

**DUBLIN CITY COUNCIL**  
**SOUTH CENTRAL AREA COMMITTEE**  
**17<sup>th</sup> June 2020**

**Q1     Councillor Críona Ní Dhálaigh**

To ask the Director of Services what is being done to address the serious issue of horses being kept on public land and not cared for. There is an increase of reports of stray/abandoned horses in Dublin South Central.

**Reply**

The Licensing Unit operate under the Control of horses Act and Bye-Laws. All reports of stray/abandoned horses are responded to. For safety reasons most of the seizure Operations take place at night and often with the assistance of an Garda Síochána.

Dublin City Council does not have Authorised Officers appointed under the Animal Health and Welfare Act as animal welfare is a function of the Department of Agriculture and the Marine.

*Contact: Patricia Colfer, Administrative Officer.*

*Tel: 222 6710.*

*Email: [patricia.colfer@dublincity.ie](mailto:patricia.colfer@dublincity.ie)*

**Q2     Councillor Críona Ní Dhálaigh**

To ask the Director of Services what Dublin City Council policy / protocol is with addressing rat infestations in our properties but in particular flat complexes? Who is responsible for addressing this health issue?

**Reply**

Dublin City Council, Housing Maintenance Section actions all reports of rats in City Council dwellings from our tenants. Requests are dealt with both directly by the Council and by agreement with the HSE, Pest Control Units. Common areas in City Council flat complexes are treated by Housing Maintenance, HSE Pest Control handle individual units/houses on our behalf. All necessary steps to deal with the issue are taken.

We have a dedicated and professionally trained team with Dublin City Council that have baited the shores in the complex on a weekly basis and we have also started baiting the old bin chambers this week in the complex. It should be noted, that bait boxes with live bait cannot be left over ground anymore as these can cause secondary poisoning in other animals. Bait boxes with monitoring bait (fake food which would show bite marks) have been left across the complex. The purpose of the monitoring bait is to show a rat is present in the complex. Adding to the problem is the fact that Pest Control companies can no longer use the stronger pesticides as used previously because of changed regulations.

During the Covid-19 crisis, the HSE did not carry out pest control in our flat complexes, as they did prior to the pandemic. In the absence of the HSE, Dublin City Council continued to provide this service, which placed additional strain on our resources.

*Contact: Frank d'Arcy, Senior Executive Officer, Housing Maintenance*

*Email: [frankg.darcy@dublincity.ie](mailto:frankg.darcy@dublincity.ie)*

*Tel: 222 3517*

**Q3**     **Councillor Críona Ní Dhálaigh**

To ask the Director of Services if she could set up a meeting with local residents from (*details supplied*) to discuss the site with a view to taking some of their ideas on board. I can pass on details if the meeting can take place. It could take place at the site with just 2/3 residents.

**Reply**

While there are no immediate plans for Pimlico green, the Area Office is happy to meet with interested residents to consider ideas to enhance and manage the space. I am happy to meet the group at their convenience.

*Contact: Stephen Coyne, Economic Development Officer, Public Realm Projects*

*Tel: 083 1949009*

*Email: [stephen.coyne@dublincity.ie](mailto:stephen.coyne@dublincity.ie)*

**Q4**     **Councillor Vincent Jackson**

To ask the Director of Services to look at providing additional bins or indeed a big belly bin at Walkinstown Park Dublin 12. Over the past few weeks due to fine weather and the Covid pandemic the area has experienced huge increase in usage. However, some street drinking waste is ruining this fine facility due to littering etc, I would be very grateful if consideration could be given to an additional bin outside Tony Kealy's Shop and the junction with Kilnamanagh Road. Some residents collect waste all the time from the open space. Is there any way they can give this to DCC as it increases their own waste management costs by having to place waste in their own bins. Is it possible to get WALK involved in supporting the community effort in maintaining same? Local residents have said DCC do a wonderful job in keeping the area well.

**Reply**

Waste Management Services will work in cooperation with the Public Domain Officer to address issues outlined at Walkinstown Park and Kilnamanagh Road in respect of the supply of litter bins and ensuring that those engaged in community clean ups are facilitated.

*Contact: Simon Brock, Administrative Officer, Waste Management Services*

*Tel: 222 4237*

*Email: [simon.brock@dublincity.ie](mailto:simon.brock@dublincity.ie)*

**Q5**     **Councillor Vincent Jackson**

To ask the Director of Services to please request Dublin City Council to look at the very dangerous lifted footpath slabs along Ballyfermot Road in the vicinity of 448 Ballyfermot Road. One of the residents had a very bad fall with the concrete slab lifting here and it needs urgent attention.

**Reply**

Road Maintenance has inspected this location and this defect has been added to our works list for repair.

*Contact: Carl Ryan-Operations & South Central Area Engineer.*

*Tel: 222 8812*

*Email: [roadmaintenance@dublincity.ie](mailto:roadmaintenance@dublincity.ie)*

**Q6     Councillor Vincent Jackson**

To ask the Director of Services if an older person with limited means, i.e. of the Disability Pension, needs the house re-wired due to serious potential fire hazard has Dublin City Council any means to financially support same and what avenues are available to support a person with learning difficulties. The house is the family home of which this 60 year old man still lives in since his mother passed away 26 years ago.

**Reply**

Dublin City Council's Housing Aid for Older People grant scheme is designed to meet the needs of private homeowners where the applicant in the household is over 66 years of age living in extremely poor conditions. The types of work grant aided under the scheme include re-wiring, roof repairs, the provision of central heating (where none exists) and the replacement of a boiler when broken beyond repair. The grant is not available for any repair works.

The applicant can contact the Home Grants, Ph:2222195 to enquire about his proposed grant application and all relevant information regarding the grants scheme can be discussed with him in detail. On receipt of this application it will be processed as normal subject to all usual grant assessment criteria

*Contact: Teresa Conlon, Administrative Officer, Housing & Community Services  
Tel: 222 5138  
Email: [teresa.conlon@dublincity.ie](mailto:teresa.conlon@dublincity.ie)*

**Q7     Councillor Vincent Jackson**

To ask the Director of Services if we can help the following elderly resident of Bluebell (*details supplied*). The resident is living in the house with his elderly wife for over 60 years. They are both in their 80's. However, as their house backs onto the Grand Canal they are plagued with people getting into their rear garden resulting in their lawnmower being stolen, garden tools taken etc. There is a new development of Apartments being built just next to his home and he is wondering if DCC / Inland Waterways can improve his security at this time. There is a small river the Galbeck here. Also, when the new Cycleway was done 10 years ago a lot of the natural vegetation, which was a security barrier, was removed. Another issue is the potential accident here with a child falling down the embankment and drug dealing due to low visibility from the Grand Canal side of his property.

**Reply**

This house is not a Dublin City Council tenancy and therefore is the responsibility of the homeowner.

*Contact: John Paul McCabe, Area Housing Manager, Ballyfermot Area Office  
Tel: 01 222 4649  
Email: [johnpaul.mccabe@dublincity.ie](mailto:johnpaul.mccabe@dublincity.ie)*

**Q8     Councillor Vincent Jackson**

To ask the Director of Services to ensure that the following is done without delay (*details supplied*).

**Reply**

A report was sent to the councillor.

*Contact: Kay Noonan Cork, Ballyfermot/Drimnagh Local Area Manager  
Tel: 222 4667*

Email: [kay.noonan\\_cork@dublincity.ie](mailto:kay.noonan_cork@dublincity.ie)

**Q9** **Councillor Vincent Jackson**

To ask the Director of Services if there is anything Dublin City Council can do to help (*details supplied*) in relation to his family home. This person is on the disability benefit and lives at the house on his own since his mother passed away in 2014. He has told me DCC funded an extension for his late grandmother in approx. 2004 and it was never completed as his grandmother passed away before it was completed leaving it useless. The Electric wiring was never completed and the flat roof lets in moisture resulting in serious fungus growth on the ceiling. The house also needs re-wiring. Is there any financial support to repair the extension and re-wiring the house as he has no means whatsoever?

**Reply**

Dublin City Council's Housing Aid for Older People grant scheme is designed to meet the needs of private homeowners where the applicant in the household is over 66 years of age living in extremely poor conditions. The types of work grant aided under the scheme include re-wiring, roof repairs, the provision of central heating (where none exists) and the replacement of a boiler when broken beyond repair. The grant is not available for any repair works.

(Details supplied) can contact the Home Grants, Ph:2222195 to enquire about his proposed grant application and all relevant information regarding the grants scheme can be discussed with him in detail. On receipt of (*details supplied*) application it will be processed as normal subject to all usual grant assessment criteria.

Contact: Teresa Conlon, Administrative Officer, Housing & Community Services  
Tel: 222 5138  
Email: [teresa.conlon@dublincity.ie](mailto:teresa.conlon@dublincity.ie)

**Q10** **Councillor Vincent Jackson**

To ask the Director of Services to request the operators of the CCTV system along the Grand Canal to make a presentation to the South Central Area Committee in relation to its effectiveness and ability to cut down on crime. If the operators cannot come to DCC can we arrange an onsite meeting with interested councillors to their Grange Castle monitoring facility?

**Reply**

The cameras along the canal are not currently working. One of the cameras was vandalised and burnt out causing the whole system to fault. The cost of fixing them is quite large. We were in talks with the contractor about getting them operational and the National Transport Authority about seeking funding, Covid-19 restrictions put a stop to this. However, in the last week we have contacted the two parties again in order to try to get work started again on fixing the cameras. If and when we get the cameras operational again, we can arrange a site visit to the monitoring facility.

Contact: John Paul McCabe, Area Housing Manager, Ballyfermot Area Office  
Tel: 222 4649  
Email: [johnpaul.mccabe@dublincity.ie](mailto:johnpaul.mccabe@dublincity.ie)

**Q11** **Councillor Vincent Jackson**

To ask the Director of Services to please give me details of what procedure is in place to bury people who die without any family or means in Dublin in relation to burial and funeral costs. How many people in an average year would DCC have to help out?

**Reply**

People who need assistance can contact the Community Welfare Services of the H.S.E. The contact details for the Ballyfermot office are:- email: [cwsballyfermot@welfare.ie](mailto:cwsballyfermot@welfare.ie) or phone 6160300

*Contact: Mary Taylor, Director of Services, South City  
Tel: 222 5112  
Email: [mary.taylor@dubincity.ie](mailto:mary.taylor@dubincity.ie)*

**Q12 Councillor Vincent Jackson**

To ask the Director of Services to please give me details on what success Dublin had in developing Wi-Fi hotspots around Dublin with assistance from the European Union.

**Reply**

The WiFi4EU initiative aims to deliver free access to Wi-Fi connectivity for citizens in public spaces including squares, community centres, public parks, leisure centres, sports development, art facilities. Dublin City Council achieved the maximum allocation of four WiFi4EU vouchers worth €15,000 each as part of the 2019 European Commission funding call. The amount of €60,000 will be match funded from the Department of Rural and Community Development. The total amount of this funding will cover the cost of equipment and installation of Wi-Fi hotspots up to the value of €120,000.

Dublin City Council will be responsible for paying for the connectivity (internet subscription), maintenance and operation of the equipment for at least three years. Each successful local authority had 18 months to select locations for the WiFi4EU hotspots and complete their installation to be ready for public use. However, due to the Covid-19 pandemic, the deadline for the installation was extended for an additional eight months. In the last 18 months, the Smart City Unit of Dublin City Council, which is responsible for this project, completed a number of actions. The Smart City team engaged with the community through the Public Consultation process in May and June 2019 to establish the most suitable locations for this project, to ensure that the WiFi distribution addresses digital exclusion.

The application process for the funding under this scheme ended on July 22nd 2019. It is important to note that the delivery of educational programmes was listed as one of the criteria that increased chances of selection. This approach will help bridge the digital divide and maximize the usage of this facility. The Smart City team reviewed all 50 application received and surveyed all the locations to ensure that they align with the objectives of this initiative and they comply with the WiFi4EU programme criteria.

It conducted an analysis of the geographical locations of the proposed locations, using Central Statistics Office Small Area Population data for 2016. It established an index that measures areas in terms of the proportion of households without an internet connection and, separately, the proportion of the population aged 10-19. Please see attached map and proposed locations below. *Please note installation at these sites will only be confirmed after site surveys have been completed by the successful tenderer and a review of the requirements has been assessed.* The tender process was delayed due to Covid 19 restrictions but is currently in the evaluation phase, the Smart City Unit is in the process of reviewing and evaluating the tender responses. The tender decision is due to be announced in the next two to three weeks.

*Contact: Nicola Graham, Smart Cities Operations Manager*

Tel: 087 9962714

Email: Nicola.graham@[dublincity.ie](mailto:Nicola.graham@dublincity.ie)

**Q13 Councillor Vincent Jackson**

To ask the Director of Services to request that Dublin City Council please look at possibility of a better maintenance programme for the walk between Chapelizod and the War Memorial Gardens. Over the past few months with Covid 19 we have seen the real wonder and value these walkways have.

**Reply**

The walks along the Liffey Valley Park are considered to be maintained to a standard appropriate for a riverside park. No herbicides are used and a mown strip is maintained alongside the path to ensure sight lines are maintained. As part of the parks improvements programme, an area will be sown with spring bulbs this coming autumn inside the gate from St. Laurences Road.

Contact: Brid Brosnan, Executive Parks Superintendent

Tel: 222 3144

Email: [parks@dublincity.ie](mailto:parks@dublincity.ie)

**Q14 Councillor Críona Ní Dhálaigh**

To ask the Director of Services why the rubbish at (*details supplied*) has not been collected in over 3 weeks? It is managed by Circle but owned by DCC. The rubbish has accumulated and now rats are a problem.

**Reply**

Circle Housing Association have confirmed that they are aware of the issues identified at The Court apartments, Bridgefoot Street. They have advised that the car lift which is the only access for waste collections is currently awaiting repair. Pending the necessary works being carried out on the lift, Circle are in the process of arranging a waste collection via a third party contractor. They have also spoken to the waste collector about providing smaller bins that can be transported in the passenger lift. Circle have already spoken with a number of tenants in respect of this and plan to write to all tenants once they have received confirmation regarding a revised bin collection.

Contact: Dymphna Farrell, Senior Executive Officer, Housing & Community Services

Tel: 222 6114

Email: [Dymphna.farrell@dublincity.ie](mailto:Dymphna.farrell@dublincity.ie)

**Q15 Councillor Críona Ní Dhálaigh**

To ask Director of Services can action be taken to address the issues at (*details supplied*)? Residents have complained that their complaints are not being addressed. Rubbish not collected in over 3 weeks, lifts broken, intercoms broken, basement being used to shoot up in.

**Reply**

Circle Housing Association have confirmed that they are aware of the issues identified at The Court apartments, Bridgefoot Street. They have advised as follows:

The car lift which is the only access for waste collections is currently awaiting repair. Pending the necessary works being carried out on the lift, Circle are in the process of arranging a waste collection via a third party contractor. They have also spoken to the waste collector about providing smaller bins that can be transported in the passenger lift. Circle have already spoken with a number of tenants in respect of this and plan to

write to all tenants once they have received confirmation regarding a revised bin collection.

In respect of the intercom system, this system has been problematic and we have invested in repairs. However, as a result of ongoing problems we have made a decision to replace the system. We are in the initial stages of tendering for a contractor, but the process has been delayed due to COVID-19 restrictions.

Circle are aware of the concerns raised by residents regarding local drug users accessing the carpark. There are ongoing discussions on this matter with the local community Garda to try to remedy the situation and discussions are also taking place around the option of external gates to the doorways.

Contact: *Dymphna Farrell, Senior Executive Officer, Housing & Community Services*  
Tel: 222 6114  
Email: [Dymphna.farrell@dublincity.ie](mailto:Dymphna.farrell@dublincity.ie)

**Q16 Councillor Daithí Doolan**

To ask the Director of Services to ensure DCC installs a traffic ramp at the entrance to Cherry Orchard Green.

**Reply**

The Area Engineer will assess the site and report to the elected representative with his recommendations.

Contact: *Neil O Donoghue, MIEI, South City Executive, Transport Advisory Group,*  
Tel.: 222 2542  
E-mail: [neil.odonoghue@dublincity.ie](mailto:neil.odonoghue@dublincity.ie)

**Q17 Councillor Daithí Doolan**

To ask the Director of Services for an update on the construction of Oaklee homes in Walkinstown.

**Reply**

Oaklee Housing are in the process of finalising the conveyancing of a turnkey development of 12 x 3 bed houses at Cromwellsfort Court, Cromwellsfort Road, Walkinstown, Dublin 12. It is anticipated that these units will be available to let to persons in need of social housing support from the middle of July, 2020 onwards.

Contact: *Dymphna Farrell, Senior Executive Officer, Housing & Community Services*  
Tel: 222 6114  
Email: [Dymphna.farrell@dublincity.ie](mailto:Dymphna.farrell@dublincity.ie)

**Q18 Councillor Daithí Doolan**

To ask the Director of Services to work with business and residents in Camac Park in tackling illegal dumping and to work with local businesses in installing new bins?

**Reply**

Waste Management Services will work in cooperation with the Public Domain Officer and any active residents or business owners in Camac Park to ensure that there are measures in place to deal with illegal dumping and litter including where appropriate the installation of public litter bins.

Contact: *Simon Brock, Administrative Officer, Waste Management Services*  
Tel: 2224237



Email: [simon.brock@dublincity.ie](mailto:simon.brock@dublincity.ie)

**Q19 Councillor Daithí Doolan**

To ask the Director of Services to outline in tabular form how many people faced legal action for illegal dumping in the SCA in 2018, 2019 and so far in 2020, giving details of what court action followed, what fines were issued and how many were paid?

**Reply**

See below details requested of fines issued, paid etc. from 2018 to 2020. Due to COVID 19 restrictions, action on unpaid fines was delayed but has now resumed. Legal proceedings will now commence with regard to unpaid fines for 2020.

| Year | Fines issued | Cancelled on Appeal | Fines paid | Fines returned | Prosecutions Initiated | Summons returned |
|------|--------------|---------------------|------------|----------------|------------------------|------------------|
| 2018 | 180          | 26                  | 86         | 7              | 34                     | 8                |
| 2019 | 20           | 2                   | 10         | 2              | 47                     | 12               |
| 2020 | 15           | 1                   | 4          | 2              | 0                      | 0                |
|      |              |                     |            |                |                        |                  |

| Witness not available | Settlement agreed | Cases Dismissed | Did not proceed | Convictions Obtained In court | Cases Adjourned |
|-----------------------|-------------------|-----------------|-----------------|-------------------------------|-----------------|
| 1                     | 1                 | 1               | 2               | 5                             | 2               |
| 0                     | 4                 | 0               | 2               | 7                             | 18              |
| 0                     | 0                 | 0               | 0               | 0                             | 0               |

Contact: Bernie Lillis, Litter Prevention Officer.  
Tel: 01 222 4243  
Email: [bernie.lillis@dublincity.ie](mailto:bernie.lillis@dublincity.ie)

**Q20 Councillor Daithí Doolan**

To ask the Director of Services to give details on how many people are on the various housing lists in Dublin South Central, including how long they have been on the list and how many units have been allocated over the last 12 months, we used to receive regular reports up until recently.

**Reply**

Please find attached Quarter one Housing Allocations report which contains all the information you may require. The reports will be circulated each quarter for inclusion in the Area Committee meetings.

Contact: Mary Hayes, Senior Executive Officer, Housing Allocations  
Tel: 222 2061  
Email: [mary.hayes@dublincity.ie](mailto:mary.hayes@dublincity.ie)

**Q21 Councillor Daithí Doolan**

To ask the Director of Services how many council homes had extensions carried out in Dublin South Central on grounds of overcrowding or medical needs in 2018, 2019



and so far in 2020, and how many successful applicants are waiting for the extensions to be carried out?

**Reply**

A reply will issue to the Councillor within 2 weeks of meeting

*Contact: Frank D'arcy, Senior Executive Officer, Housing Maintenance*

*Tel: 222 3517*

*Email: frank.darcy@dublincity.ie*

**Q22    Councillor Daithí Doolan**

To ask the Director of Services to ensure all tenants receive a fob in Davitt House once the electronic gates are overhauled, this will facilitate visitors and emergency vehicles to gain access?

**Reply**

Fob access is only given to tenants who are motor vehicle owners as there is only a limited supply of parking within the complex. The current fobs will remain operational. Pedestrian and emergency services access will remain the same as before.

*Contact: John Paul Mc Cabe, Area Housing Manager, Ballyfermot Area Office*

*Tel: 222 4649*

*Email: johnpaul.mccabe@dublincity.ie*