

QUESTIONS LODGED PURSUANT TO STANDING ORDER NO.16 FOR REPLY AT THE MONTHLY MEETING OF DUBLIN CITY COUNCIL TO BE HELD ON MONDAY, 3rd FEBRUARY 2020

Q.1 COUNCILLOR DERMOT LACEY

To ask the Chief Executive if he will respond to the points regarding public lighting posts on Shelbourne Road as outlined in the email extract (**details supplied**).

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The replacement of concrete lampposts along Shelbourne Road is not a case of end of year 'Use it or lose it'. It was a carefully planned project.

Concrete columns along with other particular column types have been identified as being a risk to the City Council and it is planned to replace all concrete columns over the next 5 to 8 years.

While the Councillor has identified that some concrete columns clearly need replacing, because of concrete cracking and falling off posing a safety risk, other concrete columns also have internal corrosion that is not visible such as corroded mounting spigots that support brackets. Corroded mounting spigots undermine the ability of concrete columns to support the brackets that the luminaires are mounted on for example.

A decision was made in the last few years to replace concrete columns and this process commenced in 2018 with the award of a contract to Killaree Lighting Services to replace about 150 existing concrete columns for approximately €500,000. The final cost will not be known until the contract works have been completed. The locations where concrete columns are being replaced include Shelbourne Road, Pembroke Lane, Baggot Street Upper, Leinster Road and Rathgar Road.

The concrete lampposts on Shelbourne Road are being replaced with high quality painted conical columns that will contribute to improving the public realm and also contribute to reducing the City Council carbon footprint by the use of energy efficient LED luminaires.

Q.2 COUNCILLOR HAZEL DE NORTÚIN

To ask the Chief Executive what steps has the waste management enforcement taken to deal with the illegal dumping on Labre Park? How many formal complaints have been made since 2015? How many notices have been issued to residents? How many convictions has there been? Does DCC have access to the CCTV positioned into Labre Park? Do they use this camera to catch people illegally dumping? How much has been spent on removing illegal rubbish in Labre Park since 2015?

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The table below shows the cost of removing waste from Labre Park from January 2015 to June 2019 inclusive accruing to the Traveller Accommodation Unit.

The cost of removing waste was reduced significantly in 2019 as a decision was made to utilise the TAU Caretaker service and its resources to remove rubbish weekly from all sites.

This will be reviewed given the rise in dumped material including household and commercial rubbish on a number of sites including Labre Park.

Labre Park Waste Management Costs 2015-2019		
Year	Cost	
2015	€43,885.13	Rubbish removals performed by Thorntons Recycling
2016	€56,756.03	Rubbish removals performed by Thorntons Recycling
2017	€172,258.62	Rubbish removals performed by Thorntons Recycling
2018	€250,734.98	Rubbish removals performed by Thorntons Recycling
2019	€41,135.54	All rubbish removed by TAU Caretakers. Minimum 4 loads per week. Only relates to Jan-June 2019
Total Cost 2015-2019	€564,770.30	

The Traveller Accommodation Unit will continue to work with Waste Management and Waste Enforcement to find viable solutions to the current impasse regarding waste management in Labre Park.

Dublin City Council's, Waste Enforcement Unit have carried out multiple staggered checkpoints, in conjunction with the Gardaí to combat the illegal transportation of waste to and from Labre Park. Waste Enforcement also work in conjunction with The Traveller Accommodation Unit in combating illegal waste activity. We have access to CCTV at that site and Waste Enforcement Officers view any relevant footage to see if sufficient evidence can be gathered to take action for offences committed under the Waste Management Act 1996. With regard to the most recent footage in 2019, 13 CCTV reports have been received and three warning letters have been issued because of this.

Since 2015, residents have made 21 formal complaints with eight notices issued accordingly. There has been one conviction so far to date.

Q.3 COUNCILLOR CHRISTY BURKE

To ask the Chief Executive that the crèche in **(details supplied)** be given an overhaul i.e. new windows, brick work cleaned, new electrics to be installed and the large timber box's outside the building be removed.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Dublin City Council Housing Maintenance will arrange for a conditional survey of the premises to be carried out.

Q.4 COUNCILLOR CHRISTY BURKE

To ask the Chief Executive that extra litter wardens be placed in the North Inner City given the latest IBAL report.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The Central Area Office have established a working group to explore ways of tackling illegal dumping in the North Inner City.

Waste Management are part of the group and have committed extra resources including Litter Wardens to carry out door to door surveys as one of the preventative measures.

Q.5 COUNCILLOR CHRISTY BURKE

To ask the Chief Executive what action thus far Dublin City Council has taken against the receiver whose property in Seville place has been the subject of large amounts of rubbish on the pathway. Given that Dublin City Council had to remove the rubbish on health grounds and what was the cost to Dublin City Council to carry out the work?

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The building in question on Seville place is under the control of Auditors. There is an ongoing issue with fire safety and Dublin Fire Brigade are monitoring the situation.

With regards costs of the cleaning, a total of €335 euro are associated with the removal of materials. There will be an ongoing monitoring of the premises by Dublin City Council and Dublin Fire Brigade.

Q.6 COUNCILLOR CHRISTY BURKE

To ask the Chief Executive if the Department of Environment have continued to provide funding for the development of **(details supplied)**.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government have been, and are continuing to fund the regeneration of **(details supplied)**.

As expenditure occurs on the project, it is recouped from the Department from an approved construction budget.

Q.7 COUNCILLOR NIAL RING

To ask the Chief Executive, having regard to the precarious state of the City Council finances, exemplified so clearly in report 31/2020 presented to members last month in which the Chief Executive listed some of the "family jewels" he proposed to sell off to enable DCC to fund capital projects, can the Chief Executive confirm that DCC will pursue all amounts owing to it by third parties?

In this regard, I refer to my various questions (e.g. Q48 (Nov 2014), Q68 (Dec 2014), Q52 (Mar 2015), Q69 (Jun 2015), Q81 (Jan 2016), Q69 (Jun 2016), Q76 (Oct 2016) and Q17 (Jun 2018)) which relate to loss of income suffered by DCC for which the Chief Executive has indicated in replies would be pursued. Therefore, can the Chief Executive give me an update on the discussions relating to compensation for DCC from NTA in relation to the loss of income to DCC from the permanent loss of car parking spaces due to the Luas Cross City works?

As the Chief Executive is aware, the answers give to date all mentioned ongoing discussions etc. but the answer to my question of October 2016 confirmed that a "final settlement will be agreed on completion of the project" and the answer to my question in June 2018 indicated that the "matter is being pursued and the Councillor will be advised of the position once clarified". The Luas Cross City project is now complete and therefore a settlement figure reflecting the loss of approx. €1.8m per year in perpetuity should now be finalised, in the final negotiation stages or at the very least the position should now be "clarified" as it is over 18 months since this was indicated. Can the Chief Executive confirm this is the case and confirm that the issue has been finalised or is near finalisation?

Can the Chief Executive also confirm that the loss of income now stands at over €10, given the initial €1.8m per annum loss since 2014. The rise in charges and further loss of spaces to Luas cross city since then?

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The issue of seeking compensation from the NTA in respect of the loss in on-street parking spaces and the associated loss in parking metre revenue, as a consequence of the construction of Luas cross city (LCC), was kept under review. After careful consideration, it was decided not to pursue the matter in view of the following factors:

- The considerable betterment in City Council services and in the public realm as a consequence of the LCC project in respect of which the NTA did not seek any payment from the City Council,
- The fact that income from parking meters actually increased from €24.4m in 2014 when Luas works commenced, to €28.1m in 2018 when Luas was opened. This represents an increase over the time period of Luas construction of €3.7m rather than the predicted loss of income as initially estimated prior to Luas construction starting and
- The generous funding given by the NTA to the City Council over the period of Luas construction towards a variety of sustainable transport projects.

Q.8 COUNCILLOR NIAL RING

To ask the Chief Executive, having further regard to the precarious state of the City Council finances, exemplified so clearly in report 31/2020 presented to members last month in which the Chief Executive listed some of the "family jewels" he proposed to sell off to enable DCC to fund capital projects, can the Chief Executive confirm that DCC will pursue all amounts owing to it by third parties?

In this regard I feel it necessary to ask the Chief Executive to again revisit my question to the City Council of October 2009 and follow up questions culminating in the answer to my question 41 in September 2017. The questions relate to the fact/possibility that there are outstanding funds due from the NRA under the agreements entered into to facilitate the Port tunnel works in Fairview Park. It would seem that €8.5m was sought from the NRA but only €6.0m was received and there also appears that there was a further claim for €1.6m. Furthermore, there may have been outstanding works commitments still due to DCC from the NRA under the agreements which may or may not have been carried out by the NRA, or indeed carried out at DCC's expense.

The receipt or otherwise of these amounts is questioned again in light of the DCC report circulated at a City Council Meeting of 7th September 2009 that DCC is "...rigorously pursuing the NRA to fulfil their commitments with regard Fairview Park" which strongly indicate suggests some issues were still outstanding at that time and were being "rigorously pursued" by DCC.

While noting that the answer to my question in September indicates that "any historical queries will require someone to access those archives which may be a lengthy process" I believe it is incumbent on us to get clarity on this matter. Therefore, can the Chief Executive confirm that, in light of the city council finances and the unanswered questions above, he will now instigate an investigation into this matter, get the files reopened and confirm to us whether, or not, the final account was correctly signed off and if there are sums due to DCC from the NRA.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Having retrieved the relevant files/records from archive, I can confirm that there are no monies due from the NRA, (now known as TII) with regard to the Dublin Port Tunnel works. As previously stated in reply to Q66, Council Meeting 05/10/2009, the €8.5m allocation sought in 2009 was based on the DPT Project Office estimates for all forecast demands in respect of the project for the year, and included the budget sought for works at Fairview Park, totalling €1.6 million. The €6m allocation which was paid by the NRA for 2009 to DCC did not include a standalone figure of €1.6m for the Fairview Park works.

Following meetings between DCC Parks Dept., the NRA and the DPT Project Office in 2009, it was agreed that the NRA would pay DCC Parks Dept €1.6 million for restoration and reinstatement works in Fairview Park. These monies could not be paid in 2009 as it was not included in the NRA's allocation for the 2009 DPT budget.

However, I can confirm that it was included in the NRA's allocation for 2010, and the full amount of €1.6 million was drawn down and transferred by the NRA to DCC on 22/02/2010 in full settlement of the 2009 agreement with DCC Parks Department.

Q.9 COUNCILLOR NIAL RING

To ask the Chief Executive to give details in relation to the newly commissioned combined air quality and noise monitoring stations around the city, including number and location, cost of stations, operational details, operational costs, reporting, flexibility (i.e. can stations respond to specific location requests) and any further information which he seems useful for members.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Six new air quality monitoring stations have been commissioned by Dublin City Council as part of a local air monitoring network to complement the monitoring stations currently operated by Dublin City Council in the national air monitoring network.

These new stations monitor particulate pollution including Pm10 and PM2.5. The analysers being used do not have full certification under EU rules but they do have a level of certification that makes them acceptable for indicative monitoring as an adjunct to the national network. They have one distinct advantage in that they can be pole mounted in streets as distinct from the more sophisticated analysers that require bespoke housing.

These new sites are located at:

- Walkinstown Library.
- Ballymun Library.
- Drumcondra Library.
- Amiens St.
- Custom House Quay.
- Lord Edward St.

The cost of the actual monitoring equipment in each station is approx. €7400.00 per unit (following sterling conversion), and there are additional costs incurred for mains electrical installation, communications systems, and modems that can vary according to site, but would typically be in the region of €500 – €1000.

Dublin City Council will complete and launch a new website to host Dublin City Council air monitoring sites by the end of January 2020 and this will provide continuous real time information to the public on air quality in the city.

In order to provide meaningful and comparative data, it is obligatory to locate monitoring equipment in accordance with the very exact micro-siting and macro-siting criteria as set down by the EU Clean Air for Europe Directive. This is a distinct limiting factor in choosing suitable sites, as for instance, it sets down minimum distances that must be achieved between the analyser and a road junction or bus stop. It is intended that further local monitoring stations will be added to the network in 2020 and beyond and there has been ongoing background work done on this with the Environmental Protection Agency to identify candidate sites.

Q.10 COUNCILLOR NIAL RING

To ask the Chief Executive to detail the number, and location if possible, of properties targeted by DCC for acquisition under the Derelict Sites Act/CPO through the buy and Renew Scheme for 2020. Also, in relation to the 21 properties acquired in 2019 can the Chief Executive detail the cost of acquisition of each property and the estimated refurbishment cost of each one and confirm whether, or not, such acquisition and refurbishment funding is fully or partly provided by the Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Dublin City Council acquired 18 properties under the Buy and Renew Scheme in 2019. Of these 18 properties, 4 were acquired by way of the CPO process under the Derelict Sites Act and 14 by way of acquisition (purchase from the owner) for repair and return to use as housing stock under the Buy and Renew Scheme.

The following is a breakdown of the geographical breakdown of the location of the properties throughout the City.

North West 2.
North Central 3.
Central 6.
South Central 6.
South East 1.

Due to the nature of the CPO process and delays in property owners finalising compensation for properties an exact costing for each property cannot be confirmed at present.

The total estimated cost of acquiring these properties is €6,300,000. Not all properties acquired in 2019 have been refurbished to date but it is estimated that the overall cost of refurbishing these properties will be approximately €2,160,000.

(As clarified with the Councillor details of derelict sites acquired compulsorily under the Derelict Sites Act 1990 in the last three years.)

Derelict Sites Act 1990

The Derelict Sites Unit has pursued an ongoing acquisitions strategy since late 2016 as part of the Council's Active Land Management Initiative. In determining what sites to acquire the Council prioritises those properties which can be most readily reinstated to active residential use. The Council will only acquire compulsorily as a last resort in circumstances where all efforts to secure the carrying out of improvement works by property owners have been exhausted.

The following twenty three vacant derelict sites were acquired compulsorily under the Derelict Sites Act, 1990 in the last three years.

Derelict - Site	Date vested in City Council	Valuation
6 Nelson Street, D7	1/03/2017	€270,000
188 Downpatrick Road, D12	1/03/2017	€190,000
6 Elm Mount Drive, D9	1/03/2017	€290,000
30 Meryln Road, D4	1/03/2017	€871,250
7A Oakwood Avenue, D7	1/03/2017	€180,000
32 Reuben Avenue, D8	1/03/2017	€170,000

3 St. Anthony's Road, D8	1/03/2017	€170,000
21 Rutland Street Lower,D7	16/10/2017	€100,000
7 Barry Avenue, D11	16/10/2017	€80,000
6 Creighton Street, D2	16/10/2017	€330,000
7 Kingsland Park Avenue, D8	16/10/2017	€250,000
48 Manor Place, Stoneybatter, D7	2/07/2018	€240,000
1C Barry Avenue, D11	2/07/2018	€165,000
58 Glenties Park, D11	2/07/2018	€160,000
55 Kilbarron Park, D5	2/07/2018	€200,000
35 Oldtown Road, D9	2/07/2018	€170,000
35A Oldtown Road, D9	2/07/2018	€160,000
8 Ferguson Road, D9	14/01/2019	€120,000
10 Ferguson Road, D9	14/01/2019	€100,000
19 Connaught Street, D7	19/08/2019	€350,000
21 Connaught Street, D7	19/08/2019	€350,000
414 North Circular Road,D7	19/08/2019	€160,000
25A Barnamore Park, D11	14/10/2019	€80,000

Compensation is payable under the Derelict Sites Act, 1990. Any person who immediately before the making of the vesting order, had any estate or interest in or right in respect of the land acquired may apply for compensation in respect of the estate, interest or right.

No. 30 Merlyn Road, D4 was sold at auction and compensation has been paid in the sum of €871,250 and the site has been rendered non-derelict. No other compensation has been paid to date but there are a number of claims pending. Of the twenty three derelict sites acquired compulsorily twenty properties were retained by the Council under the control of the Housing & Community Services to be used for social housing purposes. Many of the properties have been completely refurbished and rendered non-derelict and are now occupied or are currently undergoing refurbishment.

The Council received the consent of ABP to the compulsory acquisition of 37 Thomas Court, Thomas Street, D8 in November, 2019 and arrangements are now being made to vest the property in the Council. The decision of ABP to the Council's proposed compulsory acquisition of 21 Richmond Avenue, 27-29 Richmond Avenue and rear of 21-29 Richmond Avenue, Dublin 3 is awaited. The derelict site consists of an unfinished development which had planning permission for the construction of 48 apartments (14 x 1 bed & 34 x 2 bed).

Q.11 COUNCILLOR CRÍONA NÍ DHÁLAIGH

To ask the Chief Executive for a copy of the maintenance audit that was carried out on **(details supplied)**. If one was not carried out could one be done and a copy of findings sent to me please? The condition of this dwelling needs to be addressed especially the windows. The frames are black with mould as are the blinds. Vents were to be installed but the tenant feels that putting vents into damaged windows will not help. She needs new windows with vents in them. The bedroom walls are damp even though she regularly paints them with special paint. She complains of an awful damp smell in the bathroom.

The bedroom has 2 teenagers a boy and a girl sharing the one room.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

To help alleviate dampness Dublin City Council will install a PIV System (Positive Input Ventilation). We will assess the effectiveness of same.

The existing windows are double glazed and have been deemed not in need of replacement. However, the Area Maintenance Depot will attend to this property to repair a faulty bathroom window

Q.12 COUNCILLOR DECLAN FLANAGAN

To ask the Chief Executive to advise what Dublin City Council developments are taking place around the city currently, can I receive a report on same please?

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

All current and proposed housing developments throughout the city are detailed in the monthly Housing Supply report which is circulated at the monthly City Council meetings; a copy of the most recent Housing Supply report is attached for your convenience.

Q.13 COUNCILLOR DECLAN FLANAGAN

To ask the Chief Executive when will ramps/footpaths be installed in Parkside Woods please.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Parkside Woods is part of the Clongriffin / Belmayne development and not taken in charge to date.

Q.14 COUNCILLOR DECLAN FLANAGAN

To ask the Chief Executive to make contact with (**detail supplied**). This man wishes to assist the council with regard to the large amount of Voids around the city. His company has the ability to restore kitchens, bathrooms, furniture etc. to new at a fraction of the cost currently. He would like to make a presentation.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Housing Maintenance will contact this contractor. However, it should be noted that vacant Council properties are refurbished through Council Direct Labour or through contractors who are appointed to the Maintenance Framework of Contractors.

The Term Maintenance Framework is established following a competitive public tender process. As a public body in receipt of public funding, Dublin City Council is obliged to comply with this process.

Value for money is central to the Tender award process. The current Framework and Council Labour refurbished 1,082 properties in 2019 and output has increased by approximately 25% in the last two years.

Q.15 COUNCILLOR DECLAN FLANAGAN

To ask the Chief Executive what the update is on the Oscar Traynor Lands and can a report be circulated on same please.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The dialogue phase with the remaining two bidders (out of six) is now complete and the Invitation to Submit Final Tender (brief for final bid) has been issued. A round of clarifications will end by 17th February. Bidders then have until 18th March 2020 to submit their final tenders.

Those final tenders will be assessed against the assessment criteria set out in the ISFT, with the preferred bidder identified by mid-April, at which stage the 183 disposal can be initiated, and, if passed, will result in the Development Agreement being signed.

The Preferred Bidder will then have 6 months to apply for planning to An Bord Pleanála. They will then have one month to mobilise on site from the date they are granted planning permission.

Q.16 COUNCILLOR DERMOT LACEY

To ask the Chief Executive if his attention has been brought to an article in The Sunday Times of the 12th January 2020 regarding new methods of tunnelling for roads and if he will discuss same with the National Transport Authority in the context of the Development Plan objective of a Southern Port Access Route and report on same to the Council.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Dublin City Council with the sanction of Transport Infrastructure Ireland (TII) has appointed a Technical Service Provider to carry out a scoping study for the South Port Access Road Scheme (SPAR). The scoping study will assess potential route options for the SPAR, including the appropriate crossing type and location on the River Liffey. The report is due by the end of 2020.

There does not appear to be an article regarding new methods of tunnelling for roads in the Sunday Times on January 12th 2020 and ask if the Councillor is referring to an article published on January 5th (attached)? On confirmation we will look into the details further.

Q.17 COUNCILLOR DERMOT LACEY

To ask the Chief Executive if he produced a report on any actions that took place stemming from the Sandymount Village Design Statement published some years ago.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The Sandymount Village Design Statement (VDS) was prepared in 2011 as a collaborative project between local residents and businesses in the area, in partnership with Dublin City Council and the Heritage Council. The projects identified in the Village Design Statement are centred on the five core themes: (1) The Heart of the Village, (2) The Stand and Promenade, (3) Architectural Heritage and Development, (4) the Public Realm and (5) Green Infrastructure.

Section 8 of the VDS set out next steps and future VDS projects under the headings of (inter alia) Village Green Enhancement; Cultural, Heritage & Community Events; Flood Risk and Preservation of the Sea Wall and Martello Tower; Architectural Conservation Area (ACA) Designation; Traffic Calming and Pedestrian Safety Measures; Streetscape Enhancements; Village Branding; Greenway & Ecology Trail and Creation of New Public Spaces. It was envisaged that the Steering Committee established to prepare the VDS would also coordinate the development of these projects.

A report has not been prepared to date on the outcomes of the VDS programme. The steering committee never subsequently met. However, a number of the goals have been achieved or partially achieved, particularly in relation to provision of the new playground in Sean Moore Park, the designation of the Architectural Conservation Area, ongoing Community Section support of local events and a resurgence of an active Tidy Towns Committee. A Conservation & Management Plan for Sandymount Green (Howley Hayes Architects) was produced in 2015 by Park Services. Other goals

such as Flood Protection and pedestrian safety are being addressed by the Flood Protection and Water Framework Directive Division and Traffic Department of Dublin City Council respectively.

Projects 7 and 8 of the Village Design Statement comprise a historic landscape character assessment and designation of an Architectural Conservation Area. These two projects are combined in the Sandymount Village and Environs Architectural Conservation Area, which was adopted by the City Council on 3rd September 2013. The ACA includes policies and objectives for the management of new development, including a requirement to obtain planning permissions for general domestic extensions and alterations that would materially affect the character of the ACA (and would not require permission elsewhere; i.e. outside a designated ACA). This ACA continues to inform development management on an ongoing basis.

The Sandymount Green Traffic Management plan is at detailed design stage and this is nearing completion subject to completion of topographical surveys. The aim is to have this scheme out for tender within six weeks and to have construction to commence four weeks after that in early April 2020.

The first phase of the Sandymount Flood Alleviation Scheme on the promenade is due to commence in April 2020. This scheme will also reduce the flood risk to the Martello Tower.

Q.18 COUNCILLOR DERMOT LACEY

To ask the Chief Executive if there has been any response from the owner of the Martello Tower in Sandymount to a request to engage with the Council on its future use and to further ask the Chief Executive if the current additions to the Tower are all compliant with planning permissions.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Dublin City Council received approval through the Part 8 procedure in September 2019 to construct coastal flood defence measures around the sea wall at the Martello Tower. The works comprise the construction of a new concrete wall and foundations clad in Leinster granite rubble stone coursed to match the existing sea wall forming the boundary around the Martello Tower.

An enforcement file was opened in 2009 to address the state of disrepair of the tower. Subsequently, in 2012 an exemption certificate issued in relation to the reroofing of the machicolation area including upgrading drainage downpipes and the relocation of the air conditioning units on new upstands on the reroofed machicolation area ensuring that the units are not visible above the level of the parapet wall.

The last planning application Reg Ref 0009/98 related to alterations to the existing buildings, previously used for shop and flat, including introduction into the existing restaurant (already authorised by permission no. 257/91) of a brew area for brewing of beer for consumption exclusively on the premises and retention of extensions to the existing basement areas to accommodate toilets and stores. The proposed development was refused by An Bord Pleanála.

Q.19 COUNCILLOR JAMES GEOGHEGAN

To ask the Chief Executive if the installation by the Parks Department of self-locking gates that would be accessible for disabled persons and wheelchairs for Sandymount Green, Dublin 4 can be considered.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

All gate entrances into Sandymount Green are 1.1m wide which, while narrow, should accommodate wheelchairs. The entrances are gently sloped and should facilitate the majority of users.

If the councillor would like to make contact, Parks would be happy to discuss if there are particular circumstances in question.

Q.20 COUNCILLOR JAMES GEOGHEGAN

To ask the Chief Executive if he could set out in detail the current timeline in respect of the introduction of the Sutton to Sandycove Promenade and Cycleway; if he could detail when the next meeting of the Sutton to Sandycove Joint Committee shall take place.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The date for the next meeting of the Sutton to Sandycove Joint Committee has not yet been confirmed.

Two further stages of The East Coast Trail, formally known as the Sutton to Sandycove (S2S) are being progressed by the Sustainable Mobility & Projects division. Please see attached map.

Alfie Byrne Road to North Wall Quay:

Dublin City Council has funding available from the NTA to carry out works along East Wall Road between the Point Junction Roundabout and the East Point Business Park on Alfie Byrne Road. The objective of the scheme is to provide a two way segregated cycle route that will link Alfie Byrne Road to North Wall Quay.

East Coast Trail – East Wall Road Improvement Scheme

The East Coast Trail - East Wall Road Improvement Scheme will deliver pedestrian improvements and segregated cycle track between Sheriff Street junction and the East Point Business Park, connecting to the S2S cycle route. This scheme is currently at feasibility stage and DCC intend to procure consultancy services to progress the design of this scheme imminently.

Further information on the timeline to deliver the East Coast Trail – East Wall Road Improvement scheme section of the project will be available once the design consultant has been appointed. The estimated completion date for this section of the S2S is currently Q2 2022.

Point Junction Improvement Scheme

The Point Junction Improvement scheme will reconfigure the existing junction layout to provide a three-arm signalised junction with pedestrian and cyclist facilities. The project will also deliver pedestrian improvements and a two-way segregated cycle track to the Sheriff Street / East Wall Road junction.

Part VIII planning permission is currently in place for this section of the route. However, the permitted design has recently been reviewed in order to ensure this section ties in with the new pedestrian and Cycle Bridge proposed adjacent to the Tom Clarke Bridge. Once the review stage is complete, it may be necessary to submit a new Part VIII planning permission. The estimated completion date for this section of the S2S is currently Q4 2021.

Ringsend to Merrion Road:

This section will provide a high quality segregated cycle and pedestrian route from the proposed Dodder Bridge in Ringsend to the boundary with DLRCC on Merrion Road (approximately 4.5km).

The environmental assessment of the project area has begun in conjunction with DLRCC. Sustainable Mobility & Projects division is currently gathering the detailed requirements to allow the project progress to preliminary design. Tender documentation is being prepared for a competition to appoint design consultants in 2020.

Further information on the timeline to deliver the Ringsend to Merrion Road section of the project will be available once the design consultant has been appointed.

Q.21 COUNCILLOR JAMES GEOGHEGAN

To ask the Chief Executive if he could provide an update on the Sandymount Traffic Management plan specifying precise timelines for its full introduction.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The Sandymount Green Traffic Management plan is at detailed design stage and this is nearing completion subject to completion of topographical surveys.

The aim is to have this scheme out for tender within six weeks and to have construction to commence four weeks after that in early April 2020.

Q.22 COUNCILLOR JAMES GEOGHEGAN

To ask the Chief Executive further to question 87 on the 4th of November 2019 whether in light of the imminent permanent ban on swimming at Merrion Strand in Dublin if he will resource the procurement of an independent appraisal of both how Dublin City Council carries out its regulatory responsibilities for bathing water quality and how these powers could be strengthened to both preserve existing bathing waters and increase public awareness of the factors contributing to its diminution.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

As stated in the response to Council Question 87 on the 4th November 2019, Dublin City Council is satisfied that it carries out its regulatory responsibilities in a professional manner and in accordance with the requirements of the relevant regulations in the area of Bathing Waters.

The National regulatory agencies in this area are the EPA and the HSE and DCC works closely with both agencies. Moreover, these regulatory agencies monitor the performance of all Local Authorities in the performance of their statutory duties under the Bathing Waters Regulations so the need for further external appraisal does not arise.

DCC's responsibilities in this area arise from the Bathing Water Quality Regulations (SI 79 of 2008) which give effect to EU Directives 2000/60/EC and 2006/7/EC. Any changes to these responsibilities would be a matter for national government and the European Union.

It is noted that the EPA has not, as yet, notified Dublin City Council of its decision in relation to the 2020 Bathing Water season, notwithstanding the media reports referenced in the current Council Question No. 22.

In response to ongoing issues in relation to both Merrion Strand and Sandymount Strand, a joint Task Force was established by DCC in 2019, headed by a full time DCC

Senior Engineer. This Task Force, with representatives from DCC, Dun Laoghaire Rathdown County Council, the Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government and Irish Water, has met on a number of occasions and is working through a series of agreed actions.

However, it is recognised that many of these actions will take some time to implement and to impact on the bathing water quality at these and other bathing areas. DCC is fully committed to working with its partners on the Task Force, and with the EPA and HSE to identify and implement as many actions as possible, subject to the availability of resources, so that the problems being encountered over recent years in relation to bathing water quality in Dublin Bay are resolved.

In the interim, DCC, working with its partners on the Task Force, and with the EPA and HSE is looking to improve communications in the area of bathing water quality during the forthcoming 2020 Bathing Water season. A meeting is scheduled with the EPA and HSE in early February to discuss all of these matters.

Q.23 LORD MAYOR PAUL MC AULIFFE

To ask the Chief Executive to repair **(details supplied)**. Residents reported the need for repair on this road two years ago. I understand that it has been put on the list of works, however, it has been a tripping hazard and is in urgent need of repair.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Road Maintenance Services informs that a number of repairs were carried out in the carriageway in 2019 and that the footpaths are in a generally level and satisfactory condition at the present time.

Road Maintenance Services will consider major repairs in the carriageway for inclusion in 2021 annual works programme subject to available budget and other priorities. In addition, Road Maintenance Services may carry out localised maintenance repairs during the year, on receipt of a request that provides a specific address.

Q.24 LORD MAYOR PAUL MC AULIFFE

To ask the Chief Executive to call for an inspection of **(details supplied)**. There are a number of path and road defects in the area along with significant damage to public fencing.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Road Maintenance Services will instruct the utility responsible to reinstate the sunken cover in the footpath as soon as possible.

In addition, Road Maintenance Services confirms that the footpath outside this address is in a satisfactory condition, except for the sunken cover.

Q.25 LORD MAYOR PAUL MC AULIFFE

To ask the Chief Executive to repair the path at **(details supplied)**. This path has been reported twice for very poor conditions however, there has been no update on the matter from the council. A resident has reported that the hole in the path is still there and has become a serious hazard for pedestrians and cyclists.

Q.26 LORD MAYOR PAUL MC AULIFFE

To ask the Chief Executive to call for inspection regarding illegal dumping on **(details supplied)**. Residents report a serious increase of this problem since Christmas.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The Public Domain Team has inspected the area and agree that there has been an increase in illegal dumping since Christmas. The dumped material was removed on 20th January and surrounding area was cleaned.

Q.27 COUNCILLOR NOELEEN REILLY

To ask the Chief Executive details of those on the HAP Transfer list for housing allocations in 2019 across each area as a % of overall allocations.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The following are the % overall figures for housing allocations on the HAP Transfer list for 2019 –

Area	HAP Lettings %
B	8.5%
D	6.3%
E	4.6%
H	3.8%
J	9.7%
K	8.1%
L	3.3%
M	8.2%
N	4.0%
P	5.9%
Total	6.8%

Q.28 COUNCILLOR NOELEEN REILLY

To ask the Chief Executive to steam clean the footpaths at the Poppintree shops in Ballymun.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Waste Management Services can arrange to have this area power washed within the next fortnight.

The Public Domain Team arranged for a deep clean to be carried out in 2019 that included chewing gum removal and an intense clean-up of this area which is a cobbled pavement. Funding has not been allocated in the 2020 discretionary budget for another deep clean of this area.

Q.29 COUNCILLOR NOELEEN REILLY

To ask the Chief Executive that public consultation start with residents on the Church of Annunciation site in Finglas West.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

There is ongoing discussion between the relevant statutory agencies with regard to agreeing plans for lands adjoining the Church of the Annunciation, Finglas West. Public consultation with residents and local stakeholders will commence in due course upon the conclusion of these discussions.

The St Laurence O'Toole Diocesan Trust has consented to Finglas West Parish applying for planning permission to demolish the church (Planning Ref. 3023/19). A decision is imminent.

Q.30 COUNCILLOR NOELEEN REILLY

To ask the Chief Executive for an update on traffic plans for Finglas village.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

There is an NTA sponsored scheme for the improvement of the 5 arm junction in Finglas Village for pedestrians, cyclists and mobility impaired persons.

It is envisaged that the consultant for the scheme will be appointed in Q2 2020 with design of the scheme occurring in Q2/Q3 2020.

Q.31 COUNCILLOR LARRY O'TOOLE

To ask the Chief Executive to afford Medical/Welfare housing priority to this family. **(details supplied)** live in HAP accommodation with their two sons, aged six and one, the eldest who is autistic. This boy attends special school in Donaghmede.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The above applicant is on the Transfer List since 25th January, 2017 and holds the following position on the list;

Area	Bedsize	Position
B	2	383
E	2	440

This applicant has previously applied for a Medical Priority on 9th October 2019, which was unsuccessful.

If the applicant wishes to appeal this decision, she may submit new supporting medical evidence outlining the change in circumstances since the most recent decision.

Applications for priority on exceptional welfare/social grounds can be submitted to the Social Work Section, Block 2 Floor 2, Civic Offices Wood Quay.

Q.32 COUNCILLOR LARRY O'TOOLE

To ask the Chief Executive to indicate when this applicant **(details supplied)** currently on the homeless list will be offered suitable accommodation.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The above applicant is on the Housing List with an application date of 13th May 2011 and holds the following position on the list;

Area	Bedsize	Position
B	3	178

Based on this position it may be a considerable time before the applicant is reached for an offer of a social housing tenancy.

The applicant presented to Homeless Services in August, 2019 and a homeless prevention intervention was carried out at this time. The household did not avail of emergency accommodation. Should the family require emergency accommodation they can present again for assessment.

The applicant may be eligible for the HAP scheme which will provide her with financial assistance towards the cost of renting another property. Should she wish to apply for HAP, she should present to the Allocations Section with current income details, and a Housing Advisor can provide further details and advice on the scheme.

It may also benefit the applicant to increase her areas of choice as it may increase her chance of being housed in a shorter timeframe. Housing Advisors are available (Monday – Friday 9.30am – 4pm) to discuss options with the applicant should she wish to amend his application to include additional areas of choice.

Q.33 COUNCILLOR CHRIS ANDREWS

To ask the Chief Executive to have the graffiti on DCC owned wall removed at the Pump House off London Bridge road where it looks onto Stella Gardens/Aikenhead Terrace.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The pump house is managed by Drainage Section. The South East Area Public Domain Unit did arrange to have the graffiti removed from this building in 2019. The graffiti will be inspected and removed.

Q.34 COUNCILLOR CHRIS ANDREWS

To ask the Chief Executive for the trees to be cut back along the green bank close to the dodder in Stella Gardens.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The trees closest to the Dodder at this location are in the green space facing Aikenhead Terrace. The trees here could benefit from crown lifting of the lower branches on the trees in the green, nearest the Roadside.

This pruning work will be added to our 2020 Tree pruning Programme, for the South East Area. Please note that tree pruning is carried out on a priority basis subject to available resources.

Q.35 COUNCILLOR CHRIS ANDREWS

To ask the Chief Executive to arrange to replace the wooden seats and tables in the Bishop Street Play area as they are damaged/rotting. In damp wet weather they can't be used.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

An inspection has been carried out and new wooden seats and tables will be provided for the play area in Bishop Street.

Subject to funding available and the agreement of the local community we will inspect, repair or replace furniture in the Bishop Street Play area.

Q.36 COUNCILLOR CHRIS ANDREWS

To ask the Chief Executive following on from previous discussions and commitments to residents can the manager have new and higher railings around Digges Street and Cuffe Street flats in order to increase security for residents as a matter of urgency?

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

This request is being assessed by Housing Maintenance. It may not be possible under health and safety grounds, however, it will be looked into and if deemed feasible. We will consider implementation subject to the availability of necessary funding.

Q.37 COUNCILLOR ANTHONY CONNAGHAN

To ask the Chief Executive to arrange for the size of the disabled space in the Car park at bottom of Finglas Village to be increased as it is of similar size to rest of car park and people utilising it have difficulty when parking there. Can the surface be inspected with a view to repairing any defects and repainting any parking space lines.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The request for re-sizing of the disabled parking bay at this location has been referred to the Traffic Officer for their attention and necessary action. Ref Number: 7013530.

Road Maintenance Services will inspect the surface of the car park with a view to carrying out the necessary repairs.

Q.38 COUNCILLOR ANTHONY CONNAGHAN

To ask the Chief Executive to arrange for an inspection of the gutter and downpipes at **(details supplied)**. The resident has reported that there are holes along the system.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Housing Maintenance will arrange for an inspection of the gutters and downpipes and all the necessary works will be carried out, if they are deemed in need of replacement/repair.

Q.39 COUNCILLOR CRIONÀ NÌ DHALAIGH

To ask the Chief Executive regarding the dwelling at **(details supplied)**.

- a) Was the previous tenant transferred on maintenance grounds.
- b) Is there historic maintenance issues with this dwelling and if so, have they been resolved.
- c) The existing tenant has become seriously ill since moving in with respiratory problems.
- d) There is a constant leak from the ceiling/roof - that has not been addressed.
- e) The council said that they would put in vents and advised this lady to keep the windows opened to help with the dampness. She informs me she can't do this due to her respiratory problems

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The previous tenant was not transferred on maintenance grounds and we have no record of any maintenance issues with this dwelling.

A new heating system (boiler and radiators) were installed for this tenant in 2019. There are currently no open jobs in relation to a leak in the ceiling/roof of this dwelling. A job has now been logged and an inspection will take place. This property was surveyed in relation to dampness in July 2019. Fans will be installed in the coming weeks to alleviate any issues.

Q.40 COUNCILLOR DEIRDRE CONROY

To ask the Chief Executive that a number of unsafe junctions for pedestrians in the Crumlin and South Circular Road are to be upgraded to sequential, four-way pedestrian crossings and that the Council actively performs safety audits on pedestrian crossings. There are no pedestrian lights on 3 sides of the junction (2 sides at SCR) making it impossible to cross safely. There are similar issues at the junction of Clogher Road/Sundrive Road and Sundrive Road/Stannaway Road.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The Area Engineer has requested that the Councillor please log a request at <https://www.dublincity.ie/traffic-service-request-councillor> indicating the exact location/Junction on South Circular Road.

Following this, a service request will be created and referred to the Area Engineer for examination and assessment.

Please note that there is also a public transport service request form available online at the following <https://www.dublincity.ie/trafficservice>.

This is a dedicated website form for the public to submit traffic related service requests. In relation to the junction of Clogher Road and Sundrive Road, This request has been referred to the Sustainable Transport Unit for further assessment as it falls outside of budget constraints for the Transport Advisory Group. Ref No: 7009094.

The request to also examine the junction of Sundrive Road and Stannaway Road has been added to the Transport Advisory Group agenda and referred to the Area Engineer for assessment.

Q.41 COUNCILLOR DEIRDRE CONROY

To ask the Chief Executive that appropriate trees would be planted on the residential roads of Kimmage and Crumlin areas. In particular, but not limited to Captain's Road, Stannaway Road and surrounding roads.

A proper tree programme is requested by the local resident group, can this be delivered from Parks Department?

Currently many of the streets lack any trees, especially Crumlin Road, and this increases carbon emissions on humans in the area. Trees improve air quality, dampen the noise of motorised traffic, provide habitats for birds and absorb carbon.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Parks are continuously looking for opportunities to plant trees in the locations mentioned above. Captain's Road had Sorbus growing on it, which was diseased and had to be removed, unfortunately when parks went to replant they were met with objections from some residents. Cashel road also had similar issues so instead of 10 trees being planted only 5 were planted. Across the last couple of years Bangor Circle and Kildare Road have received substantial investment in tree planting (large trees). The junction of Sundrive Road and Clonmacnoise road has new trees planted on the green space, the Sundrive the residents association under-planted with bulbs and this approach worked well.

Unfortunately, when new trees are planted they can and have been subjected to vandalism e.g. some of the trees in Bangor circle were set on fire. This necessitates planting larger sized trees which cannot be broken easily, but are more expensive to purchase. Parks are planning on planting more trees in the current planting season, 250 trees were bought for the SCA, and can liaise with local resident groups to ascertain where suitable locations can be found. Also our planting programme can be presented.

Q.42 COUNCILLOR MANNIX FLYNN

To ask the Chief Executive to issue a full report detailing the number of staff who were involved in water training rescue from the Fire and Ambulance services of Dublin City Council who were injured during training or picked up contaminants from the Liffey polluted water quality and had to take time off work.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Dublin Fire Brigade operate a stringent Health and Safety monitoring programme for swift water rescue on the river Liffey.

During the last three years, there is no record of any staff members being injured during training or picking up contaminants from the river Liffey.

Q.43 **COUNCILLOR MANNIX FLYNN**

To ask the Chief Executive to issue a full update with regard the progress on the order of protected structure for Henrietta Street and its curtilage.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

This question is understood to refer to properties the rear of 4 Henrietta Street at 4A and 4B Henrietta Lane, Dublin 1 and the decision of the City Council at its meeting on the 1st July 2019 not to add structures at this location to the Record of Protected Structures pending further investigations.

Following the above decision, the Conservation Section reinstated this assessment into its ongoing work programme. The consent of the owners of 4A and 4B Henrietta Lane is being sought in order to undertake inspections for the purpose of carrying out conservation assessment of the properties. It is hoped that these inspections can be undertaken in the near future.

Q.44 **COUNCILLOR MANNIX FLYNN**

To ask the Chief Executive to issue a full report with regards how much money has been accumulated in the past five years with regard to rent credit and rent paid up front. Further, that this report give a clear understanding of the legislation that governs this kind of finance within Dublin City Council.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

A reply will issue to the Councillor within two weeks of the city council meeting.

Q.45 **COUNCILLOR MANNIX FLYNN**

To ask the Chief Executive to issue a full report with regards how much financial assistance has been given to the Peter Mc Verry Trust with regard to the contractual arrangements and renting of the Avalon House Hostel? Further that this report include a full breakdown of all monies from Dublin Regional Homelessness Services that were allocated to the Peter Mc Verry Trust over the past five years under service level agreements?

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The Dublin Region Homeless Executive (DRHE) has paid €692,845.99 to Peter McVerry Trust to date in respect of the Avalon House Hostel.

This breaks down as follows:

	Payment
Rent December 2019	€166, 666.66
Rent Q1 2020	€499,999.00
Insurance	€4,520.03
Legal Fees	€21,660.30
Total	€692,845.99

The following payments were made to the Peter McVerry Trust from 2015 to 2019 in respect of services provided for Homeless persons in the Dublin region and all was subject to Service Level Agreements.

Year	Amount
2015	€4,302,585.46
2016	€5,774,778.22
2017	€9,040,772.91
2018	€13,414,582.19
2019	€17,754,666.04

Q.46 COUNCILLOR COLM O'ROURKE

To ask the Chief Executive to arrange for the full replacement of an existing speed ramp on Glenbeigh Road in Dublin 7 (last speed ramp at the McKee Barracks end) due to its condition.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

This ramp shall be included as part of the 2020 Works Programme

Q.47 COUNCILLOR COLM O'ROURKE

To ask the Chief Executive for an update to my request for road markings to be painted and for signs to be replaced on the Cabra Road to clearly show the existence of the Taxi Rank there and to prevent cars illegally parking in the rank.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The Traffic Officer has reported that the Taxi Rank markings have been repainted and appropriate signage installed at the above location on Cabra Road.

Q.48 COUNCILLOR COLM O'ROURKE

To ask the Chief Executive with regard to the lane adjacent to White's Lane in Phibsborough, Dublin City Council have committed to an artificial ivy to be fitted to the fence to screen off the laneway. However, due to the serious issue of illegal dumping at this location, can a tall and solid fence be erected to deal with the issue?

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The Lane adjacent to White's Lane is private and not in charge to Dublin City Council. There is no budget available to put up a tall and solid fence, we will screen off the existing palisade fence with artificial ivy in the next couple of weeks.

Q.49 COUNCILLOR COLM O'ROURKE

To ask the Chief Executive to implement measures to tackle the ongoing issue of dog dirt at Bannow Road in Cabra and for the Dog Warden to knock door to door to houses on Bannow Road to raise awareness of the issue.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Arrangements are in place to launch an anti-dog fouling campaign in March 2020. The objective of the campaign is

(1) To increase awareness amongst dog owners and dog walkers and the general public of the issue relating to dog fouling.

(2) Increase compliance amongst dog owners and dog walkers in relation to dog foul disposal and provision of disposal facilities. i.e. "any bin will do".

(3) Raise awareness in peer groups of the effect of the specific litter category

As part of the campaign there will be local activation in parks and green areas.

The dog wardens will be included in all local activities

Q.50 COUNCILLOR LAWRENCE HEMMINGS

To ask the Chief Executive if the commercial property owners in Clongriffin are paying rates on the vacant units and what the total value of the rates collected in 2019 was including the sum yielded from vacant units compared to occupied units.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The City Council has fourteen ratings in the Clongriffin area. There may be other rated premises in the Fingal area.

None of the ratings in the city council area were vacant in 2019. A debit of €103,478.84 was raised in respect of the fourteen ratings. A total of €91,097.24 was paid by year end 2019 and there are payment arrangements in place to discharge the balance.

Q.51 COUNCILLOR MARIE SHERLOCK

To ask the Chief Executive what efforts, if any, are made by City Council to offer recycling or brown bin facilities to organisers of sporting and other outdoor events hosted in this city and if not, to ask him to put in place a system to offer such facilities.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Waste Management Services are currently examining the issue and hope to provide segregated waste bins to events where we are waste collectors in 2020.

Q.52 COUNCILLOR MARIE SHERLOCK

To ask the Chief Executive to expedite road resurfacing works on Home Farm Road in Drumcondra, an area of medium traffic flows, where large pot holes are currently posing a serious danger to cyclists and motorists.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The carriageway potholes on Homefarm Road shall be repaired in the next week.

There will be some repair work carried out to Homefarm Road under contract works as part of the 2020 Works Programme.

Q.53 COUNCILLOR MARIE SHERLOCK

To ask the Chief Executive for a list of planning applications submitted since January 2018 for each of the following; shared accommodation, student accommodation and co-living residential developments and to detail the number of which have been granted or refused permission.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Record of application received from 2018 to date for Shared Living , Student Accommodation & Co. Living in D.C.C.'s Administrative Area				
App No:	Location	Proposal	Decision	Appeal Status
4090/18	3, Ardee Road, Rathmines, Dublin 6	Shared Living Accommodation	Refused	Application withdrawn
4734/18	No. 20, Stoneybatter and the lands to the rear of Nos. 20-23a Stoneybatter, and Nos. 1-2a Manor Street, Stoneybatter, Dublin 7	Student Accommodation	Granted	
3392/18	The Concorde Lounge, Edenmore Shopping Centre, Raheny, Dublin 5	Student Accommodation	Refused	Refused
3057/18	Emmet Court, Goldenbridge, Inchicore, Dublin 12	Student Accommodation	Refused	
2807/18	1, 2, 2.5 and 3 Spitalfields, 15 Carman's Hall, and 28, 29, 30,	Mixed use Student	Refused	

	31 and 32 Garden Lane, Dublin 8	Accommodation & Commercial use		
2410/18	296A, North Circular Road, Dublin 7 D07 C64K on the corner of North Circular Road and Avondale Road	Student Accommodation	Refused	Refused
3592/19	69-73, Harold's Cross Road, Harold's Cross, Dublin 6W	Shared Living Accommodation	Refused	
3567/19	3, Ardee Road, Rathmines, Dublin 6	Shared Living Accommodation	Refusal	On Appeal

Q.54 COUNCILLOR CRIONÀ NÌ DHALAIGH

To ask the Chief Executive why the inspection reports findings by Energia on this dwelling (**details supplied**) have not been followed up on? It has been inspected a few times but the tenant is still waiting on the recommended improvements. As DCC purchased this house under RAS exit surely it should be brought up to standard for our tenant.

The bathroom is very damp. She has painted it a few times but the mould and dampness still comes back, light switches in the bedroom does not work so they have to use lamps, the back bedroom window is completely rotten, extractor promised for bathroom but still waiting, back door needs to be placed, needs new boiler & it was recommended that the front of the house be insulated.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

This property was acquired on 20th January 2019 from a RAS landlord. This was to allow the current tenant to remain in the property. When Dublin City Council acquires a property with a tenant in situ, a full refurbishment is not carried out.

However, the tenant can report any maintenance issues and these will be dealt with by Housing Maintenance. None of the above issues have been reported to us, however we can log these now and all necessary works will be carried as soon as possible.

Q.55 COUNCILLOR DAITHI DOOLAN

To ask the Chief Executive to ensure repairs are carried out at (**details supplied**).

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

There were two walls in the same vicinity damaged as a result of this incident. Both walls will be repaired within the next 6-8 weeks.

Q.56 COUNCILLOR DAITHÍ DOOLAN

To ask the Chief Executive to ensure the application (**details supplied**), is processed as soon as possible avoiding any undue hardship.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The application for this extension will be assessed in the next 4 weeks and the tenant will be notified in writing of the outcome.

Q.57 COUNCILLOR DAITHÍ DOOLAN

To ask the Chief Executive for an update on the following issue: I contacted DCC about 3 weeks ago concerning dampness in **(details supplied)**. I am wondering do you have any update on action that will be taken.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Housing Maintenance has referred this to a damp specialist in order for a survey to be carried out on the apartment. This will be done as a matter of urgency. Once the report is received, we will carry out all necessary works.

Q.58 COUNCILLOR DAITHÍ DOOLAN

To ask the Chief Executive what action will be taken to alleviate the traffic congestion around Bluebell Community Centre when there are football matches taking place in the all-weather.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The Area Engineer will assess the site and consider the implementation of traffic calming measures such as double yellow lines on one side of Bluebell Road.

It should be noted that careful consideration of these measures are taken into account as parking restrictions on Bluebell Road may lead to parking on the narrower residential roads, such as La Touche Road and La Touche Drive.

Any Illegal parking will be highlighted to the Parking Enforcement Section of Dublin City Council for their attention.

Once completed, the Area Engineer's report will be sent to the South Central Area Committee.

Q.59 COUNCILLOR MARY CALLAGHAN

To ask the Chief Executive if he will outline the turnaround time for urgent repairs, e.g. heating, hot water, for elderly vulnerable council tenants; whether there is a system in place to ensure that urgent repairs are carried out quickly and also that vulnerable tenants can be kept closely in the loop via ongoing daily telephone call-backs in terms of when works will be carried out, so as not to cause unnecessary stress and worry to tenants and their families?

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

As per the tenant's handbook, Dublin City Council has a responsibility to attend to urgent repairs within five working days. Operationally, the typical response for same is one to two working days. We can confirm that there is a system in place to ensure that urgent repairs are carried out quickly. Operationally, calls are received directly from DCC tenants, the call is then allocated for resolution. The tradesman upon receiving same makes contact with the tenant directly to arrange access and confirm when the works will be carried out. The tenant can make contact with Dublin City Council in the interim for an update if required.

Q.60 COUNCILLOR MARY CALLAGHAN

To ask the Chief Executive to ensure the signage in the new 30kph zones is fit for purpose and the council does not replicate the mistakes made in the 30kph zones in the Ballymun-Finglas area where the signage is invisible to cars that turn left into the 30kph zone. The height and position of the signs so close to the junction means that is not physically possible for drivers to see the sign as the line of sight is blocked by their car roof and rear view mirror.

This seems to be a serious design flaw which currently affects many roads and it is important that it is rectified and not replicated in the rollout of the new 30kph zones.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Dublin City Council has progressively introduced a 30km/h speed limit to many areas of the city. The implementation of special speed limits is being undertaken by the 'Guidelines for Setting & Managing Speed Limits in Ireland' (March 2015), published by the Department of Transport Tourism & Sport. The following site inspections were made at the locations highlighted to review the 30 km/h slow signage around the Ballymun-Finglas area, please see attached photos.

In regards to the height and position of the existing 30 km/h slow zone signs, Dublin City Council has used the guidelines set out in "Guidelines for Setting and Managing Speed Limits in Ireland" and "The Traffic Sign Manual" Chapter 4.

There are six aspects to be considered when positioning a sign:



Sign F 403:
30 km/h Slow Zone

- Its siting in relation to the junction, hazard or other feature to which it applies ;
- Its placement in relation to the edge of the carriageway and other features of the road cross-section;
- Its height above the road;
- Its orientation;
- Safety; and
- Its relationship with other signs and the environment in general.

Drivers must be able to read and understand a sign in sufficient time for them to react safely to its message. In order to achieve this, signs should be sited at the correct distances before the junction, hazard or other feature to which they relate. It is also essential to ensure that signs are visible from these distances and are not obscured by intervening obstructions.

All the 30 km/h Speed Limit signage have been implemented and sited by an experienced technician who has undertaken site visits and is aware of all the site constraints including underground services.

For further information about installation or position of the 30 Km/h Special Speed Zones signage please note the Department of Transport, Tourism and Sport in the Traffic Signs Advice Note Slow Zones (F 403) which can be referenced at <https://assets.gov.ie/34750/78058d6a7c9448c18788c0cdcd925bf7.pdf>

The purpose of this advice note is to guide Local Authority staff in the use/employment of the Slow Zone sign.

The roll-out of the new phase for the expansion of the 30km/h speed limit is proposed to be completed by October 2020 and the implementation of each signage will be in accordance of the above manual and guidelines as best practice.

Q.61 **COUNCILLOR ALISON GILLILAND**

To ask the Chief Executive to indicate the penalties applied to building sites that break planning enforcement orders on three or more occasions.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The enforcement procedures relating to breaches of planning and associated penalties are set out under Sections 151 to 164 of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended).

Penalties on conviction of offences relating to breaches of planning are set out in Section 156 of the Act with;

Conviction on indictment, to a fine not exceeding €10,000,000, or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 2 years, or to both, or

On summary conviction, to a fine not exceeding €5,000, or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 6 months, or to both.

Q.62 **COUNCILLOR GARY GANNON**

To ask the Chief Executive to improve the street lighting around Parnell St and the Garden of Remembrance. Particularly for cyclists, the area is too dark in the evenings.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The lighting levels on Parnell Street are considered to be at an acceptable level. In relation to the area around the Garden of Remembrance on Parnell Square North an assessment of the existing lighting will be carried out to establish if the light levels meet an acceptable standard.

Q.63 **COUNCILLOR GARY GANNON**

To ask the Chief Executive to clean and restore the monument to the Miami Showband on Parnell Square.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The Public arts Officer will undertake a site visit and report back on proposed action.

Q.64 **COUNCILLOR GARY GANNON**

To ask the Chief Executive to have fixed the side entrance to **(details supplied)**. This issue is ongoing issue that is source of anxiety to the tenant.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

A side gate will be erected on this property as discussed with the tenant upon inspection last Friday the 24th January.

Q.65 **COUNCILLOR GARY GANNON**

To ask the Chief Executive to at least trial a cycle route along the Liffey. This route is just too dangerous and lives have, and will continue to be lost unless it's addressed with urgency.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The debate on this issue is still ongoing and will again be debated at the City Council meeting in February and if agreed by the elected members a report will be prepared on an interim scheme and when it could be implemented.

Q.66 **COUNCILLOR KEITH CONNOLLY**

To ask the Chief Executive to arrange for the replacement of the boiler at **(details supplied)**. The current boiler is over 18 years old and numerous visits by council staff have recommended a replacement.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

This boiler was serviced on 9th October 2019 with no issues to report. The radiators are also working well. The tenant had requested for the pump to be moved but this is not required.

Q.67 **COUNCILLOR KEITH CONNOLLY**

To ask the Chief Executive to arrange for a camera to inspect to the drains at **(details supplied)**. The drains have been blocked up at this row of houses 3 times in a year.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

DCC drainage maintenance attended site on 25/01/2020. Public foul sewer checked, no issues noted. Area inspector noted issue appears to be in relation to a private shared drain. Private shared drain issues are not within DCC drainage remit.

Q.68 **COUNCILLOR KEITH CONNOLLY**

To ask the Chief Executive to arrange for a Children at Play sign to be placed at **(details supplied)**. There is a small sign in the cul-de-sac area at present but the estate has over 150 houses.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The streets surrounding Finglas Park display 30 km/h Slow Zone signs (F 403), indicating the lower speed limit and that the area is a Home Zone/Slow Zone, which warns motorists that it is a residential area and to expect children.(see attached map).

In keeping with the policy of the new 30km/h rollout, further signage within the zone is not recommended as this would lead to a proliferation of similar signs throughout the city. However, a 30 km/h road marking will be recommended to enhance the current 30 km/hr speed limit signage for the road.

Q.69 **COUNCILLOR KEITH CONNOLLY**

To ask the Chief Executive to review the decision not to prune the trees beside **(details supplied)**. These trees have a massive impact on the amount of natural light coming into the property.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Parks and Landscape Services have inspected the trees at **(details supplied)** are found to be in an acceptable condition and no further action is required at this time.

The Dublin City Council Tree Strategy 2016-2020, states 3.7.8 Shading Tree Works will not normally be carried out to address shading of direct sunlight. Trees are often perceived to block light to nearby properties and the level of alleged nuisance is variable and subjective.

The trees growing on the open space beside this address are to the north of the property and cannot directly shade the property.

Q.70 **COUNCILLOR VINCENT JACKSON**

Due to the large amount of interest from residents in the Ballyfermot / Bluebell area can the Chief Executive please indicate if forms are available form older persons who wish to sell their homes back to DCC in consideration for an older persons unit & a financial contribution? In addition have we any indication if and when residents in our houses for many years may be able to buy their homes from DCC. Due to problems with succession rights going forward some residents are anxious if a son or daughter is living with them they may not have a home or if someone has a disabled son / daughter.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Under the Tenant Incremental Purchase Scheme 2016, Tenants who have been getting Social Housing Support (are a Tenant) for a year can apply to purchase their home. They must have an annual income of at least €15,000 and a clear Rent Account. If they require information regarding the purchasing of the home they should contact the Incremental Purchase Section at 222 5449 or email tenant.purchase@dublincity.ie

Application forms for applicants wishing to apply for the Financial Contribution Scheme are readily available for any applicant who wishes to apply, from the local area offices or from the allocations section in the civic offices wood quay. As per the Scheme of Lettings, when Dublin City Council are purchasing the applicant's property, it will do so at a reduced rate (i.e. 60% of the market value for applicants aged 60 – 69 years old and 70% of the market value for applicants aged 70 years and older), in turn housing the applicant in an Older Person's accommodation.

Q.71 COUNCILLOR VINCENT JACKSON

To ask the Chief Executive for an update in relation to my question in December relating to **(details supplied.)**

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The above applicant is on the Housing List with an application date of 14/04/2009, and the applicant holds the following positions on this list:

Area	Bedsize	Position
Area H	2	16
Area J	2	17
Area K	2	26

Dublin City Council allocates properties based on time on the list and currently there are applicants on the waiting list of longer standing who have to be considered as suitable vacancies arise. It is not possible to indicate accurately the prospect of an offer for any applicant. The number of vacancies arising will be a determining factor in the length of time applicants could expect to be on the waiting list. In this case, we would advise the applicant to make an application for consideration for a Medical Priority and complete the Medical Priority application form and submit it with supporting documentation for review to Housing Allocations.

Q.72 COUNCILLOR VINCENT JACKSON

To ask the Chief Executive to look into the following housing need as per **(details supplied.)**

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The above applicant is on the Housing List with an application date of 18/05/2006, and the applicant holds the following positions on this list:

Area	Bedsize	Position
Area E	3	24
Area P	3	10

Dublin City Council allocate 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. As the applicant is not at the top of the waiting list it is unlikely she will be considered for the unit you have identified.

The applicant may be eligible for HAP which will provide her with financial assistance towards the cost of renting her property. Should the applicant wish to apply for the HAP scheme, she should present to the Allocations Section with current income details where a Housing Advisor can provide information and advice on the scheme.

Q.73 COUNCILLOR VINCENT JACKSON

To ask the Chief Executive to call upon the Minister for Justice, Equality & Law Reform & the Garda Commissioner to make available the necessary resources to allow the Gardai in Ballyfermot / Inchicore to deal with the serious escalation in criminal activity, offences against the person, racism which is now a daily feature in some parts of our community. The sense of powerlessness's law-abiding people feel is shocking in a democracy. I cannot listen as numbers are increasing, when there is zero visibility most of the time and response times of hours when people report crime must people start to operate vigilantes in our communities as I can see this if something is not done soon enough.

I would welcome the Garda Commissioner being invited to a City Council Meeting to outline his plans to respond to the concerns of our communities.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

It is our intention to invite the Garda Commissioner to a meeting of the City Joint Policing Committee in the near future where issues like that outlined in the Councillor's question can be addressed.

Q.74 COUNCILLOR SÉAMAS MC GRATTAN

To ask the Chief Executive to outline what measures DCC takes to ensure animals are being properly treated in Ashton Dog Pound and when was the last unannounced inspection carried out.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Senior Council staff regularly carry out unannounced inspections in Ashtown Dog Pound and have always found it to be in a satisfactory condition. In addition the kennels are inspected twice monthly by both the City Council's veterinary inspector and South Dublin County Council's veterinarian and all reports have shown the Pound to be satisfactory and animals are well treated. The last unannounced inspection by Council staff took place in October 2019 and another is scheduled for February.

Q.75 COUNCILLOR SÉAMAS MC GRATTAN

To ask the Chief Executive to take the necessary steps to change the status of roads in the City to National Regional Roads to allow DCC apply for additional funding from Central Government.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

With reference to the "Guidelines for Classification and Scheduling of Roads in Ireland" as published by the Department of Transport, Tourism and Sport, September 2013,

"Under the Roads Act of 1993 it is a function of the Minister for Transport to classify National and Regional Roads whereas for Local Roads it is a function of the Local Authority which is the Road Authority for its area." Additionally "The classification of

roads evolved as it became clear that it was necessary to have a system to help motorists identify good routes for driving. In the 1970s, the current National Road system was introduced with the Regional and Local Road systems being introduced subsequently.”

Decisions with respect to the classification of roads are therefore not made on the basis of funding requirements for their ongoing maintenance, they are made on the roads’ national, regional and local strategic importance.

Q.76 COUNCILLOR SÉAMAS MC GRATTAN

To ask the Chief Executive if Dublin City Council still owns the fee simple of (**details supplied**) or does it have any hold on the property?

CHIEF EXECUTIVE’S REPLY:

There is no record on the Council’s Property Register of the Council ever having had any proprietorial interest in the subject property.

Q.77 COUNCILLOR SÉAMAS MC GRATTAN

To ask the Chief Executive with the recent announcement of funding from the Government, what is the timeline for works to begin at Dalymount.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE’S REPLY:

Dublin City Council received a letter on 16th January 2020 from Department of Transport, Tourism, & Sport confirming the provisional allocation of €918,750 to Dalymount Park Redvelopment. The project must now satisfactorily complete Stage 7 of LSSIF evaluation process and confirmation of funding from DTT&S. When confirmation of funding is received DCC can commission a design team to commence detailed design for the redevelopment of the stadium and update the councillor with anticipated date for the works to commence.

Q.78 COUNCILLOR ALISON GILLILAND

To ask the Chief Executive to outline what compliance and enforcement measures are put in place to ensure industrial relations agreements including worker contracts, pay, pension, sick leave, etc and Health & Safety safeguards are in place and implemented on all procured work contracts.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE’S REPLY:

Dublin City Council are currently examining the range of contracts across our services and will respond directly to Councillor Alison Gilliland within the next two weeks.

Q.79 COUNCILLOR JANET HORNER

To ask the Chief Executive for details regarding the current schedule and strategy for street cleaning in the North Inner City, and any plans to increase it in light of the high level of illegal dumping?

CHIEF EXECUTIVE’S REPLY:

The current street cleaning regime in the North Inner City includes daily cleaning provided on a 7 day basis across the area. This includes mechanical cleaning, management of litter bins, manual cleaning and litter picking, cleaning of bottle and textile banks and the removal of illegal dumping. There is a service provided throughout the day on a variety of shifts operating from 6 am to 10 pm.

The removal of dumping is carried out on an ongoing basis and areas with known issues are the focus of specific resource allocation. A local litter hotline is provided and a dedicated local environmental services unit including an additional team of

operational staff is maintained in the Central Area Office to respond to and react to requests and complaints.

Reports to customer services and the area office are logged on to the Customer Relationship Management (CRM) system where they are assigned directly to local teams to address and resolve.

Additionally a pilot programme is currently in place carrying out the removal of illegal dumping in the area during night time operations carried out between 10am and 6am.

Q.80 COUNCILLOR JANET HORNER

To ask the Chief Executive if there has been a change of policy relating to the videos in the traffic control resulting in them being taken offline?

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The still images from the Traffic cameras were removed from the Web Site at the time due to concerns about IT security. A new system is currently being designed to be put in place in order to provide images on the website in a secure manner.

This is likely to mean that traffic images will be back on the website by Q3 2020.

Q.81 COUNCILLOR JANET HORNER

To ask the Chief Executive for a list of all types and numbers of emergency accommodation provided by DCC or which DCC work with?

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The emergency accommodation provided by the Dublin Region Homeless Executive (DRHE) emergency accommodation consists of Supported Temporary Accommodation, Temporary Emergency Accommodation, Family Hubs and Private Emergency Accommodation facilities, which include Hotels and B&Bs. Placement is initially based on available supply and then prioritised dependent on the available supports required.

There are approximately 224 emergency accommodation facilities currently in use. The breakdown of the type of facility is illustrated in Table 1;

Table 1

January 2020	No. of Facilities in Use
Supported Temporary Accommodation	90
Temporary Emergency Accommodation	4
Family Hubs	25
Private Emergency Accommodation	40
Hotels and B&Bs	65
Total Facilities	224

Q.82 COUNCILLOR JANET HORNER

To ask the Chief Executive what specific information is given to a proposed tenant in assisting them in making an informed choice on offer of accommodation by an approved housing body to a family/individual coming off the council list.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

When an applicant is reached for an offer of accommodation, through an Approved Housing Body they are contacted by staff in the Allocations Section and the following information is supplied to the applicant –

- What Approved Housing Body is providing the property
- The Location/area in which the property is
- Information will be given regarding how the rent is calculated
- If there is car parking available
- What heating is installed within the property
- The Pet Policy of the property
- A viewing of the property will also be arranged prior to the applicant accepting an offer of accommodation.

Applicants are also advised of the following policy regarding refusals of housing offers. Offers of suitable accommodation by an AHB will be recorded and refusals of any such offers will be taken into account in the same way as refusals of offers of Dublin City Council and RAS accommodation.

Applicants are allowed two refusals of housing offers, In the event of two reasonable offers of Social Housing Support being refused, Dublin City Council will suspend the applicant from the waiting list. This will result in the household not being offered Social Housing Support for the suspension period of 12 months. It should be noted that this period would not subsequently count for 'time on list' purposes. The refusal of two reasonable offers of accommodation from an applicant with a Band 1 Priority will result in the revoking of Priority Status.

Q.83 COUNCILLOR NEASA HOURIGAN

To ask the Chief Executive whether they will be applying for the climate action fund from DCCAE and whether they will be seeking to gain funds for retrofitting council accommodation , sustainable transport, and developing parks, green spaces and biodiversity in the city.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Dublin City Council commenced Phase 2 of The Energy Efficiency Retrofitting Programme in March 2018. We estimate that it will cost in the region of €100-€120 Million at current market rates to complete Phase 2 of the programme and this will take several years to complete.

To date we have upgraded 772 properties under Phase 2 at a cost of approximately €14.5 Million with a recoupment of approximately €9.5 Million from the Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government. Approximately 9,000 houses have been completed under phases 1 and 2 of this programme. A further programme for 2020 will be confirmed shortly.

Codema, the Energy Agency for the Council is putting together an application across the 4 Dublin Local Authorities for a PV/Energy Efficiency/Green Roof Project on LA community buildings, with support from CARO.

It is also intended to apply for funding from the Climate Action Fund to incentivise and facilitate greater use of cycle logistics and cargo bikes in the city to promote sustainable deliveries in the City.

Parks, green spaces & biodiversity projects were not covered in last year's Climate Action Fund (evaluation criteria is €/kWh saved, €/tCO2 saved & €/kWh RE), and there is no indication at this stage that such green initiatives will be covered in this year's call.

Finally Dublin City Council is still in the process of drawing down the €20m secured in last year's Climate Action Fund call.

Q.84 COUNCILLOR NEASA HOURIGAN

To ask the Chief Executive whether the pilot project due to commence in the next months in the Central Area, where caretaking staff will move to a squad based system rather than attached to specific locations has been reviewed in terms of our climate commitments and the proposed squads will use diesel vehicles to move around the city.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The pilot project in the caretaking section is due to commence on 2nd March 2020. The individual squads will use Crew Cabs during the course of the pilot project. We are committed to changing our vehicles within Housing Maintenance in terms of our climate commitments going forward. As such, we are currently in the process of changing a number of our vehicles to electric vehicles where feasible. However, the vehicles used in the pilot project will be using diesel fuel.

Q.85 COUNCILLOR NEASA HOURIGAN

To ask the Chief Executive what the proposed level of funding from central government is for the "Buy to Renew" scheme and how many properties are scheduled for purchase and upgrade.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The Department of Housing Planning and Local Government has provided funds of €50m to Local Authorities Nationally for the provision of acquiring and returning long term vacant properties back to use under the Buy and Renew Scheme.

The City Council acquired 18 properties in 2019 and all properties will be remediated and returned to use as housing stock in the near future.

Q.86 COUNCILLOR JOE COSTELLO

To ask the Chief Executive to examine the feasibility of developing pedestrian/cycling linkages at **details supplied** as per the attached maps.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The request for additional access over the railway will entail substantial investigations on the feasibility of the crossings identified as per the maps attached.

The Sustainable Mobility & Projects Division will carry out the investigations and will prepare a report of the findings by the end of the year.

Q.87 COUNCILLOR JOE COSTELLO

To ask the Chief Executive to outline the procedure to have streets at (**details supplied**) currently in green parking zone rezoned as yellow parking zone in line with streets at (**details supplied**).

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The Bye Laws were changed in 2019 and included a review and amendments of the parking zones in the Dublin City area. The impact of these changes are being considered during 2020.

No further changes will take place to the parking zones during 2020. During 2021 changes will be considered to the zones for pay and display parking along with other issues that may need amendments to the Parking Control Bye Laws for Dublin City.

Q.88 COUNCILLOR JOE COSTELLO

To ask the Chief Executive if he will review the clamping arrangements for vehicles parked illegally in the Drumcondra area when there are major matches and events in Croke Park stadium. Residents are concerned that the illegally parked vehicles of those attending Croke Park are never clamped while residents' vehicles are targeted regularly by clampers.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The Dublin Street Parking Services work in conjunction with An Garda Síochána during times when major matches and events are held in Croke Park Stadium. Illegally parked vehicles are clamped/relocated on such occasions and sometimes on instruction from an Garda Síochána for safety and operational reasons. Whoever parks in this area be they resident or non-resident are required to park legally.

Those vehicles that are illegally parked will be targets for enforcement and many non-residents vehicles are clamped.

Q.89 COUNCILLOR JOE COSTELLO

To ask the Chief Executive to install traffic lights at details supplied as per the attached map to prevent rat-running through (**details supplied**).

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The request for repeater lights will need to be investigated by the Central Area Engineer and update will be provided in the coming weeks.

Q.90 COUNCILLOR CLAIRE BYRNE

To ask the Chief Executive how much money Dublin City Council spent supporting the Christmas market in Dublin Castle last December in association with the OPW and can he clarify from which section these funds came from. Can the CEO also provide footfall figures for the duration of the market?

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The Events Unit, Culture Recreation and Economic Service Department, made a contribution of €100,000 to the 2019 Christmas Markets event in Dublin Castle. The event ran for a period of eleven days and received a total footfall of 275,000 visitors.

Q.91 COUNCILLOR CLAIRE BYRNE

To ask the Chief Executive can he please provide an update on the development of the Poolbeg West Site and the agreement to deliver 900 social and affordable homes on site? Can he provide an update on the commercial agreement pertaining to these homes and whether he envisions any challenges to this with a new Government?

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The update is that following an Oral Hearing, An Bord Pleanála's decision on the Poolbeg SDZ Planning Scheme, issued in April 2019, contained the following modification (No. 3):

“10% of new residential units provided on the lands included in this Planning Scheme shall be delivered as social housing in accordance with an agreement made with the planning authority pursuant to section 96 of the Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended.

- Prior to commencement of development, subject to confirmed funding and value for money considerations, a commercial agreement shall be entered into between Dublin City Council, the Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government and the owners/developers of the residential element of the Planning Scheme for the delivery of 15% of the residential units approved on the lands included in this Planning Scheme for social and affordable housing purposes. These units shall be additional to the housing provided for social housing purposes as required above.”

Tripartite discussions on the details of the commercial agreement have been ongoing with no resolution to date. It is understood that the site is currently on the market, and as such the City Council and the DHPLG will need to engage with the new owners / developers in relation to the commercial agreement.

Q.92 COUNCILLOR CLAIRE BYRNE

To ask the Chief Executive can he please provide a full list of buildings in Temple Bar currently under DCC ownership and management, the status of each of these buildings, the current or intended use of each building, and which buildings are being considered for disposal and when.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE’S REPLY:

In 2015, all commercial tenants of Temple Bar Cultural Trust (TBCT) were made a ‘first refusal offer’ to purchase their respective properties. A number of these commercial tenants did not have the capacity to buy and will continue to be maintained as tenants of TBCT. Cultural tenants did not have access to the statutory funding needed to allow them to consider buying their properties and will also continue to be maintained as tenants of TBCT.

From the table below only Unit 5, Music Hall and Unit 1, Music Hall are earmarked for disposal in 2020. There are no plans to dispose of any other properties at present. The following is a list of properties currently owned by T.B.C.T:

Address	Property Description	Current Status
Unit 3, Pudding Row, Essex Street West	Retail Unit	Commercial Tenant in place
Unit 1, Scarlet Row, Essex Street West	Retail Unit	Commercial Tenant in place
Unit 3, Scarlet Row, Essex Street West	Retail Unit	Commercial Tenant in place
Unit 6, Scarlet Row, Essex Street West	Retail Unit	Commercial Tenant in place
Unit 7, Scarlet Row, Fishamble Street	Retail Unit	Commercial Tenant in place
Unit 1, Music Hall, Cows Lane	Retail Unit	VACANT (Previous tenant did not renew lease, offered for sale)
Unit 5, Music Hall, Cows Lane	Retail Unit	Commercial Tenant in place

Meeting House Square Restaurant	Restaurant - ground floor and mezzanine	VACANT (Terms close to being agreed with new tenant)
1-5 Crampton Court (rear 44 Essex Street East)	Top Floor Offices & Garage	Commercial Tenant in place
1-5 Crampton Court - (rear 44 Essex Street East)	First Floor Exercise Studio	Commercial Tenant in place

Address	Property Description	Current Status
6-9 Temple Bar	Gallery on ground floor and artist studios	Cultural Tenant in place
4-5 Temple Bar	Gallery on Ground Floor. Print workshop	Cultural Tenant in place
2 Curved Street - Multimedia Building	Basement, Ground & 1st Floor	VACANT – proposal to develop a municipal gallery space currently being examined.
	2nd Floor Office	Cultural Tenant in place
	3rd Floor - Offices	Cultural Tenant in place
	3rd Floor - Office	Cultural Tenant in place
	2nd Floor and 3rd Floor - Offices	Cultural Tenant in place
	3rd Floor - Offices	Cultural Tenant in place
11a Eustace Street	Theatre, workshops and performance space	Cultural Tenant in place
11 Eustace Street	Artist Studios	Cultural Tenant in place
16 Eustace Street	Artist Studios	Cultural Tenant in place
17 Eustace Street	Offices, meeting rooms	Cultural Tenant in place
25 Eustace Street	Office on Ground floor. Restored Building	Cultural Tenant in place
6 Eustace Street	Cinemas, café	Cultural Tenant in place
Meeting House Square South - Entire	Gallery, dark rooms, retail space	Cultural Tenant in place
Meeting House Square North - Basement, Ground 1st	Purpose built archives, gallery space	Cultural Tenant in place
Meeting House Square North - 2nd, 3rd & 4 th	Offices, classrooms, darkrooms	Cultural Tenant in place
Festival House, 12 East Essex Street	Gallery/ mixed use space	Cultural Tenant in place
38-42 Essex Street East – Entire	Arts centre, performance spaces, gallery	Cultural Tenant in place
15 - 19 Essex Street West, Gr Floor Girls School	Theatre, workshops, performance space	Cultural Tenant in place
10-12 Sycamore Street - 1st Floor	Acting school & studio, rehearsal space	Cultural Tenant in place
44 Essex Street East	Offices	Cultural Tenant in place

Address	Property Description	Current Status
10 Blind Quay Apartments, Exchange Street Lower	Residential Apartment	DCC RAS Tenant in place
8 Scarlet Row, Essex Street West	Residential Apartment	DCC RAS Tenant in place
9 The Wooden Building, Upper Exchange Street	Residential Apartment	Artists apartment, administered by the Dublin City Arts Office

Q.93 COUNCILLOR CLAIRE BYRNE

To ask the Chief Executive what discussions have taken place between Dublin City Council & Waterways Ireland and what measures will be implemented to halt the removal of homeless persons tents and belongings and to avoid a repeat of the incident last week in which a man was seriously injured during such a removal process.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The Dublin Region Homeless Executive strongly believes that living in a tent is not a safe solution for any individual experiencing homelessness. The DRHE, through their Outreach Teams, are actively engaging with individuals who are sleeping rough in tents to encourage them to accept available emergency accommodation in homeless services.

Where tents are no longer being used, Outreach teams liaise with the Dublin City Council Public Domain and Waste Management Services on their removal, together with whatever litter that has accumulated at such locations. Generally no machinery is used in this work.

A number of investigations are currently underway which will review all aspects of the incident that happened recently on the Grand Canal.

Q.94 COUNCILLOR CIERAN PERRY

In relation to the new Postering protocol can the Chief Executive explain the rationale behind the removal of the option for an applicants to avail of a payment of €100 to DCC to avoid having to have public liability insurance? This requirement will have a very negative affect on some of the smaller groups with limited access to funding and will be seen as disadvantaging these organisations. What consultations took place in relation to this change?

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The Law Department is gathering the information and will issue a detailed response to the Councillor before the March Council meeting.

Q.95 COUNCILLOR CIERAN PERRY

To ask the Chief Executive to detail the number of illegal dumping fines issued over the past 5 years? Can he provide a breakdown by area and detail the number of fines paid?

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Fines issued for illegal dumping under Section 3 - Litter Pollution Acts - for years 2015 – 2019.

2015	Area	Fines Issued	Fines Paid
	Central	655	165
	North Central	38	7
	North West	153	81
	South Central	183	45
	South East	397	194
	Total	1426	492

2016	Area	Fines Issued	Fines Paid
	Central	412	141
	North Central	77	33
	North West	189	78
	South Central	239	83
	South East	344	171
	Total	1261	506

2017	Area	Fines Issued	Fines Paid
	Central	620	223
	North Central	105	41
	North West	73	31
	South Central	261	95
	South East	212	102
	Total	1271	492

2018	Area	Fines Issued	Fines Paid
	Central	429	160
	North Central	55	23
	North West	111	50
	South Central	183	68
	South East	186	112

Total	964	413	
2019	Area	Fines Issued	Fines Paid
	Central	97	49
	North Central	30	13
	North West	70	36
	South Central	103	40
	South East	93	53
	Total	393	191
	Grand Total	5315	2094

Q.96 **COUNCILLOR CIERAN PERRY**

To ask the Chief Executive In relation to dog fouling to provide the number of fines that were issued per area for the last 3 years?

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Below are details of litter fines issued in relation to dog fouling for 2017, 2018 and 2019.

Fines issued for dog fouling under Section 22 of Litter Pollution Acts - for years 2017 - 2019

2017	Area	Fines Issued	Fines Paid
	Central	2	1
	North Central	0	0
	North West	0	0
	South Central	20	18
	South East	0	0
	Total	22	19

2018	Area	Fines Issued	Fines Paid
	Central	4	1
	North Central	0	0
	North West	0	0
	South Central	0	0

South East	0	0
	0	0
Total	4	1

2019	Area	Fines Issued	Fines Paid
	Central	0	0
	North Central	0	0
	North West	0	0
	South Central	0	0
	South East	0	0
		0	0
	Total	0	0
Grand Total		26	20

Q.97 COUNCILLOR CIERAN PERRY

To ask the Chief Executive to detail the number of evictions carried out by Dublin City Council over the last five years by area and reason for eviction.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Below are details of litter fines issued in relation to dog fouling for 2017, 2018 and 2019.

Fines issued for dog fouling under Section 22 of Litter Pollution Acts - for years 2017 - 2019

2017	Area	Fines Issued	Fines Paid
	Central	2	1
	North Central	0	0
	North West	0	0
	South Central	20	18
	South East	0	0
	Total	22	19

2018	Area	Fines Issued	Fines Paid
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Central	4	1
North Central	0	0
North West	0	0
South Central	0	0
South East	0	0
	0	0
Total	4	1

2019	Area	Fines Issued	Fines Paid
	Central	0	0
	North Central	0	0
	North West	0	0
	South Central	0	0
	South East	0	0
		0	0
	Total	0	0
Grand Total		26	20

Q.98 COUNCILLOR CRÍONA NÍ DHÁLAIGH

To ask the Chief Executive what the cost would be to purchase a mobile CCTV system to be used to target illegal dumping.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

CCTV systems are not purchased by Dublin City Council, instead they are installed on a need only basis at locations where serious illegal dumping takes place.

In August 2019, a Single-Party Framework Agreement was completed for 2 years, (with an option to extend for one further year subject to annual and periodic review) for the provision of specific CCTV services for the purposes of enforcement. The CCTV equipment captures incidents of illegal dumping at unmanned bring centres and public places in Dublin City for a fee per incident of illegal dumping.

There are a number of CCTV cameras in place in the South Central area at present, namely:

- Bottle banks at car Park, Super Value, Walkinstown.
- Barnville Park, Cherry Orchard.
- Park Avenue, Cedarbrook, Ballyfermot.
- St. Laurence's Road, Chapelizod. (at N4 underpass)
- Drumfinn Road, Ballyfermot.
- Vincent's Street – St. Michael's Estate.

Other locations where CCTV were in place in 2019:
Lynch's Lane, off Ballyfermot Road
Coles Lane, to rear of Ballyfermot Road – at shops
Vincent's Street – St. Michael's Estate.

Waste Management Services work closely with the Public Domain Officer, South Central Area with regard to the installation of CCTV cameras.

Q.99 COUNCILLOR DANNY BYRNE

To ask the Chief Executive the following in relation to short term lets

- What is the estimated number of properties operating as short term lets contrary to legislation in Dublin City.
- The amount of investigations initiated by Dublin City Council under this legislation since its inception in July 2019?
- The amount of prosecutions under the legislation since its inception in 2019?
- What is the amount of time between each stage, i.e. from reporting to investigation to prosecution?
- What is the target in terms of investigations in 2020 and 2021?

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

- It is estimated that approx. 5,000 properties are operating as short term lets in Dublin City. This is a combination of house share and also properties whose sole use is as an Aer BnB.
- Dublin City Council has opened 340 investigations relating to short term-lettings since the new regulations came into force on 1st July 2019.
- Dublin City Council has initiated one prosecution under the new legislation since its inception in 2019.
- Each case is individual, the time can vary depending on many factors, difficulty gaining access to properties, ownership details etc. Multiple inspections may have to be carried out to prove non-compliance with the new regulations. It is anticipated that on average it will take approx. six months to initiate a prosecution from when the breach is initially detected. It should be noted that in general planning prosecutions are taken as a last resort where the owner of a property has refused to engage with us and/or refuses to comply with statutory notices served.
- Dublin City Council has a target of initiating up to 1,000 investigations in 2020. A review will take place at the end of the year to ascertain if this total is realistic/sustainable or can be improved upon.

Q.100 COUNCILLOR DANNY BYRNE

To ask the Chief Executive to urgently address the pavements surrounding Jim Mitchell Park. The pavements which are covered in moss are dangerous and slippery particularly for the elderly and the young.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Waste Management Services had the footpath outside Jim Mitchell Park cleaned and weeded on the 27th January 2020.

Q.101 COUNCILLOR DANNY BYRNE

To ask the Chief Executive to improve disabled access to Pearse Street Library.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Pearse Street library has ramp access via the library reception area located to the rear of the building, signposted from the entrance on Pearse Street itself. During 2019 access was improved by opening up public access to the corridor that runs from the reception to the library and by providing public toilets, including one dedicated for disabled users, on the corridor.

There is provision in the capital programme for 2020 for the replacement of the lift serving the public areas of the building due to reliability issues with the existing installation. Also planned for 2020 is the automation of heritage doors in the lobby area.

Q.102 COUNCILLOR DANNY BYRNE

To ask the Chief Executive to publish details of expenses and details of foreign travel for other Council employees in line with that required of elected Councillors.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The details of all expenses & foreign travel for Council employees and elected Councillors for the full year 2019 will be published on Dublin City Council's Website the first week of February 2020.

Previous years are currently available on this Website <http://www.dublincity.ie/main-menu-your-council-about-dublin-city-council-council-departments-corporate-services-department-travel>

Q.103 COUNCILLOR NAOISE Ó MUIRÍ

To ask the Chief Executive to please organise for the trees on the left-hand-side of the entrance to MIE from the Charlemont Estate entrance road to be assessed to ensure they are not a danger to passing pedestrians, cyclists and vehicles; this has already been raised by representatives of MIE with the Customer Service Centre – DCC ref 2583846.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

An assessment of these trees will be carried out in the coming weeks and any works deemed necessary will be included in the tree care programme for the area for 2020.

Q.104 COUNCILLOR NAOISE Ó MUIRÍ

To ask the Chief Executive to organise for the immediate repair of the pothole on the road between No. 9 and No. 10 Clontarf Park, Clontarf, Dublin 3

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

This defect has recently been repaired.

Q.105 COUNCILLOR NAOISE Ó MUIRÍ

To ask the Chief Executive to please respond on the specific issues raised in the correspondence below as per details supplied.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Cllr Naoise Ó Muirí is welcome to speak with Dermot Stevenson, Parking Enforcement Officer (T. 222 2017) in respect of cars parking on the paths and bike lanes along **(details supplied)**. Dermot will welcome any specific issues you can bring to him regarding these matters.

The Drainage Division's primary function with regard to rivers is flood protection, namely removing material that may cause flooding.

The Area office will carry out a survey of the area with a view to removing any graffiti on City Council property. Owners of private property will be contacted and asked to arrange for the removal of the graffiti from their property.

The trees that were recently replaced in Dorset Street were introduced onto an existing median strip. As there is no existing median on Drumcondra Road Upper it would not be feasible at this time to plant trees.

Q.106 COUNCILLOR NAOISE Ó MUIRÍ

To ask the Chief Executive Can the CEO organise for an up-to-date assessment of the installation of pedestrian lights at the church/shops on St Gabriels Road, Dollymount.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

A request (Enquiry Ref No 90050804) is listed with the Area Engineer for assessment and report to the Transport Advisory Group for their consideration.

The above crossing is on the shortlist for inclusion in Package 7 Capital works. The Councillor will be informed of the final recommendations on the February North Central Area Committee meeting.

Q.107 COUNCILLOR DONNA COONEY

To ask the Chief Executive could an updated management report on Bull Island and information on all flora and fauna species, numbers be provided with concern to protecting the Skylark and Meadow Pipit, also could we investigate the reintroduction of the native Irish Mountain Hare.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The following surveys have been undertaken within the last 5 years to help inform overall management on the North Bull Island Nature Reserve:

- Flora and vegetation survey of North Bull Island 2017-2019
- An assessment of the effects of recreational and other activities on the waterbirds using the Bull Island saltmarsh 2018-2019 (ongoing in 2020)
- An assessment of the effects of kitesurfing and other activities on the waterbirds using Dollymount Strand 2017-2018
- Disturbance of grey and harbour seals on North Bull Island 2018 and Dublin Bay Seal Survey 2018
- North Bull Island hare survey 2015-2016
- Marsh fritillary survey of North Bull Island 2017-2019
- Evaluation of the Status of Native Herpetofauna (lizards and amphibians) on North Bull Island 2014-2016

A survey of skylarks and meadow pipits has not been undertaken to date, however a baseline survey of breeding pairs is planned for Summer 2020, in partnership with Birdwatch Ireland.

The reintroduction of Irish Mountain Hares is subject to licensing from the National Parks and Wildlife Service, and this will be dependent on demonstrating that current disturbance issues are being managed.

An Action Plan for the implementation of management objectives for the Island is currently being finalised, and will shortly be published

Q.108 **COUNCILLOR DONNA COONEY**

To ask the Chief Executive to provide the councillor with a copy of Dublin City Council Parks report on planning application for 257/259 Mount Prospect Avenue planning number 3082/19. The spilt decision has been made but the report is not available online.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The Parks Report is now available to view online. Please see the attached link below:

<http://www.dublincity.ie/swiftlg/apas/run/WPHAPPDETAIL.DisplayUrl?theApnID=3082/19&backURL=%3Ca%20href=wphappcriteria.display?paSearchKey=4595585%3ESearch%20Criteria%3C/a%3E%20%3E%20%3Ca%20href=%27wphappsearchres.displayResultsURL?ResultID=5348282%26StartIndex=1%26SortOrder=APNID:DESC%26DispResultsAs=WPHAPPSEARCHRES%26BackURL=%3Ca%20href=wphappcriteria.display?paSearchKey=4595585%3ESearch%20Criteria%3C/a%3E%27%3ESearch%20Results%3C/a%3E>