

MINUTES OF THE SOUTH EAST AREA COMMITTEE MEETING

HELD ON MONDAY 13 NOVEMBER 2017

1 **Minutes of South East Area Committee Meeting held on 9th October 2017**
Order: Agreed.

2 **Culture, Recreation and Economic Services Department**

- i. Report on proposed Part 8 works in Temple Bar Square.
Order: Agreed to recommend to City Council.
- ii. Report on shelter in Herbert Park.
Order: Noted.
- iii. Report on extension of playground in Herbert Park.
Order: Noted.
- iv. Ranelagh Gardens Park planting report.
Order: Noted.

Matters raised:

Cllr. Lacey proposed the following motion, which was agreed by the committee:

“In relation to the development of Temple Bar Square this committee requests that the manager gives a commitment to present a report on future seating plans for the area to a meeting of this area committee prior to any proposal being presented to the traders.”

The councillors agreed that this did not form part of the current Part 8 process.

3 **Planning and Property Development Department Matters**

- i. Report on proposed disposal of lease of offices and basement car park at Joshua Dawson House, Dawson Street, Dublin 2 to Irish Clearing House Limited.
Order: Agreed to recommend to city council.
- ii. Presentation on planning application 4038/17 St. Pancras Works, Mount Tallant Avenue, Terenure, Dublin 6W.
Order: Noted. Councillors requested to have their objections to this planning application recorded and were advised that any observations or recommendations cannot be taken into account in the determination of the planning application unless formally submitted in accordance with the provision of the Planning and Development Regulations.
- iii. Presentation on planning application 4040/17 Kavcre, St. Clare's Convent, Harold's Cross Road, Harold's Cross, Dublin 6.
Order: Noted. Councillors requested to have their objections to this planning application recorded and were advised that any

observations or recommendations cannot be taken into account in the determination of the planning application unless formally submitted in accordance with the provision of the Planning and Development Regulations.

- iv. Presentation on planning application 4041/17 Crekav, Mount Argus, Kimmage Road, Harold's Cross, Dublin 6W.

Order: Noted. Councillors requested to have their objections to this planning application recorded and were advised that any observations or recommendations cannot be taken into account in the determination of the planning application unless formally submitted in accordance with the provision of the Planning and Development Regulations.

Cllr. Freehill proposed the following motion, which was seconded by Cllr. Lacey and agreed by the committee:

That a special meeting be held with Rathmines Rathgar Area in Planning Department to discuss the urgency of commencement of Local Area Plan (LAP).

4 **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 naming proposal for a development to the rear of 31 Rathmines Road Lower, The Brambles, 1 – 2.

Order: Agreed.

5 **Motions**

Motion 1 from Councillors Paddy McCartan and Frank Kennedy

(Carried from September South East Area Committee meeting.)

That this area committee supports the following proposal for the resolution of serious safety issues arising from traffic / parking management and the hazards of legally and illegally parked vehicles being encountered at present on Bloomfield Avenue-the public vehicular access to the Royal Hospital, Donnybrook.

The hospital requires 24/7 access for ambulances and fire tenders in case of emergencies. Recently, there has been a significant increase in on-street parking on Bloomfield Avenue. When on-street parking is fully utilised, only one vehicle can use the avenue at any one time as there is insufficient space for two vehicles to pass on the remaining roadway.

In addition; since construction work began at Bloomfield House; there have been numerous occasions when large commercial / construction vehicles completely blocked access to and from the hospital. The hospital management notified the Gardaí when illegal parking took place and liaised on a regular basis with the site manager of the construction company to ensure the roadway was kept clear. Notwithstanding these efforts, there continues to be blockages regularly. The hospital is also conscious that construction work is likely to commence in the near future on the St. Mary's, Donnybrook site also on Bloomfield Avenue.

The Royal Hospital requests that Bloomfield Avenue be designated as a no

parking zone on the left hand side of the avenue from Morehampton Road to the entrance of the hospital. This is particularly important to ensure that emergency vehicles can access the hospital expeditiously, which, if met by oncoming traffic is impossible at present.

Order: Report to councillor.

Motion 2 from Councillor Dermot Lacey

This committee requests a detailed report on each of the points raised in the submission attached to this motion in relation to the planning issues surrounding the Opium pub at 26 Wexford Street and 1a Liberty Lane.

1. In respect of point 1 (planning permission register reference no. 6790/07) levy related inspection back in 2013 indicating that the permission was substantially implemented prior to its expiry and that the structure now completed is in substantial compliance with the permission granted in 2008: This would not appear to be correct, and nearby neighbours are adamant that this development was not carried out or completed in 2013, and by way of sworn statutory declaration and evidence from Google maps, it would appear therefore that 6790/07 would be out of time now. If that is the case then this recent development would indeed be illegal. We would now request a copy of the said levy related inspection, as it would be a most serious matter if this were found to be illegitimate. We would urge the enforcement department to declare the works recently undertaken in relation to 6790/07 to be an illegal development.
2. In respect of point 2, the scope of the illegal activity in this case extends to well beyond the roof, and in fact the original small smoking area has now been developed into a night club which is clearly evident to the planning department. We would like to know how the Planning Department can have overlooked such a major development.
3. In respect of point 3 of the notice and this sworn statutory declaration which has been submitted by one of the owners of the premises indicating that the ground floor of 37 Camden Row was in storage use ancillary to the main premises in excess of seven years. We would request a copy of that declaration. Neighbours are prepared to countermand that with several sworn declarations that No. 37 was being used originally as a sign shop and more recently as a carpentry workshop only, and was in no way ancillary to the Opium super pub. In this case we request the planning department to declare the redevelopment of No. 37 (a beer storage / cooling area with direct connections to Opium), as illegal.

Order: Report to councillor.

Motion 3 from Councillor Mary Freehill

Following discussion at the September Arts & Culture Strategic Policy Committee (SPC) regarding making Grand Canal Walkway safe for pedestrians and cyclists that this local area committee urgently arranges a meeting with Waterways Ireland and appropriate Dublin City Council (DCC) personnel to discuss how they will make the area safe in the immediate future. Furthermore, that we also discuss the path repair work needed along the pathway especially from Charlemont to Leeson Street Bridge.

Order: Agreed.

Motion 4 from Councillor Mary Freehill

That the South East Area Committee arranges a meeting with Traffic Department,

Dublin Bus and Dublin Transport Authority to discuss the arrangements that need to be put in place for the restoration of the 140 and 15 bus routes via St. Stephen's Green, which was promised on completion of the LUAS works on Dawson Street.

Order: Agreed.

Motion 5 from Councillor Dermot Lacey

This committee requests the manager to discuss with the local residents' association the possibility of installing a bike shed at Beech Hill Villas as suggested in the email attached and further requests that the gaps in the fence and gate that were to be repaired last summer would actually be repaired.

Order: Report to councillor.

Motion 6 from Councillor Mary Freehill

That the manager informs us of the number of

- a) engineering staff including grades
- b) administrative staff including grades

in Road Maintenance and Traffic Department. (These figures to be given separately for each department) also to compare staffing levels in 2008 and current level. What vacancies currently exist in each department and for how long?

This can be discussed at the November meeting.

Order: Report to councillor.

Motion 7 from Councillor Dermot Lacey

This committee agrees to locate two "Welcome to Portobello" signs similar to those being installed in other villages such as Donnybrook, Ranelagh and Sandymount, at appropriate entrances to the area to be agreed with local residents.

**Order: Motion amended to read "three "Welcome to Portobello" signs".
Report to councillor.**

Motion 8 from Councillor Dermot Lacey

This committee requests the manager to examine the possibility of installing a small playground in the Portobello Harbour as suggested below.

In the area in front of the Lower Deck pub there were previously at that location a swing, slide, see-saw etc, so it was a playground before it was the "urban park" now. Not all of the area there, just a corner of it would be fine for a playground).

Order: Report to councillor.

Motion 9 from Councillor Dermot Lacey

This committee requests the manager to ensure a major upgrade to the roadway on Morehampton Lane, Donnybrook which is in an appalling state. This road, previously a relatively quiet road, is now home to a full street of houses. It may be possible to carry out these works in conjunction with major development at far end of the road currently underway.

Order: Report to councillor.

Motion 10 from Councillor Mannix Flynn

That this committee of the South East Area calls on Dublin City Council to reinstate the coordinators for South East Area safety forum meetings and drug task force immediately. A number of years back, due to cuts, we lost coordinators here who were vital to the running of these services for community. With the

upsurge in anti-social behaviour and criminality on our streets and illegal drug use it is time to reinstate the coordinators for this vital work.

Order: Report to councillor.

Motion 11 from Councillor Mannix Flynn

That this meeting of South East Area calls on the Planning Department of Dublin City Council to reflect, in writing, the agreement that took place with regards the inclusion of mixed creative use and film studio in the SDZ Poolbeg Planning Scheme. The present document does not reflect the statement that was made by Mr John O Hara that the film studios and other creative use would be given equal parity with the Dublin Port Company's plan and vision. At present the document appears to be prejudiced and slightly skewed towards port only development in principal.

Order: Agreed.

Motion 12 from Councillor Mannix Flynn

That this committee of the South East Area calls on Dublin City Council Housing Department to purchase, off the plans, the remaining apartments that are to be built in the Charlemont Street rejuvenation project. It is important that we now lay claim to these apartments and purchase them at the reduced rate given what we know, that we will still be in a public housing shortage and crisis over the next number of years. This is an opportunity to invest in the future of our citizens' housing needs and there should be no hesitation with regards this matter given the fact that in one year alone, we spent over 7 million Euros with just one hotel group accommodating people who were homeless.

Order: Agreed.

Motion 13 from Councillor Mannix Flynn

Given that Dublin City council tenants are to be charged a management fee with regards the apartment blocks they are housed in that this committee recommends that those same tenants be given the opportunities to serve on the management boards of those apartments. This is in keeping with the law and in keeping with best practice elsewhere. This would include all private apartment complexes and apartment blocks that are owned by approved housing bodies. This would be a strong move of inclusion, equality and democratic participation.

Order: Agreed.

Motion 14 from Councillor Paddy McCartan

That the area committee expresses its dismay at the halting of the school building project for St. Christopher's Primary School, Haddington Road. The 24 classroom co-educational was due to open for the new school year last September. Parents of the children have been told that it will take a further two years to complete the project. While the taxpayer will inevitably foot the bill, the main losers in this whole debacle are the boys and girls who are currently crammed into pre-fabs.

Order: Agreed.

Motion 15 from Councillor Claire Byrne

That this area committee agrees that the Pigeon House site and adjacent buildings and land owned by Dublin City Council will be used only for community, cultural, creative and artistic purposes, and that Dublin City Council will actively pursue the development the Pigeon House site as a community, creative and artistic cluster and will work in collaboration with suitable partner (s) and in consultation with the Arts Office, Arts and Culture Recreation SPC and the area committee and Dublin City Council and that the area committee will not support any development proposals that do not adhere to the above.

Order: Motion deferred.

Motion 16 from Councillor Claire Byrne

That this area committee calls on the area manager to immediately cease the removal of trees from along The Grand Canal, asks her to outline the reasons why there were a number of trees and willow recently removed from the Grand Canal close to where new developments are taking place, who proposed the removal of the trees, whether there was any public consultation regarding the removal of the trees, who authorised this and who carried out the work.

Order: Report to councillor.

Motion 17 from Councillor Claire Byrne

That this area committee calls on the area manager to introduce traffic calming measures for Emorville Avenue, St. Kevin's Parade and Lombard Street West, Portobello, Dublin 8. These streets are regularly used as a rat run during peak hours with cars travelling at high speed through the area. Measures could include the use of planters as a traffic calming measure, which have worked well in other parts of Portobello and increasing the number of 30km/ph signs in the area.

Order: Report to councillor.

Motion 18 from Councillor Claire Byrne

That this area committee agrees to provide a Christmas tree in Portobello Harbour or a similar location on the Portobello area for this coming Christmas.

Order: Report to councillor.

6 **Questions to the Chief Executive 13th November 2017**

Order: Noted.

Councillor Paddy McCartan

Chairperson

Monday 13 November 2017

Attendance:

Members:

Paddy McCartan
(Chairperson)
Chris Andrews
Anne Feeney
Frank Kennedy
Claire O'Connor

Members:

Kieran Binchy
Mannix Flynn
Dermot Lacey
Paddy Smyth
Michael Mullooly

Members:

Claire Byrne
Mary Freehill
Ruairi McGinley
Sonya Stapleton

Officers

Mark Ginnetty
Paul McCann
Michael Noonan
Brian Kirk
Declan Wallace

Brian Hanney
Rose Kenny
Les Moore
Fidelma Fahey

Leah Johnston
Fiona O'Brien
Jennifer Wall
Eileen Martin

Apologies:

Non-Members:

Q1. Councillor Ruairí McGinley

To ask manager to reinstate park bench at *details supplied.

Reply:

This area has now been cleared and will be reinstated shortly.

Q2. Councillor Ruairí McGinley

To ask the manager when footpath renewal on Upper Rathmines Road is scheduled.

Reply:

Upper Rathmines Road is not on our planned footpath renewal works. It will be logged in our Asset Management System for local repair works to be carried out.

Q3. Councillor Ruairí McGinley

To ask the manager to carry out following work *details supplied.

Reply:

1. Material in behind railings could not be identified at any place along this lane.
2. There was no skip in the laneway on the day of inspection.
3. The abandoned car referred to was not in the laneway at time of inspection.
4. If the councillor could specify the exact building, the matter will be investigated.

Q4. Councillor Dermot Lacey

To ask the manager if she will, in recognition of the great work of the Donnybrook Residents' Association at this location, arrange for the large tree overreaching onto and over the footpath from the Dublin City Council owned garden to the side of 29 Home Villas, to be seriously pruned and to arrange for the weathered but of heritage value road sign post for Auburn Road attached to the railings under that same tree to be repainted in the traditional style.

Reply:

Road Maintenance Services Division is not in a position to repair existing nameplate but can arrange for a new one to replace it.

Arrangements have been made to have the tree pruned back and excess vegetation removed.

Q5. Councillor Paddy Smyth

To ask the manager to request that Dublin Bus return the No. 140 to its original route prior to the Luas Cross City works, so that children from the Rathgar-Rathmines, who attend Loretto, C.U.S. and The Institute of Education can be dropped to a bus stop within safe walking distance to their school as was the case previously.

Reply:

The issue of bus routes and where they are regulated to operate is a matter for the National Transport Authority and not Dublin City Council.

Q6. Councillor Paddy Smyth

Given the serious lack of parking available to residents in Summerville Park, Rathmines, is it possible to have the 29 spaces marked out, to ensure more efficient parking?

Reply:

It is not the council's policy to mark individual spaces in residential parking schemes as to do so is not practicable due to parked cars, would involve increased costs and it is the council's experience that to do so would actually reduce the number of available spaces especially if buffer zones are included. Residential parking zones in the city are marked in accordance with RRM 016 - direction of the Minister for Transport under Section 95 (16) of the Road Traffic Act 1961 (i.e. parallel parking bays with no individual bays).

Q7. Councillor Anne Feeney

To ask the manager, to review the trees and footpaths at Mount Argus Grove, Harold's Cross as they are in a bad state and some residents have fallen on them. (One claim currently being processed by Dublin City Council).

Reply:

The footpaths at this location are logged in our Asset Management System for local repair works to be carried out.

The trees in Mount Argus Grove have been inspected and are in good condition overall. They would not be prioritised for major pruning at the present time.

Q8. Councillor Anne Feeney

To review the granting of parking permits to residents of Terenure Road North to park on Eaton Road as there are insufficient spaces on Eaton Road for residents of the road.

Reply:

There is considerable demand for parking throughout the area with the majority of roads being at or close to full capacity. The inclusion of an additional road on any permit is therefore restricted and tightly controlled by the city council and considered strictly on a case by case basis. Permits issued to residents of Terenure Road North that also include Eaton Road have been issued strictly in accordance with the Dublin City Council Parking Control Bye-Laws, i.e. "the applicant's normal dwelling place is at a building situated on a road which is adjacent to a residential parking permit road and to which the permit will relate and where the parking of vehicles on the applicant's road is significantly restricted by parking controls".

Parking on Terenure Road North is severely restricted due to the presence of a cycle track / bus lane / clearway at certain times during the day with residents prevented from parking during that time. Resident permit holders have therefore been facilitated with resident parking permits that are valid for an adjoining road in addition to Terenure Road North.

There are thirty-nine parking spaces on Eaton Road with thirty-one parking permits in total issued that can be used on the road. This includes six permits issued to residents of adjoining roads that have been facilitated with Eaton Road as a second valid road on their permit with three of those being residents of Terenure Road East.

Q9. Councillor Anne Feeney

To ask the manager to prune the trees at the corner of York Avenue and York Road as they appear to be overhanging into nearby properties and are dangerously top-heavy as autumn approaches.

Reply:

The trees at this location were inspected and noted to be mature lime trees (*Tilia* spp.) in good condition with no damage visible as a result of the recent storm. It is recommended that branches extending into private property will be pruned back. This work will be included as part of our tree works programme and subject to available funding will be undertaken on a priority basis in 2018.

Q10. Councillor Anne Feeney

To ask the manager to consider putting a 'Stop' sign at the junction of Clareville Road with Kenilworth Park.

Reply:

This request 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.

Q11. Councillor Anne Feeney

To ask the manager to arrange for the removal of graffiti from the Protected Studio structure of Sarah Purser (famous portrait artist 1849-1943) on Harcourt Terrace.

Reply:

The graffiti referred to in this case is on private property and is on the side wall of no. 11 Harcourt Terrace, which is actually on Charlemont Place. It is obvious that the owner / occupier painted this wall recently enough and the South East Area Office will contact them in relation to this matter as it is their responsibility as regards removal of this graffiti.

Q12. Councillor Anne Feeney

To ask the manager to arrange for double yellow lines to be placed on Garville Lane, opposite to houses as parked cars are making it very difficult for residents and potentially difficult for emergency service vehicles.

Reply:

The request for double yellow lines on Garville Lane opposite the houses has been referred to the Traffic Advisory Group for examination and report. The councillor will be informed of the recommendation in due course.

Q13. Councillor Dermot Lacey

To ask the manager if she will arrange to have an examination of Williams Place - off Clanbrassil Street to deal with:

1. The dumping of rubbish at the end of Williams Place the corner needs to be blocked off
2. Road needs resurfacing
3. Paths badly need replacing
4. Dublin City Council (DCC) houses need painting and outside wall cracks filled in
5. The street needs to be de-weeded lots of weeds
6. The big tree outside no. 37 needs to be removed just yesterday 2 trees fell they were only 20ft ones
7. No.13 DCC needs to contact the owner as it went on fire
8. The building belonging to the Meath Hospital has holes in the roof. It looks like it is an abandoned building. The boundary wall needs looking at.

Reply:

1. The rubbish will be removed.

2. & 3. The road and footpaths here are not on our planned road resurfacing/footpath renewal works. They will be logged in our Asset Management System for local repair works to be carried out.
4. Housing Maintenance Section engineers will investigate this matter and will take appropriate action if cracks are deemed to be of a structural nature. It is Dublin City Council's policy to paint flat complexes and senior citizen complexes only. The responsibility for the external upkeep and painting of houses lies with the tenant.
5. Waste Management Services had weeds cleared from Williams Place on the 18th October 2017.
6. The Street tree outside House Number 37 is scheduled for removal as part of the winter 2017/18 programme of works.
7. Dublin City Council Dangerous Buildings Section is familiar with this premises at 13 Williams Place South, Dublin 8, having attended to same & re-secured post fire 19/09/2017. Further to routine inspection 18/10/2017, the Dangerous Buildings Inspector noted the premises remains secure & no further action warranted at this time. The Dangerous Buildings Section is seeking title ownership of the premises to serve a **DB1 Notice** & pursue under remit of the **Local Authority Sanitary Services Act 1964**.
8. The Meath Hospital premises, boundary wall & fencing, is currently deemed secure and poses no danger to the general public; no further action warranted at this time. The Dangerous Buildings Inspector for the area will continue to periodically monitor, as is our remit under the above mentioned Act.

Q14. Councillor Paddy Smyth

To ask the manager when Ranelagh Road, or parts thereof, is scheduled to be resurfaced.

Reply:

Ranelagh Road is not on our planned road resurfacing works programme. It will be logged in our Asset Management System for local repair works to be carried out.

Q15. Councillor Dermot Lacey

To ask the manager if the trees in the Arranmore Road, Argyle Road area be investigated for appropriate action especially the trees on Arranmore Road are particularly overgrown. Both the actual branches which are hanging quite low at eye level but also the bases of the trees that have become very untidy.

Reply:

The tree pruning request for Arranmore Road and Argyle Road will be included in our tree pruning programme for the district and will be undertaken after leaf fall, over the coming six to eight weeks.

Q16. Councillor Chris Andrews

That the manager facilitates a presentation for councillors at the next area committee meeting regarding the future development plans in place for the Iveagh Gardens.

Reply:

The South East Area Office will write to the Office of Public Works inviting them to make a presentation, as requested.

Q17. Councillor Chris Andrews

Can *details supplied have his flat completely rewired as I believe it is unsafe electrically and it is a health and safety concern?

Reply:

This matter has been referred to Electric Services for their attention.

Q18. Councillor Chris Andrews

Can the manager arrange to have the pedestrian crossing at Mount Street Bridge and Grand Canal Bridge examined from pedestrian safety as I have had a numerous parents contact me with concerns over the difficulty school children coming from the Pearse Street direction to Haddington Road School in the mornings concerned with the danger the cyclists are presenting at these crossings?

Reply:

A review of the traffic signals timings for both pedestrian crossings will be carried out. Changes to the signal operation will be made if deemed appropriate and in order to provide for the needs of all road users.

This is a wide study area, the South East Area Engineer will review it in due course and any enhancements will be considered after reviewing the route from Pearse Street to Haddington Road.

Q19. Councillor Chris Andrews

Can the manager have the serious leaking into the walls of *details supplied repaired as a matter of urgency?

Reply:

Having inspected this property, it was found that the tenant had blocked the air vents resulting in condensation being present in the property. The tenant was advised of the need for proper ventilation. The local Housing Maintenance Depot has agreed to install vent covers providing the tenant unblocks the air vents.

Q20. Councillor Anne Feeney

To ask the Traffic Department to consider putting a traffic mirror on Lower Kimmage Road facing the junction of Casimir Road and Lower Kimmage Road. Because of legal and illegal parking on Lower Kimmage Road to the right as you exit Casimir Road, drivers and cyclists have a very limited view of oncoming cars at this junction.

Reply:

Dublin City Council does not provide traffic mirrors as they give a distorted view of approaching traffic which is potentially hazardous and also because such mirrors would attract a high degree of vandalism with associated maintenance costs. It is illegal to park within 5 m of a corner and if vehicles are doing so then this is an enforcement issue and is a matter for the Gardaí and Parking Enforcement.

Q21. Councillor Anne Feeney

To ask the manager to carry out a review of the number of parking permits issued to residents of Casimir Road and surrounding areas with a view to allowing a maximum of two permits per house and where linked roads have permits to park on Casimir Road, that the residents of Casimir Road are also given permits to park on adjoining roads. Residents in the area have often been unable to park on their own road due to no parking spots remaining and unable to park on adjoining roads as they don't have permits for them. Dublin City Parking Services are very active in clamping on

these roads as is the case right across Harold's Cross and Terenure residential roads.

Reply:

The Dublin City Council Parking Control Bye-Laws regulate with regard to all Pay and Display and Permit Parking Schema and set out entitlement and eligibility to parking permits, including the quota of permits that apply to different dwelling types.

The current bye-laws were made by the elected members in 2014 and set out a change to the quota of permits available to a house, reducing from a quota of three to a quota of two for any new residential parking schemes introduced from that date. Dwellings located in existing schemes retained the previous quota that applied under the previous bye-laws. If the quota was to be reduced for all existing schemes there would be a requirement for a considerable number of residents to surrender their resident parking permits.

There is extremely high demand for parking on all roads in the area and there is no automatic entitlement to inclusion of an additional road on any permit. Nevertheless, the inclusion of an additional road on a permit can be considered by the city council. Applications of this type are considered on a case by case basis taking account of the number of permits already issued for the additional road being sought and the number of parking spaces available on the road.

Q22. Councillor Anne Feeney

To ask the manger *details supplied to request the following information from Dublin Parking Services:

Reply:

- a) Two illegally parked vehicles were clamped on the 2nd October. Due to human error the location of the offence was incorrectly recorded on the ClampIt system.
- b) Both of these have since been refunded in full. There are no circumstances whereby immediate and automatic refund can be authorised as the actions and circumstances that gave rise to the situation must be reviewed by both Dublin Street Parking Services and Dublin City Council.

Q23. Councillor Chris Andrews

Can the manager arrange to fix the guttering at *details supplied, finish the insulation and repair the balcony that is flooding?

Reply:

Contractors have been engaged to replace the guttering and complete the insulation and these should be completed by end of November. An engineer will call to the complex and investigate the balcony flooding and will then make arrangements to have appropriate action taken.

Q24. Councillor Chris Andrews

Can the manager arrange for the leak to the ceiling of *details supplied to be repaired and also a date for the installation of the door which was measured up in October 2016

Reply:

The leak has been repaired at this property. The tenant initially refused the door that was fabricated and offered to her and it was subsequently installed at another property. Another door has been ordered and it should be fitted before mid December.

Q25. Councillor Chris Andrews

Can the manager arrange to have the lamp standard which was recently installed on City Quay close to the seafarers' monument fixed, as it hasn't been working since this lamp standard was erected?

Reply:

These works are being carried out by a public lighting contractor on our behalf. The existing lights are working so there should be no issue with lighting. The old lamp standards cannot be taken down until ESB supplies can be transferred over to the new poles. When ESB supplies are transferred to the new poles, the poles will light. I will ask the contractor to carry out any outstanding works as soon as possible.

Q26. Councillor Chris Andrews

Can the manager arrange to replace a tree that is approximately 90 - 100 feet high and growing no more than 3 metres at the rear of 135 Ringsend Park and its branches overhang 134 and 136 Ringsend Park by 8 - 10 feet. Over the last year and during the recent high winds there has been a noticeable increase in movement and creaking coming from the branches. Residents are extremely worried that if this tree or any part of this tree comes down at any time it could cause serious injury or even death, not to mention a considerable amount of damage and destruction to any of the above properties.

Reply:

The tree in question is a mature Lime tree (*Tilia* sps.) and considered to be in good condition, based on a ground level inspection.

There was no evidence of damaged or broken branches in the crown of the tree resulting from recent storms. This may be due to the good condition of the tree and also to the relatively sheltered location in which it is growing.

The movement of the tree in high winds is a natural protective measure of trees which helps them to strengthen the tree crown and trunk over the life span of the tree. It was observed that there are a number of 'crossing branches' in the tree trunks which would have caused a creaking noise as the tree moved in the wind. However there was no evidence of damage to these branches.

Considering the age, species and location of the tree it is recommended that the height of the tree is reduced by 15 - 20 % and some of the 'crossing branches' be removed or thinned allowing for ease of air flow within the tree crown. The works will also provide an opportunity for a more detailed inspection of the tree crown to take place by an experienced arborist.

This work will be added to our 2018 Tree Works Programme. These works are undertaken on a priority basis over the year subject to available funding.

Leaf litter in the park is currently being collected and this process will continue over the coming weeks until it is all removed or composted in the park.

Q27. Councillor Chris Andrews

Can the manager have the trees blocking the light at *details supplied cut back?

Reply:

Pruning will be carried out at this location to help improve light levels from the street lamps. Work will be carried out over the next four weeks.

Q28. Councillor Chris Andrews

Can the manager have the leaves on and around *details supplied cleared as they are a risk for pensioners out walking.

Reply:

Waste Management Services operates a leaves removal programme during the autumn and winter months. Priority is given to tree-lined streets with heavy pedestrian use and areas particularly prone to flooding. We will ensure that this road is included as often as possible during the course of this programme.

Q29. Councillor Chris Andrews

Can the manager assure residents of Sundrive Park that no gate will be installed into the park through Sundrive Park?

Reply:

Parks and Landscape Services have recommended that an entrance is not installed to Eamonn Ceannt Park from Sundrive Park.

Q30. Councillor Claire O'Connor

That this committee would write to Dublin Bus and ask them to restore the 140 bus route to facilitate children travelling to school.

Pupils attend Loreto Junior School from many parts of the city, north and south and then continue, in the main on to the senior school. In the near vicinity are CUS junior and senior schools and the Institute of Education which caters for pupils of both sexes from 4th year to Leaving Cert. Similarly, pupils at these schools come from all corners of the city.

One of the very suitable bus routes that facilitated attendance at these schools is / was the 140 which travels from Dartry to IKEA via the city centre. Its original route took it along Rathmines Road turning right at the Bleeding Horse pub, and then onto Charlotte Way, Hatch Street and then left onto Earlsfort Terrace and then onto the Green, down Dawson Street and then heading North via Nassau Street and O'Connell street.

Coming south its route was a reverse of the above, save that it followed the one way system of Kildare Street and onto the green and back up Earlsfort Terrace. The stop nearest to the green going into town was at the corner of Earlsfort Terrace and the green and heading south was outside the OPW office on Stephen's Green South. Pupils, when of a suitable age, travelled to school independently on this route, from south and north.

When the works commenced to extend the LUAS green line the route of the 140 was altered and instead of the above it now travels, in both directions along Camden Street, Dame Street and onto O'Connell Street. The nearest point to the green then became the vicinity of the Bleeding Horse pub. To get to the schools listed above this involves crossing a series of very busy streets.

At the time of the alteration of the route Dublin Bus advised that this was a temporary change to facilitate the various works associated with the Luas which seemed very reasonable. However, this has not happened notwithstanding that the LUAS extension trams are now being tested and it is likely that they will go into full passenger service in the run up to Christmas. If the 140 route is to be restored then it seems that decision will have to happen before the service opens to passenger use.

Reply:

The issue of bus routes and where they are regulated to operate is a matter for the National Transport Authority and not Dublin City Council. The National Transport Authority may be contacted at National Transport Authority, Dún Scéine, Harcourt Lane, Dublin 2. D02 WT20, tel.: 879 8300, email: info@nationaltransport.ie

Q31. Councillor Claire O'Connor

Can the manager restore the paid parking on the right hand side just before Gulistan Cottages? This parking was removed for trucks accessing the dump which is closing down now, so the reason has gone for removing those paid parking places.

Reply:

The graffiti in this location is all on private property. Accordingly, it is the responsibility of the owners / occupiers to arrange removal.

Q32. Councillor Claire O'Connor

Can York Road lane be resurfaced?

Reply:

The lane running from York Road to York Avenue, Dublin 6 is not on our planned road resurfacing programme. It will be logged in our Asset Management System for local repair works to be carried out.

Q33. Councillor Claire O'Connor

Can the graffiti at the entrance to Rathmines Park from Rathmines Road Upper be cleaned?

Reply:

Graffiti at this location has been listed for removal.

Q34. Councillor Claire O'Connor

Can outdoor seats or benches or some kind of suitable furniture be made available to the residents of Rathmines Avenue Flats?

Reply:

The Area Housing Manager is currently looking at the feasibility of installing seating and other recreational equipment in this complex with regard to durability, suitability and pricing.

Q35. Councillor Claire O'Connor

Can the trees in Annesley Park be pruned and the footpaths repaired between numbers 3 and 24?

Reply:

The footpath at this location will be logged in our Asset Management System for local repair works to be carried out.

The trees in Annesley Park will be pruned over the coming two to three weeks.

Q36. Councillor Claire O'Connor

Can the manager restore the paid parking on the right hand side just before Gulistan Cottages? This parking was removed for trucks accessing the dump which is closing down now so the reason has gone for removing those paid parking places.

Reply:

The Traffic Advisory Group previously did not recommend reinstatement of the parking at this location on Gulistan Terrace for the following reasons which continue to be relevant;

- Parking spaces were removed and clearways introduced to allow for reasonably safe driving for two-way traffic to and from the Bring centre and to discourage and prevent vehicles mounting the footpath and causing danger to pedestrians as a consequence,
- There is pedestrian access through the Bring Centre from Gulistan Terrace to Rathmines Road Lower which is regularly used by the public, parents, students and school children in the locality,
- There remains a significant number of large vehicles using the Bring Centre, including, Road Sweepers, Grab and Hook Trucks servicing the Bring Centre and General Waste Collectors requiring a safe turning location

Q37. Councillor Claire O'Connor

Can the footpaths on Victoria road be repaired?

Reply:

The footpaths at this location are logged in our Asset Management System for local repair works to be carried out.

Q38. Councillor Claire O'Connor

Does the council propose taking any measures, for example, installing a gate, in respect of the laneway between Centra on Harold's Cross Road and Leinster Place in light of the recent armed robbery in his store?

Also, in respect of the fire at the unused shed beside Leinster Place; can damaged material be cleaned up as a matter of urgency given the roof was made of asbestos material?

Reply:

The laneway adjoining Centra in Harold's Cross leads in to Leinster Place and other residential areas nearby and a public right of way exists over it. The issue of closing off this lane has been raised on various occasions since January 2014 and the support of all local residents and others would be needed to extinguish the public right of way over it. The South East area did consult with local Gardaí when this issue was first raised. The lighting in the laneway was upgraded in 2014. It was also suggested that a "swing gate" at the Harold's Cross end of the laneway be installed. However, our Access Officer recommended against this proposal, because of the narrowness of the lane here, and the fact that such a gate would not be universally accessible in that it would not facilitate people with buggies, wheelchair access, or people with other disabilities. The material referred to beside Leinster Place has been cleaned up.

Q39. Councillor Anne Feeney

To ask the manager to consider removing some of the trees in Mount Drummond Square, Harold's Cross where they have uprooted pavements and consider replacing them with a variety of tree that will not cause these problems into the future.

Reply:

These are young hornbeam trees (*Carpinus* spp.) and it is not considered appropriate to have them removed at this time.

Q40. Councillor Anne Feeney

To ask the manager to ensure enforcement of the 'dogs on leads' rule in Harold's Cross Park at all times as this local park is heavily used by parents with small children and children from the Montessori school nearby and on many occasions dog owners let their dogs loose in it.

Reply:

The manager of the dog pound has been requested to arrange for wardens to patrol the Harold's Cross Park area on a more regular basis. It should be noted that the warden service is limited to three wardens who work

9.00am to 5.00pm	Mon to Fri
9.00 to 3.00 pm	Sat
9.00 to 1.00pm	Sun

Dublin Corporation Bye – Laws make provisions for the control of dogs in certain places. The Bye Laws set out the times during which a dog may be unleashed in a public place. A copy of these Bye laws is available on our website www.dublincity.ie

"A person in charge of a dog in an area specified in the First Schedule to these Bye-Laws [except (a) American Pitbull Terrier, (b) Bull Mastiff , (c) Doberman Pinscher, (d) English Bull Terrier, (e) German Shepherd(Alsatian), (f) Japanese Akita, (g) Japanese Tosa, (h) Rhodesian Ridgeback, (i) Rottweiler, (J) Staffordshire Bull Terrier, and to every dog of the type commonly known as a Ban Dog (or Bandog) and to every other strain or cross of every breed of every type of dog described above] shall keep the dog on sufficiently strong chain or leash, not exceeding two metres in length if a fixed leash, or ten metres if retractable, while in that area, except during the following times when the dog may be unleashed in such areas (but excluding the North Bull Island and any other such area for which a Special Amenity Area Order is made) provided that such dog must still be under the effectual control of the person-in-charge of the dog in accordance with the Control of Dogs Acts, 1986 and 1992:

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

Any -

- (a) park,
- (b) garden,
- (c) open space,
- (d) field,
- (e) stadium,
- (f) seashore,
- (g) other place used for outdoor recreational or sporting activities, which is under the control of the Corporation (Dublin City Council).

Q41. Councillor Dermot Lacey

To ask the manager to arrange for a clean-up of Grantham Street as a matter of urgency and to deal with the various problems detailed in the photographs and email text supplied with this question.

Reply:

Waste Management Services had Grantham Place cleaned on the 31st October 2017. The graffiti referred to in Grantham Place is on private property and as such, the responsibility for removal rests with the individual owners / occupiers.

Q42. Councillor Mannix Flynn

Can the manager erect a bollard at the entrance of Dame Lane West at the George's Street entrance? This laneway is used on a regular basis to park trucks and cars. It is now a dangerous situation with cyclists, pedestrians, cars and business owners competing for a small space. It was agreed recently to put double yellow line at this location but really in order to stop illegal dangerous parking a retractable bollard is what is needed. All of the business area's can be serviced from Dame Street or Georges Street.

Reply:

The area engineer recommended double yellow lines on this location. The implementation of this measure will be carried out by the line marking team in due course.

Introduction of bollards on Dame Lane West at the Georges Street entrance are not recommended as it will extinguish the "right of way" of the business properties in this lane. Also access for emergency vehicles and fire services would be affected.

Q43. Councillor Mannix Flynn

Can the manager issue a report with regards the fixing of the carriage way on Sir John Rogerson's quay, this area and roadway is in a deplorable state and needs resurfacing?

Reply:

Sir John Rogerson Quay is not on our planned road resurfacing works programme. It will be logged in our Asset Management System for local repair works to be carried out.

Q44. Councillor Mannix Flynn

Can the manager have certain trees pruned and removed from these locations: Cathedral View and also Upper Clanbrassil Street on the left hand side (Clanbrassil Street East)? Also, would it be possible for the Parks Department to continue the planting and greening of the separator up Clanbrassil Street along the same lines as the successful planting of Nicholas Street?

Reply:

Parks Services shall arrange to undertake a survey of all roadside trees that are currently under charge in the Cathedral View / Upper Clanbrassil Street area with a view to including any works that are considered necessary in the 2018 Tree Pruning Programme.

It would be desirable to continue the planting in the median along Clanbrassil Street subject to the availability of funding. The proposal will be kept under active consideration.

Q45. Councillor Mannix Flynn

Can the manager install adequate lighting provision at the York Street apartment complex, Mercer Street area at the road junction? This area is extremely dark and dangerous for pedestrians and residents.

Reply:

We have investigated the existing lighting levels here, and whilst there is no requirement for additional lighting, we will consider upgrading the existing lighting on Mercer Street as part of future programme of improvements, subject to finances being available. The light on Pole no.5 Mercer Street Upper is currently not working due to an ESB service fault. A report has been sent to ESB Networks requesting them to have the cable repaired as soon as possible.

Q46. Councillor Mannix Flynn

Can the manager issue a full report as to the workability of the new technology litter bins that are in use in the South East Area? Many have complained that these bins are overflowing and generally unkempt. I spoke with some staff members who informed me that the technology was faulty and wasn't working. That some bins were reading empty when they were full etc. Also, that the actually policy in relation to this move be included in this report.

Reply:

A report on litter bins, technology and policy was recently completed for the Litter Sub Committee of the Environment SPC and this report is attached to this response.

The Solar Compactor Litter Bins in the South East Area have proven successful in terms of the performance of the technology, reduction in levels of servicing requirements and use of the litter bins by members of the public.

The capacity of these bins to overflow is reduced in comparison to traditional bins as the opening may not be used once the bin is full and it is also a closed unit. We are satisfied that the bins are not unkempt and are being serviced as required and maintained to a high standard

There is no issue with the bin technology identifying as full when the unit is not full and there is an on board suite of electronic diagnostics to indicate remotely if any part of the technology is faulty or has failed which is operating successfully with no concerns raised as to the capabilities of the units or the performance of the technology.

The rationale for carrying out a trial of this technology was to assess the effectiveness of the technology in different locations within the city with a variety of servicing needs.

The policy in respect of the continued use of this and other technologies is to provide for more efficient servicing of litter bins and provision of bins in the most appropriate locations with additional capacity provided where it most needed.

Litter Bins, Technology and Policy - Waste Management Division

Introduction

There is currently a stock of approximately 3500 standard litter bins in place in the Dublin City Administrative area. These comprise of 3 styles of litter bin:

- A type predominately situated in the city centre area (600)
- B type located in the suburban areas (2450)
- Cast Iron located in historic city areas. (450)



In addition Dublin City Council has recently installed 110 dog fouling specific litter bins in locations throughout the city identified in conjunction with the area departments at entrances to parks, green areas and areas of high footfall dog walking.

Dublin City Council currently has 48 solar compactor (Big Belly) bins in situ on a trial basis in 3 locations:

- Baggot Street and surrounds
- Sandymount Promenade
- Kilmainham at the historic jail.

Dublin City Council has 9 Big Belly units located in Temple Bar that it owns.

Policy

It is the policy of Dublin City Council to maintain this stock of bins and to ensure that bins are located at the most effective locations to cater for the needs of the city population. The policy is to ensure that bins are located in close proximity to significant litter generators and in areas of high pedestrian footfall.

Significant litter generators and areas of high footfall include:

- Neighbourhood shops
- Schools / Educational Facilities
- Shopping centres
- Leisure areas
- Community centres / Facilities
- Major bus stops / Transport hubs
- Main thoroughfares / Arterial routes
- Car Parks

In order to ensure that bins are located in the most appropriate locations to cater for levels of demand and to ensure that bins are adequately serviced and maintained Dublin City Council is identifying ways of using technology to assist in managing this aspect of the service.

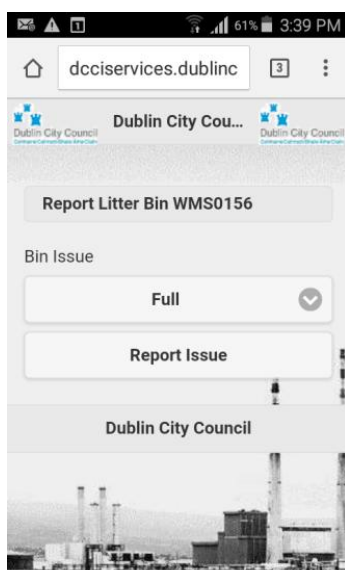
Bin Tagging

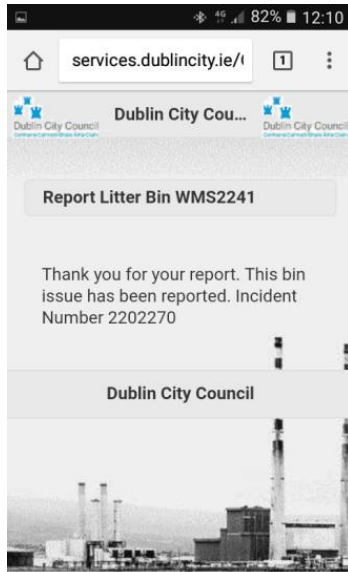
Dublin City Council is currently identifying each of its bins with a unique identifier number and QR code in order to map locations and maintain bin records. This system also allows for the public to scan the QR code and report via a 2 step process any issues that they might encounter.

This initiative allows DCC to better manage its stock of bins and coordinate maintenance and replacement of bin stock and identify through the mapping process areas where bins are not supplied in sufficient quantities or where there may be an oversupply of bins that could be relocated to areas of higher demand.



The QR code technology allows the public to report via a smart phone issues with bins. The report is directly relayed via the Customer Relations Management system to the operations teams allowing for a quick response to issues reported.





Bin Sensors

Complementary to the tagging and mapping process is the introduction of bin sensor technology. Currently in use on a trial basis, to assess the effectiveness of the technology, bin sensors that monitor the fill levels of bins and provide reports when bins require servicing is in place.



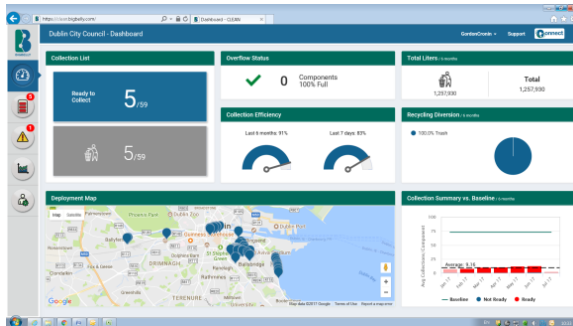
This technology allows DCC to identify high use locations and conversely locations that are low use or rarely used and may be potentially relocated to higher demand locations. It can also be used to map routes and assist in increasing street cleaning over bin emptying on traditional milk round style routes. The technology can be monitored via a web portal and alert systems set up at preset intervals to notify the relevant operations teams of bins that require servicing.

This technology has been used in 40 locations, 20 in Finglas Village and 20 in Drimmagh to date and results have included an overall increase in service efficiency by reducing the number of bin collections required over the period of the trial. The technology is relatively low cost and may be retro fitted to existing bins.

Solar Compactor Bins (Big Belly)



Dublin City Council has carried out a trial of Big Belly bins in a total of 48 locations and currently has 9 units installed in Temple Bar. These bins have the capacity to monitor fill levels and notify at set intervals and on an alert basis where bins require servicing. They also have the additional function of an on board compactor which gives the bin up to 6 times the capacity of a standard bin and consequently further reduces the frequency at which bins require servicing. The telemetry and compactor technology is solar powered. Similarly to the sensor technology alerts and route monitoring may be carried out via a web portal.



The screenshot shows the 'Dublin City Council - Fullness Information' page. It displays a 'Collection List' with 0 items and a table of bin details:

Bin ID	Description
CS-41	Meeting Room - Entrance to National Library of Ireland
89-20	August St. Corner - at Sals-Restaurant
86-21	Robert St. - at Bus Stop 761 - at Dunhills
81-38	at meeting beside the junction of Wellington Rd. & Parkville Rd.
87-10	Established/Original Partnership - Charles Rd. - Ballyhenry

Below the table, it indicates 'Showing 1 of 1 Components'.

The trials have delivered impressive results and Dublin City Council has carried out a competitive tender process to procure this type of bin. It is expected that an initial purchase of this type of bin will be carried out in the near future.

This type of technology is costly and its use is considered to be most beneficial in areas of high demand such as neighbourhood shopping locations or amenity areas which may have seasonal peaks such as Sandymount and Clontarf promenade.

Q47. Councillor Mannix Flynn

Can the manager initiate a full assessment and examination for the placing of a pedestrian crossing from Bishop Street to Kevin Street? Many children and adults use this crossing and it is now extremely dangerous with the high volumes of traffic and also with the opening of the new Garda Station. The immediate area is a location for immense traffic flows and it is very confusing at the moment for motorists and pedestrians.

Reply:

A request for a pedestrian crossing at the above location is listed on the Traffic Advisory Group agenda for examination and report. The councillor will be informed of the recommendation in due course.

Q48. Councillor Mannix Flynn

Can the area manager issue a full report as to how much money is being spent on accommodating homeless individuals within the South East Area? This report to include all monies given to the various service providers, all fees paid to hoteliers, guest houses etc. Also to include all contractual arrangements and all properties that was acquired by the council for homeless services or housing services.

Reply:

The table below sets out the total spent from January 2017 to June 2017 in the South East Area on emergency accommodation services. The DRHE has not acquired properties in the South East Area for homeless services. Under the Capital Assistance Scheme, an application from an Approved Housing Body to acquire 18 units of social housing units in the South East area is currently awaiting approval from the Department of Housing, Planning & Local Government

South East Area	Jan to June 2017
Voluntary Bodies	€ 2,213,333
Private Emergency Accommodation	€ 433,616
Hotels	€ 2,521,914
	€ 5,168,863

Q49. Councillor Paddy McCartan

To ask the manager to indicate what progress has been made in relation to the breach of planning regulations at 31 Lower Leeson Street. The owner was to employ a conservation architect to ensure compliance. Have the necessary works been carried out?

Reply:

The owner has engaged a Conservation Architect and a planning application was to be made in respect of this property. To date the application has not been received. The Planning Enforcement Section is currently reviewing our position on this matter and the councillor will be updated shortly of our intended action.

Q50. Councillor Paddy McCartan

To ask the manager to ensure that graffiti is removed from a utility box on the traffic island at the junction of Nutley Lane and Stillorgan Road, Donnybrook.

Reply:

Graffiti at this location has been listed for removal.

Q51. Councillor Paddy McCartan

To ask the manager to deal with the following issue: When exiting Richelieu Park off Sydney Parade Avenue, Sandymount there is limited visibility to the left. This is due to cars parked tight to the corner on the avenue and since the introduction of parking meters in Richelieu Park. Yellow lines for a short section of Sydney Parade Avenue to enhance visibility on exiting the park could resolve the problem.

Reply:

There is a request for parking prohibitions at the above location listed on the Traffic Advisory Group Agenda for examination and report. The councillor will be informed of the recommendation in due course.

Q52. Councillor Paddy McCartan

To ask the manager for a report from Dublin Street Parking Services on clamping issues at Leahy's Terrace, Sandymount. Residents in the terrace have a parking permit but many have recently been clamped. Parking for residents in this area around the church is generally difficult and regularly impossible. This is primarily because of the daily high usage of the church and the proximity of both Star of the Sea and Saint Mathew's schools.

Local residents are concerned that if there is a parking control regime in the area that residents with parking permits are being targeted. Residents also feel that it is unacceptable and unfair to clamp a car with an up to date residents parking permit on its own street without firstly issuing a notice or warning.

Reply:

From the 1st August 2017 to date there have been eight vehicles clamped on Leahy's Terrace, for a range of offences, e.g. obstructing traffic, on a footway, pay & display area without valid permit, within 5 metres of junction / double yellow lines.

Of these just one was a Resident Permit holder who was clamped for being parked within 5 metres of a junction on a section of double yellow lines. All motorists, including those relying on a Resident Parking Permit when parking, are required to comply with parking controls and park legally at all times.

Q53. Councillor Paddy McCartan

To ask the manager to deal with the issues regarding the pond in Herbert Park. The pond has been more than partially refilled recently. This was done without removing all the rubbish first. There are branches, bricks and bottles, as well as other stinking detritus now submerged in the water. An opportunity for appropriate and judicious pruning of the vegetation on the two islands when the pond was empty all summer was lost. Many residents that frequent the park each day remain aghast and incredulous at the situation.

Reply:

Pruning work was undertaken on the trees, shrubs and vegetation on the two islands when the pond was empty. However as the islands are primarily a support for wildlife due care was taken not to disturb existing habitats and nesting sites which may have resulted in the mistaken conclusion that no work was undertaken.

Mud, debris and excess material was also removed from the base of the pond. However a pond of this age and history will have a natural ecosystem which has

built up over the years. This diversity of plant and animal material is to be found in the water and mud at the bottom of the pond. Therefore in keeping with best practice material has been retained to continue the pond ecosystem and diversity.

As refilling coincided with leaf fall a large amount of leaf litter was removed from the pond in the week prior to the pond being refilled. However as there were still a large number of leaves yet to fall, particularly from the large Chestnut trees planted close to the pond and with the impact of storm Ophelia it was inevitable that some additional debris, mostly leaves and broken branches etc. did fall into the pond during the refilling process. This material will be removed as part of our ongoing pond maintenance over the autumn and winter months.

Filling of the pond has now been completed and will be topped up using a sustainable water source from the R. Dodder with overflow water being returned to the river.

Q54. Councillor Paddy McCartan

To ask the manager to deal with the issue of the pavements on Seafort Avenue, Sandymount. The street has a number of elderly residents including a stroke victim with walking difficulties. The uneven surface is dangerous for them and other residents. Many wheelchair users in the nearby Rehab on Strand road use Seafort Avenue regularly and the pavement is making their commute difficult and potentially dangerous.

Reply:

The footpaths at this location are logged in our Asset Management System for local repair works to be carried out.

Q55. Councillor Paddy McCartan

To ask the manager to deal with the issue of the new traffic layout at the Herbert Park / Morehampton Road intersection. Residents have noticed a huge back up of traffic on Herbert Park backing onto Pembroke Park. The main reason for this delay is that only one car is able to go straight through / left or right on to Morehampton Road at peak times. The traffic lights are red for three minutes and the main issue here is traffic turning right from Herbert Park. A possible restriction on the right turn at the junction between 4pm and 7pm might alleviate the build up. There are also implications for traffic coming down Marlborough Road and turning right into Morehampton Road at peak times. Finally, is it the intention to retain the pedestrian crossing at Donnybrook fair?

Reply:

No changes have recently been made to the signal timings at the junction on Herbert Park / Morehampton Road. The reported delays could be as a result of the construction of the full wrap around pedestrian crossing that is currently being carried out at this site. The Traffic Advisory Group is expecting that the job will be finished by the 2nd week of December 2017.

The pedestrian crossing at Donnybrook Fair will be retained.

The area engineer and the traffic officer (ITS) will review the traffic signal timings when the works are completed

Q56. Councillor Frank Kennedy

In light of the wholly unsatisfactory state of traffic arrangements and flow on Belmont Avenue, Dublin 4, as well as the severe risk of injury to pedestrians and cyclists

arising from the status quo, to ask the manager to conduct a full survey of this road and to implement a solution as a matter of urgency.

Reply:

The area engineer will assess Belmont Avenue on Tuesday 21st of November at school drop off time 8:00am to 9:00 am, and recommendations will be made in order to protect pedestrians and cyclists.

Q57. Councillor Frank Kennedy

To ask the manager to renew / repaint the "No Cycling" signs on the paths just inside the gates of Herbert Park.

Reply:

The 'no cycling' signs on the park paths will be repainted over the coming weeks.

Q58. Councillor Frank Kennedy

To ask the manager to renew / repaint the control of dogs signs inside the gates of Herbert Park.

Reply:

The signs inside the gates and on the paths at Herbert Park were repainted last week

Q59. Councillor Frank Kennedy

Ramleh Villas is a row of 20 semi-detached houses on Milltown Road. The only Ramleh Villas name sign is on the house wall of no. 20 which is beside the shops. The resident of *details supplied is a senior citizen and her home is the last house before the turn into Ramleh Park. She needs helpers but said several of them have trouble locating her house as it is so badly signposted. To ask the manager to put a Ramleh Villas sign on her house (which would be well visible as there are no trees nearby) or on her gate, which she would happily consent to?

Reply:

This will be included in our next nameplate erection contract.

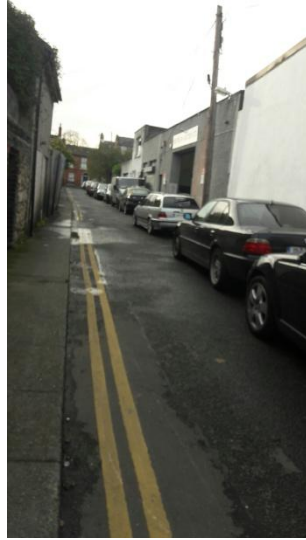
Q60. Councillor Frank Kennedy

To ask the manager to conduct a traffic survey in consultation with local residents on Avenue Road, Portobello and to consider the installation of at certain suitable locations of yellow lines, if considered to be appropriate.

Reply:

The Area Traffic Engineer carried out a site inspection on the 7th November – please see photos below;

Date of the site inspection 7-11-17 Time: 9.00am
Current situation at Avenue Road Portobello:



Cars parking on one side of the road



The engineer noted that vehicles cannot pass through due to the insufficient width of the road. Standards require a minimum carriageway width of 4.6m in order to

accommodate single sided parking while maintaining traffic flow. The width of the carriageway at Avenue Road is 3.8m. It is therefore recommended that double yellow lines be installed on both side of the road, to improve the traffic flow along Avenue Road and to prioritise access of emergency vehicles and fire brigade. The relevant statutory order will therefore be prepared.

Q61. Councillor Frank Kennedy

To ask the manager for a report on the Office of Public Works (OPW) plan to build a science museum in the Iveagh Gardens in circumstances where the Iveagh Gardens are a protected structure and were given to the state under the condition that they remain intact as a lung for the city, to include, in particular, consideration of the viability of the museum itself.

Reply:

The councillor's question has been referred to the Office of Public Works.

Dublin City Council granted permission to the Commissioners of Public Works for a development which includes the following: the refurbishment and restoration of the existing north and part of the east wing of the existing National Concert Hall (NCH) and the Real Tennis building; the construction of a new four storey over basement extension with a planetarium dome to the west of the north wing at the boundary of the Iveagh Gardens and the change of use from the former University College Dublin (UCD) School of Civil Engineering to the National Children's Science Centre. The planning reference is 2362/16. The decision was the subject of a third party appeal by the Irish Real Tennis Association. An Bord Pleanála granted permission for the development on 14th September 2016. As part of the permitted development a section of the boundary wall along the Iveagh Gardens is to be demolished, allowing for a new access ramp and steps into the Iveagh Gardens and connecting the Iveagh Gardens to the new 4 storey building and the National Children's Science Centre. Both the NCH and the Iveagh Gardens are under the control of the Office of Public Works

An Bord Pleanála considered the issue of the demolition of a section of the boundary wall between the NCH / UCD site. It observed that the Iveagh Gardens were the original pleasure grounds of the 1865 Dublin Exhibition, whose Great Hall is now the auditorium of the NCH. It noted that the buildings and gardens were integrated for the 1865 Exhibition and were only separated in 1882 following the acquisition of the buildings by the government to house the university and the gardens by Edward Cecil Guinness.

It concluded that the demolition of a section of the boundary wall between the NCH / UCD site and the Iveagh Gardens and the creation of a plaza to connect the two sites was acceptable, having regard to the historical context outlined above which describes the two sites as originally being interconnected.

It is also important to note that the following objectives in the Development Plan are of relevance:

"15.1.1.21 - SDRA 18 National Concert Hall Quarter

- *Consolidate and further enhance the cultural significance of the area, including facilitating significant improvements to the National Concert Hall, **the development of the exploration station by the Irish Children's Museum and increased accessibility and linkages with the Iveagh Gardens**, in order to establish the area as a key cultural attraction in the city centre.*

*To create significant improvements to the public realm throughout the character area through economic development and investment, creating lively streets and passive surveillance, contributing to a vibrant and attractive urban area. **Development in the National Concert Hall quarter should create pedestrian linkages through the Iveagh Gardens to the National Concert Hall, and the development of a high quality public space on Hatch Street Upper to signal a new public entrance to Iveagh Gardens from Hatch Street.***

Q62. Councillor Frank Kennedy

To ask the manager to provide a full report on the following complaint *details supplied.

Reply:

This is currently logged in our Asset Management System for action when a crew becomes available.

Q63. Councillor Frank Kennedy

To ask the manager for a report on the position as it stands in respect of applications for the affordable housing scheme which will arise on foot of the residential development at the Poolbeg West Strategic Development Zone (SDZ).

Reply:

Dublin City Council has requested the Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government, to bring forward legislation for the provision of affordable housing. The Housing & Community Department propose to bring an Affordable Housing Scheme to the city council for approval as soon as the legislation is in place.

Dublin City Council, at its meeting on 2nd October 2017, decided by resolution to make the Poolbeg West Planning Scheme. Text contained in Section 3.5 of the Scheme states that:

‘Of the 3,500 new homes permissible on the site under this Planning Scheme, 900 will be delivered as either social and/or affordable units including units for senior citizens. A minimum of 350 (10%) will be delivered as social housing in accordance with the provisions of Part V of the Planning and Development Act 2000, (as amended). In addition, given public investment in enabling infrastructure for the area and in order to ensure a proper and sustainable tenure mix, a commercial agreement with confirmed funding will be entered into, prior to commencement of development, between Dublin City Council, the Department of Housing, Planning, Community and Local Government and the owners/developers of the residential element of the overall SDZ area which will ensure the delivery of the balance of the social/affordable homes’

Following the approval of the Planning Scheme by the elected members there was a four week appeal period during which any person(s) who made submissions or observations in relation to the Draft Planning Scheme, could appeal the decision of the planning authority to An Bord Pleanála. A number of appeals have now been lodged with An Bord Pleanála.

Following the consideration of the appeals An Bord Pleanála may approve, with or without any modifications, or refuse to approve the making of the planning scheme. An Bord Pleanála has stated that the case is due to be decided by 21 February 2018. It should be noted that the decision date is subject to change.

Following the decision of An Bord Pleanála, should the scheme be approved (subject to possible modifications) planning applications will be assessed in accordance with

the planning scheme as approved by the board. In relation to the position as it stands, i.e., for planning applications submitted in advance of the board's decision, these will be assessed with regard to the existing Part V requirements i.e. for 10% social housing.

Q64. Councillor Frank Kennedy

To ask the manager to address the two issues raised in the correspondence below with regard to Ringsend Park:

"I am writing to you on two matters that are causing anxiety among my family, neighbours and the old aged pensioners that are living in Ringsend Park...

*Firstly, I am writing to you to highlight my concern relating to a tree that is approximately 90-100 foot high and growing. This tree is located no more than 3 metres at the rear of *details supplied 1. I am also contacting you on behalf of my neighbours *details supplied 2. Collectively, we have sought advice and it has been directed that we bring your attention to this particular tree because of its close proximity to our houses and the fact that its branches overhang our properties by 8 - 10 feet. Over the last year and during the recent high winds there has been a noticeable increase in movement and creaking coming from the branches. We are extremely worried that if this tree or any part of this tree comes down at any time it could cause serious injury or even death, not to mention a considerable amount of damage and destruction to any of the above properties.*

*Recently, hurricane Ophelia brought down a number of trees in the park, these trees would have been considered healthy and not in danger of falling over whilst sustaining high winds, so it is not beyond the realm of possibility that this could happen to the tree at the back of our properties. In addition to this, over the years a number of trees behind the tennis courts that are smaller and further away from properties have been removed at the request of residents. In order to avoid a tragedy that Dublin City Council would be held accountable for, the residents of *details supplied 1 and 2 would ask that you give this matter your utmost immediate attention and remove any trees that are overhanging the above properties at your earliest convenience for the safety of our properties and the people that reside in them.*

Secondly, there has been a noticeable reduction of unsociable behaviour in Ringsend Park in the recent year, and this has been due to active response from the Guards and positive interaction between the neighbours and Superintendent Delmar. However, recently there has been a rise on the front of anti-social behaviour; in particular lighting fires to trees and leaves. I would be very grateful if you could reduce this threat by regularly removing the dead leaves that are piling up due to the dense amount of trees directly behind our houses."

Reply:

The tree in question is a mature Lime tree (*Tilia* sps.) and considered to be in good condition, based on a ground level inspection.

There was no evidence of damaged or broken branches in the crown of the tree resulting from recent storms. This may be due to the good condition of the tree and also to the relatively sheltered location in which it is growing.

The movement of the tree in high winds is a natural protective measure of trees which helps them to strengthen the tree crown and trunk over the life span of the tree. It was observed that there are a number of 'crossing branches' in the tree trunks

which would have caused a creaking noise as the tree moved in the wind. However, there was no evidence of damage to these branches.

Considering the age, species and location of the tree it is recommended that the height of the tree is reduced by 15 - 20% and some of the 'crossing branches' be removed or thinned allowing for ease of air flow within the tree crown. The works will also provide an opportunity for a more detailed inspection of the tree crown to take place by an experienced arborist and we can also deal with any dangerous overhanging.

This work will be added to our 2018 Tree Works Programme. These works are undertaken on a priority basis over the year, subject to available funding.

Leaf litter in the park is currently being collected and this process will continue over the coming weeks until it is all removed or composted in the park.

Q65. Councillor Frank Kennedy

To ask the manager to consider the implementation on a trial basis of 3D zebra crosswalks to slow down speeding cars as has been done successfully in Iceland. An example of the proposal is visible at this link:

<https://www.boredpanda.com/3d-pedestrian-crossing-island/>

Reply:

Dublin City Council does not recommend zebra crossings as they are generally not effective at changing driver behaviour and may provide a false sense of safety to pedestrians. A pedestrian does not have the right-of-way until they actually step onto a zebra crossing.

The Area Traffic Engineer has confirmed that the possible use of 3D Zebra Crossings would need to be validated by the Department of Transport, Tourism and Sport.

Q66. Councillor Frank Kennedy

To ask the manager to ensure that a response is sent to the below exchange of email correspondence (details supplied).

Reply:

The request for a disabled parking bay at the above address will be referred to the Traffic Advisory Group for examination and report on the basis of the confirmation from the resident, as set out in the email exchange above, that there is no off-street parking at the address. It is expected that a report will be submitted to the Traffic Advisory Group at its meeting of 28th November 2017.

Q67. Councillor Claire Byrne

To ask the area manager what is the situation with all the vacant properties on Chatham Street and what plans are in place to address these vacant buildings. This is a core street off one of the busiest streets in the city and it is criminal to see it virtually vacant.

Reply:

A visual inspection was undertaken of this street on 2nd November 2017. It was noted at that time that there were possibly two vacant commercial units on the street, and possibly one unit that had vacancy at upper floor levels. There was also a section of the street, known as Chatham Court, which appears to be under construction (under reg. ref. 4436/16). At the time of the site visit the remaining units on this street were actively in use.

Q68. Councillor Claire Byrne

To ask the area manager to please increase the frequency of street cleaning on Synge Street, Grantham Street, and Grantham Place, Portobello as a matter of urgency as these streets are experiencing an increase in litter due to night time activity on neighbouring Camden Street.

Reply:

Waste Management Services have the above mentioned streets cleaned on a weekly basis. However, we have this area monitored on a regular basis and have extra cleaning carried out there when necessary to do so.

Q69. Councillor Claire Byrne

To ask the area manager how many 'Environmental Area Signs' were originally put up on the Portobello area, how many remain, is Portobello still designated as such an area and if so could she please reinstate those signs that have been removed.

Reply:

Clarification has been sought from the councillor. The matter will be further investigated on receipt of same.

Q70. Councillor Claire Byrne

To ask the area manager if she could please prune the trees on McMahon Street, Portobello as a matter of urgency.

Reply:

Two of the four cherry trees on McMahon Street require minor pruning. The work is not considered urgent and accordingly has been listed for pruning over the coming weeks.

Q71. Councillor Claire Byrne

To ask the area manager if she can please provide further street lighting on Lombard Street West, Desmond Street and Emorville Avenue and to ask that these streets be prioritised for early 2018.

Reply:

There is no Public Lighting improvement Programme intended for the above at the moment. However, we will investigate the existing lighting and any necessary improvements will be added to a list for inclusion in a future public lighting programme of improvements, subject to finances being made available. We will continue to carry out routine maintenance works on the existing lights and will replace existing lamps as required.

Q72. Councillor Claire Byrne

To ask the area manager which streets in the South East Area have been identified for the roll out of the public lighting LED replacement scheme, if she can please provide a list of streets and a timeline for the roll out on these streets.

Reply:

We are currently replacing all SOX (yellow) lanterns in the South East Area. All SON (golden white) lanterns and heritage columns are not included in this replacement programme. Public Lighting engineers aim to complete their individual LED replacement targets by the end of the year. We will then review any outstanding streets and a possible timeline for the roll out on these streets.

Q73. Councillor Claire Byrne

To ask the area manager can she please investigate the following concerns made by neighbouring residents of details supplied:

Reply:

The Air Quality Monitoring and Noise Control Unit will carry out an investigation of this matter under the Air Pollution Act 1987 in terms of the potential nuisance factor as a result of an emission. To that end, it is requested that the contact details for the complainants be forwarded to the unit so that the investigation can commence.

The gas installation is the responsibility of Bord Gáis (Gas Networks Ireland) to ensure the installation is compliant with the appropriate standards and they are best placed to resolve this matter.