

DUBLIN CITY COUNCIL
SOUTH CENTRAL AREA COMMITTEE
15th January 2020

Q1 Councillor Tina MacVeigh

To ask the Director of Services to please outline the rollout plan for the Dublin Bike Scheme in the Dublin South Central Area for the next 24 months.

Reply

Any further growth of the Just Eat dublinbikes scheme in the city is dependent on the identification of additional sustainable funding for capital and operational costs. This work is ongoing and is in addition to measures to finance the existing bike scheme in its current format. A further factor that must be considered is the impact of 'dockless' bike hire schemes on the Just Eat dublinbikes business and operational model. There is therefore no definite timeline in place for expansion in Dublin South Central Area at this time.

*Contact: Michael Rossiter, Senior Executive Planner, Forward Planning
Tel: 222 3475
Email: Michael.rossiter@dublincity.ie*

Q2 Councillor Tina MacVeigh

To ask our Parks Department whether they could replace two trees that were brought down in recent storms at (*details supplied*).

Reply

Neither location is suitable for replacement tree planting as the footpath is very narrow and a small tree pit would be too small to sustain a healthy tree.

*Contact: Brid Brosnan, Executive Park Superintendent, Parks Department
Tel: 222 3144 Email: parks@dublincity.ie*

Q3 Councillor Daithí Doolan

To ask the Director of Services to request that every effort be made to house (*details supplied*).

Reply

The above applicant is on the Welfare Priority Older Housing List with an application date of 20/08/2014, the applicant was awarded Welfare Priority on 03/04/2019, and the applicant holds the following positions on this list:

Area	Bedsize	Position
Area J	1	1
Area K	1	3
Area L	1	4

Based on these positions the applicant is in a very strong position, as Dublin City Council allocate properties based on time on the list it would be anticipated the applicant will be reached for an offer in the near future.

*Contact: Mary Hayes, Senior Executive Officer, Housing Allocations
Tel: 222 2061, Email: mary.hayes@dublincity.ie*

Q4 Councillor Daithí Doolan

To ask the Director of Services to ensure the damage to the Brickfield Park and Benmadigan is repaired as soon as possible. These pitches provide essential recreational facilities to sports clubs in Drimnagh.

Reply

The ground is very soft at the moment so Parks will wait until the weather improves to implement any remedial works required. The pitches are not due to be played until late January which will give the grass some time to repair in the meantime.

Contact: Brid Brosnan, Executive Park Superintendent, Parks Department

Tel: 222 3144

Email: parks@dublincity.ie

Q5 Councillor Daithí Doolan

To ask the Director of Services to ensure the gates in to Rossaveal Court are repaired and that the concrete areas and footpaths are resurfaced?

Reply

The gates in Rossaveal Court are due to be repaired in the coming months. Resurfacing of the concrete areas and footpaths will take place in 2020.

Contact: Frank d'Arcy

Email: frankg.darcy@dublincity.ie Tel: 222-3517

Q6 Councillor Criona Ní Dhálaigh

To ask the Director of Services if it is possible for a constituent of mine from (*details supplied*) to purchase a leaf guard and place over her drain so as to capture fallen leaves. She is willing to do this for her entire road, but is afraid that the Council will remove them unless she has permission. Is this possible or is it something that Dublin City council will do for her road.

Reply

This request was previously received by the Surface Water and Flood Incident Management (SWFIM) section. The customer will be contacted directly with a view to scheduling a site inspection to assess the effect that leaf-fall is having on surface water drainage along (*details supplied*)

Contact: Barry McCann, Executive Engineer, Surface Water & Flood Incident Management

Tel: 222 3996 Email: barry.mccann@dublincity.ie

Q7 Councillor Criona Ní Dhálaigh

To ask the Director of Services what progress has been made re addressing the damage caused by tree roots at (*details supplied*) I've raised this a few times but nothing seems to have been done.

Reply

Road Maintenance inspected the footpaths in (*details supplied*) and directly outside on (*details supplied*) and logged numerous defects to our works list for repair in this area. Road Maintenance is planning to commence works at this location in February 2020 Annual Programme.

Contact: Carl Ryan, Executive Engineer, Road Maintenance Services

Tel: 222 2689 Email: roadmaintenance@dublincity.ie

Q8 Councillor Vincent Jackson

Can the Director of Services please give me a breakdown on the Air Quality over the past 5 years for the Ballyfermot, Chapelizod / Cherry Orchard area. From my observation, it appears after many years on improvements the air quality has reduced over the last few years.

Reply

Currently the monitoring station at Ballyfermot Library monitors **Particulate Matter (PM)** and **Nitrogen Dioxide (NO₂)** levels as part of the National Air Quality Monitoring Network. This network consists of monitoring stations spread out across the country, which monitor for various air pollutants. The data from each site is collated and then compared to EU legal limit values.

The results shown below are annual maximum levels taken from the monitoring station located at Ballyfermot library over the past 5 years. Levels above the limit value are shown in the data tables below, but these do not constitute an exceedance based on the fact that EU Clean Air For Europe Directive allows a maximum number of times the limit level values can be surpassed before an exceedance is applied.

For example, the **NO₂** limit value of 200 µg/m³ must “*Not to be exceeded more than 18 times in a calendar year*” and the **PM10** limit value must “*Not to be exceeded more than 35 times in a calendar year*”.

Based on these requirements there has been no exceedances of EU limits over the past 5 years at the Ballyfermot site, albeit levels have on occasions, been above the limit value, but within the acceptable allowable number per year.

	NO2 max	No of times above limit value	Limit value µg/m ³ (EU Directive)
2019	124	0	200
2018	217	1	200
2017	148	0	200
2016	127	0	200
2015	142	0	200

Table 1: NO2 levels from 2015 – 2019

	PM10 max	No of times above limit value	Limit value µg/m ³ (EU Directive)
2019	76.50	8	50
2018	48	0	50
2017	52.62	1	50
2016	39	0	50
2015	70.28	3	50

Table 2: PM10 levels from 2015 - 2019

The expansion of the air monitoring network in Dublin does indicate that elevated levels of nitrogen dioxide are being identified in some areas, particularly along the M50 and in the St. Johns Road area. Dublin City Council is one of the stakeholders

on the Working Group on Urban Transport-Related Air Pollution established by Minister Richard Bruton to address this challenge.

Contact: Martin Fitzpatrick, Principal Environmental Health Officer, Air Quality Monitoring and Noise Control Unit.

Tel: 222 3742.

Email: martin.fitzpatrick@dublincity.ie

Q9 Councillor Vincent Jackson

To ask the Director of Services that Dublin City Council seek to employ a number of staff who would be revenue neutral. If the works of dog wardens were aligned with litter wardens and the obstacles in allowing these roles to be effective were sorted out once and for all with primary legislation / bye laws etc. The level of fines for indiscriminate dumping and dog fouling are indications our current system is not working.

Reply

The role of Dog Wardens and Litter Wardens is laid out in the Control of Dogs Acts and the Litter Pollution Acts respectively. Dog Wardens are responsible for the enforcement of the Control of Dogs Act while the Litter Wardens enforce the Litter Pollution Acts. The Control of Dogs Act deals with, inter alia, dog licences, stray dogs, etc. while the Litter Pollution Acts, (Section 22) deals with dog fouling.

Litter Wardens and Dog Wardens are authorised under Section 22 of the Litter Pollution Acts to issue fines to a person in charge of a dog where they do not clean-up immediately after their dog. Others persons authorised to issue fines under Section 22 are members of the Garda Síochána and DCC staff working in the Environmental area in the Public Domain.

Contact: Bernie Lillis, Litter Prevention Officer, Waste Management

Tel: 222 4243

Email bernie.lillis@dubincity.ie

Q10 Councillor Vincent Jackson

To ask the Director of Services to request that the Road Engineer meet with me and a number of residents to see at first hand the horrendous issues residents are met with trying to exit the Drumfinn area of Ballyfermot when travelling from Cleggan Park area of Ballyfermot towards Clondalkin etc. The current lights at Drumfinn Road onto Ballyfermot Road do not afford sufficient time to exit this busy estate with 4 schools, Social Welfare Office, Garda Station, Youth Reach, Civic Centre and 1,200 houses. Having a full set of traffic lights on Ballyfermot Road at Cleggan Park would help alleviate the situation.

Reply:

Regarding the traffic signals at Ballyfermot Road at Drumfinn Road please note that in September 2017 we made a number of changes to the junction signal operation in order to allow, if required, an increased number of vehicles to enter and exit Drumfinn Road. Specifically, we increased the amount of time allocated to the relevant traffic phases which permit the movement of vehicles to and from Drumfinn Road. In other words there is a greater amount of green time available to those wishing to enter/exit Drumfinn Road. Furthermore, we have taken measures at this junction and at adjacent junctions, to ensure that the cycle length (the total amount of time available to all traffic phases) will reduce during off-peak times. In essence this provided more opportunity for vehicles entering/exiting Drumfinn Road as the wait time between the traffic phases permitting movements in/out of Drumfinn Road reduced.

Please also note that in November 2019 we further increased the amount of available time for traffic exiting Drumfinn Road via our SCATS system following a customer query.

In response to your concerns above we have further increased the amount of available time for traffic exiting Drumfinn Road via our SCATS system (effective as of 06/01/2020) but are limited in our scope to do so since this junction is sited along a busy bus priority corridor and the junction is set up in such a way so as to allow buses priority thereby reducing time to side roads when a bus approaches this junction. We will continue to monitor the operation of this junction via our SCATS Adaptive Traffic System and will make any further changes as necessary to ensure the continued smooth and safe operation of this junction for all road users. Finally, please note that we have referred the second part of your question regarding a request for a full set of traffic lights on Ballyfermot Road at Cleggan Park to the Area Engineer Niall O'Neill.

Contact: Liam O'Brien, Executive ITS Officer, Environment and Transportation Department.
Tel: 222 3836.
Email: liam.obrien@dublincity.ie

A meeting on site can only be successful if a positive outcome can be achieved. The budget for 2020 has been allocated and there are no remaining funds to consider the implementation of lights at this location. Further to this, the Area Engineer has advised in response to Q. 18 of the December SCAC that the yellow box has been extended and has received positive reports that it is working well. No further measures are recommended at this time.

Contact: Niall O'Neill, South Central Area Engineer
Tel: 222 6393
Email: niall.oneill@dublincity.ie

Q11 Councillor Vincent Jackson

To ask the Director of Services to look at bringing the precinct improvement plan for Ballyfermot Road back onto the table and that this project include a retail strategy for this busy commercial district, which could look at Kylemore Road, Decies Road, Claddagh Green, in conjunction with Ballyfermot Road.

Reply

The NTA's programme to improve bus services across the Dublin region is currently under public consultation and amendments to the original proposals are ongoing. Ballyfermot Road will be impacted by these plans but the proposed changes to traffic layout have not been finalised. Business owners and residents in Ballyfermot have been invited to engage with this consultation process to allow their suggestions and concerns to be incorporated into any new proposals. Along with the upgrade of the bus services, it is intended to incorporate precinct improvements where possible along the route. Until this process is completed and the impact of the changes are assessed, it is not feasible to consider a separate precinct improvement plan to Ballyfermot Road. However, meetings did take place last year between the business owners in Ballyfermot, Planning, Public Domain and Ballyfermot Area office and I am happy to facilitate these again if they proved helpful.

Contact: Kay Noonan Cork, Local Area Manager, Ballyfermot Area Office
Tel: 222 4667
Email: kay.noonan_cork@dublincity.ie

Q12 Councillor Vincent Jackson

To ask the Director of Services to seek to have the FAI / DCC funded Soccer Promotion Officer replaced for the Ballyfermot Area as a matter of urgency and that his / her role work alongside our Sports Development Officer, who has done so much to promote healthy lifestyles, introduction to various sports etc. Has DCC reduced the subvention to this post since the position was vacated in July 2019?

Reply

This is a Football Association of Ireland (FAI) post and the decision to replace the officer is a matter for the FAI. Dublin City Council will not incur salary costs for the period when no officer is in place. This post is funded, in a three way split, through the FAI, Dublin City Council and a Government Department. Dublin City Council has not reduced its contribution to fund the post.

Contact: Jim Beggan, Senior Executive Officer, Sports & Recreation Section

Tel: 222 3877

Email: jim.beggan@dublincity.ie

Q13 Councillor Vincent Jackson

To ask the Director of Services to ensure that, whatever the outcome of the proposals for the re-development of the former De La Salle School lands at Ballyfermot Road that all social housing units are pepper potted / randomly chosen. The notion of a block or 2 for social housing units is, I feel, counterproductive for sustainable communities.

Reply

The City Council's Housing Department will engage with the developer of the above lands in relation to compliance with Part V of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended). All options available under Section 96(3) of the Act will be considered to determine the most appropriate means of delivering social housing units in the development.

Contact: Dymphna Farrell, Senior Executive Officer, Housing Development

Tel: 2226114

Email: dymphna.farrell@dublincity.ie

Q14 Councillor Vincent Jackson

To ask the Director of Services to seek to ensure that one or 2 retail units are part of the proposed housing development for 14 to 17 Maidens Row, Chapelizod, Dublin 20. It is essential in order to develop sustainable communities that local shops are provided in our communities.

Reply

Maiden Row is zoned Z2, the objective of which is to protect and/or improve the amenities of residential conservation areas. The provision of retail use(s) on the site would be contrary to the zoning objective as retail use is neither permissible nor open for consideration in a Z2 zone. However, since it is acknowledged that the provision of local shops can play an important role in sustaining a local community and village life, every effort will be made in relation to other future development proposals in Chapelizod, to maintain and increase the level of retail activity in the village.

Contact: Mary Conway, Deputy Dublin City Planning Officer

Tel: 222 3319

Email: mary.conway@dublincity.ie

Q15 Councillor Vincent Jackson

To ask the Director of Services that I be given a full update of the development proposals for the former School / Funeral Home site at Crumlin Road, Drimnagh, chosen for housing and the development of a new public library. It is essential that all our sites are progressed to a stage so that we are ready for construction of badly needed housing / community services.

Reply

Plans are being developed internally by City Architects for the incorporation of the house at Scoil Eanna into a public library.

Dublin City Council (DCC) applies for social housing capital funding from the Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government (DHPLG).

The Housing and Community Services Department is engaging with the Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government (DHPLG) with regards securing stage 1 approval to develop social housing on the remainder of the site.

Consultation with elected members, residents and community will commence upon receipt of stage 1 approval from the Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government.

Contact: Treacy Byrne Tel: 222 6748

Email: treacy.byrne@dublincity.ie

Q16 Councillor Vincent Jackson

Can the Director of Services please ask Public Lighting / ESB when public lamp standards are to be re-painted in the South Central Area? Many are in a poor state and its years since they were re-painted. Can I be told how an area is chosen for these works?

Reply

Public Lighting Services carry out painting on a certain number of their poles every year throughout the five council areas.

There is a very limited budget allocated for painting poles in each of the five council areas each year. In 2019, €10,000 was spent on painting poles in the South Central Area and the following roads were painted; La Touche Road, Ballyfermot Road, Stannaway Road, Mount Shannon Road, Clanbrassil Street, Mayfield Road, O'Donovan Road, Madison Road and Harold's Cross Road.

All requests received for painting of poles are examined and if the poles are suitable and painting is required, they are added to a list for inclusion on a future painting programme subject to available finances.

The poles are painted in order of priority of need, unless specific funding is provided from the area offices for painting the poles on a particular road or area.

If there are specific poles or roads the councillor is requesting painting on, if the councillor provides the required details (road name, pole numbers, nearest house numbers etc.), they will be examined and if painting is required and the poles are suitable, they will be added to a list for inclusion on a future painting programme, subject to available finances.

There are a number of public lights installed on ESB Network poles in the South Central Area. While Public Lighting Services own and maintain the lights and the brackets the lights are installed on, the poles themselves are the property of ESB Networks. The painting of ESB Network poles is a matter for ESB Networks.

Contact: *Karen Leeson, Executive Engineer, Public Lighting & Electrical Services Division.*

Tel: 222 4539.

Email: karen.leeson@dublincity.ie

Q17 Councillor Vincent Jackson

To ask the Director of Services could An Post be asked to look at the installation of a Pillar Post Box near Ballyfermot Civic Centre. The area has over 1,300 houses, many schools and services without any such facility. Other areas have such facilities and when I was younger, one was located on Drumfinn Road near the roundabout now long gone. However, the area has a high percentage of older persons needing such facilities.

Reply

An Post has been contacted regarding the installation of a post box at this location. The Councillor will be informed of the response when it is received.

Contact: Catherine Farrell, Senior Staff Officer, Ballyfermot Area Office.

Tel: 222 4673

Email: catherine.farrell@dublincity.ie