
- Social Housing
- DCC tenants
- HAP & Rent Allowance tenants
- Housing Association run social houses
- Hostels
- Rapid Build
- Modular Homes

Also, can you provide a list of proposed and pending developments in the area.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

A reply will issue directly to the Councillor within 2 weeks regarding statistics in the Finglas area regarding houses/residential units that are currently OAP, Social Housing and DCC tenants.

**Q.25 COUNCILLOR RAY MC HUGH**

To ask the Chief Executive to arrange for the erection of a litter sign on the field at **(details supplied)**

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Arrangements have been made to put in a "No Dumping" sign at **(details supplied)**

**Q.26 COUNCILLOR PAUL HAND**

To ask the Chief Executive for a complete list of the illnesses of all successful applicants on the medical priority list for the past 5 years.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Dublin City Council does not compile statistics on the specific illnesses of each housing applicant who has been awarded medical priority. It is neither the illness nor the severity of the illness that is assessed but the impact of the current accommodation on the condition or disability. All applications for medical priority are reviewed regardless of disability or illness; however medical priority may only be given in cases of exceptional medical circumstances, which are impacted by the applicant's current accommodation.

**Q.27 COUNCILLOR CRIONA NI DHALAIGH**

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

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

A reply has been issued to the Councillor.

**Q.28 COUNCILLOR CRIONA NI DHALAIGH**

To ask the Chief Executive what action can be taken to address the serious waste issue at **(details supplied)** where a large quantity of rubbish is piling up in the back garden. Can derelict sites as a matter of urgency investigate if this dwelling is derelict and if so take action.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

This site was inspected by the Derelict Sites Section and it is not considered to be a derelict site within the meaning of Section 3 of the Derelict Sites Act, 1990. However a reference of ownership has been requested from the Title and Research Section of the Law Department with a view to writing to the owners, to request them to carry out some improvement works.

Our Waste Enforcement Section is currently establishing ownership of the above mentioned property with the view to addressing the waste issue in the back garden there.

**Q.29 COUNCILLOR CRIONA NI DHALAIGH**

To ask the Chief Executive what progress has been made on my request to have the junction at **(details supplied)** examined with a view to improving pedestrian safety. An onsite visit took place some time ago but I've not received a report to date.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Further to the reply to the April 2017 City Council question as listed below, this matter is listed for examination with the Senior Executive ITS Officer.

The Traffic Advisory Group at its meeting of 28th February, 2017, recommended a second School Warden at the pedestrian crossing at the junction of **(details supplied)** to assist children crossing **(details supplied)**. One School Warden is already in place at this crossing. The provision of the second School Warden is subject to the completion of the statutory consultation process with the Gardaí, which is due to take place shortly.

In March, 2016, the Traffic Advisory Group recommended to extend the most northerly face of the existing yellow box at the junction of **(details supplied)** to run more immediately adjacent to the above pedestrian crossing line, therefore encouraging traffic to keep that zone clear.

In April 2016, the Traffic Advisory Group recommended School Ahead signage at both ends of **(details supplied)**, which has been put in place. In December 2016, School Warden Crossing signs were provided on **(details supplied)** for south-bound and north-bound traffic. Also, the existing sign on **(details supplied)** for traffic turning north into **(details supplied)**, was increased in size. The breaking of red lights by motorists at this junction is a matter for enforcement by the Gardai.

The Senior Executive Engineer, Traffic Management and Control, has confirmed that the possibility of full wrap-around pedestrian phases will be considered at this location for inclusion on a future annual Works Programme subject to the availability of funding and resources.

This matter is still with the area engineer for approval.

**Q.30 COUNCILLOR GREG KELLY**  
To ask the Chief Executive **(details supplied)**

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

**Q.31 COUNCILLOR GREG KELLY**  
To ask the Chief Executive **(details supplied)**

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

**Q.32 COUNCILLOR GREG KELLY**  
To ask the Chief Executive **(details supplied)**

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

**Q.33 COUNCILLOR GREG KELLY**  
To ask the Chief Executive **(details supplied)**

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

**Q.34 COUNCILLOR DERMOT LACEY**  
To ask the Chief Executive to arrange for an immediate response to this complaint **(details supplied)**

- 1) Dangerous Footpath at side of Petrol Station at Donnybrook Road junction with Brookvale Road, Donnybrook Road to be repaired
- 2) A response issued to the citizen
- 3) Arrange for the Complaints procedure to be Disability Friendly via the ability to make an online complaint

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

- 1) Dangerous Footpath at side of details supplied. The repair of this footpath is scheduled for 30/09/2017.
- 2) A response issued to the citizen – A response has been issued to the complainants on 20-09-2017.
- 3) Arrange for the Complaints procedure to be Disability Friendly via the ability to make an online complaint – I acknowledge the point made in relation to customers not being able to complete a complaint form online. I can confirm that an online version of it is being developed which will improve accessibility and will be on the website by the end of October. This online complaint form will be available in addition to the existing methods of submitting a complaint which are by contacting Customer Services by post, email, phone or in person.

**Q.35 COUNCILLOR DERMOT LACEY**

To ask the Chief Executive if he can take any action to safeguard the Protected building at **(details supplied)** that has been let go derelict now for at least 9 years. Allowing the current dilapidated nature of the property surely makes a mockery of the Protected Structures procedures.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

A reply has been issued to the Councillor.

**Q.36 COUNCILLOR RAY MC ADAM**

To ask the Chief Executive to consider the possibility of initiating a pilot Bicycle Hangar Parking scheme on **(details supplied)** and to outline what steps the Transportation Department would have to take in order to advance in such an initiative?

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The Environment and Transportation Department currently has no plans for a Bicycle Hangar Pilot Scheme.

To implement such a scheme, Parking Enforcement may have to ballot residents on streets where there is a high demand for permit parking before removing vehicular parking to replace it with bike parking.

In 2014/2015, a Beta Project by Dublin City Council's City Architects Division trialled a Bicycle Hangar Scheme on John Dillon Street, Dublin 8 as a solution for residents to store their bicycles near their homes in a safer, more convenient manner, better protected from the elements.

Details can be found in the following link:

<https://dubcitybeta.files.wordpress.com/2015/11/beta-project-report-card-public-full-bike-hangar-version-1-1.pdf>

**Q.37 COUNCILLOR CIARAN CUFF**

To ask the Chief Executive whether he can provide cycle parking close to the entrance of the Wood Quay Venue, and take steps to eliminate the creeping occupation of the undercroft between Blocks 1 & 2 and 3 & 4 of the Civic Offices by parked vehicles in what should be a pedestrian and cycling space.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Plans are at a design stage for the refurbishment and repaving of the Temple Bar walkway through the Civic Offices complex. This design when completed will be presented to senior management for consideration. Cycle parking facilities close to

the Wood Quay Venue can be considered as part of this design. Vehicular parking in the area is generally limited to essential maintenance and catering and deliveries to the Wood Quay Venue for different daily event. However, a review of parking in the area will now take place to ensure that parking is minimised to essential purposes only.

**Q.38 COUNCILLOR CIARAN CUFF**

To ask the Chief Executive can he state in regard to Planning Enforcement how many Warning Notices and Enforcement Notices are issued annually, what is the success rate of same, and can he comment on the annual recoupment of expenses and legal costs through such cases?

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

	2016	2017 to end of August
Cases Opened	1078	1023
Cases Resolved	937	727
S152 Warning letters Issued	953	781
S154 Enforcement Notices Issued	85	78

There has been approx €104,000 recouped in expenses/legal expenses to the end of August 2017.

**Q.39 COUNCILLOR CIARAN CUFF**

To ask the Chief Executive whether he can use provisions within the Dublin City Development Plan to ensure that Planning Permission is not granted for any new stand-alone off-licenses in the Grangegorman area, and to make a statement on the matter.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

All planning applications for off-licences and part off-licences proposed across the city are assessed in accordance with Section 16.28 of the Dublin City Development Plan 2016-2022 which seeks to manage and control the location and concentration of such facilities. In considering any planning application, the Planning Authority has and will continue to have regard to the following criteria:

- The number and frequency of such facilities within a 1 km radius of the proposed development
- The context and character of the street where the aim is to maintain and improve the vitality of the shopping experience .....
- The range of uses at ground floor in an area where the aim is to strengthen the retail character and ensure the proposal will not result in a proliferation of similar retail service outlets .....
- The size of the proposed off-licence in the context of the size of premises in the area.

And when assessing part off-licences:



- the amenities of properties in the nearby residential areas, the floor area used for the display of alcohol products and the location of the display area.

In the event of application failing to meet any of the above criteria, planning permission will be refused for an off-licence/part off-licence. In the event of planning permission being granted, it will be subject to strict conditions concerning the display and advertising of alcohol products.

**Q.40 COUNCILLOR CIARAN CUFF**

To ask the Chief Executive can he state the income and expenditure from dog licenses in each of the last five years and state the numbers of licenses issues for individual and groups of dogs and state whether he feels the process could benefit from greater automation, or whether he believes that the licensing system should be scrapped and replaced with a mandatory micro-chipping requirement as is the case in the UK. In his reply could the Chief Executive state whether he believes the number of licenses is an accurate reflection of the number of dogs kept in the city?

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The income and expenditure from dog licenses for the past five years are as follows:

Year	Number of licenses	Income	* Expenditure (approx)
2013	9156	€165,778	€17,000
2014	8910	€155,962	€15,000
2015	8864	€169,107	€17,173
2016	8756	€155,151	€14,900
2017 to end August	6680	€102,918	No expenditure figure available until year end.

\*An Post charge €3.50 per licence issued. DCC does not issue licences for groups of dogs. We do issue lifetime licences.

An Post are developing a National online/database system which is expected to be launched in April 2018.

Under the Control of dogs Acts 1986 and 1992 a dog must be licensed. The legislation would have to be changed to replace this with a mandatory micro-chipping requirement.

It is estimated that only one third of dogs are licensed. It is hoped that these numbers will increase with the launch of the new An Post system which will give Wardens up to date information on hand held devices.

**Q.41 COUNCILLOR EDEL MORAN**  
To ask the Chief Executive **(details supplied)**

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

A reply has been issued to the Councillor.

**Q.42 COUNCILLOR EDEL MORAN**  
To ask the Chief Executive **(details supplied)**

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

A reply has been issued to the Councillor.

**Q.43 COUNCILLOR EDEL MORAN**  
To ask the Chief Executive (**details supplied**)

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

A reply has been issued to the Councillor.

**Q.44 COUNCILLOR EDEL MORAN**  
To ask the Chief Executive (**details supplied**)

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

A reply has been issued to the Councillor.

**Q.45 COUNCILLOR REBECCA MOYNIHAN**

To ask the Chief Executive if he could give an update on when the paid per view parking plebiscite for St James's Terrace, Dublin 8 will be taken and if he can make a statement on the matter.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

A request for introduction of a residential pay and display and permit parking scheme at the location was referred to the Traffic Advisory Group in September 2017 for consideration.

The parking occupancy level will be reviewed within the next few weeks, following which a recommendation will be made by the Traffic Advisory Group, most likely at its meeting scheduled for 24th October. This will be followed by notification to the South Central Area Committee at the next meeting following that date. Assuming that it is proposed to introduce a scheme at the location a ballot of the eligible residents will be carried out within a few weeks of notification to the Area Committee.

**Q.46 COUNCILLOR REBECCA MOYNIHAN**

To ask the Chief Executive to arrange for a cleanup of the Jim Mitchell Park in Inchicore which is maintained by DCC.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Jim Mitchell Park is cleaned each morning, Monday to Friday, and the grass is cut once a week (generally on Tuesdays).

**Q.47 COUNCILLOR REBECCA MOYNIHAN**

To ask the Chief Executive to remove the trees by the Oblates church which are damaging the footpath and creating a danger for cyclists along the cycle lane.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The mature London Plane trees by the church and along Tyrconnell Road are an integral feature of Inchicore Village and an important natural and historic feature of the area. Under these circumstances the removal of the trees would not be considered appropriate. Possible damage to the footpath is investigated by the Roads Maintenance Department and they can carry out repairs if deemed necessary. The trees have been inspected to make sure that there are no suckering growths from the base, so that there is no danger to cyclists or pedestrians.

**Q.48 COUNCILLOR REBECCA MOYNIHAN**

To ask the Chief Executive for an update on the removal of a pear tree on the intersection of Dufferin Avenue and Wolseley street which was due to be removed a year ago and is still creating a health and safety issue for residents of the street.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

This tree will be removed over the next 3 months. Some of the pear trees on Dufferrin Avenue produce excessive amounts of fruit each year and this in turn causes problems for residents when the fruit falls onto the street. The complete removal of all the problematic trees on the street over a short timescale would not be appropriate, as the trees are a very important natural amenity to the streetscape. Under these circumstances Park Services intend to produce a long-term removal and replanting plan for the street whereby 1 or 2 trees are removed and replaced each year. Residents will be informed of this plan before work commences.

**Q.49 COUNCILLOR CLAIRE BYRNE**

To ask the Chief Executive why the decision was made to end Dublin City Councils membership of International Council for Local Environmental Initiatives, why Councillors were not informed of this decision and to ask if he can please reinstate Dublin City's membership of this important organisation.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The Covenant of Mayors for Climate & Energy is a member / partner of the International Council for Local Environmental Initiatives. Dublin City Council is a signatory to the Covenant of Mayors and it was considered that no additional benefit would accrue to the Council by continuing to pay for membership of the ICLEI.

**Q.50 COUNCILLOR CLAIRE BYRNE**

To ask the Chief Executive why the Vacant Spaces Scheme website is no longer live, can he provide an update on the scheme, including the number of spaces currently available on the scheme, the number of spaces have been successfully occupied by the scheme, whether he plans to reactivate this scheme in the near future, and if not, what plans are in place to replace this scheme and support the provision of artist studios in Dublin City.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The City Arts Office began the Vacant Spaces initiative in 2011 as a means of trying to identify if building and units not utilised due to recession could be used by artists and arts organisation on a long or short term basis. Due to the take up of spaces now the scheme is winding down.

Several buildings including 15 Bachelors Walk (Irish Architecture Foundation) Marrowbone Lane Area Office (Basic Space) Units 3 and 4 Foley Street (by application) Meath Street (First Fortnight) were utilised or continue to be utilised by artists.

Due to time constraints a comprehensive account of the scheme will take some time. The Arts office produced a Vacant Spaces Toolkit for those seeking spaces and hosted a temporary website. Many property viewings were also held in collaboration with private landlords that wanted to understand how to rent to artists.

The City Arts Officer recommends that the Subcommittee on Artists spaces recently set up by the SPC on which he and the Councillor serve could look in depth at this scheme and the learning involved.

**Q.51 COUNCILLOR CLAIRE BYRNE**

To ask the Chief Executive what discussions have taken place with the Minister for Housing with regards to the provision of an affordable housing scheme for the Poolbeg SDZ and can he provide an update on the progress of developing such a scheme.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Discussions have taken place with the Department of Planning, Housing and Local Government and the previous Minister with regard to entering an agreement with the land-owners and DCC to provide 900 social and/or affordable units, of which a minimum of 350 units will be delivered as social housing, on the Poolbeg West SDZ.

The Minister is engaging with all Local Authorities with regards to progressing mechanisms to address the housing crisis, including the development of an affordable housing scheme. The commitment to provide 900 social and/or affordable units remains (see Report 323 2017 elsewhere on Agenda).

**Q.52 COUNCILLOR CLAIRE BYRNE**

To ask the Chief Executive what systems are in place to monitor the level of traffic and the routes taken by waste trucks and other heavy goods vehicles travelling to and from the Poolbeg Incinerator, and can he please provide a report on this.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The proposed traffic management strategy for waste deliveries at the Dublin Waste to Energy Facility assumes that a certain quantity of waste from within a defined boundary (see area highlighted in yellow within figure 1 for further details) will be delivered directly to the Dublin Waste to Energy (DWtE) facility via the Local Road Network and the remainder will come from a number of transfer stations via the Strategic Road Network (i.e. M50 Motorway and Dublin Port Tunnel).

The Environmental Impact Statement noted that the routing of all trucks with four or more axels accessing the Dublin Port area will be dictated by the Heavy Goods Vehicle (HGV) Management Strategy, which is designed to keep large HGVs on the Strategic Road Network and away from the Local Road Network. The HGV Management Strategy will apply to all bulk transfer vehicles delivering to the DWtE facility from the transfer stations and they will be constrained to travel via the M50 Motorway and the Dublin Port Tunnel to and from the DWtE facility.

**Q.53 COUNCILLOR FRANK KENNEDY**

To ask the Chief Executive to repair the extremely uneven and dangerous footpath surface at the pedestrian crossing on Merrion Road (**details supplied**) and opposite St Vincent's University Hospital. One local resident wrote to the Council in excess of a year ago to request that this be rectified and yet the problem persists and indeed has worsened. The pavement stones have moved substantially out of position, resulting in a severe tripping hazard. As winter approaches, with attendant dark mornings and evenings, to request that this be rectified as a matter of urgency.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

This has been logged in our Asset Management System and will be repaired as soon as a crew is available.

**Q.54 COUNCILLOR FRANK KENNEDY**

To ask the Chief Executive:

- (a) to provide adequate information, instruction, training and guidance to members of Dublin City Council in respect of the obligations of individual Council members under the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) (Regulation (EU) 2016/679) which comes into force on 25 May 2018; and
- (b) to state what steps are being taken within Dublin City Council to comply with its obligations under the GDPR.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The EU General Data Protection Regulation will come into force in May 2018. The regulation makes some significant changes to the existing data protection regime applicable to local authorities and the management of personal and sensitive data. GDPR requires increased transparency, accountability and security of personal data and the appointment of a statutory Data Protection Officer.

Terence O'Keefe, Law Agent has been appointed Data Protection Officer for Dublin City Council and is tasked with raising awareness, assisting Departments with a review of their data processing policies and procedures and monitoring compliance.

Since his appointment, the Data Protection Officer has commenced a DAT Mapping exercise throughout the organisation. He has also started training and awareness sessions for staff and it is envisaged that these will be given to Councillors also in due course.

**Q.55 COUNCILLOR FRANK KENNEDY**

To ask the Chief Executive for a full report on the Chinese gardens planned for Herbert Park to include (a) the precise location in the park of the gardens, and (b) the date when the gardens will be opened.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

In response to the above

- (a) It is proposed that the Chinese garden will be located close to the pond at the Herbert Park Hotel entrance to the park.
- (b) It is anticipated that the garden will be constructed and opened in 2018. The South East Area Committee will be advised of the formal opening date when it is confirmed.

**Q.56 COUNCILLOR FRANK KENNEDY**

To ask the Chief Executive in the circumstances outlined below, to ask the Derelict Sites section to act to take whatever enforcement steps are necessary to ensure that this property is rendered to a proper, adequate condition without further delay. As the property is a semi-detached house it is grossly unfair on the neighbour.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The Derelict Sites Section will request the owner to submit details of the proposed improvement works, specifying the timeframe for commencement and completion. In the absence of a satisfactory response the Council will initiate formal action under the Derelict Sites legislation.

**Q.57 COUNCILLOR CHRIS ANDREWS**

To ask the Chief Executive to have the badly overgrown area opposite **(details supplied)** which is a magnet for dumping and rubbish cleared up as it is also in danger of scraping pedestrians

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Arrangements will be made to prune this area where possible.

**Q.58 COUNCILLOR CHRIS ANDREWS**

To ask the Chief Executive can yellow lines be placed just outside flats **(details supplied)** on the main road each side of the entrance to the flats. Every day cars park a good bit out from the path obstructing the view of cars coming in and out and also making it very hard for the kids to see when crossing the road for school or going the shops.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

This request is listed for examination and report by the Traffic Advisory Group. The councillor will be informed of the recommendation in due course.

**Q.59 COUNCILLOR CHRIS ANDREWS**

To ask the Chief Executive to explain when residents in flats (**details supplied**) reported fire safety concerns and why no one with fire safety qualifications were sent out to inspect the properties yet instead someone without fire safety experience is sent instead and is this standard practice when fire safety concerns are reported?

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Factfire (Fire Application Consultancy Team Limited) inspected the properties. They are currently working on a fire protection risk assessment. A Fire Protection Contactor will implement all control measures identified in the report. Factfire will certify that the work meets building regulations.

**Q.60 COUNCILLOR MANNIX FLYNN**

To ask the Chief Executive to make a categorical statement that The Staircase - a listed national monument in Aungier St, is not being considered by Dublin City Council and the Homeless Executive as emergency accommodation or family hub. This is a listed national monument and earlier this year was surrounded in controversy when attempts were made to interfere with the fabric of the building and altered for the purpose of emergency accommodation. This alteration was an illegal action with no planning permission and Dublin City Council itself was engaged in this unlawful process. There is already an oversubscription of emergency accommodation facilities in this street and in this immediate area. Local residents, businesses and many of those who have been using the emergency facilities on Aungier Street and the immediate area are concerned of the possibility of over saturation which would upset the trust that has been built up with residents, neighbours and businesses with the clients of the present facilities. At present there is ongoing works in The Staircase building. Planning enforcement have responded and a full report on this matter with clarity is now necessary to allay the anxieties and fears of locals.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The Aungier St. property referred to is not being considered for use as emergency accommodation for individuals or families experiencing homelessness by Dublin City Council/Dublin Region Homeless Executive.

**Q.61 COUNCILLOR MANNIX FLYNN**

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

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

A reply has been issued to the Councillor.

**Q.62 COUNCILLOR MANNIX FLYNN**

To ask the Chief Executive to address the issue and issue a report on the declining footfall figures for Dublin City and in particular Dublin City Centre. Many businesses have reported a grave drop in customers and sales. The City centre is half empty and sometimes entirely empty over the past number of weeks. The footfall figures that are released by BID/We are Dublin town company have been called into question by many businesses and there is issues with regards to releasing the raw data. As the local authority, Dublin City Council has an obligation of duty and a care of duty to the many rate paying and indeed double rate paying businesses within the city. It is time

that DCC for once and for all address this issue in a transparent, responsible and honest manner.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

DCC will investigate footfall data and determine what sources of data are available.

**Q.63 COUNCILLOR MANNIX FLYNN**

To ask the Chief Executive to address the ongoing issues and concerns of the residents in Charelemont Street/Ffrench-Mullen. Residents here held a meeting recently and formed a new group called New Charelemont. This group was not given access to their own community hall to have their meeting however the meeting took place in a local hotel. The group and their representatives listed a series of issues these include:

- A lack of information on the overall project,
- A breakdown of communications with the rejuvenation board, Dublin City Council estate management, the developer of Charlemont Street and the builder.
- They further stated that they were kept entirely in the dark in relation to the approved housing body that was to manage the new social housing and apartments at Charlemont.

The meeting ended with a feeling of no confidence in the rejuvenation board and indeed Dublin City Council. Many felt that the trust here had eroded and that they were never really treated as participants in this process. Further, the residents in Richmond Place were completely cut out of the project even though they were part and parcel of the community and the blocks of flats at Charelmont are within arm's reach of their windows. They allege they were never engaged with by anybody until a large amount of hoarding was to be placed around their homes. In my view, this is unacceptable and the Chief Executive of Dublin City Council must now step in here and take charge of this flagship project.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The goal of the Charlemont Street regeneration has been to revitalise the estate while maintaining the existing community. Over the past 11 years the community consultation has been widespread and extensive with a spirit of inclusivity. This has been achieved through the following measures:

- Dublin City Council have a full-time Project Office on-site that is open for 11 years;
- The City Council met with the Redevelopment Group, made up of elected local residents, monthly from 2006 until 2014 when the Regeneration Board was formed;
- The Regeneration Board was formed from a desire from the community for same and its structure adhered with the Housing SPC's 'Regeneration Board Terms of Reference'. Four local residents sit on the Regeneration Board. It is chaired by an independent Chairperson, Niall Crowley.
- As well having a full time office, over the years the City Council have been responsible for numerous information seminars/public meetings/leaflets etc;
- A sample of the information flow since the 2014 formation of the Regeneration Board, of which Cllr. Flynn is a member, is as follows:
  - 14 Board newsletters including Q&A sheets have been issued to residents;
  - There have been 10 Regeneration Board meetings;
  - An information fair was hosted to brief residents and demonstrate the layout of the apartments (October 2016);

- A 'World Café' event attended by all stakeholders was held (June 2017);
  - There have been on-site visits to sample apartments for residents (May 2017);
  - A representative group visited new community centre (September 2017);
  - A number of celebratory and community events have been held, for example demolition and sod-turning events amongst others;
  - A successful Women's Group has been formed who meet weekly;
  - There is a part-time on-site Regeneration Board office;
  - There is a full-time on-site Resource Centre office
- All of these initiatives and services represent a strong partnership between Dublin City Council, Charlemont Community Resource Centre Ltd and the Regeneration Board and have been developed and implemented with the full participation of the residents.
  - With regard to Phase 2 of the Regeneration, Mr. Garry Keegan has been assigned by JJ Rhatigan to the job of liaison and communication with the local community. His telephone number is (**details supplied**). Gary has met and will continue to meet adjoining resident groups to discuss any issues of concern prior to and during the construction.

**Q.64 COUNCILLOR MICHAEL O'BRIEN**

To ask the Chief Executive how much currently undeveloped Dublin City Council land is zoned for residential development (leaving aside that land for which plans are in process via the land initiative) and how many units could be built on this land on the basis of average densities

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Many zones across the city are mixed use in character. Residential use, while the primary use in Z1 and Z2 zones, is also Permissible in Z3, Z4, Z5, Z8, Z10, Z12 and Z14 zones and Open for Consideration in a Z6 zone.

In terms of lands owned by Dublin City Council, there are multiple sites at variable scales in different stages of a development process. The figure will constantly evolve. An online Housing Land Map has been launched by the DHPLG as a key part of the Rebuilding Ireland initiative. There are 75 Dublin City Council sites mapped amounting to c. 121.14 ha. 13 sites have been built on, sold or are currently under construction and leaving aside the lands for which plans are on process via the land initiative (O'Devaney Gardens, Oscar Traynor Road and Saint Michaels Estate), the remaining lands amounts to c.87 ha.

On the basis that an average density of 60-120 units can be provided per hectare, c. 5,220-10,440 units could be provided on Dublin City Council owned sites.

**Q.65 COUNCILLOR MICHAEL O'BRIEN**

To ask the Chief Executive how many units on the basis of average densities could be built on the public (non local authority) publicly owned land as identified on the Rebuilding Ireland Housing Land Map <http://rebuildingireland.ie/news/rebuilding-ireland-land-map/>

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

There are two sites on the Rebuilding Ireland Housing Land Map within the Dublin City Council catchment area that are public (non local authority) owned lands. Both are owned by CIE.

These two sites are:

1. Connolly Station



Marlborough Road

2. Connolly Station – Owner CIE

Site area - 2.25ha.

The site is zoned Z5 the objective of which is to ‘consolidate and facilitate the development of the central area, and to identify, reinforce, strengthen and protect its civic design character and dignity’.

**Planning History:**

The site falls within an overall land parcel that was granted a 10 year permission on the 11th April 2012 (Ref. 2863/11) for a significant mixed use development which is live until 2022 consisting of 106 apartments (3 no. one bed, 81 no. two bed, 22 no. three bed), over 50,000 sq.m of office accommodation, over 6,5000 sq.m of retail / restaurant accommodation and a 101 bedroom hotel.

This permission is still valid. Therefore, 106 apartments can be delivered on this site.

The site has an area of 2.25 ha. On the basis that an average density of 120 units can be provided per hectare, c. 270 units could be provided on this site. This estimated figure does not take into consideration that the zoning promotes a mix of uses on site, site constraints and design which ultimately influences the number of units that are permitted.

Planning permission would need to be obtained in order to provide an alternative number of units from what currently has permission on site.

**Marlborough Road – Owner CIE**

Site area – 0.4 ha.

The site is zoned Z1 the objective of which is to ‘protect, provide and improve residential amenities’. There is no pertinent planning history on this site.

On the basis that an average density of 60-120 units can be provided per hectare, 24-48 units could be provided on site subject to design and planning permission being obtained.

The Urban Regeneration and Housing Act makes provision for a vacant sites levy in areas in which housing is required and in areas in need of renewal. This site has been assessed and considered suitable for inclusion on the Dublin City Council Vacant Site Register.

**Q.66 COUNCILLOR MICHAEL O’BRIEN**

To ask the Chief Executive if the plea from parents of children attending Scoil Neasain in Harmonstown for the deployment of a School Traffic Warden can be heeded.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE’S REPLY:**

The Road Safety Unit, carried out pedestrian counts in November 2016 outside the pedestrian gate of Scoil Neasain on McAuley Avenue which did not meet the criteria for the installation of a School Warden. However, Ms. Deirble Nic Conghamhna, School Principal recently contacted the Unit to request further pedestrian counts to be carried out both outside the Pedestrian Gate on McAuley Avenue and near the Church on Gracefield Road which will be carried out over the next week. We will keep you informed of the outcome.

**Q.67 COUNCILLOR MICHAEL O'BRIEN**

To ask the Chief Executive how many 99 year leases have been extended by Dublin City Council of council owned community and youth facilities and please list them by name and location and the year the lease was bestowed

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

It is no longer the practice to grant 99-year leases to community and youth groups and all existing leases of such a term would date back a number of years. Consequently, it will be necessary to conduct a manual exercise on the Property Register to extract the information requested. A report will be provided directly to the Councillor.

**Q.68 COUNCILLOR NOELEEN REILLY**

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

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

A reply has been issued to the Councillor.

**Q.69 COUNCILLOR NOELEEN REILLY**

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

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

A reply has been issued to the Councillor.

**Q.70 COUNCILLOR NOELEEN REILLY**

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

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

A reply has been issued to the Councillor.

**Q.71 COUNCILLOR NOELEEN REILLY**

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

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

A reply has been issued to the Councillor.

**Q.72 COUNCILLOR DAITHI DOOLAN**

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

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

A reply has been issued to the Councillor.

**Q.73 COUNCILLOR DAITHI DOOLAN**

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

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

A reply has been issued to the Councillor.

**Q.74 COUNCILLOR DAITHI DOOLAN**

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

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

A reply has been issued to the Councillor.

**Q.75 COUNCILLOR DAITHI DOOLAN**

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

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

A reply has been issued to the Councillor.

**Q.76 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.77 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.78 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.79 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.80 COUNCILLOR GARY GANNON**

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 in relation to the manner in which DCC calculates its property tax, could the Chief Executive answer the following questions; **(details supplied)**

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

I attached two documents to provide information for the queries raised, Local Property Tax information provided by the Revenue Commissioners and Circular Fin 05/2017 as issued by the Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government.

The Local Property Tax information (Revenue Commissioners document) specifies under 'Rules' – all owners of residential property are liable to pay 'the tax'. Exemptions are set out in detail giving information for the many categories of exempted properties.

Circular Fin 05/2017 – the LPT baseline for Dublin City Council is set by the Minister for Housing, Planning and Local Government using calculations made by the Revenue Commissioners. Appendices to the circular demonstrate the declared liability values for Dublin City Council.

The LPT liability is triggered through property ownership rather than movements in population and is not connected to population movements captured through the census. Increases in the number of households, not exempted as set out in the Revenue Commissioners document, have a LPT liability. Such increases would refer to an existing (i.e. not new build) housing unit that had not previously been used for residential purposes.

Link to the LPT document is:

[http://www.citizensinformation.ie/en/money\\_and\\_tax/tax/housing\\_taxes\\_and\\_reliefs/local\\_property\\_tax.html](http://www.citizensinformation.ie/en/money_and_tax/tax/housing_taxes_and_reliefs/local_property_tax.html)

**Q.82 COUNCILLOR GARY GANNON**

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

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

A reply has been issued to the Councillor.

**Q.83 COUNCILLOR DEIRDRE HENEY**

To ask the Chief Executive can he please refer to green areas at (**details supplied**)

1. If a grass and landscaping contract has been awarded in respect of same
2. If details of the scope of the contract for grass cutting can be provided
3. If he can detail the schedule
4. If he can say exactly what is contained in the scope of work to be done
5. If the scope of work includes landscaping of the greens
6. What specific areas of green are included
7. Is there provision for weed control/spraying of is this done under a separate contract
8. Who monitors the work carried out by the contractor
9. If he is satisfied that the work which is contracted to be done, is in fact being done, and done properly

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

1. The open spaces in (**details supplied**) are included in the landscape maintenance contract.
2. The scope of the contract is grass maintenance and, litter and weed control in the open space areas designated by the contract.
3. The contract requires that there must not be more than 7 days between maintenance visits.
4. Grass cutting, litter control and weed control on the open spaces.
5. Certain minor repairs are included in the contract.
6. All greens and open spaces in the (**details supplied**) are included in the contract.
7. Weed control on the open spaces around trees, manhole covers etc. and along the base of walls forms part of the contract.
8. Parks Division staff monitors performance.
9. Controls in the contract require contractors to provide details of each maintenance visit to each site. The contract further includes penalties if performance standards are not met.

The Weed spraying of the kerbs and footpaths is carried out twice yearly in the North Central area by appointed contractors. This year the spraying was carried out in late May and early August.

**Q.84 COUNCILLOR DEIRDRE HENEY**

To ask the Chief Executive to please refer to recently installed disk parking machine at location **(details supplied)** and say if the same can be relocated to a more suitable location as its current location has resulted in residents access to a parking space being blocked.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The P&D ticket machine referred to was installed in September 2016 upon introduction of the scheme at this location and there was no alteration of the footpath necessary to facilitate installation. This is considered the most appropriate position for the ticket machine at this location. Nevertheless, an alternative position can be considered if the resident concerned submits evidence to the Parking Enforcement Section that they have planning permission for installation of a driveway at this location.

**Q.85 COUNCILLOR PAT DUNNE**

To ask the Chief Executive to request our Planning Enforcement officer to contact **(details supplied)** in relation to his contention that the building contractor on an adjacent site to his house has caused damage to his side garden wall.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Any damage caused to adjoining garden walls during the course of construction works is a civil matter between the parties concerned and is not one that the City Council can take action on.

**Q.86 COUNCILLOR PAT DUNNE**

To ask the Chief Executive to request our Housing Transfer Section to arrange a downsizing transfer for our tenant from a 4 bed house in Area K to a 2 bed also in Area K **(details supplied)**

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The applicant **(details supplied)** is currently on the Transfer List, Band 2, for two bedroom accommodation. Their current position is as follows:  
561st for Area K (Crumlin, Kimmage, Walkinstown, Drimnagh )

Dublin City Council is allocating properties based on time on the list and currently there are a number of applicants on the housing list of longer standing who have to be considered as suitable vacancies arise. It is not possible to indicate accurately the prospect of an offer for any applicant as the number of vacancies arising will be a determining factor in the length of time applicants could expect to be on the waiting.

**Q.87 COUNCILLOR PAT DUNNE**

To ask the Chief Executive when will the planned family hub on Clonard Road, Kimmage open and when will the promised local community meeting for the residents on Clonard Road take place.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The works on this family hub are ongoing, and the expected completion date is the end of October. A community open day for public representatives and residents to visit the facility and meet with the Service Provider will be arranged closer to the opening date.

**Q.88 COUNCILLOR CHRIS ANDREWS**

To ask the Chief Executive to provide a map of all DCC owned land in the Ringsend Sandymount, Irishtown and the Poolbeg area highlighting it in Red and also indicating what zoning it has.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Details of Dublin City Council's property ownership in the requested areas are not currently available in mapped form. To accurately prepare such a map will require a short period of time and once prepared a report will be issued directly to the Councillor.

**Q.89 COUNCILLOR ANDREW MONTAGUE**

To ask the Chief Executive will the Council report on the parking enforcement provisions on match days for Croke Park. Some residents are complaining that there is a major reduction of parking enforcement staff at weekends, which is exactly when parking enforcement is most needed for the residents around Croke Park.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Dublin Street Parking Services operate Monday to Sunday with enforcement activity taking place from 07.00-24.00 each day. Enforcement staff are rostered appropriately each day, to reflect the level of enforcement required on different days and at different times during the day.

Dublin City Council has developed a Croke Park Major Event Parking Enforcement protocol in conjunction with An Garda and Croke Park and this has been incorporated into the Croke Park Major Event Plan. The protocol sets out roles, responsibilities and lines of communication between the relevant stakeholders. The Council's parking enforcement contractor, Dublin Street Parking Services (DSPS) operate primarily under the direction of the Gardai on major event days. DSPS provide a free vehicle relocation service to the Gardai where a vehicle has to be relocated for crowd safety reasons. A dedicated removals truck is assigned for this purpose. In addition to removals this crew also carry out enforcement as does another dedicated enforcement crew. These resources operate purely in the Drumcondra/Croke Park area. In addition normal enforcement activities are maintained city wide. Croke Park, the Garda and the Council through their individual websites, coordination with participating team's County Boards, social media and Traffic VMS signage promote the use of public transport, advise on parking legally and also advise that enforcement by way of clamping is in force.

Enforcement on match days is typically carried out on surrounding roads early in the day prior to traffic and crowd build up in the area when unrestricted access is possible. Early enforcement in this way also acts as a deterrent to other motorists who then arrive later in the day when attending Croke Park. Aside from this, enforcement levels largely depend on a number of issues, i.e. the teams playing, Garda resources deployed and Health & Safety issues as these all affect the ease with which enforcement crew can move around the area to carry out enforcement. Enforcement activities on major match days in the immediate vicinity of Croke Park have varied between 34 and 47 clamps and 2 to 10 relocations over the past number of years. These do not include vehicles as part of the free relocation service provided to An Garda Síochána for crowd safety reasons. Dublin City Council is satisfied that the level of enforcement carried out on roads surrounding Croke Park at weekends and on match days is appropriate.

**Q.90 COUNCILLOR ANDREW MONTAGUE**

To ask the Chief Executive with the new car restrictions coming through Walsh Road and Ferguson Road, will the Council erect some “Children at Play” signs at the entrance to Walsh Road and Ferguson Road, as there are now far more children playing on the streets.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE’S REPLY:**

The pilot scheme on Walsh Road and Ferguson Road commenced on 21 August 2017 and will continue until 21 February 2018. Data and feedback will be gathered during this time. This data and feedback will be analysed and reviewed. Upon this review an executive decision will be made by Senior Management of the Environment and Transportation of Dublin City Council. The request for permanent “children crossing” signage will be considered as part of the review process. Signage or other similar measures will be considered for implementation pending the result of the executive decision.

**Q.91 COUNCILLOR ANDREW MONTAGUE**

To ask the Chief Executive will the council fix the porch for **(details supplied)**. Water gathers on the ceiling of the porch every time it rains and drips on anyone coming in or going out, and also runs down the walls leading to mould. Can the council put guttering on the porch, or some other solution to stop the residents getting wet, and to address the mould.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE’S REPLY:**

No request to have this issue addressed has been registered prior to this. This issue will be investigated by Housing Maintenance and if any repairs are required they will be carried out.

**Q.92 COUNCILLOR ANDREW MONTAGUE**

To ask the Chief Executive will the council fix the fireplace at **(details supplied)**. She would like the back boiler put back in behind the fire, but if that’s not possible she needs her fireplace fixed. When the back boiler was removed, the fireplace was pulled forward to get at the boiler, and since then smoke is coming into the room and not up the chimney. Council staff did visit with a view to fixing it, but smoke still comes into the room, and the mantelpiece has melted off. The fireplace is obviously not far enough back into the chimney.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE’S REPLY:**

There was no back boiler in this dwelling at any time. The fireplace was not moved to remove a back boiler. Fire cheeks have been fitted to this fireplace and a chimney cowl is ordered and will be fitted within the next few weeks.

**Q.93 COUNCILLOR PAUL HAND**

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

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE’S REPLY:**

A reply has been issued to the Councillor.

**Q.94 COUNCILLOR PAUL HAND**

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

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE’S REPLY:**

A reply has been issued to the Councillor.

**Q.95 COUNCILLOR PAUL HAND**

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

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

A reply has been issued to the Councillor.

**Q.96 COUNCILLOR NIAL RING**

To ask the Chief Executive to detail the current processes and stages involved in Dublin City Council acquiring land and/or using its own land to build housing (including, in particular, the involvement of the Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government) and to detail what, in the opinion of DCC management, changes/improvements could be made to these processes/stages to speed up the delivery of housing units.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

DCC endeavour to develop projects and schemes in as timely and efficient manner as is possible within the parameters which apply to all schemes. The timeframes for delivery of projects are defined by various issues, the primary ones of which are statutory requirements relating to procurement and planning matters together with the requirement for DCC to obtain approval from the DHPLG to each stage of a project, from initial feasibility study to detailed design and costing through to award of contract for development. Any review of this process with the aim of shortening the timeframes involved would effectively require changes to the rules and regulations that govern procurement and planning requirements.

The process by which DCC manage and deliver housing construction projects is broadly as follows;

- Identify a suitable site for residential development
- Agree an outline development proposal for the site with DHPLG
- Initiate a tender process to procure a Design Team to develop outline plans for the site
- Seek DHPLG approval to the completed outline design
- Undertake Part 8 Planning Approval to the development proposal
- Following Part 8 approval the Design Team will then prepare detailed plans for construction
- Seek DHPLG approval to go to tender (for the construction phase)
- Initiate tender process to procure a contractor for construction.
- Following completion of tender process seek DHPLG approval to award a contract
- Appoint a contractor to commence construction and deliver the housing units. Construction contracts will normally take between 18 – 24 months to complete.

As regards the timescale for delivery and provision of completed dwellings it will take, in the normal course of events, approximately 9 - 12 months from the finalisation of Part 8 plans (for Area Committee notification and City Council approval) to the award of a contract for construction. Added to a typical construction period of 1.5 to 2 years it is reasonable to conclude that typical construction projects will take in excess of 3 years from initial concept to completion stage. Each project will also bring its own specific challenges and factors that affect both the cost and timescale for delivery of a complete housing scheme and there is always the potential for significant time delays at the varying stages of each construction scheme.



**Q.97 COUNCILLOR NIAL RING**

To ask the Chief Executive to detail how many enquiries and subsequent applications have been received by DCC in respect of the Living city initiative. Also, to ask the Chief Executive to detail what initiatives etc are in place to publicise the scheme and if he deems them to be sufficient/satisfactory.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

48 applications have been received to-date under the Living City Initiative.  
8 applications have been completed and issued with letters of certification.

A Living City Initiative Unit has been set up within Dublin City Council, which acts as a “one-stop shop” to facilitate an integrated response to applicants including allocating date/time for pre-app meetings and discussions. Publicity material has been revamped to include new and up-to-date information. Material will be circulated via leaflet drops within the LCI areas, local area offices, and estate agents to fully promote the scheme.

**Q.98 COUNCILLOR NIAL RING**

To ask the Chief Executive to detail what services have benefited from the projected €14.45m expected credit balance detailed in the Estimation of Income & Expenditure 2017 & 2018 as detailed in Appendix 2 of report 309/2017 presented to Councillors as part of the information supplied for consideration of the LPT Local Adjustment factor in respect of the financial year 2018.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The Y2017 projected credit balance of €14.45M results from a combination of expenditure savings and income surpluses on comparison of the adopted Y2017 budget compared to the preliminary Y 2017 estimated outturn. This credit balance is a funding source for the Y2018 budget. It should be noted that the Y2017 budget was funded by a credit balance of €22.1M and therefore there is an estimated net reduction in funding of €7.7M from this funding source in preparing the Y2018 budget.

**Q.99 COUNCILLOR NIAL RING**

To ask the Chief Executive to explain how the NPPR estimated income in 2017 is €3m above the budgeted amount of €2.5m given that this charge ceased some years ago and that there should have been a high level of certainty regarding the residual amounts being collected as well as the timing thereof. In light of the foregoing, and having regard to my previous questions regarding this income source, can the Chief Executive also explain how a similar amount is being budgeted for 2018, again 120% higher than originally estimated. Finally, can the Chief Executive confirm the future anticipated/agreed residual income expected from this source.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The charge on non-principal private residences (NPPR) was introduced in 2009 under the Local Government (Charges Act 2009, as amended by the Local Government (Household Charge) Act 2011, charge is payable by the owners of private rented accommodation, holiday homes and other non-principal private residences for the period 2009 -2013.

The legislation provided for self declaration so that the persons who own a non-principal private residence on the liability date to declare so and to pay the €200 charge by the due date annually. The mechanism for the payment of the charge is through the NPPR online payment system. In addition, following the penalty grace

period expiry on 31<sup>st</sup> August 2014, liable persons were facilitated by agreeing an instalment plan with the Local Authority.

The table below outlines those additional properties which declared liability post the cessation of the charge.

Year	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
1 <sup>st</sup> January 2014	62,707	63,831	64,614	66,662	64,299
22 <sup>nd</sup> September 2017	67,676	68,963	70,124	72,800	72,379
<b>Increase</b>	<b>+ 4,969</b>	<b>+ 5,132</b>	<b>+ 5,510</b>	<b>+ 6,138</b>	<b>+ 8,080</b>

The reasons for the 2007 revised income exceeding the figure outlined in the 2017 budget are due to:

- As this charge is self declaration, the extent of the residual income has yet to be maximised.
- A number of rental properties in the Dublin City area had registered for NPPR as a single property and not as multi units and therefore arrears have been discharged.
- 2013 was the last year to which the liability charge was due but the Local Government Reform Act 2014 imposed new higher penalties (up from €4,220 to €7,230) on those property units which had not been declared and paid by the end of August 2014.
- The increase in the number of repossessions in Dublin over the period of the NPPR has resulted in significant portfolio sales by the various financial institutions.

Following discussion with the NPPR bureau, the Y2018 budget is based on a continuation of the current presentation rate but will be kept under review to monitor the level of realised payments and determine any material financial impact on the budget. It is not possible to determine the expected income from this source given that the charge is based on self declaration and the provisions of the 2009 Act remain in force until 31 March 2025.

**Q.100 COUNCILLOR ALISON GILLILAND**

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

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

A reply has been issued to the Councillor.

**Q.101 COUNCILLOR ALISON GILLILAND**

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

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

A reply has been issued to the Councillor.

**Q.102 COUNCILLOR ALISON GILLILAND**

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

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

A reply has been issued to the Councillor.

**Q.103 COUNCILLOR PATRICK COSTELLO**

To ask the Chief Executive the total number of new housing allocations, not including transfers, that were made in 2016, and the total number of new applications for the housing list in 2016.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The total number of new Housing Allocations that was completed in 2016 was 850. The number of new applications for the Housing list in 2016 was 3447.

**Q.104 COUNCILLOR PATRICK COSTELLO**

To ask the Chief Executive what research is being undertaken by either Dublin City Council or the Dublin Regional Homeless executive in relation to homelessness and housing in Dublin, providing details of any research that is planned, currently underway or completed but not yet published.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The following list details the research being carried out by the research team in the Dublin Region Homeless Executive. Points 1-10 are due to be published in the coming weeks and will be available at: [www.homelessdublin.ie](http://www.homelessdublin.ie)

1. Reasons for family homelessness, January to June 2016: Presents the reasons for homelessness the 502 families who newly accessed emergency accommodation in the Dublin Region during this period.
2. Reasons for family homelessness, July to December 2016: Presents the reasons for homelessness the 400 families who newly accessed emergency accommodation in the Dublin Region during this period.
3. Reasons for family homelessness, January to June 2017: Presents the reasons for homelessness the 450 families who newly accessed emergency accommodation in the Dublin Region during this period.
4. Analysis of the newly homeless families accommodated by Dublin's homeless services during 2016: This report uses administrative data to present the reasons which led to the 902 families newly presenting to homeless services during 2016 as well as a month by month trend analysis. Secondly, it provides detailed demographic profiles of the families experiencing homelessness in the Dublin Region. The final aspect of the report looks at the accommodation status of the families to identify how many of the families were still accessing homeless services as of the 31st of May 2017.
5. The Experiences of Newly Homeless Families Accommodated by Dublin's Homeless Services in August 2015: This qualitative piece was carried out by an independent researcher from NUIM. It explores the factors that led to homelessness, the impacts of homelessness on the individuals and families concerned and the preferred options for, and barriers to, an effective resolution to homelessness.
6. Rough Sleeping Count Enumeration Guide: This guide identifies the rationale for enumerating individuals who sleep rough, identify methodologies and practices followed by organisations in different European Cities when enumerating

individuals who sleep rough, and set out the methodology followed when enumerating individuals who sleep rough in the Dublin Region.

7. Assessment of Housing Need Reconciliation, 2014.
8. Assessment of Housing Need Reconciliation, 2015.
9. Assessment of Housing Need Reconciliation, 2016

The main objective of all three of these reports is the enumeration of the minimum known homeless population in need of housing in the Dublin region over a specified period of time. This is achieved by reconciling the local authority housing waiting lists data sets for individuals with homeless priority; data set from the homeless database PASS and the data set from the Rough Sleeping Counts for the Dublin region for a specified time frame in each year.

1. A Study of Migrants Accessing Homeless Service in the Dublin Region: The aim of this study was to carry out an audit and survey of homeless migrants in the Dublin Region to determine key obstacles to progression through homeless services to tenancies, appropriate supports and/or employment.
2. Patterns of Service use: The principal aim of the research was to examine the patterns of homelessness services usage use (transitional/episodic/chronic) across multiple years for each of the four local authorities in the Dublin Region. This research is being undertaken in conjunction with UCD using cluster analysis of PASS data from 2011 to 2016.
3. Mortality Research: This research aims to develop a methodology to calculate and report on a standardised mortality ratio for the homeless population in the Dublin Region.

**Q.105 COUNCILLOR PATRICK COSTELLO**

To ask the Chief Executive the number of staff who have left the road maintenance section and the number of new staff employed in the road maintenance section in each of the years 2014, 2015, 2016 and 2017 to date.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The following table details changes in staff numbers in Road Maintenance Services including direct labour, inspectorate, technicians, engineers and administrative staff since 2014. Currently there are 147 persons employed in the Division.

	2014	2015	2016	2017
<b>Staff nos. at start of year</b>	181	172	159	152
<b>New staff recruited</b>	0	5	4	5
<b>Staff leaving / retiring</b>	9	18	11	10

**Q.106 COUNCILLOR VINCENT JACKSON**

To ask the Chief Executive can he please indicate separately the income stream from various functions etc carried out in City Hall over the past 4 years 2013, 2014, 2015 & 2016 and what these funds are used for.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Dublin City Hall Events Income:

Year	Hire Income generated from Events
2013	€78,406.79
2014	€72,501.14
2015	€89,595.80
2016	€80,430.03

Dublin City Hall Wedding Ceremonies Income:

Year	Hire Income generated from Wedding Ceremonies
2013	€32,085.53
2014	€42,939.97
2015	€63,012.60
2016	€69,321.09

This income contributes to significant revenue costs incurred in the management, maintenance and operation of City Hall.

**Q.107 COUNCILLOR VINCENT JACKSON**

To ask the Chief Executive can the Parks Dept please ensure the broken trees on Le Fanu Gange Cross to Rossmore Drive are replaced & that strong wire mesh raised to a high level is incorporated. In addition can the trees be a strong specimen along here. Another issue is litter in the wire mesh surround, can this be removed as it is impossible to remove.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Broken trees will be replaced at this location during the up-coming planting season over the winter time. Guards will be fitted and raised off the ground so litter cannot accumulate at the base.

**Q.108 COUNCILLOR VINCENT JACKSON**

To ask the Chief Executive that serious consideration be given to changing the sequence of lights from Drumfinn Road, Ballyfermot onto Ballyfermot. It is becoming impossible to enter or exit this large part of Ballyfermot which houses a number of key facilities; a Garda Station, 4 Schools, a Partnership office, Social Welfare etc. On an average morning or afternoon only 3 to 4 cars are able to exit or enter every 3 minutes, leaving large tail backs.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

We have carried out a review of this intersection and have made a number of changes to the junction operation in order to allow, if required, an increased number of vehicles to enter and exit Drumfinn Road.

Specifically, we have increased the amount of time allocated to the relevant traffic phases which permit the movement of vehicles to and from Drumfinn Road. In other words there is a greater amount of green time available to those wishing to enter/exit Drumfinn Road. Furthermore, we have taken measures at this junction and at adjacent junctions, to ensure that the cycle length (the total amount of time available to all traffic phases) will reduce during off-peak times. In essence this will provide more opportunity for vehicles entering/exiting Drumfinn Road as the wait time between the traffic phases permitting movements in/out of Drumfinn Road reduces. Finally, it should also be noted that this junction is sited along a busy bus priority corridor and the junction is set up in such a way so as to allow buses priority thereby reducing time to side roads when a bus approaches this junction. We will continue to monitor the operation of this junction via our SCATS Adaptive Traffic System and will make any further changes as necessary to ensure the continued smooth and safe operation of this junction for all road users.

**Q.109 COUNCILLOR VINCENT JACKSON**

To ask the Chief Executive can Dublin City Council forward me a copy of the Conservationist Plan written for Lawns Park, Ballyfermot a few years ago & ensure some of these features are incorporated into the much awaited plan to enhance the Park I was delighted to see DCC Parks Dept acknowledge that this Park requires major investment to bring it up to the standard one would expect as the premier park of a large area.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

A copy of The Habitat Study for Le Fanu Park, drawn up in 2004, will be sent via email. The design for the new skate and play area in the north eastern side of the park will incorporate new tree planting and the creation of natural play features, including meadow areas. These features will enhance the habitats in the park as recommended by the plan.

**Q.110 COUNCILLOR NAOISE O'MUIRI**

To ask the Chief Executive can he please deal with the following **(details supplied)**

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

A reply has been issued to the Councillor.

**Q.111 COUNCILLOR NAOISE O'MUIRI**

To ask the Chief Executive can he please deal with the following **(details supplied)**

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

A reply has been issued to the Councillor.

**Q.112 COUNCILLOR NAOISE O'MUIRI**

To ask the Chief Executive can he please deal with the following **(details supplied)**

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

A reply has been issued to the Councillor.

**Q.113 COUNCILLOR NAOISE O'MUIRI**

To ask the Chief Executive to please deal with the following **(details supplied)**

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

A reply has been issued to the Councillor.

**Q.114 COUNCILLOR EMMA MURPHY**

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

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

A reply has been issued to the Councillor.

**Q.115 COUNCILLOR EMMA MURPHY**

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

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

A reply has been issued to the Councillor.

**Q.116 COUNCILLOR EMMA MURPHY**

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

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

A reply has been issued to the Councillor.

**Q.117 COUNCILLOR EMMA MURPHY**

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 DAMIAN O'FARRELL**

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

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

A reply has been issued to the Councillor.

**Q.121 COUNCILLOR DAMIAN O'FARRELL**

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

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

A reply has been issued to the Councillor.