



MINUTES OF THE SOUTH EAST AREA COMMITTEE MEETING

HELD ON MONDAY 10 SEPTEMBER 2018

- 1 **Presentation on the Fitzwilliam Cycle Route**
Order: Noted.
- 2 **Presentation on George's Dock Whitewater Course and Briefing Document**
Order: Noted.
- 3 **Minutes of the South East Area Committee meeting held on 9th July 2018**
Order: Agreed.
- 4 **Environment & Traffic Department Matters.**
 - i. Report on Sandymount Green Proposal.
Order Noted.
 - ii. Traffic Advisory Group minutes of meeting held on 28th August 2018.
Order: Noted.
- 5 **Planning & Property Development Department Matters**
 - i. Report on proposed disposal of fee simple 19 - 24 St. Andrew's Street, Dublin 2 to An Post.
Order: Agreed to recommend to City Council.
 - ii. Report on proposed disposal of fee simple in 7 Wexford Street and rear of 6 Wexford Street, Dublin 2 to Jonstoy Ltd.
Order: Agreed to recommend to City Council.
 - iii. Report on proposed amendment to Harold's Cross Park Tearoom Licence.
Order: Agreed to recommend to City Council.
 - iv. Report on proposed surrender and subsequent lease 14, 15 St. Stephen's Green, Dublin 2 to The Little Museum of Dublin and Taxback.
Order: Agreed to recommend to City Council.
- 6 **South East Area Office Matters**
 - i. Update on Community Development, Environmental Services Unit,

Housing Projects & Local Area Improvements and Sports & Recreation Sections.

Order: Noted.

- ii. Report on proposed taking in charge of Purser Gardens.

Order: Agreed to recommend to City Council.

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Motions

Emergency Motion from Councillor Claire O'Connor

That this committee writes to the National Transport Authority to ask them to extend the deadline of the public consultation period for BusConnects. And further that an information session be provided in the evening when those who actually use the buses are free.

Order: Agreed.

Motion 1 from Councillor Paddy McCartan

That the area committee expresses its concern about the possible rerouting of the number one bus and the by-passing of Sandymount village. In that eventuality it would lead to a seriously detrimental effect on the local community in all its aspects.

Order: Agreed. Cllr. Costello abstained.

Motion 2 from Councillor Dermot Lacey

This committee requests that the heritage lamp posts on Sandymount Castle Road, Park and Drive and along Park Avenue, Sandymount be included in the painting works programme.

Order: Report to councillor.

Motion 3 from Councillor Dermot Lacey

This committee requests a report from the manager on the conservation status of old Dublin tramway sheds, yard and houses at Gilford Road, Gilford Cottages, Sandymount and what steps the manager will take to ensure that this unique assembly of these heritage buildings all in the same place are protected into the future.

Order: Report to councillor.

Motion 4 from Councillor Dermot Lacey

This committee requests the manager to clarify the conservation status of the buildings and courtyard at the rear of 3 - 5 Sandymount Green and what steps the manager will take to ensure these are protected into the future.

Order: Report to councillor.

Motion 5 from Councillor Mannix Flynn

That this committee of the south east area (SEA) as a matter of urgency calls on Dublin City Council's traffic department and housing department to install wheelchair parking facilities in all SEA housing estates. To also ensure that these parking facilities are best practice standard, clearly marked and appropriately sized. There are many residents in our housing estates with disabilities, some in wheelchairs etc. At present there is no visible programme for wheelchair parking or designated spots for disability parking in our housing estates or in our senior citizens' complexes.

Order: Agreed.

Motion 6 from Councillor Claire Byrne

That this area committee calls on the area manager to install bike parking facilities on South Anne Street and Suffolk Street. Both of these streets are in need of bike parking as they are heavily used by cyclists but there are insufficient facilities.

Order: Report to councillor.

Motion 7 from Councillor Claire Byrne

That this area committee calls on the area manager to once again seek a solution to the challenges to both cyclists and pedestrians at the junction of the Grand Canal Cycle route and Leeson Street Bridge. Can the manager outline what options have been explored in the past, and why a compulsory purchase order of the building at the junction of Leeson Street Bridge and Adelaide Road cannot be issued?

Order: Report to councillor.

Motion 8 from Councillor Claire Byrne

That this area committee calls on the area manager to find a solution to brown bin facilities for streets in the city that cannot store wheelie bins. There are a number of areas in the city that cannot recycle their domestic food waste, but communal food waste facilities could be considered as an option. Could the manager please provide a report on this?

Order: Report to councillor.

Motion 9 from Councillor Paddy Smyth

This committee requests that as part of the upgrade of the Green Luas line to Metro, the National Transport Authority seek to establish a pedestrian link between Milltown Road and the Cowper Stop.

Order: Agreed.

Motion 10 from Councillor Chris Andrews

That this area committee will write to Waterways Ireland and express our opposition to eviction of a barge resident in Grand Canal dock and urge a real engagement with the boat owner to ensure the minor issues are resolved.

Order: Moved by Cllr. McGinley. Agreed.

Motion 11 from Councillor Dermot Lacey

This committee requests a response from the traffic officials on the very serious issues raised in the email submitted and circulated with this motion regarding the multiplicity and closeness of the new pedestrian crossings on the N11 at RTE and the Teresian School, Donnybrook.

I am rather concerned about the new pedestrian lights inbound to the city just beyond Teresian School. These lights are only a small distance from the new lights at the new RTE entrance on the N11. They have cantilever for better observation.

Based on volumes of traffic in this area I am predicting pedestrian accidents and frustration at these lights. This is because when traffic is busy but moving well on this stretch of road inbound, having just escaped the new lights at the RTE entrance, motorists will jostle for position to get to the bus depot junction. The new pedestrian lights being so close to the RTE lights will be ran when red by motorists who are in a rush and not being observant. Not good for schoolchildren crossing here.

The other issue with the lights is when traffic is at standstill during the morning

rush hour, motorists will not treat the new crossing like a yellow box (don't enter until you have a clear way out). Instead, they will stop on the crossing itself, thereby blocking it when it changes to green for pedestrian, who will then have to negotiate through the stopped vehicles.

This is a reality of driver behaviour. Drivers struggle with the rules of the road and with bad infrastructure also. This pedestrian crossing is bad infrastructure and badly thought out. There is a pedestrian bridge only yards away and a new traffic controlled junction at the RTE new entrance where pedestrians can be accommodated more safely.

I would recommend two features at the new pedestrian lights to help prevent accidents here.

Firstly, a one meter deep yellow box just beyond the stop line and secondly, red flashing reflectors in the ground that run across the first pedestrian line (see good example N11 / Oatlands College). With the amount of money invested recently in this section of road, this is really only pocket money to do this job.

Order: Report to councillor.

Motion 12 from Councillors Mary Freehill and Dermot Lacey

That the Chief Executive Officer establishes a cross department working group of relevant officials to prepare a comprehensive application for the funding of the development of Gulistan Depot, taking into account the uses already agreed by this local area committee to make application under Section B of the Urban Regeneration and Development Fund.

Order: Motion amended to add Sundrive Road Depot and Agreed.

Motion 13 from Councillor Mary Freehill

That this local area committee agrees that it will not support any rezoning in the Harold's Cross area prior to a local area plan being carried out in the area.

Order: Report to councillor.

Motion 14 from Councillor Patrick Costello

That this area committee agrees to write to Irish Water to express concern about the slow speed of reinstatement of roads and footpaths in the area.

Order: Motion withdrawn.

Motion 15 from Councillor Anne Feeney

That this committee calls on the manager to identify specific areas, apart from main roads, that the council will consider collecting leaves from where trees which are outside of private gardens i.e. on pavements or overhanging from local squares / parks and from which a large amount of leaves fall, are collected by the council. It is unreasonable to expect residents to gather and bag significant amounts of leaves from footpaths, when the trees are not on their property and recognizing that some of these residents are elderly and unable to undertake the task.

Order: Report to councillor.

Motion 16 from Councillor Anne Feeney

That this committee calls on the manager to advise what the council are doing in conjunction with the Gardaí to address the continual proliferation of graffiti on businesses, walls, street names, etc. by one or two culprits tagging with 'Evoke' and 'Kenzo' most recently on Upper Rathmines Road and adjoining roads. While some of the graffiti is on private property, not all of it is and regardless of who

owns the property, the council needs to take a lead on addressing it with other relevant authorities and local stakeholders.

Order: Report to councillor.

Motion 17 from Councillor Sonya Stapleton

This committee calls on the manager to have a cage put around bins at Mercer Street flats and to put in place other measure to stop illegal dumping. The residents report illegal dumping is taking place every weekend (see photos attached).

Order: Moved by Cllr. Mannix Flynn. Report to councillor.

Motion 18 from Councillors Patrick Costello and Claire Byrne

That this area committee calls on the manager to make the following changes to tackle litter in the South East Area:

1. Employ more good old-fashioned street sweepers as our numbers of front-line staff are down 20% since 2012.
2. Increase the frequency of litter bin emptying and place the emptying rota on the side of the bin along with a freephone number and email address in case of problems.
3. Encourage litter reporting via the @DubCityCouncil Twitter feed or a new Dublin City Litter Twitter and Facebook account.
4. Reinstate the schedule on the Dublin City Council website that showed whether streets were cleaned daily, weekly or monthly.
5. Require the double bagging of commercial waste in areas prone to seagull attacks.
6. Instruct waste companies to provide smaller bins or caddies to smaller households and older people so that they have an easy-to-use alternative to wheelie bins.
7. Reform our parking regulations working with the Department of Transport so that we can restrict parking on one side of the street on one day a month to allow our street cleaning trucks to make a clean sweep of roadsides.
8. Improve our illegal dumping CCTV so that the batteries are solar charged, and the imagery is sent wirelessly to our offices instead of requiring mobile cranes to insert batteries and download images.
9. Make greater use of CCTV warning signs and blurred image from CCTV to discourage littering.
10. Ensure that the QR codes system on our litter bins is fully operational so that the public can report full or graffitied bins.
11. Distribute two free 'pooper-scooper bags' envelopes and an information leaflet when people apply for or renew their dog license, and increase the amount of bins for dog waste.
12. Better publicise the Dublin City Council Litter hotline 1800 248 348 and email southeast@dublincity.ie and ensure that litter complaints made by email or new media are responded to once tackled.
13. **Order: Report to councillor.**

Motion 19 from Councillor Mary Freehill

The area committee reiterates its commitment to the completion of the Rathgar Village Improvement Plan which includes the creation of the Multi Use Games Area (MUGA) in Herzog Park, re-alignment of the bring centre and perimeter fencing on the park facing car park and Rathgar Park.

Order: Report to councillor.

Motion 20 from Councillor Mary Freehill

Acknowledging the need for an integrated public transport network for the Dublin area and the efforts of NTA to design such a plan. We are concerned that the macro approach only to these schemes in the absence of a community based approach will have a deleterious impact on the life of Dublin's citizens. While an overall scheme for Dublin is needed, it must be considered at a number of different levels that allows for proper consultation with its citizens.

Government needs to approach the movement of people in our city along with planning of the location of industry in a more multi disciplinary integrated way by involving spatial planners and other disciplines; this can be done by giving more powers to regional government.

Therefore, we agree that the government should establish a structure whereby citizens can be both consulted and informed. This can be done by establishing a properly staffed and funded department within the relevant local authorities to liaise with the NTA and communities to address local journey patterns, share research materials and examine possible impacts of proposals. These LA departments should have the co-ordinating power to negotiate with the community and the NTA which would lead to realistic solutions.

The government must acknowledge that unless it is prepared to restore local government democracy and further develop democratic consultative structures, any such proposal like Bus Network or Metro Link will not work.

Order: Agreed.

8 Questions to the Chief Executive 10th September 2018

Order: Noted.

Chairperson
Monday 10 September 2018

Members:

Ruairi McGinley
(Chairperson)
Chris Andrews
Patrick Costello
Mary Freehill
Paddy McCartan
Sonya Stapleton

Members:

Kieran Binchy
Anne Feeney
Frank Kennedy
Claire O'Connor

Members:

Claire Byrne
Mannix Flynn
Dermot Lacey
Paddy Smyth

Officers

Rossana Camargo
Leah Johnston
Eileen Martin
Helen Smirnova
Perry Chitombo
Neil O'Donohue

Mark Ginnetty
Brian Kavanagh
Fiona O'Brien
Paul McCann
Derek Kelly

Brian Hanney
Rose Kenny
Neil O'Donoghue
Chris Manzira
Adrienne Houghton

Apologies:

Non-Dublin City Council:

Joe Seymour AECOM
Philip Lee AECOM

Q.1 Councillor Ruairí McGinley

To ask the manager to have recent cyclist safety issue raised in correspondence below urgently examined.

Every day I cycle to and from work, using the already limited cycling lanes, however a couple of weeks ago on the Sandford Road in Ranelagh, heading in the direction of the city centre, car parking spaces have now been painted over the cycle lane, specifically between Birchalls pub and Cinnamon restaurant, making my daily commute along with hundreds of others increasingly dangerous. We are being forced to veer into traffic to overtake parked cars in our lane, leaving us even more vulnerable than we already are as cyclists.

The Sandford Road was for me the only time in which I benefited from a cycle lane for an extended period of my commute. Now however, following a close call in which a speeding taxi nearly hit me as I had to exit the cycle lane due to a parked car in it, I think it's time I ask my local councillor: what you are doing about this situation?

Do you think it's fair for the most vulnerable road users to have their lane taken over by parked cars making their daily commute increasingly dangerous?

Does a cyclist have to die on that very road for my concern to be taken seriously?

The car parking spaces need to be removed and the cycle lane restored for its intended purpose - bikes only.

This is a matter of urgency to which I hope you will use your position in the community along with I hope a sense of empathy to us cyclists to take on.

Reply:

The Sustainable Transport Unit has a proposal to provide segregated cycle tracks from Clonskeagh Road to the City Centre. The scheme is a primary route in the Greater Dublin Area Cycle Network and it is sponsored by the NTA. It is at the optioneering stage at the moment. The options are looking at the removal of parking and loading on the street where feasible. Where it is not feasible a parking and loading window will be provided.

Q.2 Councillor Ruairí McGinley

To ask the manager to engage with residents on solution to traffic issues at *details supplied. The plan Dublin City Council (DCC) proposed and balloted the residents on is not workable, dominated as it is by double yellow lines. It is a far cry from what was requested and would only exacerbate the already-critical parking situation on the road. We are asking our elected representatives to make representations on our behalf to DCC to get them to engage with us

Reply:

Dublin City Council traffic engineers will engage with representatives of details supplied and a meeting will be arranged.

Q.3 Councillor Dermot Lacey

Can the manager explain why the grass cutting contract for the "Pocket Park" on Ailesbury Gardens, Dublin 4, which saw the area cut several times a year up to 2016, seems to have been discontinued and if she could also provide details of the "Maintenance Programme" referred to in question number 13 to the Chief Executive at the July meeting of the city council.

Reply:

The cutting of the grass verges at this location is provided for in the Area Landscape Maintenance contract. Officials from the Parks Service have recently spoken with the contractor who has given a firm assurance that this work will be carried out per the contract.

Q.4 Councillor Paddy McCartan

To ask the manager to deal with the following issue *details supplied.

Reply:

We have been unable to find the above mentioned cars at the above mentioned locations.

Q.5 Councillor Paddy McCartan

To ask the manager to arrange to have the following road sign replaced. Whilst indicating the direction to the Grafton Street area the arrow is directed towards Ballsbridge. This has proved very frustrating for tourists and motorists alike. In effect sending them in opposite direction to Grafton Street (picture to follow).

Reply:

Please note the image below is the next sign on the “old” Inner Cordon Route and is designed to bring vehicular traffic (not pedestrians) to car parks in and around Grafton Street.



The Inner & Outer Cordons are due to be re-vamped early next year. A tender process will begin in September and is due to be completed by year's end

Q.6 Councillor Paddy McCartan

To ask the manager to respond to the following email received from a constituent regarding a cycle path along the road that begins at Grand Canal Quay and ends at Clanwilliam Terrace, North of Grand Canal Basin. The road is used daily by a large number of cyclists but is unfit for purpose as it is paved with cobblestones. The cobblestones cause unnecessary wear on bikes and tyres and often cyclists cycle on the footpaths to avoid them. I would be grateful if you could find out if there is a plan to review the road surface with a view to installing a useable cycle path. While it looks pretty, it is not appropriate for the purpose for which most people use it - particularly on a wet day.

Reply:

Cobbled streets are considered to be material assets of significant architectural and conservation interests. Consideration will be given to the development of alternative surfaces for cyclists along Grand Canal Quay. There is no timeframe to deliver this project at this time.

Q.7 Councillor Paddy McCartan

To ask the manager to notify Dublin Bus about the incorrect spelling of Eglinton Road on routes serving the Donnybrook area 39a, 46a, 145, etc and also the public intercom system which mispronounced the word of Eglinton Road as Eglington Road.

Reply:

Dublin Bus was notified as requested on 13th August 2018.

Q.8 Councillor Paddy McCartan

To have the telephone kiosk adjacent to the junction of Morehampton Road and Herbert Park Road Donnybrook removed. The two phones serve no useful purpose at this stage and currently one is not working.

Reply:

EIR have the responsibility for the provision and maintenance of pay phones throughout the country. EIR has a programme for removal of derelict or unnecessary pay phone kiosks. The payphone mentioned above has not been identified for removal.

In accordance with the removal criteria set out in *Section 4.1 of Provision of Public Payphones Universal Service: Scope and Designation (ComReg 14/69) July 2014*, Dublin City Council may submit a request to EIR to remove pay phone kiosks. The criterion for requesting Eir to remove a kiosk is usually evidence of antisocial behaviour.

The particular double-kiosk above will be monitored to see if anti-social behaviour is an issue.

Q.9 Councillor Paddy McCartan

To ask the manager to deal with the following issue on Brendan Road Dublin 4. Replacement of kerb / broken curb (health & safety issue) - outside Brendan House Apartments, also tree and tree bases to be pruned on Brendan Road, Dublin 4.

Reply:

As requested, Parks Services will undertake pruning of the street trees located on Brendan Road, Donnybrook. The work has been included in our tree works programme for the area and it is anticipated that it will be completed over the coming weeks.

This footpath has been logged in our Asset Management System for repair to be carried out as soon as possible.

Q.10 Councillor Dermot Lacey

To ask the manager if she can clarify who is responsible for clearing the gullies on the road parallel to Ballsbridge Avenue, Dublin 4, leading to the Sweepstakes Apartments. If it is Dublin City Council, to have the cleared and cleaned as a matter of urgency and if it is the responsibility of the management of the Sweepstakes complex to communicate that to them as soon as possible.

Reply:

The area in question is called Ballsbridge Park is not owned or maintained by Dublin City Council.

Q.11 Councillor Dermot Lacey

To ask the manager if the weeds and dirt at the traffic island at the junction of Ballsbridge Avenue and Merrion Road could be cleared and cleaned and if the dirty rotting carpet that seems to be at the hedge adjacent for years could be removed.

Reply:

Waste Management Services had the above mentioned works carried out in August 2018.

Q.12 Councillor Dermot Lacey

To ask the manager to respond to the issues contained in the email submitted and circulated with this motion regarding the need for better standards by contractors undertaking council works on the public road and footpath.

I'm requesting that you investigate what is described below and insist that contractors working for Dublin City Council (DCC) clean up after carrying out work.

Earlier this year there was extensive water pipe renewal work carried out where I live on Durham Road in Sandymount. Afterwards some sections of double yellow lines were repainted but within a few weeks most had de-bonded to leave a mess of yellow fragments (see photo 13 May).

This week the lines were repainted again but the contractor left the mess from the earlier botched job. I asked one of operatives what about cleaning up the mess but was told DCC do that, that's not our job. The operative didn't seem to know who was he working for (no name on truck) but did concede the lines were for DCC.

I attach photographs of contractor's truck and the mess. I'm sure you'll be able to find out whose truck it is and if they were there on behalf of DCC. In this area we have a very active voluntary tidy towns group doing their best (in cooperation with DCC) to keep area looking smart and clean. Contractors such as these line painters make it difficult to maintain enthusiasm by volunteers to clean up.

Perhaps you'd ensure that all contractors working for DCC clean up their own mess and if they refuse, fine them for littering.

Reply:

The issues raised in the email are being investigated and reply will issue to the councillor in due course.

Q.13 Councillor Mannix Flynn

Can the manager address the issue of the atrocious noise that is impacting on the residents of Bishop Street flats and the surrounding residents at Digges Street etc.? This noise is coming from the building site redevelopment at Bishop Square. The past couple of months have seen out of hours works, sometimes starting very early in the morning and working late into the night, steel fixing and drilling. The residents at Bishop Street have made numerous complaints to no avail. Can Dublin City Council estate management please call to the residents in Bishop Street flats and record their complaints in line with good estate management?

Reply:

The Air Quality Monitoring and Noise Control Unit will investigate the issues concerning noise levels from Bishop Square, Lower Kevin Street, Dublin 2. In order for the investigation to be carried out Councillor Flynn has been requested to provide the names and contact details of the residents affected.

With regard to working hours, a number of exemptions have been granted for same by the Planning Department.

The area housing manager reports that the project estate officer (PEO) for this complex has received no complaints from any of the residents of this complex about noise from any building works impacting on them. If the councillor would forward any contact details for residents that have contacted him in relation to this matter, he will arrange for the PEO to contact these tenants about their issues and liaise with the various sections in Dublin City Council responsible for dealing with these issues.

Q.14 Councillor Mannix Flynn

Can the manager issue a full report with regards the Dubline project? This report to include what monies have been spent to date? What monies are left in the budget? What works programmes are still to be initiated? Overall expenditure to date? List of all meetings that the Dubline team have had since their inception.

Reply:

Dubline Steering Group meetings, attended by Dublin City Council management, take place bi-monthly. The last meeting took place on 18th May, 2018. Meetings between Dublin City Council and Fáilte Ireland take place approximately every six to eight weeks and the last meeting took place on 5th June 2018. The last meeting of the Dubline Partners Group was held on 9th April 2014.

The status and expenditure to date of the Dubline projects is outlined below in Table 1 (Letter of Offer 1 funding - €962,017) and Table 2 (Letter of Offer 2 funding - €1.8m).

TABLE 1

Project	Expenditure	Status
Wayfinding	€14,200.00	Complete
Information Panels	€218,464.66	Complete
High Street Greening	€161,615.18	Complete
Thomas Street Historic Lighting	€240,194.77	Complete
Nicholas Street Median	€56,588.06	Complete
Love the Lanes	€92,587.00	Complete
City Wall Lights	€63,356.40	Complete
Lamp post crest painting	€31,371.40	Complete
Crane Street (survey)	€8,411.97	Complete
Peace Park (survey)	€2,398.50	Complete
Fees	€72,842.35	
Overall budget - €962,017	Total Expenditure €962,030.29	€962,017 recouped

TABLE 2

Project	Budget	Spent to date	Remaining budget
Crane Street	€150,000	€150,000	Nil
Nicholas Street Median	€60,000	€59,947.72	€52.28
High Street Median	€140,000	€108,730.16	€31,269.84
Interpretive Panels	€150,000	€14,735.40	€135,264.60
St. Audeon's Park	€660,000	€530,381.57	€129,618.43
Peace Park	€143,000	€45,808.05	€97,191.95
Castle Street	€272,000	€48,769.50	€223,230.50
Love the Lanes	€100,000	€81,438.85	€18,561.15
Ext. of Wayfinding	€25,000	Nil	€25,000
Art Commission	€100,000	Nil	€100,000
Overall figures	€1.8m	€1,039,811.25	€760,188.75

Q.15 Councillor Mannix Flynn

Can the manager investigate the appalling noise, dust and dirt impact that the development and building site in Chatham Street is having on surrounding businesses and residents? This development at the corner of Chatham Street and Clarendon Street which is a very congested area for pedestrians and also for vehicles, has negatively impacted on the residents and the businesses in this small area. To add to that there is also the Grafton Street Quarter improvements taking place. Having examined this area recently it would appear that the area is atrociously managed, if at all in terms of health and safety and access. The businesses in the area, along with residents are constantly onto me about the impact this is having on the quality of the neighbourhood and indeed on their own welfare. This is an urgent matter as it is resulting in a drastic downturn in the businesses and the footfall of this area.

Reply:

In relation to development site on the corner of Chatham Street and Clarendon Street, the Air Quality Monitoring and Noise Control Unit have not received complaints to date. However, if the complainant's details are passed to this unit an investigation will be initiated.

The improvement works being carried out in the Harry Street / Balfe Street / Chatham Street area, as part of the Grafton Street Quarter Improvement Project are proceeding well and are being well managed. In advance of works, an information circular containing contact details for both the contractor and Dublin City Council, was distributed to local businesses and residents so that any business or resident concerns could be dealt with as necessary on site. The contractor and Dublin City Council staff are liaising with affected businesses and residents on a daily basis as the scheme progresses and there have been no significant issues with access to date. Daily monitoring and review of work practices are carried out by both Dublin City Council staff and the contractor's management staff together with weekly site audits by the contractor's safety officer. Any concerns raised are dealt with immediately.

Q.16 Councillor Mannix Flynn

Can the manager issue a full report as to how many new developments in the South East Area have been successfully connected to the main water and sewage of the city? It would appear that many developments are suffering an undue delay in being connected up for water and also sewage. This is having a follow on impact in delaying the development and has a negative impact on jobs and on communities who have to put up with these delays and indeed these developments for long periods of time. Can the manager include all successful applications for road opening for such connections that have been completed and those that are pending on the list?

Reply:

Further to changes in procedures introduced by Irish Water this year, applicants for main water and sewage connection no longer require Road Opening Licences.

All matters relating to water and wastewater services, including connections by new developments into the Irish Water network, are a matter for Irish Water and all queries in relation to this area should be addressed to Irish Water using their dedicated customer service contact for elected members set out below

Dedicated Direct Line for Councillors 1890 178 178, lines are open from 9am - 5.30pm, Monday - Friday
Email: localrepsupport@water.ie

Q.17 Councillor Mannix Flynn

Can the manager issue a report around the planning bye-laws that govern security shutters on premises as to whether planning permission is needed for shutters that are inside a premises?

Reply:

Planning permission is generally required for the erection of internal shutters behind the glazing on a shop-front. However, in a limited number of cases, the erection of roller shutters may be deemed to be exempt from planning depending on the design and type of shutter to be installed and the design of the shop-front and associated glazing in accordance with Section 4 (1) (h) of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended).

Q.18 Councillor Mannix Flynn

Can the area manager issue a report regarding camper vans parking in certain areas of the city? What laws govern these vans, how long are they allowed stay and park? What legislation and policy we have in place? What facilities do we have for camper vans and overnight or short stay facilities in the south east area city centre?

Reply:

Campervans, being mechanically propelled vehicles, are subject to the regulations set out in the Road Traffic Act and Dublin City Council Parking Control Bye-Laws, including parking time limits where relevant, if parked in paid parking locations or at locations with other parking controls.

The Parking Enforcement Section is unaware of any public facilities for this type of vehicle in the city.

Q.19 Councillor Mannix Flynn

Can the manager examine the wheelchair access situation at Verschoyle Court senior citizen complex? There are a number of residents in this complex who are having difficulty accessing their homes while using their wheelchairs and mobility scooters. There is also an issue in terms of storage for these mobility vehicles. A recent visit to one flat there in my opinion was extremely unsafe with all exits being blocked by a mobility scooter that was in a one roomed apartment.

This is a major health and safety issue and serious fire hazard and needs urgent attention. Dublin City Council needs to consider widening the entrances of the walls outside of the apartments both back and front and making proper ramps for these residents to access their homes safely. I will supply a series of photos on this matter.

Reply:

The project estate officer for the area will liaise with the tenants in the Verschoyle Court regarding the issues raised and investigate if it possible to carry out any required works. He will also investigate the parking on the roads adjacent to the complex and request that the double yellow lines are re-instated.

Q.20 Councillor Mannix Flynn

Can the area manager issue a full report as to how many vacant apartments there are in the south east area that are under the control of approved housing bodies etc.? This report also to include how long these apartments are vacant and their location.

Reply:

Dublin City Council is not aware of any vacancies, other than those occurring through the normal movement of tenancies, in units under the control of Approved Housing Bodies (AHBs). AHBs are obliged to engage with the city council's Allocations Section where the city council has 100% nomination rights to these units. The majority of AHB schemes are now funded through the Capital Advance Leasing Facility which requires all units to be occupied within a 3 month period from handover of units. In cases where this does not occur, payment to the AHB is suspended until such time as the unit is occupied.

Dublin City Council is not aware of any long term vacant units under the control of AHBs. However, if the appropriate information is provided, the Housing Department can examine any case where there is a specific concern around vacant units.

Q.21 Councillor Mannix Flynn

Can the manager issue a full report regarding the recent rat infestation in certain flat complexes within the south east area? This report to include what measures were taken to alleviate the situation. What is the cause of this infestation? What methods are used to control these pests? And what measures have been taken to ensure that this is not going to be happening on a regular basis? These infestations seem to be

taking place while there are open containers of mixed waste in Dublin City Council's flat complexes.

Reply:

This summer, Dublin, like most major cities in Europe, has suffered a rodent infestation. The long spell of very warm weather apparently has increased their breeding. Building works have disturbed nests and the increase of fast food outlets and discarded food waste, together with the fact that many of our complexes are located near to canals / rivers, the natural habitat of rodents, are also contributory factors to the rodent increase. The problem is not particular to the South East Area but is a city wide issue and whilst we will never eradicate it completely, the city council and the Health Services Executive (HSE) work hard to alleviate it.

Both the HSE and the city council have heavily invested in time and resources to treat this ongoing problem. The city council has dedicated teams who work specifically in this area and are highly trained and comply with all relevant standards as required by the Dept. of Agriculture and the Irish Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals.

Working closely with the local area offices, residents and caretakers, our housing complexes are treated on a regular basis and we maximise our efforts by unblocking sewer pipes, filling and sealing holes / gaps, removing debris and meeting and discussing with our tenants their responsibilities in helping to prevent infestations.

Q.22 Councillor Mannix Flynn

Can the manager initiate the process to have an ATM machine placed in the foyer at Civic Offices? Recently all of the electronic payment system i.e. credit card system went down. There was no facility in the building to withdraw cash to pay for instance for services like Planning observations. Individuals couldn't pay their rent and the system could only take cash but there was no cash dispenser. In this day and age it is not appropriate that the customers and clients of Dublin City Council would be left in such position in the future.

Reply:

The electronic payment system at Civic Offices cash office would rarely fail and there are other ATM machines in close proximity to Civic Offices.

An ATM machine at Civic Offices would bring additional security issues to the Civic Offices and for this reason there are no immediate plans to progress this matter.

Q.23 Councillor Claire Byrne

To ask the area manager if there are plans to resurface the following roads, and if not, can she please consider resurfacing them as they are in poor condition:

- Drury Street
- Bride Street
- Arnott Street
- Mount Street Upper and Lower

Reply:

There are no plans to resurface these roads at present. They will put forward for consideration for inclusion in next year's programme.

Q.24 Councillor Claire Byrne

To ask the area manager to please outline what bye laws are in place to govern the long stay parking of camper vans public car parks, and can the manager please investigate the situation in Strasburg Terrace, Irishtown, where long stay parking of camper vans has been a regular occurrence this summer causing some disturbance to the local residents, and can she provide a report on this.

Reply:

Campervans, being mechanically propelled vehicles, are subject to the regulations set out in the Road Traffic Act and Dublin City Council Parking Control Bye-Laws if parked in paid parking locations or in contravention of other parking controls.

There are no parking controls at Strasburg Terrace and no action that can be taken with regard to parking enforcement regulations.

As “temporary dwellings” they may, in certain circumstances, be subject to enforcement and removal under Section 69 of the Roads Act if placed or retained on a national road.

Q.25 Councillor Claire Byrne

To ask the area manager to install signage at College Green indicating that bicycles are allowed to use College Green at all times, even during the bus corridor operational hours.

Reply:

The relevant statutory signage is provided on all approaches to College Green. This clearly indicates what modes of transport can and cannot use College Green and at what times.

The electronic variable message signs have somewhat of a different function. Their primary purpose is to convey information rapidly to car users to inform them they are not permitted to drive through during bus corridor operating hours. In other words the emphasis is on who cannot drive through, rather than who can. To depict ‘who can’ drive through on these electronic signs would be impractical.

Q.26 Councillor Claire Byrne

To ask the area manager can she please confirm whether the cobblestones on Clanwilliam Terrace are original cobblestones, whether there is a conservation order on them, and if there are any plans to extend the Grand Canal cycle route and install a cycle path along Clanwilliam Terrace to facilitate cyclists.

Reply:

The street is not listed in Appendix 7: *Stone Setts to be Retained, Restored or Introduced* in Volume 2 of the Dublin City Development Plan 2016 - 2022. The stone setts appear to be historic in nature but would require a survey to establish their antiquity. The National Inventory of Architectural Heritage for this area has not been published as yet.

Cobbled streets are considered to be material assets of significant architectural and conservation interests. Consideration will be given to the development of alternative surfaces for cyclists along Grand Canal Quay. There is no timeframe set to deliver this project at this time.

Q.27 Councillor Claire Byrne

To ask the area manager can she please investigate the situation on Aungier Street where there is a temporary cover (metal and tarmac) outside the e-cigarette shop - opposite the White Friar Church causing an obstruction on the footpath? The public have to negotiate the uneven surface, a large sandwich board and a bus shelter to get past. Can the manager please report back on this with a solution?

Reply:

This matter will be examined and a reply issued to the councillor.

Q.28 Councillor Claire Byrne

To ask the area manager for an update on the following for Portobello:

- The provision of planters on Lennox Street as a traffic calming measure
- A Christmas celebration event for Portobello Harbour as agreed in September 2017

Reply:

- The area engineer will monitor / examine the street for speeding and traffic volume to see what traffic calming measure is appropriate / viable for Lennox Street.
- The area office will assist with the installation of a living tree in Portobello Harbour if a suitable location could be identified. Our Community Section is also looking at the possibility of a Christmas celebration event for this year. However, no details have been finalised at this time.

Q.29 Councillor Claire Byrne

To ask the area manager if she can please ensure that the following issues on Brendan Road, Donnybrook are addressed as a matter of urgency:

- Replacement of the broken kerb outside Brendan House Apartments
- Pruning of the trees

Reply:

As requested, Parks Services will undertake pruning of the street trees located on Brendan Road, Donnybrook. The work has been included in our tree works programme for the area and it is anticipated that it will be completed over the coming weeks.

This footpath has been logged in our Asset Management System for a repair to be carried out as soon as possible.

Q.30 Councillor Ruairí McGinley

To ask to check and report on the footpath reinstatement along both sides of the road on the Main Street in Rathmines which have and continue to be dug up for what looks like utility works. When a section of the works is completed the quality of the refill / finish looks completely inadequate - original paving not replaced, lumps of asphalt left behind, uneven surfaces etc.

Reply:

The current finish is a temporary reinstatement. The ESB will permanently reinstate the public footway on Rathmines Road when they have completed the works.

Q.31 Councillor Chris Andrews

Can the manager have the bees nest outside the front door of 32E Pearse house treated and removed as this problem has been reported a number of times over a number of weeks and yet still not dealt with and outline why there is such a delay.

Reply:

This issue has now been resolved.

Q.32 Councillor Chris Andrews

Can the manager arrange to have bicycle parking placed close to or in Harold's Cross Cottages and also at the entrance to Harty Place, as the number of bicycles is increasing rapidly and the houses have limited access to storage space?

Reply:

The area engineer will assess if there are suitable locations for cycle facilities within Harold's Cross Cottages and also at entrance to Harty Place. The aim is to remove bicycles being parked to lamp posts and leave the narrow footpaths free for pedestrians.

Q.33 Councillor Chris Andrews

Can the manager examine the crossing at the junction of Grand Canal Street Upper and Grand Canal Street Lower and Clanwilliam Place, as numerous residents who bring children to school in Haddington Road have said there is regular conflict with cyclists who are not adhering to the traffic signalling or else the signalling is not set right to allow safe crossing for parents and children.

Reply:

The area engineer will investigate / monitor Grand Canal Street Upper and Grand Canal Street Lower and Clanwilliam Place where pedestrians and cyclists conflict and see if there are ways of improving the shared space between the crossings and the cycle paths.

Q.34 Councillor Chris Andrews

Can the manager give assurances to residents that the council will write to Gardaí and ask for a plan to be put in place to prevent the mayhem that occurs in the Cabbage patch this Halloween and also that Dublin City Council will be proactive in dealing with issues that arise at Halloween in the Cabbage Patch.

Reply:

Anti-social activity is a matter for An Garda Síochána and the area office will request that a plan is put in place by the Gardaí for the Cabbage Patch for Halloween. The Waste Management Division will also be co-ordinating city council preparations in advance of Halloween to mitigate the environmental impact of bonfires etc. and by removing stockpiles of bonfire material in advance of Halloween.

Parks Services monitor the Cabbage Patch on an ongoing basis during the lead up to Halloween with a view to removing all stored bonfire material.

Q.35 Councillor Chris Andrews

Can the manager arrange to have the tree in Greenore Court cut back from overhanging the neighbours as this was previously agreed to be done but still remains undone and outline why there is such a delay?

Reply:

This work has been completed. The tree was cut back in late August. Our mobile maintenance crew have a substantial work schedule and are particularly busy during the summer period. As this tree did not pose a hazard to the public or to structures it was deemed not to be a priority.

Q.36 Councillor Chris Andrews

The following is an email I received recently in relation to the playground in Ringsend
Can the manager address the issues raised?

The complaints are as follows:

1. Hard plastic trimmings around the facilities which are loose and the children / adults are constantly tripping over.
2. There are also concrete trimmings which are also raised in some areas which are causing the same problem.

On my own inspections I also found that the soft cushion flooring is very thin in areas and in some areas it's has come away and has exposed the ground underneath. I measured the depth of the cushion materials in different areas and the depth ranges from 20mm to 35mm

3. Has this playground been completed to the original design specifications and signed off by DCC?
4. What was the initial depth of soft material installed into the playground?
5. Was the correct thickness installed in this playground which should be determined by the height of the play equipment (climbing Frame height) installed?
6. Is the surfacing compliant with European Standards BS EN1177?
7. The underlay which is under the bark is also coming up and lose in areas and also causing trip hazards, can this also be looked into too.

Reply:

The upgrading of the playground in Ringsend Park was undertaken in September / October 2017. Prior to taking the playground back in charge by Park Services we required the contractor to submit a post installation playground inspection report which was undertaken by an independent playground inspector.

This report was submitted on 17th October and confirmed that the playground upgrading was compliant with international standards for safety surfacing and play equipment installation EN1176 & EN1177.

Over the intervening period the playground is checked daily and also a weekly detailed inspection is undertaken. Any necessary works and repairs are undertaken in a prompt manner. On occasion it is necessary to brush or rake the safety surfacing to ensure it is spread evenly under the equipment and this has been undertaken regularly during this period.

Based on a recent inspection the playground is being maintained to a satisfactory standard. However, should a member of the public have concerns in respect of the standard of maintenance, they should report this to a member of staff or email parks@dublincity.ie

Q.37 Councillor Paddy McCartan

To ask the manager to have weeds and creepers around the stone of the Seamen's Memorial at the entrance to Sean Moore Road removed and the general area tidied up.

Reply:

Waste Management Services had this general area tidied up on the 28th August 2018.

The landscape maintenance on this open space will be undertaken over the coming weeks.

Q.38 Councillor Claire O'Connor

Can the manager confirm at what time it was noted that 'no congestion problems were observed at the junction of Mount Tallant Avenue and Harold's Cross Road'?

Reply:

This matter is being examined by the area engineer and a reply will issue to the councillor in due course.

Q.39 Councillor Claire O'Connor

Could the manager consider putting speed ramps on Castlewood Park in Rathmines? The opening of Fallon & Byrne and the Stella Cinema has had a huge impact on traffic there.

Reply:

The Traffic Advisory Group at its meeting of 24th January, 2017, reported that a speed survey carried out in December 2016 showed that the 85% percentile speed was 46 km/h and speed violations were at less than 5%. The Traffic Advisory Group, therefore, did not recommend traffic calming on Castlewood Park.

An appeal of the above recommendation will be submitted for examination to the next meeting of the Engineering Technical Group on 24th September 2018.

Q.40 Councillor Claire O'Connor

Could Glenayr Road be swept before 8am? Glenayr Road is a non-resident public car park by day, mostly with commuters for getting a bus into town on Bushy Park Road, or else working in Rathgar, so attempting to sweep after 8am weekdays will have limited effect.

Reply:

Waste Management Services had Glenayr Road swept before 8am on the 3rd September 2018. We will endeavour to get to Glenayr Road before 8am when we are cleaning there.

Q.41 Councillor Claire O'Connor

Can the manager give an update in respect of the footpath repairs to Hazelbrook Road and Drive? Has the council proposed a tentative start date for the essential footpath work?

Reply:

These footpaths have been logged in our Asset Management System for repairs to be carried out as soon as possible. We do not have an estimate of start date at present.

Q.42 Councillor Claire O'Connor

Could the following repairs be carried out at *details supplied?

Reply:

1. This leak has been repaired.
2. Arrangements have been made to assess this property, the results of which will determine the course of action required.
3. A technical examination of same will take place in the next 10/15 days and the tenant will be advised of the outcome.
4. The window was inspected and found to be in good working order and requires no repairs.
5. A technical examination of the steps will take place in the next week and if needed, arrangements will be made to have them upgraded.

Q.43 Councillor Patrick Costello

To ask the manager to provide an update on Rathmines Road, the footpaths along both sides of the road on the Main Street in Rathmines have been and continue to be dug up for what looks like utility works. When a section of the works is completed the quality of the refill / finish looks completely inadequate - original paving not replaced, lumps of asphalt left behind, uneven surface. Can the manager confirm if this is just a temporary finish until the works are completed and confirm when the original quality of the footpaths will be restored?

Reply:

The current finish is a temporary reinstatement. The ESB will permanently reinstate the public footway on Rathmines Road when they have completed the works.

Q.44 Councillor Patrick Costello

To ask the manager following the light falling from a lamp standard in Ranelagh village if the problem that led to the accident has been identified and if other similar lamp standards in the area have been checked, or will be checked.

Reply:

We do not know why the light fitting on pole no. 21 fell; this may have been the result of a vehicle tip to the pole. A sample of the remaining light fittings in the area will be inspected next week.

Q.45 Councillor Patrick Costello

To ask the manager when repair of the footpath damaged by trucks turning at the canal bridge at Ranelagh road will be completed?

Reply:

This issue is being examined by the Traffic Division.

Q.46 Councillor Patrick Costello

To ask the manager the number of planning complaints relating to AirBnB style short term lets without proper permission in the south east area, and to provide an outcome for each complaint.

Reply:

The information requested by the councillor will take a lot of time and resources to compile. We will send the information out before the city council meeting in October.

Q.47 Councillor Anne Feeney

To ask the manager why an electric car charging point was installed on *details supplied given the narrowness of the road and the impact on neighbours who already have very restricted parking options.

Reply:

ESB E-cars installed this charging point without reference / consultation with the Environment and Transportation Department.

Q.48 Councillor Anne Feeney

To ask the manager to refresh the double yellow lines between 26 and 28 Rathdown Avenue, Terenure.

Reply:

The location will be inspected in the coming days. Where lines have faded, they will be listed and renewed within 30 working days of the South East Area Committee meeting of 10/09/18.

Q.49 Councillor Anne Feeney

To ask the manager to reverse the decision to put car parking spaces over the cycle lanes between Birchalls Pub and Cinnamon Restaurant in Ranelagh, given the danger it presents for cyclists who have to swerve out into traffic to get around the car parking spaces on this busy cycling and traffic artery into the city.

Reply:

The Sustainable Transport Unit has a proposal to provide segregated cycle tracks from Clonskeagh Road to the City Centre. The scheme is a primary route in the Greater Dublin Area Cycle Network and it is sponsored by the National Transport Authority (NTA). It is at the Optioneering stage at the moment. The options are looking at the removal of parking and loading on the street where feasible. Where it's not feasible a parking and loading window will be provided.

Q.50 Councillor Anne Feeney

To ask the manager to consider installing a zebra crossing / similar at Rutland Grove, given the erratic parking at the entrance to this estate which presents a real safety issue for people trying to cross the road, particularly when there are a number of football matches and other activities taking place in Eamonn Ceannt Park.

Reply:

A request for a pedestrian crossing at the entrance to Rutland Grove will be referred to the Traffic Advisory Group for examination and report. The councillor will be informed of the recommendation in due course.

Q.51 Councillor Anne Feeney

To ask the manager what road and path resurfacing and planned repair work is planned in the Rathgar, Harold's Cross, Mount Argus, Palmerston, Terenure, Rathmines, Ranelagh and Kimmage area for (a) the remainder of 2018 and (b) 2019.

Reply:

Please see below our Planned Works Programme for this year. It is estimated at this time that approximately 75% of these works have been complete. Programme for 2019 has not yet been drafted.

Carriageway resurfacing

Kevin Street

Haddington Road

Highfield Road

Simmonscourt Road

Orwell Park

Milltown Road (Mount St. Anne's to Dundrum Road)

Milltown Road / Churchtown Road junction
Greenmount Lane
Emor Street
Castlewood Park
Rampart Lane

Footpath Reconstruction

Templeogue Road & Terenure Place (no. 40 to Bank of Ireland)
Newgrove Avenue - both sides repairs
Harold's Cross Road - West Side (between Kenilworth Park and Mount Tallant Avenue)
Harold's Cross Road - East Side (between Carlisle Court and No 313 Harold's Cross Road)
Pembroke Cottages, Home Villas and St. Broc's Cottages - repairs
Clareville Road - repairs
Baggot Street Lower - Both sides (between Pembroke Street Lower and Merrion Street Upper)
Merrion Row - both sides

Q.52 Councillor Anne Feeney

To ask the manager to review Rathgar Avenue (section approaching Rathgar Village) from a safety perspective (i.e. proximity of cars to pedestrians), given the very narrow paths and heavy traffic using this busy road.

Reply:

The area engineer will monitor Rathgar Avenue at the approach to Rathgar village. The footpaths will be measured and pedestrians' usage will be observed at peak times.

Q.53 Councillor Anne Feeney

To ask the manager to review the cleaning and waste management schedule for Rathmines and Portobello, which is wholly inadequate given the number of fast food outlets and the business of the area.

Reply:

Waste Management Services will review our cleaning schedule for the Rathmines and Portobello area to see if we can make improvements in the cleaning of this area.

Q.54 Councillor Anne Feeney

To ask the manager to arrange for Parks and Landscapes to address the following issues which are neglected in Bushy Park?

- Replacement of portions of missing handrail leading down steps to the lake from the east end as this is dangerous, particularly for older people and it also looks unsightly.
- To put mulch on footpaths through the woods, instead of in heaps behind trees. The mulch would provide a less slippery surface for those out walking and running and cover over protruding roots which present a trip hazard.
- To tidy up the area around the lake which looks very neglected with weeds along the footpath and edges and overhanging briars and creepers, making it difficult for people to use the seating.
- Perimeter hedge (inside park) has a creeper taking over the hedge and there are a great deal of nettles and thistles throughout the park which is not ideal where

there are a lot of young children playing and potentially is engulfing the hedgerow.

I appreciate that the park has a Green Flag award, but these issues could be addressed to enhance the park without jeopardising the environmental goals for the park.

Reply:

The issues outlined above will be addressed over the coming four to six weeks. However in regard to the presence of nettles and thistles we are taking the approach that considering the benefit such plants contribute towards biodiversity and in keeping with our Green Flag management plan I propose to retain such vegetation in selected areas within the park.

Q.55 Councillor Anne Feeney

To ask the manager to review the health of trees on Northbrook Road and Dartmouth Square given autumn approaching and the potential danger from some of these large trees to people and property as was evidenced last year when damage was done by a large falling tree.

Reply:

Park Services undertake regular ground based inspections and independent tree surveys of selected roads including Dartmouth Square by a qualified arborist and park staff which inform our tree works programmes for the area.

It is proposed to undertake tree works on selected large mature trees in Dartmouth Square this autumn. A tree inspection will be undertaken by park staff over the coming weeks and necessary works undertaken on a priority basis if considered necessary.

Q.56 Councillor Sonya Stapleton

To ask the manager to extend vented pipe outside *details supplied.

Reply:

This pipe is on a privately owned building and is not a matter for Housing Maintenance.

Q.57 Councillor Sonya Stapleton

To ask the manager to consider *details supplied for a transfer to one of the age friendly apartments in Portobello? The lady said she heard that four of them are free to be let soon.

Reply:

The applicant (details supplied) is on Dublin City Council's Medical Priority transfer waiting list for one bedroom older person accommodation (ground floor) with the following positions:

- 11 Band 3 for one bedroom accommodation in Area L (Clanbrassil, James Street, Coombe / Maryland, Kilmainham, Charlemont)
- 8 Band 3 for one bedroom accommodation in Area N (Ranelagh, Rathmines, Terenure)

Dublin City Council is allocating properties based on time on the list and currently there are applicants on the Waiting List of longer standing who have to be considered as suitable vacancies arise. It is not possible to indicate accurately the prospect of an

offer for any applicant. The number of vacancies arising will be a determining factor in the length of time applicants could expect to be on the waiting list. The applicant's interest in Charlemont Court is noted.

Q.58 Councillor Sonya Stapleton

To ask the manager to investigate rat infestation in Mercer Street flats.

Reply:

The local area office works closely with the residents in Mercer Street to ensure that waste food is disposed of in a proper manner and that bin lids are closed after use. The complex is treated and monitored on a weekly basis.

Q.59 Councillor Sonya Stapleton

To ask the manager for an update from pest control on the rat infestation in O'Carroll Villas.

Reply:

The local area office works closely with the residents in O'Carroll Villas to ensure that waste food is disposed of in a proper manner and that bin lids are closed after use. The complex is treated and monitored on a weekly basis.

Q.60 Councillor Sonya Stapleton

To ask the manager if the back balconies will be painted in O'Carroll Villas flats.

Reply:

Housing Maintenance's Painting Unit will work close with the local area office and Residents' Association and when the balconies have been cleaned up and are devoid of excess rubbish / furniture / dog kennels etc we will make arrangements to have the balconies painted.

Q.61 Councillor Chris Andrews

Can the manager outline who was carrying out the surveys to the apartments on The New York Street and state if there was a problem found with some or any of the balconies and have contractors warned tenants not to use balconies or keep kids off them as they are hazardous and what will be done to protect residents?

Reply:

Dublin City Council Housing Maintenance as part of their ongoing Maintenance Schedule is carrying out works on all of our complexes within the city. The New York Street apartments were surveyed as part of these works and we will be carrying out maintenance works here in October. Prior to these works going ahead we will be in touch with our estate office who will notify residents.

Tenants can use the balconies as normal and do not need to "keep kids off of them". The works that are being carried is to insure that the building meets the standards set out in the current Technical Guidance Document Part B.

Q.62 Councillor Chris Andrews

Can the manager outline / indicate on a map which department is responsible for the maintenance of the green raised area to the rear of 4 Lombard Street and who is responsible for the tarmac covered area around it also to the rear of this address and who is responsible for the lane that leads into this area from Townsend Street and also for Dowlings Court at the other entrance?

Reply:

The land incorporating the three areas mentioned was acquired under a Housing Compulsory Purchase Order (CPO) known as City Quay / Prince's Street South / Townsend Street / Creighton Street Area CPO 1973.

Parks Services are responsible for the raised green areas only where the litter is removed, weeds are treated and the grass is cut.

Dublin City Council Waste Management Services Division is responsible for cleaning the tarmac covered areas and lane under the 'Category C' sweeping schedule – quarterly or as required following inspection.

Q.63 Councillor Chris Andrews

Can the manager arrange to have the gable end of the senior citizen house on *details supplied painted as the tenant is over 80 and unable to do it and it needs to be done as it looks bad and the residents are doing a lot of environmental clean ups and it is in a prominent position.?

Reply:

Housing Maintenance's Painting Unit will be working in this area towards the end of September and will include the painting of the gable wall of this unit in their schedule.

Q.64 Councillor Chris Andrews

Can the manager say who owns the property *details supplied and if it is the council's will they allow the Ringsend and Irishtown Tidy Towns to store brushes and cleaning materials?

Reply:

The property in question is currently locked up and the area office is trying to establish who might be using it. We will revert to the councillor when we have further information.

Q.65 Councillor Mary Freehill

Would the manager ensure that the cycle path around the new pedestrian crossing on Harold's Cross Road beside the bridge is repaired? This is dangerous as the condition of the surface has deteriorated and is dangerous for cyclists"

Reply:

SIAC will be on site over the weekend (8th – 9th September) to re-do the wearing course on all four arms of Harold's Cross Bridge.

Q.66 Councillor Frank Kennedy

To ask the manager for an update on the status on the Housing List of *details supplied.

Reply:

The applicant (details supplied) is on the housing waiting list for one bedroom accommodation with the following positions:

- 87 Band 3 for one bedroom accommodation in Area K (Crumlin, Kimmage, Drimnagh)
- 142 Band 3 for one bedroom accommodation in Area L (Clanbrassil, James Street, Coombe / Maryland, Kilmainham, Charlemont)
- 141 Band 3 for one bedroom accommodation in Area N (Ranelagh, Terenure Rathmines)

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

Q.67 Councillor Frank Kennedy

At the SEAC in June 2018 (Q. 14) I asked that the manager install a pedestrian crossing in the middle of Nutley Lane as it is not possible for persons to cross safely at present. I received a query from Caroline Kearns for further detail on the location. The precise location for this request is on Nutley Lane, either at the location just east of the Nutley Park junction and before one reaches the Nutley Road junction where there was previously a pedestrian crossing, or at an appropriate alternative location between the Nutley Road and Nutley Park junctions on Nutley Lane. In light of this, to ask the manager:

- (a) To confirm that the TAG request will be updated to include this precise location;
- (b) To provide the reference number for the TAG request; and
- (c) In circumstances where in the past there was a pedestrian crossing at this precise location (the access to the footpath for buggies and wheelchairs are still there and in perfect condition), to explain why it was removed?

Reply:

- a) The TAG request has been updated with the above location details.
- b) The reference number is 7003365.
- c) There is no record of a previous pedestrian crossing in this area (where the opposite footpaths are dished, near the junction with Nutley Park).

Q.68 Councillor Frank Kennedy

With regard to Brendan Road in Donnybrook, to ask the manager:

- (a) To cut back the trees on Brendan Road to the base in circumstances where the tree bases have become completely overgrown (see attached photos). The bases of the trees on the adjoining Argyle Road have been filled in with tarmac which keeps the bases of the trees neat and tidy and they don't have the same issue as a result; and
- (b) To repair/replace the broken curb outside Brendan House Apartments (see attached photo).

Reply:

The trees on Brendan Road will be pruned over the coming weeks and the tree pit cleared of vegetation.

It is not proposed to have the tree pits covered in with tarmac as requested, as this is generally not considered to benefit the establishment of young or shallow rooting trees.

This footpath has been logged in our Asset Management System for a repair to be carried out as soon as possible.

Q.69 Councillor Frank Kennedy

In light of the persistent problem of the excessive volume of trucks and buses breaking the 3 tonne limit on Londonbridge Road (and also bin trucks using the road on non-collection days), to ask the manager:

- (a) To advise who is monitoring this;

- (b) To advise what steps the council is taking to ensure compliance; and
- (c) To take all actions within the council's power to prevent these breaches of the law which lead to a level of noise and vehicular volume on such a narrow road that is completely unacceptable?

Reply:

These restrictions prohibit goods vehicles from entering a road if the unladen weight exceeds three tonnes. However the 3 tonne limit does not apply to vehicles wishing to access a particular road to make a delivery.

DCC Traffic Management do not have the authority to randomly stop and check Heavy Goods Vehicles travelling through restricted areas to determine if they are on delivery or breaking the ban, this lies within the remit of the Gardaí. Likewise for vehicles making dangerous manoeuvres, who can be prosecuted if caught in the act by the Gardaí.

Dublin City Council will inform the Gardaí at the next Traffic Advisory Group Meeting of the issues on Londonbridge Road.

Q.70 Councillor Frank Kennedy

At the SEAC meeting in September 2017 I asked the following question (Q.67) and received the following response:

“Q.67 Councillor Frank Kennedy

In light of the serious and dangerous problems with footpaths (including overgrown vegetation) as comprehensively set out in the e-mail forwarded separately (including attached photos), to ask the manager to address these problems as a matter of urgency in the two identified areas, being Part A from Sean Moore Road to the entrance to the ESB station / Poolbeg chimneys / Stacks and Part B from the entrance of Irishtown Nature Park to Poolbeg Lighthouse.

Reply:

The area from Sean Moore Road to the entrance to the ESB station will be examined with a view to getting the pathway cleared. The area from the entrance to Irishtown Nature Park to Poolbeg Lighthouse is under the control of the ESB and they will be requested to follow up in that location.

The property owners will be issued with notices to cut back foliage.”

Twelve months have now passed and no major works have been carried out in the Sean Moore Road / Poolbeg area to fix the issues previously outlined. It is a disgrace that the roads have been left unattended for so long and it is now impossible to get a buggy to Poolbeg. To ask the Manager to:

- a) To clear and repair the pathway area from Sean Moore Road to the entrance to the ESB station;
- b) To request the ESB to follow up the area from the entrance to Irishtown Nature Park to Poolbeg Lighthouse and to explain why no action has been taken in twelve months; and
- c) To provide copies of the notices to the property owners to cut back foliage;
- d) To state what response(s) were received; and
- e) To issue fresh notices and, in the face of continued inaction, take steps for enforcement.

Reply:

This matter will be examined and a reply will be issued to the councillor.

Q.71 Councillor Frank Kennedy

Certain sports clubs in the area have no access to any Dublin City Council sports pitch. One club has reported to me that it has been making enquiries for a long time with the council about gaining access to a suitable pitch but has received unsatisfactory responses from parks and the sports division of the council and have been largely fobbed off by one section to the other and vice versa. In light of the very grave perception to some that access at present is something of a closed shop, to ask the manager to identify the precise steps that a local sports club must follow to secure access to pitches suitable for cricket, rugby and soccer.

Reply:

The Sports and Recreation Section manages the pitches at the Clontarf All Weather facility and at Irishtown Stadium. These pitches are booked directly through the facility. As these facilities are extremely busy there may be a situation whereby new applicants cannot be facilitated as there are no free times available.

The councillor does not identify what club he is referring to and therefore it is not possible to provide specific information, however, I do not accept that the Sports and Recreation Section has “fobbed off” any club. I do not understand how there is a perception that the Sports and Recreation Section operates a “closed shop”. Unless the councillor is requesting that existing users of facilities be refused future usage to allow a new club access I do not see how fully booked facilities can accommodate additional clubs.

Q.72 Councillor Frank Kennedy

Where the bases of trees are covered with tarmac and other substances, to ask the manager to explain how access to sufficient levels of water is guaranteed for the trees?

Reply:

As a general rule Park Services do not infill the tree pits of young trees or shallow rooting trees as it limits the volume of rain water and nutrients which can reach the roots. In the case of these trees we recommend that the householder hand pulls weeds which may get established in the tree pit. They should also water the tree using ‘grey water’ to assist the tree in getting established. This is particularly important in the first four to five years after planting and in the early summer when the tree is coming into leaf or during prolonged periods of drought.

Where we do infill the tree pit, it is done using a porous open texture material which will allow some water percolation and usually this is only undertaken on the larger mature trees and those trees located on narrow streets with a high footfall.

Q.73 Councillor Frank Kennedy

To ask the manager to provide a response to the issues raised in the following extract from an e-mail sent to me by a constituent:

“We the residents of Strasburg Terrace, Irishtown are contacting you in the hope that you can help us deal with issues which have arisen recently.
Over the past two months the public car park in front of our houses has being adopted as a free campsite by increasing numbers of camper vans either owned or rented.

We have counted over 80 - 100 in the last two months. Some of them have told us that a number of similar locations where free overnight parking is possible are highlighted by apps catering for camper vans.

One recurring example seems to be [Details supplied]. Just to give you an idea on Sunday 5th August 6 camper vans were parked.

We have been in touch with Irishtown Garda Station who can really only get involved if public order issues arise. We have also spoken to the parks division in Dublin City Council who seem to have no responsibility within this matter...

We have a number of issues with this developing situation

- We do not think that the use of a public car park as a campsite in a residential area is appropriate.

- A number of the campers have brought large dogs with them which could become a matter of safety and concern for kids in the area.

- Whilst most of the campers are mature and do act responsibly there have been a number of public order issues with younger campers, mainly at night. These include drinking, raucous behaviour, littering, having a BBQ at 3am, playing loud music and on one occasion publicly urinating in front of number 5. We do not consider as residents that this is appropriate nor should it be allowed to continue.

Ideally a total ban on overnight camping is a preferred option"

Reply:

Campervans, being mechanically propelled vehicles, are subject to the regulations set out in the Road Traffic Act and Dublin City Council Parking Control Bye-Laws if parked in paid parking locations or in contravention of other parking controls.

There are no parking controls at Strasburg Terrace and no action that can be taken with regard to parking enforcement regulations.

As "temporary dwellings" they may, in certain circumstances, be subject to enforcement and removal under Section 69 of the Roads Act if placed or retained on a national road.

Q74. At the November 2017 council meeting I asked the CEO the following question (Q.84) and received the following response:

"Q.84 COUNCILLOR FRANK KENNEDY

To ask the Chief Executive given the large, and growing, numbers of cyclists commuting into/out of the city from Sandymount and the outer suburbs beyond such as Booterstown and Blackrock, the wholly inadequate provision of cycling tracks and cycling paths in the South Inner City Area from Sandymount to the City Centre has now reached crisis point and it is only a matter of time before there will be a death or serious injury on this stretch.

Strand Road and Beach Road are unsuitable for bicycles as matters stand as they are very narrow and there is insufficient space for cyclists. The Ringsend Bridge is extremely narrow by any standards, indeed there is barely room for two cars passing each other in the opposite direction. There is no space on this bridge for a cyclist when two cars are travelling in opposite directions. In addition, to make a bad situation worse, there are very heavy commercial and business traffic in this area, including cement mixers from the cement facility and lorries carrying waste to and from the incinerator.

By contrast on the north side of the city, from Clontarf to the City Centre, there is a dedicated cycle track along the promenade at Clontarf, a

designated cycle path through the Fairview Park and the much wider Newcomen Bridge at the North Strand has a newly-opened separate Newcomen Bridge Cycle Bridge project, followed by a marked cycling path into the city.

To ask the Chief Executive to address the gross under-provision of cycling paths in the coastal parts of the south of the City when compared with the north of the City, and to make provision for adequate cycling tracks and cycling paths in the South Inner City Area from Sandymount to the City Centre as a matter of urgency.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The Environment and Transportation Department is currently in discussions with the National Transport Authority on the capital programme for 2018. A more detailed response will issue after the conclusion of these discussions, most likely in January 2018.

As I heard nothing further, notwithstanding the reference to a "more detailed response", I asked the following question (Q.33) and received the following response at the March 2018 SEAC meeting:

Q.33 Councillor Frank Kennedy

To ask the area manager to request from the Chief Executive of Dublin City Council the "more detailed response" referred to in his answer to my question (no. 84) (attached) at the November meeting of Dublin City Council which was to issue "most likely in January 2018" concerning the gross under-provision of cycling paths in the coastal parts of the south of the city (notably on Strand Road / Beach Road and on Ringsend Bridge) when compared with the north of the city and the need to make provision for adequate cycling tracks and cycling paths in the south inner city area from Sandymount to the city centre as a matter of urgency.

Reply:

Dublin City Council is awaiting a recommendation from the NTA on the feasibility of the East Coast Trail and Blackrock to City Centre Cycle Route. Funding has not been made available for development of this route in 2018. Dublin City Council is also aware that the NTA is working on the Busconnects Project. This may further inform the cycling infrastructure provision along the corridor.

The improvement for pedestrian and cycling facilities at Ringsend Bridge have been under consideration as part of the Dodder Greenway. This project has been on hold since 2016. We have received funding for the scheme. The project is now scheduled to resume in May 2018. The first task will be to finalise the Route Selection and Option Selection Report."

As nearly ten months have now passed, including all of the time periods stated in the two replies, to ask the manager could I now please receive a comprehensive response to my questions.

Reply:

Consideration will be given to inclusion of the East Coast Trail in the 2019 to 2021 Capital Programme subject to the availability of staff. The National Transport Authority is committed to funding the delivery of the scheme.

Q.75 Councillor Frank Kennedy

At the April 2018 SEAC meeting I asked the manager the following question (Q.55) and received the following response:

“Q.55 Councillor Frank Kennedy

With regard to Baggot Lane and in particular my question no. 120 at the December 2017 City Council meeting:

- a. Despite assurances, this lane has not been cleaned for in excess of three months. To ask the manager that a comprehensive clean be carried out without delay; and*
- b. Traffic is increasing and speeding is a great concern to all the residents living in the lane. There are no signs, speed ramps or a stop sign or yield sign at the blind junction of Pembroke Gardens and Baggot Lane. To ask the manager for an update on what steps have been taken since my question no. 120 at the December 2017 City Council meeting.*

Reply:

- a. Waste Management Services had Baggot Lane cleaned on the 3rd April 2018 and it will be put on a monthly cleaning schedule*
- b. The area engineer is waiting for the speed survey at Baggot Lane to be carried out. When the results arrive a recommendation will be made. At the moment due the large volume of demands for speed surveys for the implementation of the extension of the 30k zone in Dublin City, it is expected that there will be a delay for the survey.”*

I have been informed by residents of Baggot Lane that (a) it has not been swept for months and (b) the illegal use of Baggot Lane as a link road between Baggot St and Northumberland Road is continuing to increase and speeding up and down the lane is constantly dangerous and high risk. To ask the manager to (i) explain how this is so in light of the responses provided to me in April 2018 and (ii) to take appropriate measures to address the problems raised.

Reply:

- a. Waste Management Services will ensure that the monthly cleaning schedule of Baggot Lane is strictly adhered to and it was last cleaned on the 3rd September 2018.
- b. The area engineer is still assessing the best solution for Pembroke Gardens and Baggot Lane. A report will be sent to the elected representative in due course.