

Question to the Chief Executive

**South East Area Committee
Meeting 9th July 2018**

Q.1 Councillor Ruairí McGinley

To ask the manager to follow up on previous representations regarding homeless people at (details supplied).

Q.2 Councillor Ruairí McGinley

To ask the manager to set out planned footpath improvement works in Rutland Grove, Dublin 12.

Q.3 Councillor Dermot Lacey

To ask the manager if it is correct that a business operating in Dartmouth Square Park attracts up to 150-250 people per week at a cost of €5 per head, yet the council only receives a rent of €25 for the period for use of the park. If she will arrange for the rental fee to more accurately reflect that usage and indeed any rates that should in fairness be applied to the property given the commercial nature of its use.

Q.4 Councillor Chris Andrews

To ask the manager to examine the possibility of laying double yellow lines at the corners of the Priory Road Green? This area experiences a lot of congestion and poses a serious danger to pedestrians as a result of vehicles parking on the corners.

Q.5 Councillor Mary Freehill

To ask the manager that the footpaths in Wesley Road, Rathgar be placed on the list for urgent conservation work. The state of the footpaths is particularly bad outside no. 24, but the whole road needs to be done.

Q.6 Councillor Chris Andrews

Pearse House:

Flood lights in complex not working.

Lights on balconies and stairwells - most not working, some come on intermittent, not ones on timers.

Blocks D and F - in complete darkness.

Blocks A and B - top floors not working at all.

Arches K and S - no lights at all.

Will the manager consider an over haul of the fittings, as the bulbs are being changed but stop working in a couple of days?

Q.7 Councillor Chris Andrews

On bin days for the new apartment complex / new Spar shop and businesses in the area, bins are taken up and put into the parking bays on Hanover Street late at night under the windows of the flats, then they are left in position till the collection arrives the following day. Taking up valuable parking spaces.

Q.8 Councillor Chris Andrews

Re Pearse House:

Bin store areas - no lights in these areas as the flood lights are not working. Fly tipping from people outside the complex.

Q.9 Councillor Chris Andrews

Re Pearse House:

Car park area - surface at blocks K and S is all cracked and broken.

Q.10 Councillor Chris Andrews

Re Pearse House:

Entrance area at C and B block, looking to increase the height of the speed ramps.

Q.11 Councillor Chris Andrews

Road marking / and parking bays on Hanover Street need to be re-painted and maintained.

Q.12 Councillor Chris Andrews

Coach parking on Hanover Street looking to be moved to Erne Street side of the flats.

Q.13 Councillor Chris Andrews

Pearse House:

Large flower pot sections - 2 number. Looking for these to be removed and the play ground to be extended and improved in this area.

Q.14 Councillor Chris Andrews

Pearse House:

Illegal parking in the complex by people with no permits and clampers not doing anything about it, which leaves no parking spaces for residents with permits.

Q.15 Councillor Chris Andrews

Can the manager say how many vacant units are there in Cambridge Court, Beggars Bush, Shelbourne Park, Powerscourt and Verschoyle senior citizens complexes and how many are available to let in each?

Q.16 Councillor Dermot Lacey

To ask the manager if she will have the tree at the junction of Clonskeagh Road / Vergemount and Vergemount Park examined and possibly removed. It is causing an obstruction and lifting the footpaths

Q.17 Councillor Dermot Lacey

Further to previous questions I have submitted can I ask the manager to have the properties at 2-8 Elgin Road, Ballsbridge examined in relation to dereliction and report on what measures can be taken to have them brought up to an acceptable standard and if they can be included on the derelict sites register.

(The "Sold" signs are still up, the gates are chained shut and the buildings are looking very poorly. To the left, number 2 Elgin Road is at least inhabited, though it too looks in poor condition. But worryingly, number 8, the right, is now empty and shut.)

Q.18 Councillor Paddy McCartan

To ask the manager to deal with the following issue from a resident in Pearse Square:

Is there any way the neglect of Pearse Square can be raised with Dublin City Council. The park has not been in such poor condition since it was built. Ironically even at the depths of the recession the park still seen regular maintenance but in the last 6 months it has really fallen into disrepair. I believe it is under the control of the same park division who maintains Merrion Square which has seen huge investment in the last 6 months not sure if the little resource that previously did maintenance in the park has been redirected elsewhere. Considering this is the only park in the Pearse Street and Grand Canal Dock area it is really surprising that it has been

allowed deteriorate like this. It really is a unique public space that serves the whole community. Unfortunately when public spaces like this are somewhat neglected then it can encourage anti-social behaviour which is best nipped in the bud. The residents are out this Sunday 11am for a big clean up but there is only so much local residents can achieve.

Q.19 Councillor Paddy McCartan

To ask the manager to deal with the following issue raised by a resident in Greenore Terrace:

To have the area around Greenore Terrace Dublin 2 cleaned. The area is not being maintained by Dublin City Council both from the point of view of street cleaning and grass and weeds growing from the paths particularly bad at the local authority housing apartments. In the past the council did a great job in maintaining the area but for some reason we seem to have fallen by the wayside.

Q.20 Councillor Paddy McCartan

To ask the manager to respond to the following email from a local resident from Penrose Street Ringsend:

I am a Dublin city local resident, living on Penrose Street, Ringsend. It is with dismay that I see litter strewn areas around Grand Canal Dock, Barrow Street and South Lotts Road, this despite the best efforts of the local residents committee.

This weekend there was a Tall Ships regatta in the south dock area, and a failure by the council to provision temporary bins on the approach roads, for example, the bin beside Charlotte Quay apartments (across from the Boland's Quay development) was overflowing on Saturday morning and remained the same for the entire long weekend. What kind of example does this demonstrate to tourists and visitors to the local area - is it not too much for the council to provide for temporary bins when activities take place at Grand Canal Dock or could the existing bins be emptied on a more regular basis over weekends?

In addition, the state of Barrow Street and local streets is dirty at best and filthy most of the time. Litter can be found all across Barrow Street, which then gets blown down the local residential side streets. Given the presence of Google's offices (and other tech friendly offices) on this street and the immediate area, could the council provide for more regular cleaning of these streets - it gives an awful impression to locals, non-Irish workers and visitors - particularly when it is a basic council duty to keep the streets clean.

Q.21 Councillor Paddy McCartan

To ask the manager to deal with the following issue raised by a constituent:

Further to my previous contact with you regarding littering on the Shelly Banks, nothing has changed. In fact the situation continues to deteriorate - as the attached photo from today shows.

I sincerely hope that this rubbish can be collected at the earliest opportunity; and that a more effective litter management system can be deployed in the form of more bins in what is a major local community and tourist amenity area.

Q.22 Councillor Paddy McCartan

To ask the manager to deal with the following issue that I raised in January 2018:

Residents have asked for some trees in green areas in Milltown to be pruned by Dublin City Council. Beside Ramleh Close. The height of the trees blocks light to the rear of the houses in Ramleh Park. The other area is Palmerston Grove. They frequently win awards for this area. It would be appreciated if the trees could be pruned.

Reply was that trees would be pruned in January 2018.

Q.23 Councillor Paddy McCartan

To ask the manager to deal with the following issue:

To have the telephone kiosks removed on Sandymount Green. At this stage they serve no useful purpose; they are unsightly and constitute a blot on the environmental landscape of the village green. Currently they are festooned with garish advertising.

Q.24 Councillor Paddy McCartan

To ask the manager to deal with the following issue:

There is a property at 12 Pembroke Road Ballsbridge which is unoccupied and in a derelict condition continuing to deteriorate. Could this property be added to the Derelict Site Register and could I have an update on the property directly opposite number 9 Pembroke Road which is becoming dangerous with pigeons flying in and out a large back window.

Q.25 Councillor Mary Freehill

To ask the manager to have the trees on Church of Ireland lands at Kildare Place / Training College at the Palmerston Court end be examined with a view to having a conservation order put on them.

Q.26 Councillor Dermot Lacey

To ask the manager if Dublin City Council would be interested in acquiring the following *details supplied:

Q.27 Councillor Ruairi McGinley

To ask the manager why no work has been done on Dartmouth Square Park as was indicated for this year and to set the dates when work will be done.

Q.28 Councillor Frank Kennedy

To ask the manager to ensure that the litter bin in the attached photo and all litter bins in the Portobello area are emptied with sufficient frequency to prevent instances of overflow such as that illustrated in the attached photo.

Q.29 Councillor Frank Kennedy

To ask the manager to remove all of the graffiti which has completely taken over the entrance area to Kingsland Park Avenue from the South Circular Road, including the walls on both sides.

Q.30 Councillor Frank Kennedy

To ask the manager, with regard to graffiti in the Portobello area generally, (i) to remove it on Lennox Place, the front of the red brick building of the old Portobello College and on Emor Street and (ii) develop a plan to prevent the proliferation of graffiti in Portobello.

Q.31 Councillor Frank Kennedy

To ask the Manager (i) to provide temporary bins around Grand Canal Dock, Barrow Street and South Lotts Road and (ii) to ensure that the existing bins are emptied more frequently when major events or activities take place at Grand Canal Dock.

Q.32 Councillor Frank Kennedy

To ask the manager to provide for the more regular cleaning of Barrow Street, which is frequently filthy, and the adjacent residential streets, whose residents are the victims of litter from Barrow Street being blown down their streets?

Q.33 Councillor Frank Kennedy

To ask the manager to introduce traffic calming measures in Lad Lane to reduce speed of traffic in the lane as requested by the South Georgian Core Residents' Association in the attached correspondence (details supplied).

Q.34 Councillor Frank Kennedy

In light of the increased number of concerts taking place in the Donnybrook / Ballsbridge area, in particular at Donnybrook Stadium / Energia Park and at the RDS, and the fact that many local residents have been discommoded by the noise levels, to ask the Manager:

- (a) What controls are in place to ensure these performances do not disturb local residents?
- (b) Are officials from Dublin City Council on site to ensure no excessive noise levels?
- (c) What is the maximum permitted decibel level?; and
- (d) Who monitors the decibel levels?

Q.35 Councillor Frank Kennedy

In light of the increased number of concerts taking place in the Donnybrook / Ballsbridge area, to ask the manager:

- (a) Why is there no consultation with local residents as in the case of events at Croke Park?; and
- (b) What consideration if any is being given to the fact that the number of such events, which inconvenience local residents, have been increasing in number annually on an ongoing basis in recent years?

Q.36 Councillor Frank Kennedy

To ask the manager to replace the public toilet at the Ballsbridge end of Anglesea Road.

Q.37 Councillor Frank Kennedy

Following concerns which have been raised by a resident living proximate to the Irishtown House public house, to ask the manager:

- (a) To confirm that the area outside this public house is designated as green space;
- (b) To confirm that there is public right of way over the space;
- (c) To clarify whether the usage of the space in the manner shown in the attached photograph, which appears to be a beer garden, has been licensed or permitted by the council;
- (d) To ask whether the use of loudspeakers outside the public house has been licensed or permitted by the council;
- (e) If the answer to (c) and / or (d) above is no, to ask the council to take the requisite action to prevent any such unlicensed or impermissible activity.

Q.38 Councillor Sonya Stapleton

To ask the manager to install new kitchen countertop in *details supplied; the lady had a flood in her flat which she has repaired herself however her countertop is warped with water and she cannot afford to replace.

Q.39 Councillor Sonya Stapleton

To ask the manager for an update regarding the rat infestation at the back of O'Carroll Villas, Cuffe Street. Please provide dates when pest control put down traps / poison and their location and any other updates. Residents are contacting me daily about this issue and feel nothing is being done. One lady recently contacted me saying she saw three rats outside the door on Sunday night. If this issue is not being monitored correctly the infestation will just get worse.

Q.40 Councillor Sonya Stapleton

To ask the manager to remove tree that appears to be rotting in Cathedral View.

Q.41 Councillor Sonya Stapleton

To ask the manager to assess sacred heart statue in Cathedral View, Dublin 8 and to come up with a plan to clean / paint and make it look nice once again.

Q.42 Councillor Sonya Stapleton

To ask the manager if spot checks are taken in the evening to make sure builders are in compliance with building regulations and that they are keeping to the working times allocated by the council. I have had reports from residents that Rhatigans that are building the Maldron Hotel on New Street have been working until after twelve o'clock at night (photos details supplied).

Q.43 Councillor Sonya Stapleton

To ask the manager when a plan will be implemented for the new playground in Mercer Street flats.

Q.44 Councillor Sonya Stapleton

To ask the manager when O'Carroll Villas flats will be painted and also to indicate if the back balconies will be included in this paint job as they are in very bad condition.

Q.45 Councillor Claire Byrne

To ask the area manager what is the purpose of the new road markings at the junction of Kevin Street, Patrick Street and Dean Street (outside Fallows pub and the new hotel), why does the cycle lane from Kevin Street cease at the lights here and is not included in the new road markings, and are there any plans to extend the cycle lane here.

Q.46 Councillor Claire Byrne

To ask the area manager for an update on the installation of a 'Welcome to Portobello' sign at Portobello Harbour (see photo attached for suggestion).

Q.47 Councillor Claire Byrne

To ask the area manager to arrange a meeting with the Creighton Street residents as a matter of urgency to discuss the proposed public realm changes to the street. Many of the residents are not happy with what is being proposed and a meeting could help to address their concerns.

Q.48 Councillor Claire Byrne

To ask the area manager can she please ensure that the Street Performance Bye-laws are enforced in Temple Bar, in particular in relation to amplification in the areas

close to Crampton Court? The residents are enduring late night amplification frequently and have met with contempt and on one occasion assault when approaching some buskers trying to address the issue. This is unfair on the residents. Can the manager review the quiet zones within Temple Bar?

Q.49 Councillor Claire Byrne

To ask the area manager what methods are used to assess noise levels at concerts at the RDS and Donnybrook / Ervia Stadium. Many local residents have complained that the noise levels at recent concerts in these venues were particularly high, and could be heard as far as Dublin 8. Can the manager confirm whether there have been any breaches of noise level agreements in the licences for events in these venues?

Q.50 Councillor Claire Byrne

To ask the area manager for an update on the plans to redevelop the public toilets at the junction of Kevin Street and New Street.

Q.51 Councillor Claire Byrne

To ask the area manager why the water was turned off at Verschoyle Court and can please turn the water back on as a matter of urgency as the residents can no longer water their own plants and in this heat the plants are dying.

Q.52 Councillor Claire Byrne

To ask the area manager whether sandwich boards promoting businesses are permitted on public streets, if so what is the process by which such a permit can be applied for, and if they are not permitted can she please ensure that the sandwich boards at *details supplied are removed.

Q.53 Councillor Mannix Flynn

Can the area manager initiate the segregation of cyclists and pedestrians at the crossing point on Leeson Street Bridge which leads into Harcourt Terrace? This section of the canal is extremely busy at peak times and as the cyclists come across the canal bridge to go towards Portobello they mingle with the pedestrians on a very narrow stretch of the lock. There needs to be a clear demarcation line here in order to avoid congestion and the possibility of an accident.

Q.54 Councillor Mannix Flynn

Can the area manager ensure that all councillors in the area are informed at least a couple of weeks in advance where bicycle parking stands are to be installed? Can the area manager supply a present location map in relation to future installment of bicycle parking stands?

Q.55 Councillor Mannix Flynn

Can the manager issue an update of the planned works for the reinstatement of broken and damaged footpaths within the South East Area with particular emphasis on Wicklow Street, Suffolk Street and the city centre? Many of the paths here are so badly damaged that people are tripping and falling on a daily basis. It is not over a year since I reported Suffolk Street and nothing has happened. It's over 6 months since I reported Harcourt Street and despite being told it was going to be done immediately nothing has happened and pedestrians continue to slip and fall at these locations.

Q.56 Councillor Mannix Flynn

Can the manager issue a full report regarding the ongoing issues of anti-social behaviour in Glovers Court? This report to include the effectiveness of the new

CCTV cameras that were installed. The recent discovery of illegal drugs within the area and what plans estate management have to allay residents' fears with regards secure access to stairwells.

Q.57 Councillor Mannix Flynn

Can the manager initiate the process for the reinstatement of the residents' community group and residents' committee at Smock Alley Apartments? At a number of recent meetings residents expressed desires for the formation of a residents committee / association. There are many issues within the area. There will be a new build within the area of residents' apartments. There will be new precinct improvements in the area and also there are the ongoing issues of anti-social behaviour within the area. It is now time to form a residents' / tenants' committee.

Q.58 Councillor Mannix Flynn

Can the area manager assist with the ongoing issues that are negatively impacting on the residents of Creighton Street? This has been an ongoing issue for quite some time. I would ask that the manager issue a report that can be given to the residents with regards to what efforts Dublin City Council has made to alleviate the ongoing situation regarding development and building and the impact this has had on this small community.

Q.59 Councillor Mannix Flynn

Can the manager address the issues of dangerous parking by buses, coaches and other vehicles on a regular basis outside of City Hall at Castle Street? It is almost impossible on occasion to cross the road here without putting oneself in extreme danger. With the summer months now in full swing this area can be a traffic chaos for many hours during the day. This is a main entrance street and roadway that is busy with traffic. It is a main pedestrian area and tourist area and entrance to Dublin Castle and City Hall.

Q.60 Councillor Mannix Flynn

Can the area manager issue a full report with regards to what 'dishing' of footpaths has taken place in the South East Area for wheelchair users? Also, what initiatives has the city recently rolled out to promote wheelchair use, mobility and accessibility within our city? The city centre is almost impassable with the amount of tourists, walking tours, sandwich boards, street furniture and broken pavements, cars and vans parking on footpaths for wheelchair users and those with various disabilities. It is almost impossible for elderly and those with disabilities to get around the city. There is an absolute lack of awareness and a general disregard for the many among us senior citizens included who have difficulties with mobility.

Q.61 Councillor Mannix Flynn

Can the area manager ensure that all private companies that are carrying out either road works or footpath works on behalf of Dublin City Council (DCC) or on behalf of private firms are properly signed as to who they are and that their permits for these public private works are onsite at all times for inspection by any member of the public?

And that all health and safety standards and conditions are adhered to like hazard warning lights and early warning lights and proper signage. Many constituents have phoned in and are particularly complaining with regards the attitude of the Rhatigan construction company and the Maldron Hotel group at Kevin Street. They are not the only offenders. The Maldron group along the canal at Portobello. I attach a number

of photographs of road opening works on Cuffe Street recently which caused great concern to the local residents and road users.

Q.62 Councillor Patrick Costello

To ask the manager to have the trees trimmed on Charlemont Mall, particular the parts that are now causing an obstruction along the canal cycle path.

Q.63 Councillor Patrick Costello

To ask the manager to provide details of gardening and maintenance work carried out in Dartmouth Square.