



MINUTES OF THE SOUTH EAST AREA COMMITTEE MEETING

HELD ON MONDAY 9 MARCH 2020

- 1 Presentation by Planning Department: Update on public consultation phase in relation to the following; Proposed amendment to the North Lotts and Grand Canal Dock Planning Scheme to revise location of planned pedestrian/cycle bridge across the River Liffey from Forbes Street to Blood Stoney Road.
Order: Noted.**
- 2 Presentation: Overview of Transportation Department
Order: Noted.**
- 3 Minutes of the South East Area Committee Meeting held on 10th February 2020
Order: Agreed.**
- 4 Minutes of the Special South East Area Committee Meeting held on 17th February 2020
Order: Agreed.**
- 5 Environment and Transportation Department Matters**
 - i. Minutes of the Traffic Advisory Group meeting held on 25th February 2020.
Order: Noted.
- 6 Planning and Property Management Department Matters**
 - i. Report on proposed disposal: Grant of licence for use of part of Drury Street Car Park, Dublin 2.
Order: Agreed to recommend to City Council.
 - ii. Report on proposed disposal: Lease of the ground floor unit of Palace Street, Barnado Square, Dame Street, Dublin 2 to Fáilte Ireland.
Order: Agreed to recommend to City Council subject to amendment of term to five years and seeking better deal regarding the rent.

- iii. Report on proposed disposal: Fee simple interest in the site at St. Agnes Road, Crumlin, Dublin 12 to An Post.
Order: Agreed to recommend to City Council.
- iv. Report on proposed disposal: Fee simple interest in a plot adjacent to 1, Pembroke Cottages, Donnybrook, Dublin 4 to Domhnach Limited.
Order: Agreed to recommend to City Council.

7 Culture, Recreation and Economic Services Matters

- i. Report on sculpture in local areas.
Order: Noted.
- ii. Parks and Landscaping Services South East Area Works Programme 2020.
Order: Noted.

8 South East Area Matters

- i. Report of the Director of Services, South City.
Order: Noted.
- ii. Report on proposal to have Adair Lane Dublin 2 taken in charge by Dublin City Council.
Order: Agreed to recommend to City Council.

9 Motions

Emergency Motion Cllr. Claire O'Connor. Moved by Cllr. Lacey

That Ranelagh Gardens Park be locked at night and the status quo reverted to.

Order: Report to Councillor.

Motion 1 from Councillor Dermot Lacey

This Committee requests the Manager to respond to the urgent request for better drainage solutions to the area at the end of Morehampton Road near Swan Place.

Order: Report to councillor.

Motion 2 from Councillor Dermot Lacey

This Committee requests the Manager to review the document from the Ranelagh Village Improvement Group and circulated with this motion with a view to seeking ways to implement it as part of this year's work programme,

Dermot Lacey

RVIG - Ranelagh Village Improvement Group

Proposal to Dublin City Council

RVIG propose the refurbishment of the section of pavement in Ranelagh village bordering houses Nos 70-88 (even nos. only). This section of streetscape forms the longest uniform continuous coherent terrace of Victorian houses in Ranelagh Village. It is a very important part of the architectural heritage of Ranelagh. The perspective of the terrace has been enhanced by the planting of trees on this stretch of streetscape by Dublin City Council some years ago.

Two elements detract significantly from the terrace.

Firstly, the treatment of gardens and front railings is very disjointed because of some hard surfacing of gardens and removal of railings and some boundary walls. This problem is difficult to rectify with no obvious immediate solution except perhaps by attaching appropriate conditions to future planning permissions for work on any house in the terrace over the coming years.

Secondly, the surface of the footpath has been cut open on many occasions for services maintenance and many repairs are very poor in quality. The pavement now has a random jigsaw/'cut and paste' appearance. Furthermore, it has a significant number of uneven joints at cuttings constituting a hazard to pedestrians and constituting an impediment to a more age friendly walkability for the older segment of population in the Ranelagh area.

In the 2000's many old concrete footpaths in the village in a similar condition were replaced with granite kerbing and concrete paving stones. This greatly improved the appearance and the paving stones approach has facilitated easy uniform replacement whenever services maintenance required excavation. But there has been little or no footpath renewal in the Ranelagh village area since 2009.

We are proposing the renewal of the segment outlined earlier with a somewhat similar approach to the earlier work, but with a variation. Given the quality of the Victorian terrace in question, we propose that the paving be with granite kerbing and granite paving stones. This could either be of the bright grey variety, used in parts of the city or preferably the yellow tinted variety used in some Georgian and Victorian streetscapes in Dublin. This latter type would reflect the yellow brickwork of the terrace.

The length of pavement in question is approximately 75 mtrs. and while the width varies, it is on average approximately 3 mtrs. or a little less, thus giving a pavement area of 225 Sq. mtrs. We are aware from an industry source that granite paving is expensive, approx. three times the cost of concrete. So the extra cost of granite over concrete would be approximately 4-5000 euro (32 vs 12 euro per sq. metre).

Order: Report to councillor.

Motion 3 from Councillor Mary Freehill

In the interest of developing closer working relations between councillors and officials that three monthly meetings be held in each of the three electoral area offices to focus on local community policy and operational matters.

Order: Agreed.

Motion 4 from Councillor Dermot Lacey

This Committee requests the Manager to report on the following in relation to Donnybrook Cemetery:

- 1) The reason why numbered blue tags have been placed on many of, if not all, the gravestones (or marker monuments)
- 2) If the wall where the tree recently fell will be repaired and if the roots of the tree will be removed.
- 3) An update on the proposals to erect the Columbarium wall and given that the cemetery will therefore be more used if there are any plans to provide access facilities for wheelchair users at the entrance to the cemetery.

Order: Report to councillor.

Motion 5 from Councillor Tara Deacy and Pat Dunne

Following on from our meeting on the distribution of the Discretionary fund for 2020, Cllr. Pat Dunne and myself ask that this committee agree we engage in a more informed and lengthy process for 2021. We are proposing that this committee agree (with the assistance of the Community Development Section of DCC) that we review the most recent CSO stats identifying areas of need through the deprivation index and focus any additional funding on those communities most in need. This exercise would also serve to inform our decisions around the Community Grants. We are proposing this process begin shortly after the budget has been decided.

Order: Agreed.

Motion 6 from Councillor Tara Deacy

I, alongside fellow councillors have put a number of motions in for a pedestrian crossing for Ravensdale Park over the last 18 months. I received notification that this would be reviewed and I have since found out that it will not be considered for traffic calming. I ask that this committee agree to reconsider this decision. I have seen far too many near misses over the last few months. We have several visually impaired residents who struggle to cross over this busy junction and many young families are also resident in this area. Can we as a committee all agree that this particular area would greatly benefit from a traffic calming measure before there is a serious accident?

Order: Report to councillor.

Motion 7 from Councillor Tara Deacy

I note that 220 trees are being planted in the South East Area during 2020. I seek support from this committee to ensure the areas of Kimmage and Crumlin be attended to in terms of a tree planting programme, especially the streets of Captain's Road, Stannaway Road and surrounding streets? Currently many of the streets are almost entirely tree-less: in stark contrast to other areas, there are just a few in place (some of them not in great condition); and in many other cases, the square-shaped hole within the footpath in which trees previously grew has, depressingly, been filled in with concrete. In short, the streets are very grey and sorely lacking in decent greenery and canopy. Can areas like this where tree planting has been low be prioritized as a matter of urgency?

Order: Report to councillor.

Motion 8 from Councillor Tara Deacy

That this committee agree and support the views of residents from the Kimmage / Crumlin community that Crumlin Swimming Pool opening hours be extended. This is a crucial public service that is not being utilised fully and is causing huge frustrations for residents. The hours at present are not adequate and must be addressed. Can this committee agree that alternative funding streams be investigated in terms of increasing the opening hours, for example sporting grants etc.? We have relied too heavily on discretionary funds to keep the pool open over the last number of years and this is unsustainable.

Order: Agreed.

Motion 9 from Councillor Tara Deacy

In light of the terrible accident that took place on February 24th at the entrance to Eamon Ceannt Park, Sundrive Road I ask that this committee agree DCC put pedestrian crossing in place as soon as possible.

Order: Report to councillor.

Motion 10 from Councillor Mary Freehill

That Dublin City Council complies with its commitment to provide access to all its buildings to people with disabilities.

This committee and the City Council on a number of occasions have agreed to provide handrails along the steps to city hall so far nothing has been done. This entrance and egress are a hazard for pedestrians and especially for the walking wounded. A number of people have fallen on these steps, if the Council continues to ignore their responsibility they will incur insurance claims.

City Hall and Wood Quay are seriously inaccessible to people with hearing losses. It is estimated that 25% of the population have hearing loss i.e. 1 million people. The headphones that work in the council chamber don't work downstairs. There is no facility whatsoever for people with hearing loss in Wood Quay building.

This committee agrees that an acoustic assessment of both buildings is carried out and that hand rails are immediately installed on the steps to City Hall. This has been agreed by the Council in the past but nothing has been done. I ask that the City Architect attend our meeting to assure us on when the work will commence.

Order: Report rejected. Deferred to April meeting and attendance of staff from City Architects and Conservation Sections sought.

Motion 11 from Councillor Claire Byrne moved by Cllr. Lacey

That this area committee calls on the Area Manager to take immediate measures to address the issue of speeding and rat running on Creighton Street. There is a particular issue during peak traffic times where drivers use Creighton Street to reach Sandwith Street to avoid the traffic lights at the Quays/Lombard Street junction and Lombard Street/Townsend Street junction, very often travelling at high speed and ignoring the two stop signs, posing a real threat to pedestrians and cyclists.

Order: Report to councillor.

Motion 12 from Councillor Claire Byrne moved by Cllr. Lacey

That this area committee agrees not to dispose of the council owned land adjacent to the former Bernard Shaw pub on Richmond Street South for commercial development and agrees that this land should only be used for housing or cultural and creative purposes.

Order: Report to Councillor.

Motion 13 from Councillor Claire Byrne moved by Councillor Lacey

That this Area Committee calls on the Area Manager to resurface the road at Earlsfort Terrace / Stephens Green and to reinstate the road markings here as a matter of urgency. The road has been left in a terrible state due to recent development and utility works here.

Order: Report to councillor.

Motion 14 from Councillor Mary Freehill

That this committee elect and recommend to Council two members of the South East Area Committee to the management committee of the Swan management Company Rathmines. This was agreed in the first instance when the Management Board was agreed by Council. Subsequently the Council's Legal Dept. challenged the fitness of an elected member to be a member of this board. I submitted a further legal opinion pointing out the inadequacy of this opinion.

Therefore it is agreed that two members be recommended to city council from this committee and be elected at this committee and submitted to the April Council meeting.

Order: Defer to April meeting. Provide written confirmation that Dublin City Council membership of the Swan Management Company is an executive not a reserved function. Further information on the appointment of Directors to be brought before next meeting.

Motion 15 from Councillor James Geoghegan

That a meeting be arranged between Parks Department and residents of Dartmouth Square concerning the decision to leave the gates of the park open at all times.

Order: Report to councillor.

Motion 16 from Councillor James Geoghegan

That a new system be established for councillors to have personalised contacts within Irish Water for the relevant engineers or officials responsible for each areas within the South East Area.

Order: Agreed.

Motion 17 from Councillor Pat Dunne

That the area manager takes the necessary steps with the relevant sections to have the traffic signals along the Grand Canal pedestrianised. There is a real need from the point of view of Health and Safety to have pedestrian lights at the Herberton Road/ Dolphin Road intersection and at Sally's Bridge. There has been procrastination in relation to similar requests in the past on the basis that these works would be incorporated into the Grand Canal Cycleway project, but we cannot wait any longer for action on this issue.

Order: Report to councillor.

- 10 Questions to the Chief Executive 9th March 2020**
Order: Noted.

Councillor Dermot Lacey
Chairperson
Monday 9 March 2020

Attendance:

Members:

Dermot Lacey (Chairperson)
Claire Byrne
Daniel Céitinn
Pat Dunne
James Geoghegan
Claire O'Connor

Members:

Hazel Chu
Tara Deacy
Mannix Flynn
Paddy McCartan

Members:

Deirdre Conroy
Kevin Donoghue
Mary Freehill
Carolyn Moore

Officers

Myles Farrell
Antonia Martin
Leah Johnston
Dominic Hession
Mark Ginnetty
Brian Hanney
Gerald McEntaggart

Paul McCann
Mary Taylor
Ray Yeates
Karen Downey
Les Moore
Brendan O'Brien

Chris Manzira
Deirdre Kelly
Neil O'Donoghue
Helen McNamara
Richard Shakespeare
Michael Noonan

Apologies:

Anne Feeney

Danny Byrne

Non-Members:

Q.1 Councillor Dermot Lacey

To ask the Manager to request the relevant section to investigate dumping at: Details supplied:

Reply:

The area in question is private property. We will contact the property owners to request a clean-up of the site.

The issue of the reported vermin will also be reported to the property owners to institute pest control measures. The HSE deals with rodent infestation except in the cases of commercial businesses or private rented accommodation and may be contacted at 1850 211774.

Q.2 Councillor Dermot Lacey

To ask the Manager if the following could be investigated, details supplied:

Reply:

The Derelict Sites Section has active files on details supplied 2. The sites are subject to ongoing review

Q.3 Councillor Dermot Lacey

To ask the Manager if he will arrange for a proper front door to be installed at *details supplied* and not the type that has now had to be already replaced that according to the resident is an inside door not suitable for exposure to the elements.

Reply:

Housing Maintenance fitted a standard external door to this property and this door is suitable for exposure to the elements.

Q.4 Councillor Paddy McCartan

To ask the manager to deal with the following issue. To have the pavement outside 8 Gilford Drive, Sandymount, Dublin 4 repaired as it has become uplifted and is in generally in a poor state.

Reply:

This location will be inspected and the defect will be logged for repair.

Q.5 Councillor Paddy McCartan

To ask the manager to have a new street light installed on Belmont Park, Donnybrook, as the road is very dark and there have been a number of robberies. The poor lighting is a contributory factor.

Reply:

The lighting on Belmont Park, Donnybrook, was assessed and we will consider adding an additional light to a list for inclusion on a future lighting project, subject to available finances. We will continue to carry out routine maintenance works on the existing lights and will replace existing lamps as required.

Q.6 Councillor Paddy McCartan

To ask the manager to give a further update on continuing issues of anti-social behaviour affecting Eastmoreland Lane. This issue had been previously raised last November by a constituent who now writes:

"We are still having issues with anti-social behaviour coming from customers of Searsons pub. They are in breach of planning by allowing access on to the Eastmoreland Lane, displaying advertising and they permanently store over flowing waste on the lane.

Please can you advise why Searsons are consistently disregarding the council and the residents?

Reply:

The storage & presentation of commercial waste on Eastmoreland Lane is monitored by the Litter Warden for the area as part of his routine patrol. Any issues identified with the storage & presentation of the waste are dealt with promptly. The Litter Warden will continue to monitor this location.

Investigations by the Planning Enforcement Section has revealed that the permission restricting the use of the gate concerned was not implemented and therefore there is no restriction on the use of the gate concerned. Any issue relating to anti-social behaviour on a public laneway would be a matter for An Garda Síochána in the area.

Q.7 Councillor Paddy McCartan

To ask the manager to arrange to have rubbish and debris cleared from the walk way adjacent to Lansdowne Road DART station.

Reply:

Waste Management Services had the above mentioned walkway cleaned on the 25th February 2020.

Q.8 Councillor Dermot Lacey

To ask the Chief Executive if there can be a reduction in the quite excessive charge being levied on these residents for the removal of a parking bay details supplied

Reply:

In the granting of planning permission for this driveway at no details supplied 1, the following text is included in respect of application no. details supplied 2:

4. *The developer shall comply with the following Transportation Planning requirements of the Planning Authority:*
 - a) *Prior to the commencement of construction, the developer shall contact the Council's Traffic Advisory Group to alter the line markings associated with the removal of one accessible car parking space outside no. details supplied 1 and relocate the accessible parking space to the nearest suitable location as agreed with the Council's Traffic Advisory Group. All works shall be at the developer's expense.*
 - b) *Prior to the commencement of construction, the developer shall contact the Council's Parking Enforcement Division regarding the fees associated with the removal of one accessible car parking space outside no. details supplied 1.*
 - c) *Gates shall not open onto the adjoining public footpath.*
 - d) *The footpath and kerb shall be dished and the new entrance shall be provided in accordance with the requirements of the Area Engineer, Roads Maintenance Department.*

- e) *All costs incurred by Dublin City Council, including any repairs to the public road and services necessary as a result of the development, shall be at the expense of the developer.*
- f) *The developer shall be obliged to comply with the requirements set out in the Code of Practice for the Roads, Streets and Traffic Department. Reason: To ensure a satisfactory standard of development.*

The policy and pricing for the removal of parking bays was approved by the Transportation SPC in 2005.

Q.9 Councillor Kevin Donoghue

To ask the manager to introduce traffic calming measures along Long Lane in Dublin 8. Traffic is travelling at high speed and residents are concerned it might be doing damage to their cars.

Reply:

The Area Engineer will carry out a speed survey to assess if further traffic calming measures are required at this location. Long Lane is part of the 30km/h special speed limit zone. It is proposed to install 30Km speed roundel markings on the road where appropriate.

Q.10 Councillor Daniel Céitinn

Can the manager explain why, despite the potential danger of flooding posed to residents, the flood gates near the Aviva Stadium were closed the day before and the day after the rugby match on February 8th? Was there not a fear that flooding could occur, as it has in the past? And if there had been damage to residential property caused by any negligence on the part of Dublin City, who would the residents have made the insurance claim against?

These gates were put in place to protect residents. Flooding tides were reported to be up to the top of the Tennis Club walls. If there had been flooding, as has occurred in the past, it could have caused serious damage.

Reply:

Dublin City Council received advanced notification of Storm Ciara on the weekend in question. The City Council's Flood Emergency Group met to assess the forecasts and put any necessary plans in place. Based on the information at the time, the decision was made not to close the flood gates on the Dodder. This was the correct decision as there was no flooding from the Dodder. Some gates had been closed beside the Aviva Stadium on the request of the Gardaí to assist with match day crowd control. There was no negligence on the part of Dublin City Council, who monitored the event throughout the weekend and had crews deployed at locations where there was actual flooding. Should any future damage be caused to properties from flooding, the householders would have to claim off their own house insurance.

Q.11 Councillor Daniel Céitinn

Recently, graffiti was removed from the wall of the pumping house station where it looks onto Mary Aikenhead Terrace and it was graffitied again just two days after it was removed. Can the manager arrange for this graffiti to be removed again please?

Reply:

The pump house is the responsibility of the Drainage Section. They have previously paid to have graffiti removed by a contractor. I did however inspect this location on 28th February 2020 and found to be largely graffiti free. There is some old tagging on

the metal door, but otherwise it is clear. There is some graffiti on the walkway from the pump house to Mary Aikenhead Terrace. I have arranged for that to be removed.

Q.12 Councillor Daniel Céitinn

Can the manager arrange to have the drains in Mount Drummond Court cleared as when it rains the courtyard / parking area is flooded?

Reply:

A request for the drains in Mount Drummond Court to be cleared has been logged on our system. The choke-car will attend to this as soon as possible.

Q.13 Councillor Daniel Céitinn

Can the manager arrange to have the rear entrance in Hall 18 in new York Street Apartments repaired as it has been broken for over a week now?

Reply:

This door was repaired during the week and is now working correctly.

Q.14 Councillor Daniel Céitinn

Can the manager arrange a report on the cost to install public lighting in Herbert Park, Sundrive Park and Eamon Ceannt Park as it would reduce anti-social behaviour and allow parks to be accessible after dark?

Reply:

There are currently no plans to install lighting in the above parks and it is not evident that encouraging the use of parks after dark is a wise thing to do from a personal safety perspective.

Q.15 Councillor Daniel Céitinn

Can a "No Dumping" sign be installed at the entrance to St. Kevin's Parade, off Clanbrassil Street as there is an ongoing trend of rubbish being dumped here and also can cameras be installed (even if only on a temporary basis) to identify those dumping?

Reply:

Arrangements have been made to put in place "No Dumping" signage at the entrance to St. Kevin's Parade.

I will discuss the issue of CCTV cameras with the Environmental Liaison Officer in the South East Area.

Q.16 Councillor Daniel Céitinn

Can the manager state why the drains at a residence *details supplied are constantly blocking and can the manager state why the pipes causing the blockage have not been repaired as a matter of urgency and in the interim have the blockage cleared on a weekly basis?

Reply:

Housing Maintenance will arrange for a camera to be installed to investigate these issues further.

Q.17 Councillor Daniel Céitinn

Can the manager carry out a fire safety audit on the rear windows of the flats on Bride Street, Ross Road and Nicholas Street as a matter of urgency as residents are concerned they do not meet fire safety regulations?

Reply:

Dublin City Council Housing Maintenance will arrange to have a fire safety audit on the windows in the coming weeks.

Q.18 Councillor Daniel Céitinn

Can the manager arrange for a situation at a dwelling *details supplied regarding raw sewage leakage to be resolved?

Reply:

Housing Maintenance received no reports of issues with details supplied. The foreman will inspect today and all necessary works will be carried out.

Q.19 Councillor Anne Feeney

To ask the Manager to investigate the feasibility of introducing Permit Parking on Rostrevor Road, Dartry. This road has ongoing problem with congestion and the road being used as for all-day parking by commuters and residents of Marianella (who have insufficient parking provision for the number of residential units). An initial survey of residents has taken place with 28 of the 38 house owners signing the survey.

Reply:

The introduction of a Pay and Display and Permit Parking Scheme on a road which would place restrictions and limits on non-residential parking during the hours of operation can be considered.

Dublin City Council can proceed with the preparation of a Pay and Display and Permit Parking Scheme on the road and subsequent ballot of residents where there is a demonstrable and clear desire in favour of a scheme, i.e. 25% of households in favour of the request. This may take the form of a number of written requests or ideally a signed petition received from the residents of the road (details supplied). A request for a Parking Scheme will be referred to the Traffic Advisory Group for examination and report. On referral to the Traffic Advisory Group the request will be examined in accordance with the following guidelines:

- The road is mainly residential where in excess of 80% of available on-street parking is normally occupied on inspection during business hours.
- A proposed Parking Scheme would be subject to a plebiscite of the residents.
- The road must have a minimum width of 6.5 metres for two side parking and a minimum width of 4.6 metres for one-sided parking to allow access for emergency services and refuse collection. These are minimum dimensions which only provide for one lane of traffic and are only suitable for roads with low traffic volumes.

It is important to note that a Parking Scheme cannot be recommended on a road where the minimum width is less than 4.6 metres. Where a road is wide enough for a Scheme with one-sided parking only, double yellow lines will be required on the opposite side of the road. As a result, there may be a reduction in the number of parking spaces currently available to residents.

Q.20 Councillor Anne Feeney

To ask the Manager to carry out a survey of roads (with particular emphasis on main roads) in the SEA area, to identify dangerous pot holes and collapsing of road surfaces with a view to prioritising repair works. Some of these potholes present a real danger to cyclists, scooter users and also cause tyre damage to car and commercial vehicles.

Reply:

Road Maintenance Services commissions an annual machine road condition survey on all Regional Roads and bus routes and important traffic routes. The results of this survey are used to prioritise roads for inclusion in our Annual Resurfacing Works Programme.

Q.21 Councillor Daniel Céidinn

Following on from the submission of a petition by residents in the houses on Cambridge Park for disc parking, can the manager outline what the status of the request, as requested by residents, is for the installation of disc parking on Cambridge Park in Ringsend, Dublin 4?

Reply:

The submission is with the Transport Area Group Engineer for a review of the request and consideration of a report on the outline of what residential permit parking and pay and display parking is possible on Cambridge Park.

Q.22 Councillor Daniel Céidinn

Can the manager arrange to improve the lighting in Rutland Grove as lighting in Rutland Grove has the yellow poor lighting and residents would like it brighter which will make it feel safer?

Reply:

There is no Public Lighting minor works improvements programme for 2020. The existing yellow lighting here has been examined and is to an acceptable standard. We will however, arrange to re-lamp the existing lights where required.

Q.23 Councillor Claire Byrne

To ask the Area Manager if he will please carry out a traffic assessment and consider introducing traffic calming measures along Long Lane, Dublin 8. Cars travel at very high speeds here and a number of residents have had their wing mirrors clipped recently.

Reply:

The area Engineer will carry out a speed survey to assess if further traffic calming measures are required at this location. Long Lane is part of the 30km/h special speed limit zone. It is proposed to install 30Km speed roundel markings on the road where appropriate.

Q.24 Councillor Claire Byrne

To ask the Area Manager can he clarify whether planning permission is required for external insulation on house extensions. Can the Area Manager please provide written guidelines, with example and criteria, for what External Wall Insulation is normally exempt from planning permission?

Reply:

The installation of external insulation to a house and/or extension would normally be considered to constitute works as defined in Pt 1. S.2 of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended) and therefore constitutes 'development' as defined in section 3 (1). However, the issue is whether such works would or would not require planning permission.

Section 4 (1) of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended) states that certain specified developments shall be exempted development for the purposes of this Act, in this regard, Section 4(1) (h) states that :

*'development consisting of the carrying out of works for the maintenance, improvement or other alteration of any structure, being works which affect only the interior of the structure **or which do not materially affect the external appearance of the structure so as to render the appearance inconsistent with the character of the structure or of neighbouring structures.**'*

Therefore, the issue is whether the application of an external insulation (smooth render, dash render and/or brick slip) would materially affect the appearance of the structure so as to

- 1) Render the appearance inconsistent with the character of the structure or
- 2) Render the appearance inconsistent with the character of neighbouring structures.

An external insulation can have significant implications for the appearance of an elevation, by changing the profile and depth of openings and altering the relationship of the external wall to the eaves, gutters and other features of a house. It can also result in the building line projecting forward of the adjacent structure. Therefore, the installation of external insulation can in certain instances render the appearance of the extension inconsistent with the character of the main house and the neighbouring houses. Given the availability of different types of external insulation and the enormous variety in house types, finishes, elevations, it is not possible to give a definitive answer to the question raised, and to confirm what external insulation type would likely be exempt and under what circumstances/conditions.

However, the following general advice is given. In all instances, it can be confirmed that planning permission will be required for the use of external insulation on a protected structure or an extension to a protected structure. On other non-protected terraced, semi-detached or detached houses/extensions, where the insulation would not exceed a total depth of 120mm and where the existing external finish would be reproduced accurately by the new finishes, it is considered that the proposed works would probably be exempt from the requirement to secure planning permission. In contrast, it is probable that planning permission would be required when the application of the external insulation would result in the entire concealment and removal of key original materials, finishes and features in the façade when viewed from the street, as this would result in the external appearance of the extension / house being inconsistent with the character of the structure and/or of neighbouring structures.

Q.25 Councillor Claire Byrne

To ask Dublin City Council Traffic Department whether they will consider the introduction of a slip road from Sean Moore Road to improve the access and egress of local traffic to Pine Road and Leukos Road which is increasingly difficult as traffic backs up on the approach to the roundabout on Sean Moore Road, heading to the Eastlink Bridge.

Reply:

A yellow box has been provided by Dublin City Council across the full width of Sean Moore Road at the junction of Pine Road. This allows traffic to enter and exit Pine Road. Road users should not encroach over this yellow box on Sean Moore Road. Enforcement issues in this regard are a matter for An Garda Síochána. This matter will be raised with An Garda Síochána at the next Transport Advisory Group meeting.

The South East Area does not have the budget to consider the request for a slip road from Sean Moore Road to improve the access and egress of local traffic to Pine Road and Leukos Road.

Q.26 Councillor Claire Byrne

To ask the Area Manager can he please install an additional street light close to details supplied. The street is very dark close to this property.

Reply:

The lighting on Cambridge Avenue was assessed and we will consider adding an additional light to a list for inclusion on a future lighting project, subject to available finances. We will continue to carry out routine maintenance works on the existing lights and will replace existing lamps as required.

Q.27 Councillor Claire Byrne

To ask the Area Manager can he please increase the level of cleaning of the lanes to the rear of the houses on Leukos Road, Ringsend, which is regularly fully of litter and illegally dumped material.

Reply:

Waste Management Services cleaned the above mentioned lanes on the 27th February 2020. We will monitor these lanes on a regular basis and have them cleaned when necessary.

Q.28 Councillor Claire Byrne

To ask the Area Manager are there any restrictions on An Post using their post-boxes in the South Georgian Core to advertise their products and services as they currently do? If there are, how are these restrictions monitored and enforced?

Reply:

The advertisements concerned are on An Post post-boxes relating to An Post products and services and are considered exempted development under the exempted development regulations relating to advertisements Part 2 Class 1, 3 of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001 (as amended). Therefore permission is not required for the adverts concerned.

Q.29 Councillor Claire Byrne

To ask the Area Manager can he please provide assistance for details supplied. This gentleman and his family are living in an extremely overcrowded situation, and his elderly mother is finding it very difficult to access their flat without a lift. Could the Area Manager explore the possibility of providing a bigger ground floor flat or to relocate to one with a lift or a house?

Reply:

The applicant was housed at details supplied 2 on 10/02/2020.

Q.30 Councillor Claire Byrne

To ask the Area Manager if he can please review the waiting times of the pedestrian lights on St. Stephen's Green. Pedestrians are having to wait a long time to cross at key junctions and cars seem to be given priority here which goes against the transport hierarchy.

Reply:

The Intelligent Transportation Systems section will carry out a review of the operation of the traffic signals with regard to pedestrian wait times in this area and will issue a follow up response when this review is completed.

Q.31 Councillor Mannix Flynn

Can the manager ask the CEO to explain how three licensed premises at the northern end of Dame Court, Dublin 2 (Stags Head, Dame Tavern and JT Pim's) have been operating outdoor enclosures without having the required street furniture licences. In two of these three cases for the past several years, and also to explain the circumstances under which the lower section of Dame Court for a distance of 20-24 metres, was designated a pedestrian zone from 19 00 to 06.00 every night. What steps does he propose to take to regularise the situation and will he commission a survey of all licensed premises in Dublin 2 to establish whether they have the required street furniture licenses?

Reply:

The council has previously removed unlicensed street furniture from Dame Court and has spoken to and written to the owners of the premises regarding unlicensed street furniture (some street furniture is on private landings and cannot be seized). Due to the difficulties involved in attempting to seize street furniture in the evenings with patrons occupying same the council has decided to proceed by way of legal proceedings. In this regard briefs are currently being prepared for the Law Agent to initiate legal proceedings.

The Transport Advisory Group at its meeting on 16th December 2010, recommended Dame Court a pedestrian zone from 7 p.m. – 6 a.m. Monday – Sunday.

Q.32 Councillor Mannix Flynn

Can the manager request that the unsightly hoarding that is boarding up the entrance to the rates office in Castle Street be removed? This is one of the city's most unique buildings. It is presently empty and is to undergo a series of repairs but it is wholly unacceptable that the building be simply boarded up and left in this state without any proper public notification. Many members of the public have complained to me about the disgraceful treatment of this building which is in the hands of Dublin City Council and is an architectural gem.

Reply:

Following ongoing serious anti-social behaviour a decision was taken by Culture Recreation & Economic Services (CRES) in discussion with City Architects and the City Conservation Officer to put in place an enclosure around the portico of Newcomen Bank (the Rates Office). The enclosure in question was carefully considered to ensure no impact on the fabric of the surrounding stone and ironwork. The alternative to placement of the enclosure was to undertake a programme of daily cleaning of the area in order to remove hazardous material which was a serious health & safety risk. The impact of the constant cleaning would have had a detrimental impact on the historic fabric of the building and would have led to the stonework becoming friable and damaged. The unauthorised access to this covered space was achieved by climbing the existing mid-height railings and gates, consequently the risk of falling was high. The risk of fire lighting adjacent the timber door in this covered space was also an issue.

CRES have an active process in place to bring forward appropriate proposals to the City Council for the reuse of Newcomen Bank which will focus on a public cultural use. To this end presentations and updates have been given both to the Protocol Committee and a councillor sub-committee in recent months. It is the intention to bring forward preliminary proposals in the coming months for discussion with the intention of implementing agreed proposals for the reuse of this immensely significant building in the very near future. In the interim the building is inspected on a monthly basis and after severe weather events to ensure it is carefully maintained while vacant.

Q.33 Councillor Mannix Flynn

Can the manager initiate a full clean-up program of all the graffiti along the eastern side of Aungier Street? This vandalising of a unique street by spray painters and taggers are acts of criminal vandalism. There is no consent on record here for anyone to spray paint under the general name of street art. This kind of graffiti and spray painting can undermine and ghettoise entire neighbourhoods and communities.

Reply:

The owner of a private property is responsible for the removal of graffiti from his/her premises. In the summer of 2019 letters were issued from this department to property owners on both sides of Aungier Street notifying them of their responsibility to remove any graffiti from their premises. Some of the properties took steps to remove the graffiti. However, some have yet to take appropriate action.

Grffiti along Aungier Street has again recently been inspected by this department and reminder letters have been issued to those properties still affected by graffiti. We will continue to monitor the situation and take appropriate action as required.

This department will work with the property owners to provide advice and support if requested.

Q.34 Councillor Mannix Flynn

Can the manager issue a report as to why the lights along the boardwalk are constantly out of order and not working?

Reply:

A night check will be carried out to see what lights are out of order and repairs will be carried out as soon as possible. The lighting on the boardwalk was upgraded to LED lighting only a few years ago.

Q.35 Councillor Mannix Flynn

Can the manager issue a full report regarding the ongoing issues at Avalon House? This report to include architectural conservation reports on the protect structures. The fire reports. When will the premises be brought into use for Homeless Services? What evaluation reports, if any, have been carried out with regards the impact that this facility will have on the surrounding community.

Reply:

Avalon House is the subject of a High Court Judicial review, therefore the Chief Executive is not in a position to comment on the matter.

Q.36 Councillor Mannix Flynn

Can the manager issue a full report with regards how many hotels and B and B's are being used in the South East area to accommodate homeless individuals and families and to what areas and streets these hotels are located in.

Reply:

There are two hotels and B&Bs in use providing emergency accommodation to homeless families in the South East area of Dublin by the Dublin Region Homeless Executive (DRHE).

Please see table below detailing the hotels and B&Bs in use in the South East Area by each postal area on the night of 1st March 2020 and the number of families accommodated.

Area	No. of Hotels / B&Bs	No. of Families
Dublin 2	1	7
Dublin 4	1	10

The DRHE does not provide the street locations of hotels and B&B's, on the basis that we wish to protect the privacy of residents and that the disclosure into the public domain could lead to the loss of accommodation for those experiencing homelessness.

Q.37 Councillor Mannix Flynn

Can the manager issue a full report with regards the areas of tiling and roofing which fell off the York Street apartment complex in the past few weeks? Residents have report to me that areas of the roofing and tiling have been falling from the building. Please see photos included.

Reply:

Housing Maintenance will replace all the tiling and roofing that fell off York Street apartment complex this week.

Q.38 Councillor Mannix Flynn

Can the manager please have the graffiti removed from the gable walls of Boyne Street flats?

Reply:

Dublin City Council's Housing Mobile Crew removed the graffiti from this location on Monday 2nd March.

Q.39 Councillor Mannix Flynn

Can the manager initiate a full report with regards the tiling on the stairways and landings in the Boyne Street flat complex? Many of these tiles are broken and dilapidated and are lethally slippery. They are a dangerous trip-hazard and need to be removed and replaced with safer flooring with non-slip surface. Also can the manager do a thorough cleaning of the stairs as they are currently covered in moss?

Reply:

Housing Maintenance will arrange to repair the damaged steps in the next couple of weeks. There is a long term plan to resurface a number of our steps in the city this year and I will arrange for Boyne Street to be added to this list.

Q.40 Councillor Mannix Flynn

Can the manager issue a full report on Cambridge Court Senior Citizens' Complex? This report to include what social amenities are provided. What is the break-down of tenants i.e. male/female and what security measures are in place, cctv cameras etc.? What security is in place for the protection and safety of the tenants?

Reply:

The breakdown of male/females Cambridge Court:

Males	29
Females	10

There is a community room with a pool table and three computers in the complex.

At a recent survey the residents opted not to have the gates locked. The public lighting in the complex is being examined. Quotes are being sought for the provision of CCTV

in the complex and a decision will be made in that regard once they have been received.

Q.41 Councillor Mannix Flynn

Can the manager place further bollards along the footpath line at St. Patrick's Cathedral and St. Patrick's Park in order to stop trucks and vans using the wide footpath here in front of the cathedral as a parking and delivery zone from the early morning throughout the day. This is causing a serious danger to pedestrians and indeed road users. See photos attached.

Reply:

The Area Engineer will attend the site to look at the issues raised, this survey will be carried out on 4-5th March 2020. Based on the results, appropriate measures will be assessed to select the best for this location.

Q.42 Councillor Kevin Donoghue

To ask the manager if cleaning can be done at the back gate of Meath Primary School on Arnott Street. A mattress and some other debris has been left there.

Reply:

Waste Management Services had the above mentioned location cleaned on the 25th February 2020.

Q.43 Councillor Kevin Donoghue

To ask the manager to fix the road at the corner of City Quay and Lombard Street. A dip has appeared in the road and motorists are swerving to avoid it.

Reply:

This location will be inspected and the defect will be logged for repair.

Q.44 Councillor Kevin Donoghue

To ask the manager to have the number of patrols for the litter warden at City Quay to be increased as residents have reported a high number of littering instances in recent times.

Reply:

The Litter Wardens regularly patrol City Quay as part of their routine inspections. They will continue to monitor this area for littering offence and illegal dumping.

If there are any specific details that the councillor could provide to assist in identifying the source/sources of the littering, please contact the undersigned.

Q.45 Councillor Kevin Donoghue

To ask the manager the number of applications made for Air BnB style letting in the South East Area and the number that have been granted or refused.

Reply:

To date twelve application have been received for short term lettings in the South East Area.

Two applications have been withdrawn.

One application has been invalidated.

Seven applications have been refused.

Five of the seven were appealed to An Bord Pleanála and the decisions were upheld.

One application is currently on appeal.
One application is awaiting a decision.

Q.46 Councillor Kevin Donoghue

To ask the manager if they know anything about Thornton's Recycling ceasing service in Herbert Lane.

Reply:

Dublin City Council was made aware of this specific issue and following this issued the statement below regarding the matter.

It is a matter for private companies to organise their business in the manner they see fit, including adjusting the areas that they provide a service to, so long as this is done in compliance with relevant legislation including the conditions of their waste collection permit and their contractual agreement with their customers as set out in their customer charter. It is our experience that in such scenarios there is usually communication between the company and their customers regarding such changes.

The City Council had previously been made aware of the removal of services from this specific operator in another location and the following was the position outlined at that time.

The waste collector confirmed that the service was being discontinued in the South East Inner City Area and that each customer had been informed of this through correspondence and also given the option to transfer to another prominent waste collection company operating in the area. This transfer was to be carried out only with the customers consent.

Alternative waste collectors are available for the collection of domestic waste. A full list of authorized waste collectors providing a door to door collection of household waste can be found at www.nwcpc.ie. The city council also provides for the disposal of all types of domestic waste streams at its civic amenity facility at Pigeon House Road in the south east inner city area.

The Waste Collector was again contacted following the most recent issue and confirmed that they were no longer in a position to provide a collection to the location in question and that an alternative service provider was providing services to this location.

Should any resident experience issues with obtaining an alternative waste collection service the Waste Management Services Department will assist and I may be contacted directly in that regard.

Q.47 Councillor Kevin Donoghue

To ask the manager if he could address the clogged gutters on Pearse Street between Macken Street and Erne Street.

Reply:

13 of the 14 gullies in this area were cleaned by members of the Gully Cleaning Crew on 01/03/2020.

Q.48 Councillor Kevin Donoghue

To ask the manager if they could assess loose paving stones outside the house at *details supplied.

Reply:

This location will be inspected and the defect will be logged for repair.

Q.49 Councillor James Geoghegan

To ask the South East Area manager when it is likely the first village clean of Ranelagh will take place following the passage of the discretionary budget.

Reply:

Ranelagh Village will be deep cleaned week commencing 9th March 2020.

Q.50 Councillor James Geoghegan

To ask the South East Area manager when it is likely the new works on Ranelagh Gardens will be completed following the passage of the discretionary budget.

Reply:

Works will be finished by the end of the year.

Q.51 Councillor James Geoghegan

To ask the South East Area manager for an update on timeline for the Clonskeagh to City Centre segregated cycle route.

Reply:

The scheme is currently at option selection / preliminary design stage. The consultant is currently finalising the option selection report and the multi criteria analysis which is due for completion by the end of May.

Q.52 Councillor James Geoghegan

To ask the South East Area manager for an update on timeline for Dodder Greenway.

Reply:

The Preferred Option for the Dodder Greenway through the Dublin City Council and Dun Laoghaire Rathdown County Council administrative areas was adopted in May 2019. Since then the design consultants have been assembling the required information to allow for the project to progress to the preliminary design stage including obtaining more detailed topographical information, preparing site investigation contracts, and further developing the route drawings to reflect the requirements that have emerged during the options assessment stage.

The National Transport Authority formed a Cycle Design Office (CDO) in late 2019. It is intended that the Preferred Option is forwarded to the CDO during March of 2020. Following a brief review, the CDO intend to accelerate the Preliminary Design for the scheme, with a view to initiating the Part 8 process for the scheme, in either late Q3 or early Q4 of this year.

Q.53 Councillor James Geoghegan

To ask the South East Area manager for an update on discussions in respect of the potential sale/purchase of Martello Tower.

Reply:

As reported to Motion 20 tabled at the meeting of the South East Area Committee on 10th February, 2020 the Chief Valuer will open exploratory negotiations with the owner following the completion of a reference of ownership by the Law Department's Title and Research Section.

Q.54 Councillor Pat Dunne

Can the Area Manager arrange for an inspection of the footpath around the tree pit adjacent to details supplied? This section of footpath has been described as a trip hazard.

Reply:

This location will be inspected and the defect will be logged for repair.

Q.55 Councillor Hazel Chu

To ask the Manager what provisions of maintenance, clean up and monitoring would be provided to parks such as Dartmouth Square that would no longer have restricted access hours.

Reply:

Parks have agreed to meet resident representatives to discuss the possible issues which may arise from Dartmouth Square remaining unlocked at night.

Q.56 Councillor Hazel Chu

To ask the Manager if there is any update on the cycle lanes in Ranelagh being converted to 24 hours?

Reply:

The Environment & Transportation Department will carry out a review of the existing cycle network across the South East Area in Q2 2020, in order to develop proposals for amending where appropriate, the current cycle lane operational hours.

Q.57 Councillor Hazel Chu

To ask the Manager to introduce a campaign where local shop owners would be contacted to ask that their delivery vehicles not pull up outside the shops as to block traffic and restrict pedestrian access and also cycle path. Clear examples of this would be SuperValu in Ranelagh. The shops are vital to the communities but so are the individuals trying to commute to the shops.

Reply:

The location in question has a mandatory cycle track from 7 a.m. – 7 p.m. Monday – Saturday. It is illegal to park in this cycle track during these hours. Illegal parking is an enforcement issue, instances of Illegal parking should be reported to Dublin City Councils parking enforcement contractor Dublin Street Parking Services ph. 6022500 or An Garda Síochána. This matter will also be raised with An Garda Síochána at the next Transport Advisory Group meeting.

The Area Office will write to Supervalu in Ranelagh to request that their delivery vehicles do not block traffic and restrict pedestrian access and also the cycle path outside their premises.

The council engages on an ongoing basis with city traders and the business representative groups to encourage good behaviour regarding deliveries and consideration for all users of roads, footpaths and cycle lanes. In addition, the Council's Parking Enforcement section and An Garda Síochána work to ensure compliance in relation to inconsiderate, illegal parking.

Q.58 Councillor Hazel Chu

To ask the Manager an update of the traffic assessment for Belmont Avenue and Marlborough road, currently both roads suffer congestion issues since there's simply not enough space (with parked cars) to allow traffic on both roads to pass.

Reply:

An assessment to provide communities with sustainable neighbourhoods focusing on transport safety issues is in progress as part of the Neighbourhood Transport Scheme Phase 2, 2020, with the aim of friendlier walkable streets with reduced vehicular speeds with priority given to pedestrians, cyclists and public transport in line with the Dublin City Development Plan 2022.

Belmont Avenue and Marlborough Road ranked the highest as a business case based on transport, trip generators, environment, community and scheme complexity. Belmont Avenue and Marlborough Avenue will progress onto Stage 3 plan development involving a detailed study and consultation; developing the proposed solution; ongoing consultations with councillors; implementation of selected scheme and finally evaluation and feedback assessments.

It is anticipated that Phase 3 of the process will be issued to councillors by the end of March 2020.

Q.59 Councillor Hazel Chu

To ask the Manager once again for a pedestrian crossing at Rathmines Road and Portobello Bridge (at the part that's missing a crossing).

Reply:

The Rathmines Road junction with Canal Road is part of the South Grand Canal Cycle and Walking Improvement Scheme. The Scheme will include the redesign of the junction.

Q.60 Councillor Tara Deacy

Is there anything that can be done about the water pool that builds up in the gap on Ravensdale Park going into the adjoining housing estate (across the road from the Four Provinces)? Even a small amount of rainfall results in a large pool building up of about 2/3 inches.

Reply:

This location will be inspected under wet conditions to establish what solution can be offered.

Q.61 Councillor Carolyn Moore

To ask the Director of Services to review the use of "Kissing Gates" at parks, notably at Eamon Ceannt Park. While designed to limit the use of scramblers, kissing gates are preventing wheelchair users, mobility scooters and cargo bikes gaining access to parks. They also leave cyclists vulnerable to attack if they have to dismount at a designated spot (as demonstrated by attacks on the Grand Canal Greenway).

Reply:

Kissing gates are a successful way to prevent scrambler bikes gaining access to green spaces. If there are particular circumstances that the councillor is aware of where disabled people are not able to access a public park we would welcome specific information to address the issue

Q.62 Councillor Carolyn Moore

To ask the Director of Services or the parks department if the perimeter wall of the green at 18-42 Kildare Road can be raised and if extra plants and bushes can be planted on it to combat the frequent parking of vehicles on the green, damaging the grass and causing difficulties for local residents.

Reply:

This issue is evidently a matter between local residents, some of whom do not want their neighbours parking on the green space.

If the offending cars can be identified and forwarded to the Parks Service, letters could be sent to the owners advising them not to park on the green space.

Q.63 Councillor Carolyn Moore

To ask the Director of Services or Roads Department if there is a schedule for repairs to the kerb on Fergus Road in Terenure. A number of sections - notably outside No.6 - are broken and present a trip hazard to the public.

Reply:

This location will be inspected and the defect will be logged for repair.

Q.64 Councillor Carolyn Moore

To ask the Director of Services if the residents of Ashdale Road can install planters and 'slow' signs to improve the street and calm traffic, and to appoint a traffic engineer to conduct a review of traffic on Ashdale Road and surrounding streets in Terenure, where residents wish to see traffic calming measures implemented to discourage the use of these streets as 'rat runs'.

Reply:

Vehicles are allowed to drive on Ashdale Road if they wish to exit Harold's Cross Road or access Harold's Cross Road via Ashdale Road. Residents may not be aware that Ashdale Road has a speed limit of 30km/h. On entering Ashdale Road from Harold's Cross Road the road facilitates two way traffic, the presence of Pay and Display & Permit Parking on the south side of Ashdale Road acts as a traffic calming measure.

Vehicles travelling South West will be aware of speed ramps to further reduce vehicles speed. There are further speed ramps along with vehicles parked on both sides of Ashdale Road which will slow vehicles further as vehicles travel towards Eaton Square.

The request by residents of installing planters is not recommended by Dublin City Council any planters placed on Ashdale Road may block or impede the movement of vehicles.

Q.65 Councillor Carolyn Moore

To ask the Director of Services if there is a timeline for delivery of additional lighting in the laneways around Eaton Square, which residents were informed had gone out to tender. Residents note the lanes are used for illegal dumping and suffer from anti-social behaviour, and a person died by suicide in a darkened lane here recently.

Reply:

Dublin City Council Public Lighting Services have not made any commitment for delivering additional lighting in the laneways around Eaton Square and there is no tender. If there are any concerns about the lighting in the laneways around Eaton Square, please provide details and an assessment will be carried out.

Q.66 Councillor Carolyn Moore

To ask the Director of Services if there are plans to add a cycle lane to Sundrive Road.

Reply:

Sundrive Road is on the Greater Dublin Area Cycle Network Plan classified as a Secondary Cycle Route. At the moment the Sustainable Mobility & Projects Division are concentrating on Primary Cycle Routes only.

Q.67 Councillor Carolyn Moore

To ask the Director of Services if sections of public grass can be designated as 'no mow' areas and allowed to develop as meadow to support insect populations and encourage biodiversity.

Reply:

There already are areas left to grow naturally in Herbert Park, Ringsend Park, Bushy Park, Ranelagh Gardens and others which is in keeping with our Park Strategy, 2019-2023 and Biodiversity Action Plan, 2015-2020. The Parks Service has also eliminated from most parks the use of herbicide which was an action of the Biodiversity Action Plan.

Dublin City Council through the Parks Service is also a signed up member of the All Ireland Pollinator Plan.

Q.68 Councillor Carolyn Moore

To ask the Area Manager if there are means by which apartment dwellers can be given priority on waiting lists for allotments due to the fact that they may not have access to any space suitable for the growing of food, whereas a house dweller may have access to a garden.

Reply:

Dublin City Council's allotments in the South East Area are extremely popular, with long waiting lists for all allotments. The South East area has a variety of different types of housing ranging from standard houses to apartments, flats, cottages, and duplex style housing. A large number of these dwellings do not have gardens, and some of the houses have very small backyards. The City Council's system of allocating allotments is 'based on the length of time on the waiting list' and although it may not be perfect, it is deemed to be the best system available.

The Parks Service manages allotments at St. Anne's Park, Raheny and at Meakstown. Allotments are allocated based on time on established waiting list. There are no proposals to change this arrangement.