

**QUESTIONS LODGED PURSUANT TO STANDING ORDER NO.16 FOR REPLY AT THE  
MONTHLY MEETING OF DUBLIN CITY COUNCIL TO BE HELD ON MONDAY, 1<sup>ST</sup>  
FEBRUARY 2021**

**Q.1    COUNCILLOR MARY CALLAGHAN**

To ask the Chief Executive what steps the council is taking to combat the theft of catalytic converters in the Dublin North West area, using the council's powers as set out in the Dáil reply below (**details supplied**)?

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

As stated, issues in relation to theft and handling of stolen property are matters for An Garda Síochána and where Waste Enforcement is made aware of such issues the information is referred to An Garda for investigation. However under the Waste Management (Facility Permit and Registration) Amendment Regulations 2014, conditions were introduced to ensure traceability of waste purchased by authorised facilities. The conditions imposed obligations on facilities to;

1. Require the production of specified proof of identity and current address of the person supplying the material
2. Require records to be kept of the name, identity, registration number and waste collection permit number (if applicable) of the delivery vehicle
3. Require that records be kept describing the materials, time and date of sale, weight and amount paid
4. Require a signed statement by the person supplying the material that they are the lawful owner of the material or have consent of the lawful owner to sell the material.

Facilities are also obliged to ensure that they only collect materials that are included on their permit.

Dublin City Council Waste Enforcement Unit inspect Authorised Treatment Facilities and Waste Facilities as part the annual work plan. These inspections may be planned, or carried out as a result of a complaint received. In such inspections the Waste Enforcement Officer will investigate to ensure the facility is compliant with their permit conditions, including the inspection of registers and other records. Further audits may be carried out where anomalies in the data supplied are discovered. Within Dublin City Council's functional area there are three authorised treatment facilities and three waste facilities that accept scrap metal type waste. The three authorised treatment facilities do not accept scrap metal from the public and the three waste facilities do not have catalytic converters listed on their permit. Inspections include visual investigation of materials on site and in the event that the facility owner is not abiding by their permit conditions, appropriate enforcement action may be taken for breaches of their permit conditions. If the activity persists a recommendation may be made to revoke the permit. Local authority Waste Enforcement Officers have no powers to deal with suspected theft or handling of stolen goods and if such issues are noticed or reported the matter would be referred to An Garda Síochána.

Dublin City Council Waste Enforcement Officers also partake in roadside checkpoints with An Garda Síochána and instances of breach of waste collection permits may be noted on such checkpoints. Waste Enforcement will take appropriate action under the Waste Permit Regulations on such occasions and if there is evidence of stolen property involved An Garda would take the appropriate action.

**Q.2 COUNCILLOR JOHN LYONS**

To ask the Chief Executive for a detailed report on the issues highlighted by the external auditor as part of the Statutory Audit Report in relation to the council's procurement processes, specifically in regard to housing.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The local government auditor raised issues relating to procurement in her report on the statutory audit of 2019. Responses were provided to the issues referenced in that report which was circulated to the elected members.

Further additional detail is given below. The Auditor raised issues relating to:

**Housing**

- Not applying public procurement procedures for works as required - the development of the appropriate panels or dynamic purchasing systems will be in place by quarter 3 2021.
- Emergency works protocols being adhered to – internal departmental procedures will ensure compliance in the future.
- Project documentation being available for inspection – all documentation is now available for audit.
- Submission to the Department of the Final Account Value of projects – revised submissions have been made.
- Approval of expenditure above tender value – all spend approved through Managers Orders.
- Clarification of the full project costs – a review will take place of the relevant cost centres in the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter 2021.

**Dublin Fire Brigade**

- Not applying public procurement procedures for services as required – contracts are now in place following tender processes.

**Environment and Transportation**

- Not applying public procurement procedures for services as required – a tender process will be commenced.
- The completion of tender assessment reports – all procurements will include a tender assessment report in the future.

**CRES**

- Not applying public procurement procedures for works as required – project costs will be estimated and evaluated more thoroughly.

**Law**

- Not applying public procurement procedures for services as required – OGP framework for legal services is expected to be operable shortly.

**Chief Executive's**

- Not applying public procurement procedures for services as required – tender processes have been commenced.

**Q.3 COUNCILLOR DECLAN MEENAGH**

To ask the Chief Executive to give an update of who provides the key worker service for homeless people in private operated emergency hostels funded by the DRHE? Can the manager list the groups who provide this service and describe the arrangements that are in place? Could the manager provide the number of staff providing this service

in tabular form broken down by provider and numbers of homeless people who benefit as well as numbers of homeless people in private hostels funded by the DRHE who do not have a key worker? Could the manager make a statement on the matter?

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Over the past number of months, in collaboration with the HSE, the DRHE has strengthened supports being provided to homeless households in emergency accommodation.

For single households, living in NGO facilities, social and housing supports are provided on site by the operators.

For single households, living in private emergency accommodation, supports are provided by a number of services providers.

The team covers all of the Private Emergency Accommodation sites in Dublin City by providing a clinic onsite once weekly and is a direct contact for Managers of these facilities in the event of an emergency in a private hostel. The team is led and managed by HSE Homeless Clinical Lead, Dr O`Carroll and HSE CHO Dublin North City & County Social Inclusion Managers. The service is operated by 2 Clinical Nurse Managers and 4 nurses and 6 MHSC staff. This work in PEAs is supported by 14 staff from Ana Liffey Drug Project who are already operating in PEAs since July 2020, providing vital addiction supports.

There is a total of 6 Nurses, 6 Mental Health/Dual Diagnosis Social Care workers and 14 drug intervention workers operating specifically in PEAS, i.e. 26 staff provided to support work in DRHE.

In addition the DRHE has recently expanded its Housing Support Team to include a singles support team, comprising of 9 Housing Support Officers, who are working directly with singles and couples in Private Emergency Accommodation. The team commenced work across the PEA's in the Q4 2020 and have already linked in with 720 individuals providing housing advice and move on options.

**Q.4    COUNCILLOR DERMOT LACEY**

To ask the Chief Executive if he is aware of any "Mother and Baby Homes" or similar having been operated, run or funded by Dublin Corporation – the predecessor in law to Dublin City Council – and if he has reviewed the recent report on same and what actions he plans to take on behalf of the City Council if necessary.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Since the publication of the Mother and Baby Homes Report, this Department, Dublin City Libraries and the Law Department have taken a preliminary look at the records of Dublin Corporation's relationship with these Homes.

Dublin Corporation did not own, operate or run Mother and Baby Homes nor did it employ staff working in these homes. While there were different governance relationships for different homes, Mother and Baby Homes in Dublin City and County generally came under the jurisdiction of the Dublin Board of Governors until 1932; The Dublin Board of Assistance until 1960; the Dublin Health Authority until 1970 and after that the Eastern Health Board. Dublin Corporation and Dublin County Council partially funded these governing bodies from their respective Rates bases. The exchequer took on an increasing funding role after 1947. Both Local Authorities would have also nominated Councillors to the respective Boards.

According to Dublin City Libraries any and all records which may have been held by Dublin Corporation in relation to its involvement in health, (including Mother & Baby Homes), were transferred to the Dublin Health Authority when that was established in 1960, and subsequently to the Eastern Health Board which was established in 1970, incorporating the Dublin Health Authority. Unfortunately there is now no record of what material the Corporation held up to 1960 nor any listing of the material transferred. There are over 150 references in the twentieth Century Minutes and Reports of Dublin Corporation to the Dublin Boards of Assistance and the Dublin Health Authority which has oversight of these homes. As far as can be ascertained at present (given that the City Archives are currently shut), most of these records refer to nominations to: and funding of; these Boards. There appears to be few if any reference to the individual homes other than 4 reference to sewage and water supply in Pelletstown prior to 1908. This may be due to the fact up to 1985 that Pelletstown itself fell within the Dublin County Council Boundary.

Dublin City Libraries has commissioned a historian to research the involvement of the Corporation to Mother & Baby homes in general and Pelletstown in particular. The exact contents of the Corporation minutes and reports will be examined as part of that research.

**Q.5 COUNCILLOR CHRISTY BURKE**

To ask the Chief Executive when (**details supplied**) will be ready to go back into housing stock?

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The property in question is currently with a contractor. Work is well underway on site and the property is expected to be returned for use in the middle of March. Housing Allocations and the Area Office are being updated on progress.

**Q.6 COUNCILLOR CHRISTY BURKE**

To ask the Chief Executive that a small section off double yellow lines be placed along the path that's dished on entry to (**details supplied**) as vans and cars' park on the dish and wheelchair users cannot be entry.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The site has been referred to the team for installation. Half of the works (one side of the junction) has been completed however there has been difficulty in completing the works because of access issues. The crew will continue to re-visit the site to complete the installation over the coming week.

**Q.7 COUNCILLOR CHRISTY BURKE**

To ask the Chief Executive if DCC will employ apprentices this year. Can the CEO say what trades DCC would be employing if any?

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

At present, Dublin City Council has 27 active apprenticeships across the following disciplines:

- i. Brick & Stonelaying
- ii. Carpentry
- iii. Electrical
- iv. Plumbing.

Apprentices are placed in our Housing and Community Department and Environment and Transport Department.

In November 2020 we sought to recruit additional apprentices through the Technical University Dublin's Access to Apprenticeship Programme. This Programme aims to assist young people aged 16-24 years who may be at risk of social or economic disadvantage and who might be considering starting an apprenticeship. Following the interview process, three successful candidates are currently in the process of being recruited as Junior Apprentices for the Carpentry and Plumbing Trades.

The Human Resource Department is committed to our apprenticeship programme and throughout 2021 will continue to review our ability to develop it.

For noting is that the City Council's capacity to recruit apprentices is limited by a number of factors, including:

- the availability of qualified DCC mentors to provide the necessary training and supervision;
- current HSE guidelines on physical distancing in the workplace which limit our capacity to provide training safely ; and
- the availability of appropriate and sufficient work, equipment and facilities to fully complete the required SOLAS training programme.

The City Council however recognises the value that this programme of work brings for the apprentices themselves and for the Council itself and is committed to maintaining it.

#### **Q.8 COUNCILLOR CHRISTY BURKE**

To ask the Chief Executive what was the official rough sleepers count in Dublin and what date was the count carried out.

#### **CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Due to Covid-19 restrictions, the twice-yearly head count of persons (April and November) rough sleeping in the Dublin Region could not take place. In order to assess the number of people currently rough sleeping in Dublin this winter, an alternative and more comprehensive approach has been taken in full compliance with current public health guidelines.

Over the week 23<sup>rd</sup> November 2020 to 29<sup>th</sup> November 2020, the DRHE Outreach Team (Dublin Simon) engaged in a full Dublin region assessment of people sleeping rough, or at risk of sleeping rough. Over 7 nights the Outreach Team visited all known locations in the region at least once. Additional staff were deployed to ensure more intense coverage of city centre areas.

They communicated with the Gardaí and staff in the other three Dublin Local Authorities to ensure that they were fully informed about any individuals who were known to be rough sleeping, particularly in isolated areas. It is important to note that the statistics below represent the total unique individuals over a 7-day period, and cannot be compared with the figures published previously that related to one-night counts.

In total there were 139 unique individuals encountered over the course of the week. 127 had PASS (DRHE Registration/IT system) identification. This means that they were registered, accepted as Homeless and would be offered emergency accommodation if they were willing to accept this. In the 127 figure, one individual had access to Long Term Supported Accommodation, one had a live HAP tenancy and an additional five will be housed shortly under the Housing First Programme. The other 12 were not registered at the time of the assessment but that process is now underway and all have been offered emergency accommodation.

**Q.9 COUNCILLOR LARRY O'TOOLE**

To ask the Chief Executive to have window/door replacement carried out at this property (**details supplied**).

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Housing Maintenance will arrange to have the windows and door at this property inspected and all necessary works will be carried out.

**Q.10 COUNCILLOR LARRY O'TOOLE**

To ask the Chief Executive to engage with the local residents to maintain and manage the upkeep of the public green area (shrubbery etc.) at (**details supplied**).

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The planned shrubbery works at this location were recently completed.

**Q.11 COUNCILLOR EIMER MCCORMACK**

To ask the Chief Executive can the footpath at the junction of Shandon Mills and the 6<sup>th</sup> Lock be repaired to address deep potholes and damage to green area adjacent to this?

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Waterways Ireland are responsible for the towpath referred to above.

Parks Service have inspected the nearby open space located at Shandon Gardens and it was found in to be in good condition. During this inspection damage to embankment pathway (owned and maintained by Waterways Ireland) which connects the Parks open space to the canal was identified and has been reported to Waterways Ireland along with details of the pathway issue at the 6th Lock.

**Q.12 COUNCILLOR EIMER MCCORMACK**

To ask the Chief Executive to make a Sports Capital Fund application to provide a water connection to the Cabra Kayak cottage at the 6th lock for C4Y group.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Sports and Recreation Section only make Sport Capital grant applications in relation to its own facilities. Sports clubs /organisations/ groups are eligible to make their own applications under the scheme.

**Q.13 COUNCILLOR EIMER MCCORMACK**

To ask the Chief Executive to investigate and make good the gully at St. Anne's Road and Drumcondra Road Lower junction. Area floods regularly.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The problems arising from the gullies at St. Anne's Road and Drumcondra Road Lower Junction appear to be related to capacity. A request was made to *Road Maintenance Services* on 12<sup>th</sup> January 2021 by *Customer Services* on behalf of a resident of this area. On foot of this request the *Surface Water and Flood Incident Management Division* added this area to their Priority Gully Cleaning List. This means the gullies here will be cleaned every 6 to 8 weeks, which should help alleviate the flooding issue.

*Road Maintenance Services* has investigated this matter and will arrange for the installation of an additional gully at this locus.

**Q.14 COUNCILLOR EIMER MCCORMACK**

To ask the Chief Executive to outline what traffic mitigation measures will be put in place on Monck Place and Avondale Road, Dublin 7, to reduce increased traffic volumes and increase pedestrian safety.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Detailed designs for traffic calming measures to reduce traffic volumes and speeds, and to increase pedestrian safety on Monck Place and Avondale Road are currently being completed. These measures will likely include:

1. Buildouts on the corners of Avondale Road/Avondale Avenue
2. Reduction in length of Dublin Bikes Station (5 bike stands will be removed from the south end).
3. Additional signage at the Dublin Bikes Station including yield signs, hazard markers and hatched markings.
4. Ramp to the south of Dublin Bikes Station.
5. Raised Entry Treatment at the junction of Great Western Square / Monck Place
6. Planting at the entrance to Avondale Road (via North Circular Road)
7. Planting at the entrance to Monck Place (via Phibsborough Road)

A draft proposal was presented to the Central Area Committee in December 2020. This proposal is attached. Following a further meeting with residents we are now tweaking the proposal, the most significant amendments are additional traffic calming at the entrance to Avondale road, the location of the chicane on Monck Place and additional traffic calming at the entrance to Monck Place from Phibsboro Road.

The design is being finalised and a further update will be given in the coming weeks.

**Q.15 COUNCILLOR DECLAN MEENAGH**

To ask the Chief Executive for an estimated costing of expanding Dublin Bikes to Cabra West with 3 stations. To further ask the manager if he has contacted the NTA to try get funding to further expand Dublin bikes and if he will make a statement on how we can get funding to expand the scheme?

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

At present the NOW TV dublinbikes scheme is being moved into a new unit within Environment and Transport, this unit will be set up by summer and will have responsibility for both the Station Bikes and the station less bike schemes such as Bleeper and Moby. This unit will look to see how bike sharing can be expanded across the city using a combination of mobility hubs and other aids to ensure bike sharing is more widely available.

**Q.16 COUNCILLOR DERMOT LACEY**

To ask the Chief Executive if he can supply me with a copy of the Insurance estimates for premium and claims pay-out estimates for the first five years of the operation of the White water Rafting facility and any other related information that will assist in a full understanding of the aspect of the project.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

It is too early to estimate a potential increase in the cost of the City Council's Public Liability insurance premium as a result of the proposed White Water facility nor estimated pay-outs that may occur as a result of accidents at the facility when operational. However, we have been assured by our insurers that they don't envisage a large increase over and above the annual cost we currently pay.

**Q.17 COUNCILLOR SÉAMAS MCGRATTAN**

To ask the Chief Executive to contact Fingal CC and the OPW to review traffic and pedestrian safety at **(details supplied)** and surrounding roads and pathways.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The OPW have recently published **(details supplied 1)**, this report was carried out with input from DCC and FCC as well as the NTA. Further details can be found in the following link (please see attached link)

Public constitution on this report will start on the 29th of January and it is planned that details of the plan will be presented to area committee meetings in February. It is hoped that the review will be completed by Quarter Two 2021.

Within the report **(details supplied 2)** has been identified as a "Key Node" where walking & cycling facilities are to be upgraded (see map on P14). The report also proposes to make **(details supplied 2)** one way – Entry only (see map on P16). It is DCC's intention to work with the OPW, Fingal County Council, & the NTA to improve the level of service for vulnerable road users at the external part of the **(details supplied 2)** in coordination with the proposed upgrade to the internal road network of the park.

**Q.18 COUNCILLOR SÉAMAS MCGRATTAN**

To ask the Chief Executive to provide additional litter bins around **(details supplied)**.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The suggested locations will be surveyed for the provision of new installations as part of ongoing audits of bins in the local electoral areas throughout the city. Audits are being undertaken to assess the current supply, replacement requirements and to ensure that new installations are provided in proximity to litter generators.

**Q.19 COUNCILLOR SÉAMAS MCGRATTAN**

To ask the Chief Executive to consider local community locations for the collection of cardboard and Christmas trees next January.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Waste Management Services are currently reviewing our Christmas tree disposal programme and intend to investigate additional/alternative locations for Christmas 2021/22. Should appropriate sites be located we will also consider installing temporary waste packaging containers for the post-Christmas period pending the availability of space.

**Q.20 COUNCILLOR SÉAMAS MCGRATTAN**

To ask the Chief Executive how many applications for Co-Living developments in the City have been lodged since the Minister banned such applications in November.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

On the 23<sup>rd</sup> December 2020 the sustainable Urban Housing: Design Standards for New Apartments Guidelines for Planning Authorities were issued under Sn 28 of the Planning & Development Act 2000 as amended.

Specific Planning Policy Requirement 9 (SPPR 9) states that:

*There shall be a presumption against granting planning permission for shared accommodation/co-living development unless the proposed development is either:-*

*(i) required to meet specific demand identified by a local planning authority further to a Housing Need and Demand Assessment (HNDA) process;*

or,

(ii) *n the date of publication of these updated Guidelines, a valid planning application to a planning authority, appeal to An Bord Pleanála, or strategic housing development (SHD) planning application to An Bord Pleanála, in which case the application or appeal may be determined on its merits.*

Since November 2020 and prior to the 23<sup>rd</sup> December one application was lodged with Dublin City Council i.e. Application No: 4009/20 72-74, Old Kilmainham, Dublin 8.

During the same period three applications were lodged with An Bord Pleanala i.e ABP Ref: 309817-20 Former Player Wills site and Undeveloped Land in Ownership of Dublin City Council, South Circular Road, Dublin 8

ABP Ref: 308875-20 Phibsborough Shopping Centre and 345-349, North Circular Road, Dublin 7

ABP Ref: 308841-20 Hendron's Building and wider site, 36-40, Dominick Street Upper, Broadstone, Dublin 7.

As the above applications were made prior to SPPR 9 coming into effect they will be assessed on their merits.

There have been no applications for co-living developments since the 23rd December when SPPR 9 came into effect.

**Q.21 COUNCILLOR JOHN LYONS**

To ask the Chief Executive for a detailed breakdown on the construction costs involved in the estimated unit cost of €375,000 on the proposed Emmet Road Mixed Use Housing Development site and a detailed explanation of the COST DRIVERS mentioned at the December Housing SPC presentation, specifically a detailed explanation of the following under the Construction and Additional Fees sections:

Shape of a building

Net to gross ratio

Units per core

Min. floor space

Dual aspect

Professional

Legal

Statutory

Management and Maintenance

Lifecycle Costs

% Renal Voids

Financing - Interest Rates/Term of Loan

Project Timescale - Inflation

Project Phasing.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

A. €375,000 – this is a budget cost based on historical data and market norms

It is premature to give cost estimates before planning permission is granted and design is finalised and planning conditions are known. At that stage of the project cost estimates can be determined with accuracy, although these will remain subject to contractor tendering.

B. The following terms relate to design efficiency:

### 1. SHAPE

The shape of a building refers to the wall to floor ratio. The **wall to floor ratio** is a means of expressing the planning efficiency of a building and is influenced by the plan shape, plan size and storey heights

### 2. NET TO GROSS RATIO

**Building efficiency** is most commonly expressed as a percentage **calculated** by dividing the usable floor area by the gross floor area.

### 3. UNITS PER CORE

A core meaning a stairwell, lift and associated space. A core can cost anywhere between €75,000-€100,000 for each level. Therefore if we only have two apartments per core the cost will be €35,000-€50,000 per apartment compared to a scheme of 10 apartments per core where the cost would be €7,500 to €10,000 per apartment.

### 4. MINIMUM FLOOR SPACE

This examines the total area included within the design layout compared to the **minimum floor areas** set down in the Department of Housing's 2018 Apartment Guidelines.

### 5. Dual aspect

A **dual-aspect apartment** is one with windows on two walls. The cost associated with more windows is not really to do with the extra glass, but far more to do with the "lift-core ratio". The greater the number of **dual-aspect apartments**, the fewer the number of **apartments** reached by each lift.

## C. ADDITIONAL FEES QUERY:

- Professional fees – are prices charged by individuals specially trained in specific fields
- Legal - are prices charged by legal professionals
- Statutory – costs related to planning , utility connections etc.
- Management and Maintenance - Depends on the development. Relates to costs associated for example; repairs & maintenance, security, cleaning communal areas, landscaping etc.
- Lifecycle Costs - **costs** related to constructing, operating, and maintaining an asset
- % Rental Voids - A **void** refers to a period where a landlord does not have a tenant paying **rent**.
- Financing - Interest Rates (rate of interest charge on loan) /Term of Loan (length of loan)
- Project Timescale - A **timescale** can be the identified date(s) on which you need to do a task
- Inflation - **Inflation** is a measure of the rate of rising prices of goods and services in an economy.

- Project Phasing - **Phasing** involves developing a schedule that includes the sequencing of **construction** activities

**Q.22 COUNCILLOR VINCENT JACKSON**

To ask the Chief Executive to ensure that the following Housing issues are completed (**details supplied**).

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Housing Maintenance does not have an order for windows for this property. The last time they were inspected in 2018 they were a Category C which means they do not need to be replaced. However, we will arrange for them to be re-inspected now and if deemed in need of replacement all necessary works will be carried out.

**Q.23 COUNCILLOR VINCENT JACKSON**

To ask the Chief Executive to please report on the following Housing issue (**details supplied**)?

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The above applicant is on the Housing List with an application date of 9/06/2016, and the applicant holds the following positions on this list:

Area	Bedsize	Position
Area J	1	239

The applicants' interest in the Springvale and Cornamona developments have been noted on his file. The applicant will be considered for offer when accommodation to meet his household need becomes available and according to his position on the list.

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

The applicant may wish to consider apply for a medical priority, by submitting a medical priority application with supporting documentation. Should the applicant be successful in obtaining a medical priority it may decrease his waiting time to be reached for an offer of housing.

**Q.24 COUNCILLOR VINCENT JACKSON**

To ask the Chief Executive to please look into the following housing request (**details supplied**).

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The above applicants are on the Transfer Housing List with an application date of 19/09/2007, and the applicants hold the following positions on this list:

Area	Bedsize	Position
Area J	3	49
Area J	4	13

The applicants will be considered for offer when accommodation to meet their household need becomes available and according to their position on the list. It is important they maintain good standing with their rent account as applicants with arrears or a history of arrears will not be considered until their account is cleared and a history of regular payments of the full rent has been established.

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

The applicants may wish to register their interest in Homeswapper.ie and create an account with a view to liaising with other applicants seeking transfers. Should the applicants be successful in finding a match, and all the criteria is satisfied, it may decrease their waiting time.

Housing Maintenance will arrange for an inspection at above property and all necessary works will be carried out.

**Q.25 COUNCILLOR VINCENT JACKSON**

To ask the Chief Executive to please give me breakdown on the numbers of houses in the Ballyfermot, Cherry Orchard, Inchicore, Drimnagh and Bluebell Area which have had a full exterior insulation job done by DCC in the past 10 years and numbers awaiting to be done, the average cost of the works and the anticipated completion time for all the outstanding works that need to be done in addition what supports if any do we give older persons living in private homes which need works such as heating , window replacement, insulation etc. Fuel poverty is a huge issue in the community with many unable to heat their homes satisfactory.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

- Dublin City Council have carried out full external insulation to 314 houses across these areas with 1,281 houses awaiting to be done
- Costs vary depending on property type and the range of upgrade measures being applied and can vary between €20k and €40k per property
- Anticipated completion timeframe will depend on Departmental Funding for the programme
- Dublin City Council do not include private houses in their programme however a full list of grants available to private owners are available on The Sustainable Authority of Ireland's (SEAI) website. There is also The Warmth and Wellbeing Scheme that is operated by SEAI in conjunction with the HSE.

**Q.26 COUNCILLOR MANNIX FLYNN**

To ask the Chief Executive to issue a full report of exactly what records are being held by DCC Records and Archive Department on local authority's involvement with any Mother and Baby homes in the Dublin region and other such institutions. Also, what involvement did DCC have with the Mother and Baby Homes investigation? Further, that DCC make available all such records notwithstanding confidentiality agreements, and GDPR etc. to Councillors and the wider public.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Mother and baby homes in Dublin City and County came under the jurisdiction of the Dublin Board of Governors until 1932; The Dublin Board of Assistance until 1960; the Dublin Health Authority until 1970 and after that the Eastern Health Board. Dublin

Corporation and Dublin County Council partially funded these oversight bodies from their respective rates bases. The exchequer took on an increasing funding role after 1947. Both Local Authorities would have nominated to the respective Boards during the twentieth century.

According to Dublin City Libraries any and all records (other than Council meeting minutes) which may have been held by Dublin Corporation in relation to involvement in health, including mother & baby homes, were transferred to the Dublin Health Authority when that was established in 1960, and subsequently to the Eastern Health Board which was established in 1970, incorporating the Dublin Health Authority. Unfortunately there is now no record now of what material the Corporation held up to 1960 nor any listing of the material transferred.

There are over 150 references in the twentieth Century Minutes and Reports of Dublin Corporation to the Dublin Boards of Assistance and the Dublin Health Authority which has oversight of these homes. As far as can be ascertained at present (given that the Archives are shut), most of these records refer to nominations to, and funding of, these Boards. There appears to be few if any reference to the individual homes other than 4 reference to sewage and water supply in Pelletstown prior to 1908. This may be due to the fact up to 1985 that Pelletstown itself fell within the Dublin County Council Boundary.

Dublin Corporation was not involved operationally in the homes and the staff involved were not employed by the Corporation. While it cannot be confirmed at this stage it is considered unlikely that the Corporation ever held much personal data related to the homes. The Mother and Baby Investigation did not consult the City Archives. The City Archives are unaware of any personal data in its possession regarding these institutions to which confidentiality and GDPR would apply

Dublin City Libraries has commissioned a historian to research the involvement of the Corporation in Pelletstown and in mother & baby homes in Dublin City more generally. The exact contents of the Corporation minutes and reports will be examined as part of that research.

**Q.27 COUNCILLOR MANNIX FLYNN**

To ask the Chief Executive to issue a full report with regards reporting of domestic violence incidents in emergency homeless accommodation. This to include hostels, family hubs, hotels, and other such accommodations. Also, to clarify whether domestic violence incidents and domestic disturbance incidents are being recorded under anti-social behaviour and what action is being taken by DCC to address these issues for those that are victims of such incident and also neighbours and other residents who live in close proximity to such incidents. Further, that this report cover the full Homeless Regional Executive services and all of their dwellings within the region.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The Dublin Region Homeless Executive (DRHE) follows the Department of Housing, Community and Local Government Policy and Procedural Guidance for Housing Authorities in Relation to Assisting Victims of Domestic Violence with Emergency and Long-Term Needs.

[https://www.housing.gov.ie/sites/default/files/publications/files/guidance\\_for\\_housing\\_authorities\\_in\\_relation\\_to\\_assisting\\_victims\\_of\\_domestic\\_violence.pdf](https://www.housing.gov.ie/sites/default/files/publications/files/guidance_for_housing_authorities_in_relation_to_assisting_victims_of_domestic_violence.pdf)

The DRHE has a range of policies and procedures in place regarding the occurrence of domestic violence incidents. Various tools and supports are used by staff. These

are implemented via key worker sessions with both the victim and perpetrator, in a sensitive and highly confidential manner and on a case by case basis. There are additional supports, interventions, crisis management plans, critical incidents protocol, safety plans, support plans and risk assessment plans in place

All reported incidents of Domestic Violence are recorded on a client's PASS file and all reported incidents are investigated thoroughly on a case by case basis. Serious incidents are escalated to the Gardaí and Tusla.

Where children are involved and in accordance with Child Protection Legislation a report will be sent to Tusla if required. NGO Services, where required, will link in with the DRHE Central Placement Service should an alternative placement be required for anyone involved in incidents of domestic violence and/or anti -social behaviour.

Where a victim of domestic violence presents to the DRHE they are referred to a specialist domestic violence service so that any particular care needs can be considered and addressed. Victims may have particular needs beyond what can be provided via the DRHE by way of emergency accommodation, e.g. specialist legal or medical assistance may be required.

Policies & Procedures for Domestic Violence Incidents include:

- Safeguarding Policy for Adults
- Safeguarding Policy for Children
- Staff receive training in dealing with domestic violence incidents
- Child Protection Training
- Health & Safety Training
- Tusla Training
- Key Worker Visits
- Anti-Social Policy
- Good Neighbour Policy
- Close working relationship with An Garda Síochána

Responsibility for the development and provision of services to support victims of domestic violence rests with the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs and the delivery of such services is managed through the Child and Family Agency, Tusla. Tusla is the principal State agency in relation to domestic violence services.

#### **Q.28 COUNCILLOR MANNIX FLYNN**

To ask the Chief Executive to issue a full report as to how many of Dublin City Council's tenants have had their boiler replaced/fixed in the last three years. Also, how many incidents of boiler failure have been reported in the last three years? How much do DCC add on to the rent for the maintenance of the boilers? What efforts have DCC made to inform tenants of the maintenance charge for boilers and also the services available to fix or replace them. How much has been spent in the last 5 years and how much has been collected in the last 5 years with regards boiler maintenance. Can DCC also supply a list of contracts that they have with private companies in relation to boiler maintenance and how much these contracts are worth.

#### **CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

- 29,175 domestic heating calls have been logged in the last three years which has included 2,808 new boilers being installed
- Dublin City Council applies a maintenance charge of €4 per week for the maintenance of domestic boilers and central heating systems
- All tenants are advised of this service in the tenant's handbook

- €23.6 Million has been spent on providing this service in the last three years
- If all tenants were to pay the boiler maintenance charge it would total €13.6 Million over this period
- Dublin City Council has a framework in situ for the service and repair of our domestic boiler stock which has no specific contract value

**Q.29 COUNCILLOR MANNIX FLYNN**

To ask the Chief Executive, further to my request to view all legal documents regarding Priory Hall and its acquisition by DCC can the CEO arrange with the legal department for me to come and view the documents? I am aware of the Covid 19 issue but that should not prohibit me being able to view the documentation in one of DCC's Civic Office rooms.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The legal documents relating to the arrangements put in place to resolve the Priory Hall issue are confidential because there were several parties involved in this resolution including tenants, private owners and landlords.

The confidentiality aspect was agreed by the parties as part of the overall resolution.

However, the Housing Department who were involved on behalf of Dublin City Council is currently putting together a file of all the key and relevant documentation relevant to the ultimate resolution of the issues on Priory and that file will be made available for viewing by the Councillor over the coming weeks.

**Q.30 COUNCILLOR DECLAN MEENAGH**

To ask the Chief Executive for a timeline and copies of all communications related to (**details supplied**).

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

(**details supplied 1**) presented an ambitious plan to Dublin City Council for all weather and other flood lit associated facilities to be constructed in (**details supplied**). The feasibility of such proposals is being considered in the context of potential impact on local traffic and residential amenity, the impact on the integrity of the park as a local green space and potential impacts on the environment and the Brent geese in particular, a protected species which is known to use the park as a feeding ground.

**Q.31 COUNCILLOR DECLAN MEENAGH**

To ask the Chief Executive if ABP informed the council that it is now possible to make online submissions for SHDs and in what way it did.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

No formal notification was received by this Department that submissions could be lodged by third parties for Strategic Housing Developments on line.

**Q.32 COUNCILLOR NOELEEN REILLY**

To ask the Chief Executive how many tenants are living in units bigger than their needs, to give a breakdown by size and housing area?

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The following is a list of single and joint tenancies with no other occupants that currently occupy accommodation with two or more bedrooms.

All lettings are strictly on the basis of assessed family size but circumstances change and family members are removed from the rent account for one reason over the lifecycle of a tenancy. Surrender Larger applications for transfer are encouraged and given priority. In addition there is a Home swapper application to help transfer applicants find each other for mutual transfers. It is the in the allocations work plan for 2021 to write to each transfer applicant and encourage them to sign up.

### **Central Area**

No. Bedrooms	No. of Tenancies
<b>Single tenant</b>	
2	399
3	88
4	16
<b>Joint tenants</b>	
2	73
3	44
4	15
<b>Total tenancies</b>	<b>635</b>

### **North Central Area**

No. Bedrooms	No. of Tenancies
<b>Single tenant</b>	
2	111
3	186
4	32
<b>Joint tenants</b>	
2	30
3	65
4	14
<b>Total tenancies</b>	<b>438</b>

### **North West Area**

No. Bedrooms	No. of Tenancies
<b>Single tenant</b>	
2	393
3	332
4	31
<b>Joint tenants</b>	
2	109
3	125
4	16
<b>Total tenancies</b>	<b>1006</b>

### **South Central Area**

No. Bedrooms	No. of Tenancies
<b>Single tenant</b>	
2	729
3	201
4	17
<b>Joint tenants</b>	
2	139
3	85

4	13
Total tenancies	1184
<b>South East Area</b>	
No. Bedrooms	No. Tenancies
Single tenant	
2	352
3	61
4	13
Joint tenants	
2	79
3	29
4	9
Total tenancies	543

Total number of tenancies with bedrooms in excess of the minimum requirement is 3806.

**Q.33 COUNCILLOR NOELEEN REILLY**

To ask the Chief Executive for an update on the development at the grounds of the Church of Annunciation.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

DCC is currently finalising the legal agreement regarding the acquisition of this site. Pending the completion of these legal matters, the City Council is progressing to the design stage for the development of a senior citizens scheme on the site.

**Q.34 COUNCILLOR NOELEEN REILLY**

To ask the Chief Executive how many vacant bedsits are there across the city and to give a breakdown by area?

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

All vacant zero bedroom (bedsit) properties by area and status.

Area	Converting 2 into 1	Void Pending Demolition	Void Pending Refurbishment	Void Planned Vacancy	Void Short Term Repair	Total
Central	0	13	1	32	25	71
North Central	0	26	22	0	37	85
North West	0	0	0	0	10	10
South Central	2	3	2	0	65	72
South East	3	1	0	9	22	35
	5	43	25	41	159	273

**Q.35 COUNCILLOR NOELEEN REILLY**

To ask the Chief Executive to look at putting railings around the homes at Wad River Ballymun.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

We would like further clarity on this question and where exactly the railings are being suggested for. If the Councillor contacts the Local Area Office in Ballymun they will be able to advise.

**Q.36 COUNCILLOR RAY MCADAM**

To ask the Chief Executive to provide an update on the status of Shared Bins project on the Dublin Beta Projects page; the progress made to date in evaluating the initiative; the next steps in the project; and when will a recommendation be presented to each of the five administrative areas for potential roll-out in local areas such as Stoneybatter, for example; and if he will make a statement on the matter?

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The 'Shared Bins' BETA Project is one of two projects currently identified under the City Challenge on Dumping and Waste. The project is exploring whether shared, on street, residential waste bins be a useful solution to improve our waste services and also reduce illegal dumping. You can read more at [www.dccbeta.ie](http://www.dccbeta.ie)

All BETA Projects follow 3 stages – concept (should we?), scaling (how should we?) and local (where should we?). The 'Shared Bins' BETA Project is at the initial concept stage which means that it's exploring whether there's a 'good idea' there, including learning about any pros and cons. Concept stage trials are always removed at the end of the learning period.

The trial has not yet gone live, but based on our callout for trial locations, we hope to be in a position to begin this trial during February.

**Q.37 COUNCILLOR RAY MCADAM**

To ask the Chief Executive to detail the number of expressions of interest received by and regards to **(details supplied)**, what such an expression means; and when does he expect a decision on allocating the first number of units to begin; and if he will make a statement on the matter?

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

An expression of interest is when an applicant, with a relatively good position on any housing list for the particular area where a new development is being built, declares an interest in being housed there once the development is complete. **(details supplied 1)** have received ten expressions of interest so far in relation to the first 56 Houses in **(details supplied 2)** development. The Allocations Section will liaise with **(details supplied 1)** in relation to devising an allocations strategy for the development nearer to the completion date, which is expected to be in Q3 2021.

**Q.38 COUNCILLOR RAY MCADAM**

To ask the Chief Executive to indicate the initial thinking in respect of the feasibility study being prepared with regards to **(details supplied)**; the numbers of homes envisaged; and when he expects it to be made available to Councillors; and if he will make a statement on the matter?

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The Housing and Community Services Department is currently preparing documents to begin a feasibility study for **(details supplied)**. We expect to commence the study later this year and once completed, we will discuss the findings with the local area elected members.

**Q.39 COUNCILLOR RAY MCADAM**

To ask the Chief Executive to provide a detailed update as to the progress being made on the selection of a contractor to advance the building of new public housing on a City Council owned site on (**details supplied**); when he expects a preferred contractor to begin works on site; and to outline his current thinking with regards the redevelopment of the remainder of the lands owned by Council here; and if he will make a statement on the matter?

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The detailed design and tender production for this project is well advanced. The consultant Quantity Surveyors are now working on the Pricing Document and production to the end of March 2021.

A cost review will be submitted to the Department in early April 2021 for approval to go to tender.

Subject to Departmental approval within 4 weeks, we anticipate going out to tender in mid-May 2021.

Contract award will be subject to departmental approval.

The date for commencement on site is currently planned for September 2021.

Outline studies for the development of the upper part of the (**details supplied**) are currently progressing.

**Q.40 COUNCILLOR COLM O'ROURKE**

To ask the Chief Executive that the deterioration at (**details supplied**) be addressed and that a number of measures be undertaken to include but not limited to:

- A) That the issue causing the footpaths to waterlog be addressed and that the gullies be cleared here.
- B) To repair the football goals, to replace the tennis net and to repair the existing basketball post and to reinstate the other basketball post.
- C) To repair the tarmac area for football and the tennis area that was scorched by a bonfire.
- D) To remove the glass, nails and sharp objects from this area and to ensure that the area be regularly cleaned.
- E) To address the constant issue of dog foul here, to introduce more dog foul signage and for the litter warden to regularly patrol this area, and to introduce more bins to address the dog foul problem.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

This work is on the list of works for members of the crew to clean the gullies on (**details supplied 1**) for the week of 25<sup>th</sup> January 2021. Should any defects or problems be identified when they are cleaned they will be passed on to the Drainage Division to be repaired.

As construction of the new train station at (**details supplied 2**) is nearing completion a programme of reinstatement/improvements works are being devised currently, including resurfacing and repairs of the basketball/ tennis areas. As a condition for the use of the open space as a compound during works the contractor must ensure surrounding footpaths and gullies are kept in a safe and clean condition. Parks services will arrange and inspection to resolve any waterlogging issues. Once reinstatement

works are completed a review of the maintenance program will be carried out with contracted area supervisor to ensure all areas are addressed appropriately.

Arrangements have been made to put in place signage relating to dog fouling. The Area Office will arrange for litter wardens to patrol and the engineer with responsibility for the placement of bins will examine the request for extra bins.

**Q.41 COUNCILLOR COLM O'ROURKE**

To ask the Chief Executive that a number of traffic measures be introduced in the Drumcondra area including:

- A) Speed ramps to be introduced at (**details supplied 1**) due to the regular traffic accidents that occur here.
- B) To introduce a lamppost in the centre of the mini-roundabout on (**details supplied 2**) to prevent traffic driving over the top of it.
- C) To introduce footpath build-outs at junctions and other traffic calming measures such as street trees similar to St. Brigid's Road Upper.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

With regards to Part B of the above question, the provision of a lamp standard in the middle of a mini-roundabout is not considered best practise in the industry and potentially creates a safety hazard. For these reasons it is not planned to install a lamp standard in the middle of the mini roundabout on (**details supplied 1**).

- A. With regards to the request for ramps at the locations provided. These streets are residential in nature, the road itself is naturally traffic calmed with the provision of on street parking which significantly reduces the available carriageway width for motorists and acts as traffic calming in this regard. These streets are now part of the Dublin City Council Speed Limit review 30km/hr "Slow Zone" and as such, motorists are informed of the change of speed limit as they turn into the zone from main roads. Following the above information it is determined that the installation of additional speed ramps are not warranted at this time. In terms of the junction of (**details supplied 2**), a yield sign with appropriate road markings will be recommended on (**details supplied 3**) in order to provide more structure to the junction as motorists approach the T junction.
- B. In relation to the installation of a Lamp Post at the mini roundabout, the design of such mini roundabouts are defined in the standards documents and the introduction of a lamppost is not recommended as a traffic calming measure in this regard.
- C. The tree pits that were installed on (**details supplied 4**) were a project undertaken by the Parks Department. This involved significant consultation with residents with regards to removal of parking to provide space for installation for the tree pits. It would require engagement with the Parks Department who can advise if they are looking at this area with a view to further greening strategies.

Parks, Biodiversity and Landscape Services has no plans to carry out works at this location. Alterations to the public road design are a matter for the Environment and Transport Department .

**Q.42 COUNCILLOR COLM O'ROURKE**

To ask the Chief Executive that speed ramps be introduced at (**details supplied**) due to the amount of speeding vehicles that use this road.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

(details supplied) is currently traffic calmed by a number of speed ramps and speed cushions, all of which are placed with optimum spacing to increase traffic calming. Installation of additional ramps on this road will only serve to encourage harsh braking and consequent heavy acceleration in between ramps along the road. There is on street parking which narrows the carriageway and effectively acts as traffic calming and reduces forward visibility. It is not recommended to install additional speed ramps.

**Q.43 COUNCILLOR COLM O'ROURKE**

To ask the Chief Executive that a Bigbelly bin be placed at (details supplied) in addition to the Bigbelly bins that are planned to be installed nearby.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

There are no current plans to install a solar compactor bin at this location. Solar compactor bins have been installed in the locality at (details supplied). There is a standard public litter bin provided at this location and there is a requirement on retail outlets to also provide litter bins at their premises. The litter warden will be requested to visit the location to ensure that bins are being provided.

**Q.44 COUNCILLOR CIERAN PERRY**

To ask the Chief Executive, in relation to the Horse Pound, can the CE answer the following questions?

- Who decides if a horse is to be disposed of (if seized under order of council)?
- Who decides re disposal if seized under order of a Garda?
- What is the mechanism to instruct a horse to be disposed of?
- Can the instruction to dispose only be made by an authorised officer under CHA?
- If decision is made by pound staff, how is that decision made?
- Is there a record or decisions made and reasons for disposal?
- Who decides on exact method of disposal e.g. sale, transfer to rescue, shot?

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

- When a horse is seized details of the horse are sent to the Licensing Unit. In accordance with section 37 of the Control of horses Act and section 9 of the Control of horse's bye-laws. These details are displayed in the Civic Offices and also on the website for a period of five days. If ownership is not established or the owner cannot produce the fee and required paperwork Dublin City Council may dispose of the horse in accordance with the Act and bye-laws. An authorised Officer from Dublin City Council signs off on the disposal of the horse. In practice if the owner comes forward we give all the help we can in order to get the paperwork together and this often takes more than five days.
- The Gardai make the decision but the procedure in a) above is followed.
- The Contractor sends a list of horses by email (after the 5 days). An authorised Officer of Dublin City Council signs a standard form instructing the horse/horses to be disposed of.
- Yes by an Authorised Officer of Dublin City Council.
- The Pound staff don't make the decision.
- Decisions are made by Council staff based on the timeframe the horse is in the pound (5 nights as per Control of Horses Act). All records of disposal are kept on disposal COH4 form.
- The Contractor has a number of contacts and if the horse is suitable for rescue this will be organised by the contractor. Dublin City Council don't sell horses that have been seized. Horses to be disposed of are transported to the knackery where they are disposed of humanely.

## **Q.45 COUNCILLOR CIERAN PERRY**

To ask the Chief Executive to detail the number of housing acquisitions and housing type per area over the last 3 years?

## **CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

## **Details of housing acquisitions by area, bed size and type, for the period 2018 to 2020.**

Housing Acquisitions per area 2018-2021									
Central	100	North Central	255	North West	176	South Central	244	South East	19
1 bed	43	1 bed	19	1 bed	17	1 bed	50	1 bed	11
2 bed	39	2 bed	65	2 bed	72	2 bed	113	2 bed	4
3 bed	13	3 bed	150	3 bed	82	3 bed	77	3 bed	0
4 bed	5	4 bed	21	4 bed	4	4 bed	3	4 bed	4
5 bed	0	5 bed	0	5 bed	1	5 bed	1	5 bed	0
Apartment	69	Apartment	61	Apartment	39	Apartment	72	Apartment	13
Single storey	4	Single storey	3	Single storey	0	Single storey	0	Single storey	1
Duplex	0	Duplex	0	Duplex	3	Duplex	0	Duplex	0
Two storey	22	Two storey	190	Two storey	134	Two storey	172	Two storey	5
Three Storey	5	Three Storey	1	Three Storey	0	Three Storey	0	Three Storey	0
2018	25	2018	81	2018	42	2018	76	2018	4
2019	55	2019	121	2019	98	2019	117	2019	10
2020	20	2020	53	2020	36	2020	51	2020	5

## **Q.46 COUNCILLOR CIERAN PERRY**

To ask the Chief Executive to confirm whether the new Apartment Guidelines published by the Department of Housing on the 23<sup>rd</sup> December 2021 will apply to applications lodged prior to that date but where no decision has been made by An Bord Pleanála?

## **CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The guidelines are effective from the 23/12/20 and can only be applied to applications lodged with a Local Authority after this date. Any application lodged or on appeal before this date would have to be assessed under the previous guidelines.

## **Q.47 COUNCILLOR DANNY BYRNE**

To ask the Chief Executive if the drains on Thorncastle Street in Ringsend could be looked at, picture shows water overflow after rain.

## **CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Thorncastle Road, Ringsend is on the list of gully cleaning works for the week of 25<sup>th</sup> January 2021. Should any defects or problems with gullies be identified when they are cleaned they will be passed on to the *Drainage Services Division* to be repaired.

**Q.48 COUNCILLOR DANNY BYRNE**

To ask the Chief Executive if the following could be addressed: the kerb stones on the corner of Charlemont Street and Harcourt Road have been very badly repaired using tarmac instead of cement. The surface is now very uneven and is a trip hazard.

## **CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

A repair will be scheduled here as soon as possible.

**Q.49 COUNCILLOR JAMES GEOGHEGAN**

To ask the Chief Executive, further to question 79 on the 11<sup>th</sup> of January 2021 and the delivery of the report entitled ‘Construction costs for direct-build Dublin City Council residential developments’ on the 31<sup>st</sup> of December 2020 if he can set out in tabular form the estimated average delivery cost per unit to Dublin City Council for each specific separate ‘Scheme’ detailed in pages 2 – 13 of Report No. 340/2020 under the heading ‘Scheme’.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE’S REPLY:**

The report entitled ‘Construction costs for direct-build Dublin City Council residential developments’ issued on the 31<sup>st</sup> of December 2020 is the most detail the Housing Department wish to put in the public domain. If DCC publish more granular financial data, it may put future tenders and competitions for construction at a disadvantage in terms of achieving value for money bids.

It might also weaken the position of DCC in current and imminent procurement procedures to publish detailed unit costs to the market.

**Q.50 COUNCILLOR JAMES GEOGHEGAN**

To ask the Chief Executive if he can set out in tabular form the average purchase cost for an eligible buyer by reference to each unit type for affordable purchase homes on the O ’Devaney Gardens development, Emmet Road Development and the proposed Oscar Traynor Road Development if the Services Sites Fund was increased to €100,000 per unit for Dublin City; if he can set out in tabular form the estimated average acquisition cost by reference to each unit type for Dublin City Council or an approved housing body to purchase the currently allocated private units on the O ’Devaney Gardens development and the proposed Oscar Traynor Road Development if the Services Sites Fund was increased to €100,000 per unit for Dublin City; if he can set out in tabular form the estimated average monthly rent by reference to each unit type for a cost rental unit on the Emmet Road Development if the Services Sites Fund was increased to €100,000 per unit for Dublin City.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE’S REPLY:****Emmet Road**

The tenure mix for Emmet Road does not include affordable purchase.

It is premature to give cost estimates before planning permission is granted and design is finalised and planning conditions are known. At that stage of the project cost estimates can be determined with accuracy, although these will remain subject to contractor tendering.

Any improvement in the Site Services Fund would assist in the viability of the cost rental scheme.

Average contract prices for both O’Devaney Gardens and Oscar Traynor are similar as per table below

SIZE	CONTRACT PRICE EX VAT €	MINUS SSF @ €100K €	MINUS HELP TO BUY @ €30K €	AFFORDABLE PRICE RANGE €
<b>1 BED</b>	298,000	198,000	168,000	160,000 TO 190,000
<b>2 BED</b>	354,000	254,000	224,000	210,000 TO 230,000
<b>3 BED</b>	393,000	293,000	263,000	250,000 TO 270,000

The prices of the currently allocated private units have not been made available to the City Council. The developer has indicated that these prices remain commercially sensitive while negotiations with the AHB are ongoing, as a result the average weekly rents are not available. Notwithstanding, it is the intention that the rents in Cost Rental schemes would cover the cost of supply, while the rents in Affordable Rental Schemes would not exceed 35% of family income.

**Q.51 COUNCILLOR JAMES GEOGHEGAN**

To ask the Chief Executive, further to question 81 on the 11<sup>th</sup> of January 2021 whether the preliminary report outlining feasibility and potential solutions for Belmont Avenue, Donnybrook, Dublin 4 has now been completed; if that report has been reviewed and discussed internally; and when it is likely that this will be discussed with Elected Councillors.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

A preliminary report will be made available by the Covid Mobility Team to all elected Councillors in early February 2021 which will outline the current issues and potential interventions. This report can then be discussed at the March 2021 South East Area Committee Meeting.

**Q.52 COUNCILLOR JAMES GEOGHEGAN**

To ask the Chief Executive, further to the commitment given at the adjourned council meeting of the 18<sup>th</sup> of January 2021 if he can provide a breakdown of the spending on private emergency hostels for each year between 2016 to date applying whatever redactions are required; if he can provide all of the reports of inspections of emergency hostels since February 2019 applying whatever redactions are required.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The level of expenditure by the Dublin Region Homeless Executive (DRHE) on private emergency accommodation for each year between 2016 and 2019 is set out in the table below. The figures for 2020 are being finalised, when completed we will forward the figure to the Councillor.

Year	PEAs	Total Emergency Accommodation	Total
<b>2016</b>	€9,935,090.00	€72,793,910.00	13.65%
<b>2017</b>	€12,320,307.00	€97,489,140.00	12.64%
<b>2018</b>	€13,796,922.00	€118,371,308.00	11.66%
<b>2019</b>	€21,982,583.00	€143,865,366.00	15.28%

The DRHE facilities team completed 120 inspections since February 2019. I would invite Cllr. Geoghegan to arrange with the DRHE a suitable time to come into the DRHE offices and we can ensure a senior staff member is available to show the councillor the redacted inspection reports.

**Q.53 COUNCILLOR DARRAGH MORIARTY**

To ask the Chief Executive to please outline current plans to roll out further Dublin Bikes schemes in the Dublin South Central Area, which it seems has been blatantly ignored in this regard? The area is full of development and regeneration and would greatly benefit from these schemes (see photo attached).

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

At present the NOW TV dublinbikes scheme is being moved into a new unit within Environment and Transport, this unit will be set up by summer and will have

responsibility for both the Station Bikes and the station less bike schemes such as Bleeper and Moby. This unit will look to see how bike sharing can be expanded across the city using a combination of mobility hubs and other aids to ensure bike sharing is more widely available.

**Q.54 COUNCILLOR DARRAGH MORIARTY**

To ask the Chief Executive to please provide a full list of all new hotel developments (including aparthotels) and hotel expansions granted planning permission by Dublin City Council and An Bord Pleanála from 2015-2020? Could this list please be broken down by Council Ward please? (**Details supplied**).

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Please see attached document.

**Q.55 COUNCILLOR DARRAGH MORIARTY**

To ask the Chief Executive to please offer an update on the roll out of public on-street recycling bins? How has the latest trial gone so far, when can we expect the bins to be pushed out across the city?

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The Circle City recycling on the go initiative is focused on the introduction of a successful city centre project and includes the ongoing monitoring and assessment of the quality and quantity of recyclable material disposed of in the recycling bins provided in the city centre.

There are currently 25 bins provided in phase 1 of the project. Upon confirmation of successful implementation phase 2 of the project will see the expansion within the city centre of the number of bins available.

The future of the initiative will be examined following confirmation that the current project has been successful and is sustainable within the city centre. Following this consideration will be given to how the initiative can be expanded further, and based on the experience and results of the city centre project, in which locations successful implementation can be achieved.

The current status of the project is that the results of audits to date and feedback from the recycling facility is that the levels of target material within the recycling bins is good, the diversion of target material from adjacent litter bins is good and the quality of recycling material is acceptable. This requires ongoing monitoring over the coming months to ensure that this trend continues in order to deliver phase 2 of the project. It is important to note that the impact on the usage of the bins of the various lockdown periods and a resulting return to activity in the city needs to be measured within this to ensure that the current results are an accurate reflection of the performance of the project on an ongoing basis.

**Q.56 COUNCILLOR MÁIRE DEVINE**

To ask the Chief Executive if recent planning applications that propose to develop shared type accommodation is considered "Co-Living". For example one live application in the Dublin 8 area proposes a "Build to Rent" development with a handful of double occupancy units.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The planning application will be assessed as per the proposal and the information shown on the drawings and documents submitted with the application.

**Q.57 COUNCILLOR MÁIRE DEVINE**

To ask the Chief Executive for his opinion on applications for “Change of Use” from Student Accommodation to Co- living, in whatever guise it’s presented, is lawful under the recent legislation banning this type of development?”

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE’S REPLY:**

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic and the suspension of most 3<sup>rd</sup> level campus activities and transition to online e-learning platforms, the demand for student accommodation has significantly declined. This has resulted in a number of purpose built student accommodation developments in the city being under-utilised. It is anticipated that this will remain the case for the current academic year unless an alternative use is established i.e. accommodating non students in these developments. In the case of recent planning applications received by the City Council, the operators have confirmed that the accommodation would still be available for lettings to students during this time, ensuring that students who wish to utilise the development can do so. The applicants also confirmed that students and non-student residences would be segregated within the development, with each core area reserved for specific use, all operating under professional management.

Given that any change of use would be temporary and would facilitate the productive and ongoing use of an existing purpose built building which would otherwise remain vacant, it is considered that the proposed use of this high quality accommodation by non-students is reasonable. Furthermore, higher occupancy rates in these buildings will help bring a greater sense of vitality and vibrancy to the city centre/inner city which is perceived to be suffering from a lack of footfall and general activity.

It should be noted that the applicants have described the intended use as tourist or visitor accommodation and have not indicated that they will be used as co-living accommodation schemes. In this respect, student accommodation schemes can already be used outside of academic term times for tourist or visitor accommodation without the need to seek planning permission. It is intended that any further extension of that facility will be limited by the inclusion of the following planning conditions in any grant of planning permission which are intended to safeguard the permitted use of these developments (as student accommodation) and limit the duration and nature of the tourist/visitor use;

1. *The temporary use for tourist or visitor accommodation hereby permitted shall cease to have effect on the .....*
2. *The tourist / visitor accommodation shall only be occupied for short-term letting periods of no more than two months and shall not be used as independent and separate self-contained permanent residential units.*

**Q.58 COUNCILLOR MÁIRE DEVINE**

To ask the Chief Executive what incentives, tax breaks or supports are available to investors/developers from the Local Authority and central government when proposing a site for “Build 2 Rent” which has become their primary preference for development throughout the city?

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE’S REPLY:**

The Chief Executive is not aware of any financial incentives or tax breaks which are specifically available to Investors / Developers of BTR Schemes. Matters relating to tax incentives are best addressed by the Revenue Commissioners. The City Council itself does not provide financial support to BTR Developers.

The DHPLG Guidelines on Sustainable Urban Housing Design Standards for new Apartments (2018, updated 2020) notes that BTR developments are usually carried out by a single institutional entity that invests in the project on a long term (typically 15 years plus) basis, with the benefit that the whole block can be made available at once. The Guidelines also specify that there are no restrictions on the mix of 1,2 or 3 bed units, or on the number of apartments served per case (subject to Building Regulations) in a BTR Scheme.

**Q.59 COUNCILLOR MÁIRE DEVINE**

To ask the Chief Executive what plans/consideration has been given to making permanent the outdoor dining spaces in suitable areas of the city and what infrastructures would be necessary to sustain this year round?

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Outdoor dining in Dublin City is primarily facilitated by the Council through a licencing process, where businesses are permitted to use the public realm for this purpose, subject to the location being suitable. We have been proactive in encouraging this by waiving licence fees, setting up an interdepartmental working group to assess applications and the direct implementation of exemplar street furniture projects such as Smithfield Square and park lets. The management of the public realm and balancing the various interests and demands on it can be difficult. The overarching public health guidelines and maintaining the use of the public realm for the greater good of all will be paramount in all decision making.

**Q.60 COUNCILLOR JOE COSTELLO**

To ask the Chief Executive to detail the number and categories of DCC employees that have been vaccinated by the end of January and if he will outline the plans and schedule for vaccination of the remaining staff

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Dublin Fire Brigade (DFB) employees are currently participating in the COVID-19 vaccination roll out. To date 290 DFB personnel have received the vaccine.

There has been ongoing engagement nationally, through the Local Government Management Agency (LGMA), regarding the prioritisation of other Local Authority employees, as providing essential services.

**Q.61 COUNCILLOR JOE COSTELLO**

To ask the Chief Executive what action he is taking to protect and preserve cobbled setts in Dublin City; if there is a register of streets with cobbled setts; what instructions are given to contractors involved in road surfacing not to remove or cover over the setts and to utility providers who are regularly digging on streets with cobbled setts; and how the work of contractors and utility providers is monitored to ensure that no damage has been done to cobbled setts; what action is taken against contractors who damage/remove/cover cobbled street setts; if he is aware of the damage done recently to setts by Irish Water at (**details supplied**) and if Dublin City Council has instructed Irish Water to repair the setts.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Utilities, including Irish Water are required to apply for licences online via the Roadworks Control Online System (RCOS) to excavated public roads or footways. Licences are issued by DCC with conditions. A specific set of conditions apply to excavations in areas containing historic surfaces, such as the cobblesetts in (**details supplied**). The licence holder is required to notify DCC, take up the cobblesetts

carefully, clean them, palletise them, label them and store them for permanent reinstatement when the utility works are complete.

Locations of existing stone setts (cobblesetts) are listed in Appendix 7 of The Planning and Development Plan 2016-2022. (**details supplied**) is not listed. However, Dublin City Council's Roadworks Control policy requires that these cobblesetts in the road channel be reinstated. DCC has notified Irish Water of same and the reinstatement of the cobblesetts pertaining to these Irish Water openings will be reinstated.

**Q.62 COUNCILLOR JOE COSTELLO**

To ask the Chief Executive to detail how the City Council plans to mark the significant events which occurred in Dublin City in 1921 including the burning of the Custom House, the signing of the Truce in the Mansion House and the events leading up to the Treaty, as part of the Decade of Commemorations.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The Commemorations Team is drafting a programme for 2021, which will be presented to the Commemorations & Naming Committee at its meeting on 28th January. The programme will be circulated following the meeting.

**Q.63 COUNCILLOR JOE COSTELLO**

To ask the Chief Executive if he will consider designating the area bounded by Collins Barracks and Museum, Arbour Hill Prison, Church and Graveyard, and St Brice's Hospital and Stables, as an Architectural Conservation Area.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The review process for the current Development Plan is now underway, and, as part of this review, future ACAs proposed for the City are also being assessed and considered for inclusion in the Draft Development Plan, for which preparatory work has commenced.

This area will be examined as part of the preparation of the Draft and considered if the ACA process is the most appropriate policy approach for the area described.

**Q.64 COUNCILLOR JOHN LYONS**

To ask the Chief Executive whether or not Dublin City Council is in possession of records from Mother and Baby Homes that operated within Dublin city and county and if so, what is the current status of the records and archives?

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Mother and Baby Homes in Dublin City and County came under the jurisdiction of the Dublin Board of Governors until 1932; The Dublin Board of Assistance until 1960; the Dublin Health Authority until 1970 and after that the Eastern Health Board. Dublin Corporation and Dublin County Council partially funded these oversight bodies from their respective Rates bases. The exchequer took on a funding role after 1947. Both Local Authorities would have nominated to the respective Boards.

According to Dublin City Libraries any and all records which may have been held by Dublin Corporation in relation to involvement in health, including mother & baby homes, were transferred to the Dublin Health Authority when that was established in 1960, and subsequently to the Eastern Health Board which was established in 1970, incorporating the Dublin Health Authority. Unfortunately there is now no record now of what material the Corporation held up to 1960 nor any listing of the material transferred.

There are over 150 references in the twentieth Century Minutes and Reports of Dublin Corporation to the Dublin Boards of Assistance and the Dublin Health Authority which has oversight of these homes. As far as can be ascertained at present (given that the Archives are shut), most of these records refer to nominations to and ending of these Boards. There appears to be few if any reference to the individual homes other than 4 reference to sewage and water supply in Pelletstown prior to 1908. This may be due to the fact up to 1985 that Pelletstown itself fell within the Dublin County Council Boundary.

Dublin City Libraries has commissioned a historian to research the involvement of the Corporation in Pelletstown and in mother & baby homes more generally. The exact contents of the Corporation minutes and reports will be examined as part of that research.

**Q.65 COUNCILLOR JOHN LYONS**

To ask the Chief Executive for a report on the residential land in DCC ownership across the city: the number of sites, their size and locations, the current status of each site and an estimate of how many homes could be delivered through the development of the sites.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

There are currently thirty one sites under construction across the city. Twelve of these schemes are under the direction of Dublin City Council and a further nineteen are being overseen by an Approved Housing Body in collaboration with Dublin City Council.

Twenty four sites are due for completion this year with the remaining seven expected to complete in 2022 (pending COVID restrictions). The social housing yield across these sites stands at 1,322 and they are located in the following areas of the city;

- Four sites in the North Central Area – 309 units
- Twelve sites in the South Central Area – 612 units
- Four sites in the North West Area – 117 units
- Three sites in the South East Area – 41 units
- Eight sites in the Central Area – 243 units

In addition there are seven schemes at tender stage that give a combined total of 550 units. These sites are in the following locations;

- One in the North Central Area – 101 units
- One in the South Central Area – 100 units
- Two in the South East Area – 82 units
- Three in the Central Area - 267 units

There are also thirty schemes at an advanced stage of planning and design which would give a potential return of 1,438 units. Sixteen are Dublin City Council schemes with a further fourteen being developed as a collaborative effort between an Approved Housing Body and Dublin City Council. As these projects are still at design development stage it is not possible at this time to give a definitive unit number for each scheme, however indicative unit numbers are captured in the monthly Housing Supply Report. The locations of these proposed developments are;

- Seven sites in the North Central Area
- Ten sites in the South Central Area
- Three sites in the North West Area

- Three sites in the South East Area
- Seven sites in the Central Area

Also in the pipeline are those projects at feasibility stage, of which there are currently forty two assessments underway to explore the potential viability of these sites for housing development. Thirty four are being led by Dublin City Council and eight are being progressed by an Approved Housing Body. In total if all were to come to fruition this would give a combined total of 3,841 units covering all areas of the city. The breakdown of where these sites are located is as follows;

- Eight sites in the North Central Area
- Twelve sites in the South Central Area
- Three sites in the North West Area
- Five sites in the South East Area
- Fourteen sites in the Central Area

There are approximate numbers for each of these schemes referenced in the Housing Supply Report but these are subject to change as the feasibility process evolves.

In addition there is one affordable scheme currently under construction (12 units) by an Approved Housing Body in the North West Area and Dublin City Council is progressing designs for three of its own affordable housing schemes, two in the North West Area (combined total of 201 units) and one in the South Central area (164 units). As part of the Housing Land Initiative approx. 165 affordable housing units are proposed. Dublin City Council has also identified two further sites as having potential for affordable schemes and work is underway to progress these.

The final category where housing activity is underway is in the area of Cost Rental. Emmet Road in the South Central Area has been designated as our initial site and designs are underway for this project with planning due to be lodged in April. Dublin City Council also has four additional sites currently being assessed for their potential as Cost Rental schemes.

On an ongoing basis Dublin City Council strategically reviews the sites that we have available in order to establish those that have the greatest potential to be developed into social housing schemes. This includes reviewing all sites that we own within our existing portfolio and also pursuing additional sites of strategic interest as they become available.

A further exercise has recently been undertaken which aims to capture all of our sites across the city. This is effectively a mapping exercise and will act as a visual aid to accompany and enhance the information contained in the monthly Housing Supply Report.

These unit figures don't include the possibility of property acquisition/turnkeys by purchase or lease.

#### **Q.66 COUNCILLOR KEITH CONNOLLY**

To ask the Chief Executive to list in tabular form the number of people waiting on older person's accommodation throughout each area the city. Can the number of people requested to downsize from current Dublin City Council dwellings be highlighted along with those looking to avail of the financial contribution scheme.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Please see below the waiting lists for Older Person's Accommodation broken down by area -

Housing/Transfer List	Area B	Area D	Area E	Area H	Area J	Area K	Area L	Area M	Area N	Area P	Grand Total
Housing List Older Person	301	34	231	164	115	118	108	115	174	38	1398
Transfer List Older Person	226	60	254	187	148	89	149	125	117	39	1394
Total Older Persons Housing/Transfer	527	94	485	351	263	207	257	240	291	77	2792

The following table shows the applications on our Surrendering Larger List -

Older Persons Surrendering Larger Property	Area B	Area D	Area E	Area H	Area J	Area K	Area L	Area M	Area N	Area P	Grand Total
Surrendering Larger Transfer List	14	5	17	14	22	9	19	9	3	5	117

The following table is the applications by Area For the financial Contribution Scheme -

	Area B	Area D	Area E	Area H	Area J	Area K	Area L	Area M	Area N	Area P	Grand Total
Financial Contribution Scheme	40	10	116	2	31	24	5	7	1	2	238
Grand Total	40	10	116	2	31	24	5	7	1	2	238

**Q.67 COUNCILLOR KEITH CONNOLLY**

To ask the Chief Executive for information in relation to Dublin Fire Brigade:

- a) How much was spent on overtime for Dublin Fire Brigade in 2020
- b) Is there a workforce plan for Dublin Fire Brigade?
- c) How many recruits are expected to be recruited during 2021-2025?
- d) When he expects the Kevin Duffy report to be implemented

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

- a) €8,579,667 was spent on overtime for Dublin Fire Brigade in 2020
- b) DCC/DFB management and the Trade Unions have been involved in extensive discussions under the auspice of the WRC, in an attempt to reach agreement on revised agreed manning levels. These discussions are ongoing and will form the basis of DFB's workforce strategy
- c) This is dependent on the outcome of ongoing Management/Union discussions along with the level of retirements.
- d) This is dependent on the outcome of ongoing Management/Union discussions

**Q.68 COUNCILLOR KEITH CONNOLLY**

To ask the Chief Executive if acquisitions ask for the opinion of the local area office when purchasing property and is there a policy related to this.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The acquisitions section do liaise with local area staff in relation to the purchase of housing within their area, particularly in areas where there is already a high concentration of social housing.

As part of the acquisition process the section also refers to the housing waiting and transfer lists in each local area to determine the extent of the need and type of housing required in a particular location.

The acquisition of property is an executive function. The Acquisitions Section which resides within the Planning and Property Development Department acquires various property interests on behalf of the many Council Departments and Local Area Offices

in connection with the performance of their functions. The Section also acquires property interests on behalf the Active Land Management Unit (ALMU) which also resides within this Department. The ALMU identifies strategic acquisition opportunities having regard to Local Area Plans and Master Plans etc and has been pursuing an ongoing acquisition strategy since late 2016 as a key part of the Council's Active Land Management Initiative and is an important contributor to the work of the Acquisitions Section. The acquisition of property that is determined to be strategically important for the City to acquire enables the Council to take a leadership role in the type of development which occurs on a site and also act as a catalyst for further development. The acquisition of key strategic undeveloped/derelict sites is a priority for the Acquisitions Section and requires the making of compulsory purchase orders in some cases.

Requests to the Acquisitions Section to initiate the acquisitions process, from whatever the source, will set out the purpose of the acquisition. The Section will then instruct the Chief Valuer's Office to commence negotiations with the owner and agree terms and conditions. When terms are reported and if acceptable to the department concerned, a Manager's Order is then prepared for the acquisition setting out the agreed Terms and Conditions which is the authority to proceed with the acquisition and the basis for instructing the Law Department to complete the legal formalities.

**Q.69 COUNCILLOR KEITH CONNOLLY**

To ask the Chief Executive how much was spent on clearing illegal dumping in each LEA of Dublin City during the year 2020.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The amount spent on removal of illegally dumped materials by Public Domain in the north central area is 2000 euro approx. and this is in the lead up and during the Halloween period.

It is not currently possible to accurately isolate the tonnage or associated cost of illegal dumping for a specific area or electoral area as there may be vehicles and resources that are operating on a daily basis within different electoral areas or administrative areas. Waste Management Services operations and depots are not aligned with electoral boundaries or strictly within administrative areas.

During the initial period of Covid 19 restrictions illegal dumping was being removed and disposed of as part of ongoing daily service provision. As such it was not possible to identify what proportion of the overall waste collected during this period was illegally dumped material. This would normally be recorded by carrying out the removal of illegally dumped waste separately from normal day-to-day operations.

That being the case the waste management division estimates from feedback from staff operating on the ground that the total tonnage of illegally dumped waste that was removed in the period was in the region of up to a 25% increase over what would normally have been experienced.

The total cost and tonnage of illegally dumped material over the period 2017 -2020 is set out in the table below for reference.

Year	Tonnes	Total
2020	2476.52*	<b>€1,007,038</b>
2019	3965	<b>€1,170,728</b>
2018	3932	<b>€1,159,219</b>
2017	3156	<b>€1,100,424</b>

Tonnage figure not available for 3 month period – April to June.

**Q.70 COUNCILLOR DEIRDRE CONROY**

To ask the Chief Executive why City Council erected so many poles on the historic granite kerbs and stone slab footpaths on Fitzwilliam Street, Square and Merrion Square, in the South Georgian Core? I am contacted by SGCRA, who asked the workers what the poles were for and were told they were not certain.

If it is a cycle route notice – do cyclists not know the new ‘trial routes for Covid Mobility’ that DCC has erected already?

Our minimal heritage areas should not have increased signage. As I was advised by Waste Management in 2019 that they avoided putting up more illegal dumping signage as too much signage can be negative.

I include the photographs emailed to me 15 January 2021 and the comments of the SGCRA.

“DCC should be removing poles across the city, not erecting new ones, particularly in an ACA.”

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE’S REPLY:**

The interim Fitzwilliam Cycle Route broadly follows the alignment of the Fitzwilliam Cycle Route and is temporary in nature until the permanent Fitzwilliam Cycle Route scheme commences construction in Q2 2021. The interim Fitzwilliam Cycle Route has implemented parking protected cycle lanes and reconfigured car parking arrangements.

These alterations have resulted in changes being required for signage and associated poles. A total of 38 signs and poles were removed including the removal of signage from the ornamental lamp standards on Fitzwilliam Street. 28 poles and associated signage have recently been fitted along the scheme. This is a reduction of 10 poles in total along the route. New signs and poles have been fitted in accordance with the Traffic Signs Manual 2010 (Department of Transport). The Garda Siochana requires that all mandatory cycle tracks display signage with an accompanying time plate. This is also a statutory requirement to allow enforcement and enable prosecutions, if required.

The new poles and signs fitted have been located in concrete or concrete flagged footpaths. Antique granite slabs are located in the footpath on the south side of Merrion Square East, this is the sole location containing antique granite between Mount Street Lower and Leeson Street, this section was not modified.

**Q.71 COUNCILLOR DEIRDRE CONROY**

To ask the Chief Executive if the City Council can provide relevant Covid Mobility information on the Poolbeg coastal walking route, including posters explaining to walk on one's left. There are two pairs of white arrows on the path to indicate walking well apart, however, more white arrows on the tarmac path would be necessary due to the crowds walking in both directions, too close.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The Senior Executive Technician has reported that the City Council are only in charge as far as the ESB gates on Pigeon House Road and the barrier. However, additional arrows will be placed on the footpath within Sean Moore Park parallel to Beach Road and along this seafront in the direction of Irishtown Nature Park. This work will be arranged as soon as practicable over the coming weeks.

**Q.72 COUNCILLOR DEIRDRE CONROY**

To ask the Chief Executive if Dublin City Council is aware of low water pressure in recent months on Terenure Road East/Brighton Road and Harrison Row and if it is caused by local area development, as I am advised that a city council staff member notified a local resident that was the cause.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

As this issue is a matter for Irish Water it should be referred directly to Irish Water.

Please call the Lo-Call telephone number 1890 278 278 and identify yourself as an Elected Representative. You will be put through to the Local Representative Support Desk in Irish Water's Customer Contact Centre who will deal with you directly. Alternatively, there is a specific e-mail address at Irish Water for Councillors: [LocalRepSupport@water.ie](mailto:LocalRepSupport@water.ie).

The Local Representative Support Desk at Irish Water operates from 9.00am – 5.30pm, Monday to Friday.

Notwithstanding the above, please note that DCC Water Services and Irish Water are aware of Pressure Complaints that have been raised from the Terenure Road East/Brighton Road Area.

After extensive network analysis, the water pressure within the public Distribution Network in this area has been found to be adequate. The low pressure issues are most likely due to internal plumbing constraints. Whilst there have been recent water network improvement works in the area, there does not appear to be any link between "Local Area Developments" and the aforementioned complaints.

**Q.73 COUNCILLOR HAZEL DE NORTÚIN**

To ask the Chief Executive to respond to the following questions in the wake of the liquidation of the company St Marys Centre (Telford):

- a) What is to happen to the social housing built with public money for social housing from Dublin City Council?
- b) How is a private company allowed to liquidate what is a disability service which provides care on behalf of the State that the State cannot provide?
- c) The houses were built while the Sisters of Charity ran the service and who although incorporated the service and care provision remain the shareholders of

the company and landlords of the premises. Why did the DCC limit the agreement to 20 years?

- d) Is this the normal agreement that the City and County Councils engage in for the building of social housing?
- e) If St Marys Centre (Telford) is permitted to liquidate the social housing facility on Merrion Rd Dublin, will this set a precedence for private developers who are engaged by the State to build social housing being able to do the same?
- f) Will this practice not potentially expose all occupants of social housing to the risk of eviction if social housing is controlled by companies and can be liquidated by them?
- g) What is the future for the tenants of the social housing for people with disabilities on the Merrion Road?

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The Sisters of Charity were funded by a 20 year Mortgage from Dublin Corporation for the provision of social housing on their site at this location in 1995, this residential development was part of a large Campus that included a nursing home and other facilities. The mortgage term and the conditions applying to the mortgage have now expired.

The two key conditions in the Mortgage Documents were:

- That the Homes be used for Social Housing (Older/Disabled persons) for the term of the Mortgage, this has been complied with and has continued beyond the Term.
- That 75% of the Tenants would be nominated by Dublin City Council from its Housing Lists and the other 25% would be decided upon by the Sisters of Charity but would also be in need of Housing, they have complied with this condition.

As part of the Legal work required in finalising the ending of the Mortgage Term the Sisters of Charity were asked by DCC in 2019 about their future plans for this Housing and they indicated that it would continue to be used for the same purpose.

Following a HIQA report/Review last year the entire Campus was placed into liquidation and it progressed towards legal proceedings.

We did make representations to the Solicitors for the Sisters and to the Liquidator in relation to our concerns for the existing residents and in recent months we were informed that the HSE been given control of the residential element of the Campus with a two year time scale to source suitable alternative accommodation for all the remaining residents.

The Intellectual Disability Service in the HSE is leading this task and they are already working with the residents involved. We are also engaging with this HSE Service and we may be able to assist them in sourcing suitable accommodation for some of the residents.

The process of approval for the establishment of approved housing bodies, the mortgage conditions and documentation, the oversight, the articles of association, and the Covenants in place have been changed significantly in more recent years. We are confident that this type of situation could not re-occur.

**Q.74 COUNCILLOR MARY CALLAGHAN**

To ask the Chief Executive if consideration can be given to a safe pedestrian crossing across from D9 Family Practice, 204 Ballymun Road, to protect older and vulnerable patients who must cross the road to attend the clinic.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Ballymun Road is proposed to be upgraded in the Bus Connects project. The DCC bus connects team will raise the consideration of a pedestrian crossing at this location in their submission to the NTA. You may also choose to make your own submission direct to the NTA on the matter. We believe that if this modification is to go ahead it would alleviate your concerns.

**Q.75 COUNCILLOR BRIEGE MACOSCAR**

To ask the Chief Executive to provide an update on the housing maintenance issues at (**details supplied**) as new windows and kitchen presses were due to be installed following an inspection but this has never been completed.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

An inspection of the windows and kitchen presses will be carried out once the level 5 restrictions have been lifted. The tenant has also been informed of this.

**Q.76 COUNCILLOR BRIEGE MACOSCAR**

To ask the Chief Executive to provide an update on the housing application of (**details supplied**) as she has reported significant housing maintenance issues with her home and was hoping to be made an offer of a transfer to either a two bed or a senior citizens unit.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The above applicant is on the Transfer Housing List with an application date of 26/08/2016, and the applicant holds the following positions on this list:

Area	Bedsize	Position
Area B	1	291
Area E	1	332

The applicant will be considered for offer when accommodation to meet her household need becomes available and according to her position on the list.

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

The applicant may wish to register her interest in Homeswapper.ie and create an account with a view to liaising with other applicants seeking transfers. Should the applicant be successful in finding a match, and all the criteria is satisfied, it may decrease her waiting time.

Housing Maintenance carried out an inspection of this property. Two cracks were discovered around the window in the kitchen and have also arranged to have the roof inspected for a possible leak both of which will be carried out once the level 5 restrictions are lifted.

**Q.77 COUNCILLOR CAT O'DRISCOLL**

To ask the Chief Executive to place a litter bin at the Moyle Road entrance to the Royal Canal to address the increase in litter at the entrance.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The suggested location will be surveyed for the provision of new installations as part of ongoing audits of bins in the local electoral areas throughout the city. Audits are being undertaken to assess the current supply, replacement requirements and to ensure that new installations are provided in proximity to litter generators.

**Q.78 COUNCILLOR CAT O'DRISCOLL**

To ask the Chief Executive for a list of Council Activities taken to celebrate the All Ireland wins of the Dublin Women's Gaelic Football team and a list of the activities celebrating the All Ireland wins of the Dublin Men's Gaelic Football Team from 2018 to present.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The following table indicates the celebrations of both Dublin Ladies and Men's GAA footballers from 2018 to present.

Year	Dublin Ladies LGFA	Dublin Men's GAA
2020	Mansion House Interview with Lord Mayor Projection of Dublin GAA logo on Samuel Beckett Bridge X100 lamppost banners in the city celebrating 4-in-a-row	Mansion House Interview with Lord Mayor Projection of Dublin GAA logo on Samuel Beckett Bridge X100 lamppost banners in the city celebrating 6-in-a-row
2019	Celebration with Lord Mayor in Mansion House Homecoming Celebration in Merrion Square	Celebration with Lord Mayor in Mansion House Homecoming Celebration in Merrion Square
2018	Reception in City Hall, hosted by deputy Lord Mayor, representing the Lord Mayor Homecoming Celebration in St. Sylvestors GAA club (Fingal County Council)	Celebration with Lord Mayor in Mansion House Homecoming Celebration in Smithfield Plaza

**Q.79 COUNCILLOR DAITHÍ DOOLAN**

To ask the Chief Executive has there been any contact or discussions with the Minister for Housing concerning the need to increase the SSF and what was the response from the Minister, it is essential that SSF is greatly increased to ensure the delivery of affordable homes to buy or rent?

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The City Council has indicated to the Department of Housing that it is necessary to increase the maximum funding applicable under the Serviced Sites Fund, in order to ensure that homes are affordable for both purchase and rent. The Department is aware of the challenges in achieving affordability in urban areas, particularly in Dublin city. The Housing Department will continue to raise this issue and work with the Department to achieve a solution.

**Q.80 COUNCILLOR DAITHÍ DOOLAN**

To ask the Chief Executive how much funding was applied for under the URDF for Cherry Orchard, can you outline what this fund will be used for & when do you expect to get confirmation from the Department on DCC application?

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

On 29 May 2020, Dublin City Council applied for €31 million worth funding under the Department of Housing, Planning and Local Governments (DHPLG) Urban Regeneration and Development Fund (URDF) to secure finance to kick start a number of projects identified in the Cherry Orchard / Park West Local Area Plan.

These include the following:

- i. Cherry Orchard Park redesign.
- ii. Gallanstown Waterworks regeneration.
- iii. A Community and Social Enterprise Hub.
- iv. A Greenway connecting La Fanu Park with the Grand Canal Greenway via Cherry Orchard Park.
- v. The servicing vacant sites.
- vi. Upgrades to public lighting.
- vii. Provision of CCTV.
- viii. Upgrading of water networks throughout Cherry Orchard.
- ix. The DHPLG decision on the URDF application is pending.

At time of writing, the DHPLG have made no decision or provided no timeline for the determination of this URDF application.

**Q.81 COUNCILLOR DAITHÍ DOOLAN**

To ask the Chief Executive how much funding was sought from the Department for the completion of Phase 2 of the insulation programme, when do you expect to get confirmation from the Department and how much of this fund is set to be spent in the Ballyfermot area?

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Dublin City Council discussed the issue of the Phase 2 Energy Efficiency Retrofitting Programme with Department Officials in early January. They advised that there will be a national budget of €65 Million for Energy Retrofitting in 2021 and that they aim to issue a Circular to all Local Authorities in February outlining details of funding.

It is at the Department's discretion how they divide this funding so we cannot confirm at present how much funding will be allocated to Dublin City Council. We did advise that we have a current live tender ready to go with the programme so we requested as much funding as possible. With regards to the Ballyfermot area, there is no set amount for any one area as we endeavour to spread funding/works across all electoral areas in an equal and fair manner where possible.

**Q.82 COUNCILLOR DAITHÍ DOOLAN**

To ask the Chief Executive how many companies are contracted by DCC to collect & dispose of illegal dumping, how many companies are contracted to maintain DCC green and open spaces and what is the total cost of these contracts?

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The amount spent on removal of illegally dumped materials by Public Domain in the north central area is 2000 euro approx. and this is in the lead up and during the Halloween period.

This work is carried out by Breffni contractors on our behalf.

The Waste Management Services Division does not contract any waste collection services for the collection and disposal of illegal dumping to any external service provider.

The North West Area spent approximately €56,000 to remove and dispose of illegal dumping in 2020. This was predominantly on development sites within the Ballymun Area that do not fall under the remit of Waste Management and Parks Departments.

The work is carried out by Breffni and is disposed of by Thorntons Recycling.

Three companies are currently contracted by DCC under a Landscape Maintenance Contract to maintain road environs, social housing schemes and some open spaces.

They also collect litter/dumping and in 2020 this amounted to 405 tonnes. The cost of open space maintenance is only part of the contract and difficult to separate however it is in the order of €650,000 per annum.

Public Domain in the South Central Area used the services of Breffni, Pmac and MCD in the area to remove litter and illegally dumped material from public areas during anti-dumping initiatives, anti-litter projects and for the Halloween Campaign. The amount spent in 2020 was €38,265.01.

**Q.83 COUNCILLOR DARCY LONERGAN**

To ask the Chief Executive are there any plans for pedestrian lights at Island Bridge around the north side close to the entrance into Phoenix Park.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Following a desktop survey of the location provided by the councillor, it is deemed that a pedestrian crossing is warranted at this location. The Area Engineer will investigate the request in further detail, and a recommendation will be provided in the coming weeks. Installation of pedestrian crossing at this location would be subject to funding from the NTA. Ref: 7018765

**Q.84 COUNCILLOR DARCY LONERGAN**

To ask the Chief Executive for an update on current status of the Heuston to Chapelizod Greenway which was expected to go into construction in Q3 of 2015.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The Heuston to Chapelizod Greenway was put on hold due to lack of resources. It is anticipated that measures to resource the project will be put in place in 2021. This will facilitate the resumption of the design process by 2022.

**Q.85 COUNCILLOR CIERAN PERRY**

To ask the Chief Executive to provide the following details in relation to litter fines?

- a) How many litter fines have been issued per month in each local area in Dublin for the last 3 years?
- b) How many have been based on car registration numbers?
- c) How many of these fines have been paid?
- d) How many of these fines have been appealed?
- e) How many prosecutions have been initiated?
- f) How many convictions have taken place?
- g) How does DCC collect fines paid through the court services?

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

This data is currently being compiled. A report will issue directly to the Cllr in the next fortnight.

**Q.86 COUNCILLOR ALISON GILLILAND**

To ask the Chief Executive to respond to the Value for Money Unit Local Government Audit Service, An Overview of Fire Service Expenditure and Income in Local Authorities (December 2020) and provide the details of the survey submitted to the Department of Housing Local Government to complete this Overview.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

DCC acknowledges the report and are willing to co-operate with the areas identified as future opportunities, as set out in the report.

The data provided by Dublin Fire Brigade to the Local Government Auditors was reflected in the report; information was provided detailing expenditure, detailing different type of pay elements, detailing income source, explaining the different categories of income charges that are in existence, such as commercial/domestic charges. The information provided by Dublin Fire Brigade was separated in the report for Dublin and other Local Authorities, such is the diverse nature and complexity of service provided by Dublin Fire Brigade.

**Q.87 COUNCILLOR ALISON GILLILAND**

To ask the Chief Executive to outline how many Dublin Fire Brigade firefighters, sub-officers and District Officers a) have had their leave cancelled, b) have had their training cancelled and c) had had to attend work in an off shift/overtime basis to fill frontline staff shortages since Jan 1 this year.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Between 01/01/2021 and 22/01/2021:

- a) Have had their leave cancelled: *Nil*
- b) Have had their training cancelled: *Four Breathing Apparatus refresher training courses were cancelled in January, affecting 48 students*
- c) Had had to attend work in an off shift/overtime basis to fill frontline staff shortages: Since 01/01/21 there have been 1244 units of overtime [a unit is a day or night]

This covers all ranks from ESC, Firefighter, Sub Officer, Station Officer and District Officer.

**Q.88 COUNCILLOR ALISON GILLILAND**

To ask the Chief Executive to outline a) the monthly numbers of positive Covid cases the Dublin Fire Brigade DFB & Ambulance Service have attended since the beginning of the Covid 19 pandemic in March 2020 and b) the number of DFB/ DFB Ambulance personnel who have contracted Covid 19 while carried out their work.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

- a) The monthly numbers of positive Covid cases the Dublin Fire Brigade DFB & Ambulance Service have attended since the beginning of the Covid 19 pandemic in March 2020:

*The ERCC designate EMS dispatch COVID codes to the attending Paramedic. From the 01/01/2021 to date we have responded to 93 confirmed COVID calls as per their dispatch codes. However patients, who at the time of call do not disclose or may not know their own COVID status, would significantly increase these statistics.*

- b) The number of DFB/ DFB Ambulance personnel who have contracted Covid 19 while carrying out their work

*As COVID-19 is a highly infectious disease and there are very high levels of community transmission. It is not possible to state how many Firefighter/Paramedics contracted Covid 19 while carrying out their work, if at all any. As of the 22/01/2021 there have been ninety-four DFB operational staff tested positive for COVID-19.*

**Q.89 COUNCILLOR ALISON GILLILAND**

To ask the Chief Executive to outline the a) current b) longer term strategy to fill gaps in front line staffing levels among Dublin Fire Brigade?

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

DCC/DFB management and the Trade Unions have been involved in extensive discussions under the auspice of the WRC, in an attempt to reach agreement on revised agreed manning levels. These discussions are ongoing and will form the basis of DFB's workforce strategy.

**Q.90 COUNCILLOR JANET HORNER**

To ask the Chief Executive what role the Council have to enforce apartment complexes to provide brown bins for tenants and what progress there has been towards widespread provision of these?

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The Waste Management Services Division can take action under the provisions of the Waste Bye Laws to ensure that appropriate waste separation and disposal facilities are provided to tenants in apartment complexes. Any complaints in this regard will be pursued through the Owners Management Company and their agents to address any non-compliance with the requirement to provide these facilities.

**Q.91 COUNCILLOR JANET HORNER**

To ask the Chief Executive whether there has been any progress towards preserving and maintaining historic post boxes across Dublin City?

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

In 2012, An Post were considering the removal of redundant, historic post boxes across the city. Following consultation with the City Council's Conservation, Public Realm, and Roads Maintenance Sections agreement was reached with An Post that historic post boxes would remain in situ. An Post provided a photographic survey of all post boxes in the city to the Conservation Section, which has been used to compile an inventory of historic post boxes, including their typologies and details.

In the short term, it is intended to add post boxes that are subject to a Ministerial recommendation arising from the ongoing survey of the city by the National Inventory of Architectural Heritage (NIAH) to a new appendix of significant street fixtures/sculptures/furniture in the next Development Plan (Appendix 7 & 8).

In the long term it is intended to undertake assessments for the addition of historic post boxes to the Record of Protected Structures (RPS) in conjunction with the Ministerial

recommendations; including recommendations for the addition of street furniture. Furthermore where post boxes are located in Architectural Conservation Areas (ACA's) they are also considered to be protected under the ACA designation. There are currently 24 adopted ACA's in the city.

**Q.92 COUNCILLOR JANET HORNER**

To ask the Chief Executive the total money spent on all private emergency accommodation between 2016 and 2020, and as a percentage of all spending on emergency accommodation, and number of beds provided, and as a percentage of all beds, across these years?

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The level of expenditure by the Dublin Region Homeless Executive (DRHE) on private emergency accommodation for each year between 2016 and 2019 is set out in the table below. The figures for 2020 are being finalised, when completed we will forward the figure to the Councillor.

Year	PEAs	Total Emergency Accommodation	%
2016	€9,935,090.00	€72,793,910.00	13.65%
2017	€12,320,307.00	€97,489,140.00	12.64%
2018	€13,796,922.00	€118,371,308.00	11.66%
2019	€21,982,583.00	€143,865,366.00	15.28%

The number of adults in private emergency accommodation in those years is included in the table below.

Year	Total Adults in PEAs	Total Adults	%
2019	1,992	4,268	46%
2018	1,993	4,175	47%
2017	1,544	3,712	41.5%
2016	1,755	3,162	55%

**Q.93 COUNCILLOR JANET HORNER**

To ask the Chief Executive what the process is for awarding contracts for emergency accommodation and whether an open, competitive public procurement process applies?

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The DRHE has placed formal advertisements in the national media, seeking expressions of interest from commercial operators to work with the DRHE to provide temporary emergency accommodation. As part of this process, the commercial operators, in the first instance, must provide confirmation of title, a risk assessment from a competent Fire Consultant and they must commit to carrying out any necessary works, at their own expense. The DCC Chief Valuer's office negotiate the Heads of Terms for all formal, legally binding contracts for services and/or leases with commercial operators.

The Press Office of DCC will shortly place a further advertisement in the national media, seeking expressions of interest from commercial operators to provide

emergency accommodation. The advertisement is scheduled to go ‘live’ in the next 2 weeks and details will be forwarded to the Councillor in due course.

The above mentioned factors, together with significant local stakeholder opposition, manifesting in legal and or planning challenges, as experienced recently in Dublin 1, 2, 6,7 and 8, can result in this being a difficult, arduous and precarious business for any commercial operator to enter.

The Deputy Chief Executive, has recently instructed the DRHE to commission specialist advice on the procurement of emergency accommodation. DCC’s Procurement Unit is working on commissioning a specialist Consultant to examine the complexities on sourcing emergency accommodation and how best the DRHE can undertake a public procurement process to this type of accommodation.

**Q.94 COUNCILLOR DONNA COONEY**

To ask the Chief Executive if we can access more funding for climate action and climate change mitigation from the EU for large infrastructure projects needed particularly flood defences in areas that need to protect homes and local businesses but also provide multifunctional design that protects environment, biodiversity and amenity on Clontarf promenade, that the councillor is concerned that the funding suggested for this project would not be adequate to provide, that this would be an ideal project under European Commission guidelines for Ireland to progress including cycling/walking active transport infrastructure.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE’S REPLY:**

The steering group for the project has agreed to look at all possible sources of EU funding for this project. These funds normally take significant timescales to acquire in large amounts.

The cycling/walking infrastructure for the scheme would be eligible for funding under the National Transport Authority’s Sustainable Transport Measures Grants Programme.

**Q.95 COUNCILLOR DONNA COONEY**

To ask the Chief Executive to consider the hiring of traffic wardens with an enhanced role of litter wardens to address persistent issues of illegal parking and littering dumping in our city pavements.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE’S REPLY:**

The Parking Enforcement Officer is reviewing the use of traffic wardens to address issues of illegal parking in Dublin City. The Environment and Transportation Department will present a report to the city council in the near future in respect of this matter.

The Waste Management Services Division could only consider whether this suggestion could be achieved in the context of any recommendation to introduce traffic wardens in Dublin City.

**Q.96 COUNCILLOR DONNA COONEY**

To ask the Chief Executive if webinars similar to the City development plan information sessions can be held on Dublin City Council policy on biodiversity, pollinators, climate action, waste reduction elimination of single use plastic, protecting Bull Island as public information meetings cannot go ahead due Covid restrictions”

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The City Development Plan webinars included the topics of biodiversity and climate action. In 2020, the Biodiversity team also hosted webinars in relation to the Dublin City Tree Map with Dublin Friends of the Earth and as part of the Sustainable Days Festival. They also engaged with youth groups and hosted a webinar for teachers on using Nature in the Park, an educational resource produced by us in 2020.

The Council was one of the first local authorities to sign up to the All-Ireland Pollinator Plan and the use and promotion of pollinator friendly planting is DCC policy. The Biodiversity team are currently working on the review and update of the City Biodiversity Action Plan and it is intended that there will be webinars in 2021, including one on pollinators as part of the public consultation process.

In relation to the North Bull Island Nature Reserve, a remote meeting of local stakeholders including councillors on the implementation of a conservation action plan is being arranged for February.

On Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> January 2021, Dublin City Council as a partner of the Dublin Bay Biosphere Partnership hosted the first in a tri-biosphere series of webinars to mark the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the UNESCO Man and Biosphere programme. This webinar series will see the two Irish UNESCO Biosphere's (Kerry and Dublin Bay) partner with the Isle of Man Biosphere to share knowledge and engage the public in the wonder and beauty of our respective biospheres. The first webinar saw Birdwatch Ireland illustrate their work in Dublin Bay on behalf of the Biosphere Partnership, to monitor and protect our internationally important bird species. For information on the next webinars you can follow Dublin Bay Biosphere on Facebook or twitter or check the Dublin Bay Biosphere website.

The Dublin Bay Biosphere Partnership also produces a monthly e-zine with Interesting articles on conservation, culture and sustainable development issues related to our internationally important UNESCO biosphere.

To sign up for the biosphere e-zine please click the following link <https://bit.ly/2XXuC9X>

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or

<https://dublinbaybiosphere.us18.list-manage.com/subscribe?u=7190709cae65d8a9c61c7e415&id=3917aa67b8>

The Waste Management Services Division will seek to provide information to citizens on the relevant topics through digital means as suggested above. This will be pursued through the Litter Prevention Officer and Environmental Awareness Office in conjunction with other relevant stakeholders and partners such as Mywaste.ie and the Eastern Midland Regional Waste Management Planning Office.

DCC participated in Sustainable Days held on November 28<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup>, 2020. The event included a panel discussion on climate action, and presentations on active travel and waste. Climate Action workshops were held with community groups in 2019, and there is an intent post COVID to continue with workshops. Applications have been submitted to EU Green Deal Funding calls focused on citizen engagement in relation to waste, pollution and climate action. The applications are competitive.

**Q.97 COUNCILLOR DARRAGH MORIARTY**

To ask the Chief Executive to advise on the uploading of Planning Application documentation to DCC's website, which has become unacceptably slow? There have been significant delays between planning being lodged and the documentation uploaded, which frustrates the planning and democratic process as local

representatives and the local community do not have sufficient time to inform themselves before making observations. Two examples of this occurred recently with planning at Sweeney's Terrace, D8 (Ref: 4034/20) lodged on 23 December and as of 20 January, documentation hasn't been uploaded. Similarly, a planning application at Old Kilmainham Rd (Ref: 3973/20) was lodged 18 December and uploaded 11 January. Can the Chief Executive comment on this and advise how we can make this process more accessible and transparent?

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Planning applications are made available online as soon as possible following receipt. When an application is received basic information (application number, location and proposal) is input to the planning system within 2 working days of receipt which means anyone checking the online system will know that an application has been received. Valid applications are generally available in full to view online within 10 working days of being lodged. There are unfortunately times when it is not possible to ensure this particularly if a large volume are received or due to the complexity of a number of applications that make it more time consuming to prepare for transfer to online. Staff are redeployed where appropriate however this is not always possible because of other statutory responsibilities and particularly at the moment due to revised working arrangements which are necessary to ensure the work environment is as safe as possible to minimise the spread of COVID –19.

Application No: 4034/20 Sweeney's Terrace was lodged on the 23/12/20 (the last day for submitting applications in 2020) and was available to view online on the 22/01/21 (15 working days). Application No: 3973/20 40 Old Kilmainham Road was lodged on the 18/12/20 and available to view online on the 11/01/21 (9 working days). It should be noted that the 'clock' stops for 9 days over the Christmas period in accordance with Section 251 of the Planning & Development Act 2000 as amended which states: "Where calculating any appropriate period or other time limit referred to in this Act or in any regulations made under this Act, the period between the 24th day of December and the first day of January, both days inclusive, shall be disregarded."

All efforts will continue to be made to ensure that applications are available to view online within 10 working days where possible.

**Q.98 COUNCILLOR MICHAEL PIDGEON**

To ask the Chief Executive to state how many HGV with 5+ axle's permits were issued for travel through central Dublin in each of the last five years for which figures are available, and to state the top five companies that were issued with permits in each year. In his reply can he give a breakdown of the vehicles by Euro I-VI classes and electric vehicles, and can he state whether he has discretion to vary the fee charged depending on the emissions of the vehicle class.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Year	Load/Unload Permit	Transit Permit	Total
2020	21,443	2,355	23,798
2019	25,136	3,098	28,234
2018	21,452	2,611	24,063
2017	21,261	2,189	23,450
2016	20,727	2,121	22,848

In 2020 a total of 21,443 load/unload permits were issued to allow registered premises within the restricted cordon area receive deliveries using 5+ axle vehicles. On average 67 permits were issued per day in 2020.

A total of 2,355 transit permits were issued to allow vehicle that are carrying restricted goods or are too wide to use the Dublin Tunnel. These transits permits are only valid for use on East Wall Road only. On average 6 transit permits were issued per day in 2020.

The top five registered permits is not currently available but will be communicated to the Cllr shortly.

There is no breakdown available by class of vehicle as this information is not captured during the permit application process.

The current legislation that covers the permit fee does not make any allowance to a varied permit price depending on vehicle emissions.

**Q.99 COUNCILLOR MICHAEL PIDGEON**

To ask the Chief Executive to state how many HGV without 5+ axles permits were detected using the App or by the Gardaí in the zone for which permits are required in the last year for which figures are available and how many fines were issued and collected?

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The number of verified infringements of HGVs without 5 + axle permits detected using the APP was an average of 24 per month for the year 2020. Enforcement of the HGV Management Strategy is a matter for the Gardaí.

**Q.100 COUNCILLOR MICHAEL PIDGEON**

To ask the Chief Executive to provide me with a breakdown by decile of average length of stay in homeless hostels in the last year for which figures are available.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Information to determine the length of stay of every person staying in homeless hostel accommodation in the last year is not readily available and would require extensive resources to provide this analysis. The Dublin Region Homeless Executive (DRHE) are able to provide the duration in accommodation for the current group of clients at a point in time.

The table below details the length of time families have been residing in emergency accommodation in the Dublin Region. On the night of 30th November 2020, 763 families were accommodated in emergency accommodation, 1,121 adults and 1,858 children.

**Table 1: Duration accessing emergency accommodation for Families accommodated on a single night: 30<sup>th</sup> November 2020**

Duration in EA	Total Families	Total Adults	Number Dependents
24+ months	181	271	515
18-24 months	77	114	215
12-18 months	117	180	304
6-12 months	113	164	257
6 months or less	275	392	567

<b>Total</b>	<b>763</b>	<b>1,121</b>	<b>1,858</b>
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The table below details the length of time single adults have been residing in emergency accommodation in the Dublin Region. On the night of 30th November 2020, 2,934 adults were accommodated in emergency accommodation.

**Table 2: Duration accessing emergency accommodation for Single Adults accommodated on a single night: 30<sup>th</sup> November 2020**

<b>Duration in EA</b>	<b>Total Single Adults</b>
24+ months	693
18-24 months	183
12-18 months	259
6-12 months	529
6 months or less	1,270
<b>Total Adults (Singles)</b>	<b>2,934</b>

**Q.101 COUNCILLOR MICHAEL PIDGEON**

To ask the Chief Executive to clarify whether an annual report for the Dublin Region Homeless Executive has been produced in the years since 2015, and if so can he make it available. If not can he consider reinstating the production of same in order to inform future strategy in this area, and can he make a statement on the matter.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

When the Homeless Agency was in existence (prior to the establishment of the Dublin Region Homeless Executive (DRHE)) an Annual Report was published for a number of years up to 2016.

There is no provision for Annual Reports from the DRHE. As you are aware the DRHE, publish a monthly report on progress that goes to City Councillors and the media.

However we think such a Report is a good idea and I have asked the DRHE to formulate and publish an Annual Report from now on starting in March of this year which will cover the 2020.

**Q.102 COUNCILLOR HAZEL DE NORTÚIN**

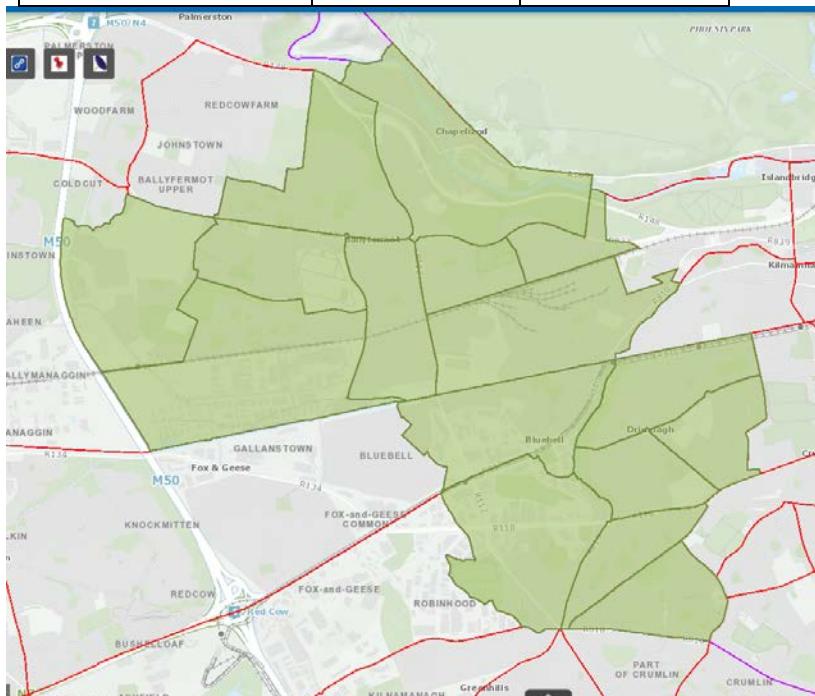
To ask the Chief Executive to provide me with the correct figures for population increase in the Ballyfermot/Drimnagh area as updated.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The 2016 Census results are the most up to date figures available at present. The table below shows that for the Ballyfermot/Drimnagh Electoral Districts shown in the figure below, the population in 2016 was 46,068. This compares with a population of 45,236 recorded in the 2011 Census. This marks an increase of 832 persons.

<b>EDNAME</b>	<b>2016 Total</b>	<b>2011 Total</b>
Chapelizod	3056	3047
Cherry Orchard A	3254	3414
Carna	2836	2801
Cherry Orchard C	4545	4551
Crumlin A	3714	3617

Crumlin E	2793	2730
Crumlin F	2985	3025
Decies	2677	2716
Drumfinn	3588	3508
Inchicore A	2392	2196
Inchicore B	2218	1992
Kilmainham A	2534	2511
Kylemore	2657	2566
Walkinstown A	2765	2619
Walkinstown B	1885	1830
Walkinstown C	2169	2113
Total	46068	45236



#### **Q.103 COUNCILLOR DEIRDRE HENEY**

To ask the Chief Executive in relation to (**details supplied**), if he can arrange to have one of his officials contact my constituent directly with a view to being of every possible assistance to her and to see to it that all necessary repairs are carried out to her home and if he can refer to what she feels if an ongoing breakdown in communication between Dublin City Council and herself, confirm he has received medical evidence in support of her case, say why her several requests to have severe dampness in her home eliminated/reduced seem to be being ignored as my constituent's health, anxiety and chronic lung disease is being seriously affected as a result of damp and mould etc.

#### **CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Housing Maintenance refurbished this apartment under the Voids Programme in early 2020. The original wardrobes were left in place in the apartment as a goodwill gesture to the incoming tenant. The tenant removed the wardrobes and subsequently found there was a build-up of mould present behind the wardrobes (this can happen as fresh air is excluded behind them). Housing Maintenance instructed the contractor to remedy the problem and insulated boards were installed at the junction where the old

wardrobes were removed and the walls were painted in March. However there was slight damage to the plasterwork and the tenant wanted this re-plastered and re-painted. Both of these jobs were carried out for the tenant along with other smaller maintenance jobs.

Housing Maintenance have engaged with the tenant's support worker from Focus Ireland on a number of occasions and staff have also engaged with the tenant to resolve these issues.

**Q.104 COUNCILLOR DEIRDRE HENEY**

To ask the Chief Executive in relation to (**details supplied**) (and my North Central Area Committee Motion of November 2020), if he can reconsider request and provide embedded or other type litter bins in order to address the serious problem of litter at (**details supplied**).

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

There is over 4km of beach available to visitors and walkers which is serviced by more than 40 temporary bins during the bathing season. It has been alleged that the seagulls removing litter from the bins is a major contributor to the litter problem on the beach and a commitment has been given that feasibility of the addition of seagull proof lids would be investigated for the bathing season in 2021.

**Q.105 COUNCILLOR DEIRDRE HENEY**

To ask the Chief Executive to please refer to public light at location (**details supplied**) and arrange to have same repaired as soon as possible as the area is very dark, particularly for vulnerable pedestrians.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

This light was repaired on the 13/01/2021.

**Q.106 COUNCILLOR DEIRDRE HENEY**

To ask the Chief Executive to please refer to location (**details supplied**) and agree to carry out all necessary works to ensure the prevention of any further flooding of my constituent's property.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Road Maintenance Services inspected this location on 26<sup>th</sup> January 2021. At the time of the inspection it was raining. The surface of the laneway falls to a central channel which drains the laneway. This was functioning well during the inspection. No works are planned at this location.

**Q.107 COUNCILLOR NAOISE Ó MUIRÍ**

To ask the Chief Executive to please deal with the following pedestrian crossing issue (**details supplied**).

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The school warden currently in place on (**details supplied 1**) outside the secondary school was originally recommended for the pupils of (**details supplied 2**). The school warden however, did cross children from other schools on the road as they started at the same time. Since the Covid 19 Pandemic, schools have changed times and (**details supplied 2**) now starts at 8.30am. The school warden has therefore changed her times to cater for the new start times and her shift is 8.00am - 8.40am.

There is currently a request for a school warden for (**details supplied 3**) on the system. However, in order for the children to be crossed as before the pandemic, the Road

Safety Unit will provide an additional school warden to cover the crossing from 8.40am - 9.10am

**Q.108 COUNCILLOR NAOISE Ó MUIRÍ**

To ask the Chief Executive to provide details on the operation of the new Volumetric Apartments Framework including:

- Number of participants on the framework and who they are
- Indicative average costings from the Framework for 1,2 and 3-bed apartments
- Details on some projects where the Framework is already in use.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

It is assumed that the above question relates to RFT 139154 - MULTI-PARTY FRAMEWORK AGREEMENT FOR DESIGN & BUILD CONTRACTORS TO DELIVER RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENTS THROUGH THE USE OF 2D PANELISED AND/OR 3D MODULAR OR VOLUMETRIC CONSTRUCTION METHODS IN TWO LOTS

This procurement was initiated including two lots:

- Lot 1 For projects with an estimated construction value below €15m
- Lot 2 For projects with an estimated construction value in excess of €15m

Only Lot 2 of this framework has been established. The framework for Lot 1 was omitted from this process, and will be the subject of a separate procurement process which is due to commence in early Q1 2021.

- **Number of participants on the framework and who they are:**

Six Parties have been admitted to the Lot 2 Framework:

- John Sisk & Sons
- Farrans Construction
- BAM Ireland
- ABM Construction
- MAC Skystone
- Collens Construction

- **Indicative average costings from the Framework for 1,2 and 3-bed apartments**

The framework is for design & build contractors and as such the tenders received are submitted in a fixed price, lump sum format which does not contain a unit by unit cost breakdown. It should be noted that the prices submitted also include for contractors design costs, and additional non-residential facilities as part of the overall tender amount.

The successful bidder was selected as having submitted the most economically advantageous tender. The contract amount for the initial contract at four sites is €88,462,661 Excluding VAT.

- **Details on some projects where the Framework is already in use.**

The initial contract which established the framework covers four sites under a single procurement process. The sites are as follows:

- Bunratty Road
- Bonham Street
- Cork/Chamber Streets
- Springvale, Chapelizod

**Q.109 COUNCILLOR NAOISE Ó MUIRÍ**

To ask the Chief Executive to please provide an update on the installation of Big Belly bins on the Clontarf Promenade, particularly at locations of high footfall with associated waste generation.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

There have been delays in the supply of these units due to the effects of the pandemic. 10 units were recently installed in the North City area including one unit at Clontarf. The promenade at the pedestrian walkway is largely unsuitable for the installation of these units due to the risk to the electronic and mechanical parts of the equipment from flooding. A number of locations are being considered along the outer footpath as well as increasing the number of standard bins provided along the promenade walkway. Temporary bins will remain in place as an interim measure until such time as this is completed. Waste Management Services are carrying out audits of the supply of bins in the local electoral areas to ensure that there is an adequate supply of bins provided in proximity to all litter generators and an adequate number provided to provide the capacity required.

**Q.110 COUNCILLOR NAOISE Ó MUIRÍ**

To ask the Chief Executive, in relation to the breakdown of budgeted Homeless expenditure provided by DCC officials during the 2021 budget process can the CEO please provide a similar breakdown of actual expenditure for 2020 broken down by recipient of funds in Section/Category 2?

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The end of year accounts for 2020 are not complete and when they are finalised, the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage (DHLGH) will publish the Homelessness Financial Report for the year end 2020. When the department issues the report we will forward it to the Councillor.

If it is helpful, the 2019 Homelessness Financial Report can be viewed at  
[https://www.housing.gov.ie/sites/default/files/publications/files/financial\\_report\\_end\\_of\\_year\\_2019 - dublin.pdf](https://www.housing.gov.ie/sites/default/files/publications/files/financial_report_end_of_year_2019 - dublin.pdf)

**Q.111 COUNCILLOR ANTHONY CONNAGHAN**

To ask the Chief Executive to arrange for an inspection of (**details supplied**) where no vents were installed.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Housing Maintenance will arrange for an inspection at above property and all necessary works will be carried out.

**Q.112 COUNCILLOR ANTHONY CONNAGHAN**

To ask the Chief Executive for an update on the empty apartment block in Prospect Hill.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The legal agreement finalising the transfer of ownership of Block 2/2A Prospect Hill to Dublin City Council has been finalised. The Housing Department is currently preparing a scope of works in advance of going to tender the required remediation works. It is envisaged that works will commence in the second quarter of 2021.

**Q.113 COUNCILLOR ANTHONY CONNAGHAN**

To ask the Chief Executive to investigate the possibility of providing suitable dressing room facilities at (**details supplied 1**) have played on this pitch since 1974 years and

both their teams are playing in the top AUL league at present. If they don't have facilities pitch-side they have to play home games away. We hope a solution can be found to this to allow (**details supplied 2**) share the pitch with kids teams, schools teams and also adult Women's teams also which can be achieved with adequate dressing room facilities.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The Parks Service does not provide pavilions at small open spaces such as this that would only serve a single pitch and team. There is a significant anti-social behaviour problem in the immediate vicinity and there are proposals to clean up the adjacent lane and cut back vegetation that is currently providing cover for this behaviour. The club already has one container at this location. Consideration could be given to the allowing the club to install a similar container fitted out as the club requires if this behaviour abates. Alternatively the club might consider availing of the existing high quality pavilion and pitch located at (**details supplied**) which no doubt would meet the exacting requirements of the league.