

## MINUTES OF THE SOUTH EAST AREA COMMITTEE MEETING

**HELD ON MONDAY 13 DECEMBER 2021**

- 1 **Presentation on Works in Temple Bar from Roads Construction and Design Section**  
**Order: Noted.**
- 2 **Minutes of the South East Area Committee Meeting held on 8th November 2021**  
**Order: Agreed.**
- 3 **Environment and Transportation Department Matters**
  - i. Minutes of Traffic Advisory Group meeting held on 23<sup>rd</sup> November 2021.  
**Order: Noted.**
  - ii. Traffic Management Measures for Strand Road.  
**Order: Noted.**
  - iii. Sandymount Green Traffic Management Measures.  
**Order: Noted.**
  - iv. Verbal Update on Clarendon Row scheme commencing January 2022  
**Order: Noted.**
- 4 **Planning and Property Management Department Matters**
  - i. Report on Proposed Disposal: Further 10 year lease 2<sup>nd</sup> 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, 17 Wicklow Street to Mrs. Margaret O' Regan.  
**Order: Agreed to recommend to City Council.**
  - ii. Update on Poolbeg West SDZ.  
**Order: Noted.**
  - iii. Gulistan Draft Masterplan – Chief Executive's Report on Submissions Received.  
**Order: Noted.**  
**Motion from Mary Freehill, Dermot Lacey, Deirdre Conroy, Anne Feeney**  
With regard to the CEOs report on consultation on the development of Gulistan; this meeting agrees that we proceed by agreeing that a diagram showing how each DCC division will fit into the Development of the

site also it is agreed that DCC Architectural Dept. while supporting the planning Dept. be designated with oversight of the development of the site.  
**Order: Agreed.**

5      **Culture, Recreation and Economic Services Department**

- i.      Report on playground renewal works at Belgrave Park.  
**Order: Noted.**

6      **Housing and Community Services Department Matters**

- i.      Report on proposed Community Grant Awards 2021.  
**Order: Agreed to recommend to City Council**

7      **South East Area Office Matters**

- i.      Report of the Director of Services, South City.  
**Order: Noted.**
- ii.     Report on proposed naming of a development at Purser Gardens, Rathmines, Dublin 6: Coram Deo.  
**Order: Agreed.**

8      **Motions**

**Emergency Motion from Councillors Geoghegan and Feeney**

That the South East Area Committee agrees that the Area Office write a letter to the Chief Executive of the NTA seeking an extension of time to the public consultation on the 'Transport Strategy for the Greater Dublin Area' beyond the 17<sup>th</sup> of December 2021 and into the New Year to enable, in particular, the communities of south west Dublin including Terenure, Harold's Cross, Rathmines, and Rathgar as well as Ranelagh, to make submissions following the disappointing effective abandonment of feasible Metro South West Plans.

**Order: Report to Councillor.**

**Motion 1 from Councillor Mary Freehill**

That the gully cleaning list for SEA area be included again on reports with monthly agenda.

**Order: Report to Councillor.**

**Motion 2 from Councillor Dermot Lacey**

This Committee requests the Manager to examine if appropriate lighting could be placed along the pedestrian routes through Herbert Park given the increasing and welcome use of same as a walking route at night time.

**Order: Report to Councillor.**

**Motion 3 from Councillor Paddy McCartan**

That the area committee urges DCC and the NTA to resolve the issue of rerouting the C1 and C2 spines to Park Avenue, Sandymount, with all the adverse safety consequences for residents, pedestrians and cyclists.

The original proposal from the NTA concluded that Strand Road was the appropriate route. Their 2017 document states that section DL69 Park Avenue-Gilford Road is a single carriageway with residential properties, some on street parking to the north of the link, limited capacity to widen the road, and as a result this is not a viable route section.

**Order: Report to Councillor.**

**Motion 4 from Councillor Mannix Flynn**

That this meeting of the SEAC calls on DCC to ring fence part of the millions of Euros that are the levies that would be emanating from the DIT at Kevin Street, to immediate local area projects. Bearing in mind that the local residents will be greatly inconvenienced by noise, and other disruptions for the next 4 years, it would be appropriate that at least a million euros of the levies off this site be committed to local area projects within the vicinity of this development.

**Order: Report to Councillor.**

**Motion 5 from Councillor Mannix Flynn**

That this committee of the SEAC calls on DCC to initiate a full overview of the trucks, vans and cars that are parked on a daily basis and nightly basis within DCC Housing estates and flat complexes.

This report also to include how many residents have parking permits? How much revenue is garnished from these permits? Was there ever a health and safety audit done within the flat complexes in relation to the manner in which these vehicles are parked? Bearing in mind that universal access to the stairwells, and emergency access for emergency vehicles are generally blocked.

Further, what cycling infrastructure for parking of bikes is installed in any of these public housing complexes throughout the SEA?

**Order: Report to Councillor.**

**Motion 6 from Councillor Mannix Flynn**

That this committee of DCC agrees that those that have in possession a license from DCC to sell from the hand - that includes food stuff such as chocolate, drinks, or other goods for consumption, would be allowed erect a small table to ensure that the goods that are being sold are not placed on the pavement or on the roadway that would be in breach of food health and safety standards and also in the interest of hygiene.

**Order: Agreed and refer matter to City Recovery and Casual Trading Subcommittee.**

**Motion 7 from Councillor Mary Freehill**

That we have a meeting with the Planning and Development Department regarding the current state of Greenmount Industrial Estate. It is difficult for many of the businesses to function there because of serious drainage problems, cracked pipes, and lack of clarity regarding ownership of entrance roads that is an impediment to proper functioning of the estate. Furthermore some of the sites have been designated derelict sites but because of the above it's not possible for them to function. This is an important facility in the Harold's Cross area and it requires urgent focus by the council".

**Order: Report to Councillor.**

**Motion 8 from Councillor Mary Freehill**

That a formal meeting is set up with Irish Water to improve communications with elected representatives in the area. Irish Water have been doing work in the Rathmines area, residents are not informed of water supply cuts and they are not responding to Councillors' communications.

**Order: Agreed.**

**Motion 9 from Councillor Mary Freehill**

That this meeting receives a progress report on what steps are being taken to protect the Swan River Bollard on Rathgar Road. It was agreed that a plaque be erected. It is now very urgent as a shop door has been opened at the rear of this

bollard. In the interest of protecting it, a plaque needs to be urgently inserted in the ground to alert the public of the significance of this protected structure.

**Order: Report to Councillor.**

**Motion 10 from Councillor Danny Byrne**

That this area committee would agree to ask the manager to apply to the Disability Participation and Awareness Fund 2021 in respect of the South East Area.

The rationale is to support the participation of people with disabilities in local activities, to help remove barriers to community involvement, and to support the promotion and implementation of the United Nations' Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UNCRPD) in communities.

**Order: Report to Councillor.**

**Motion 11 from Councillor Danny Byrne**

That this area committee would agree to ask council management to implement the "Spacefinder" app. which is being currently trialled by Limerick City and County Council. The technology gives real time information on where free parking spaces are located and is supported by the Disabled Drivers' Association of Ireland (DDAI).

**Order: Report to Councillor.**

**Motion 12 from Councillor Pat Dunne**

That this committee asks the Area Manager to look at the feasibility of purchasing a wash car to facilitate the power washing of streets, village paving and public plazas in the Dublin South East Area.

**Order: Report to Councillor.**

**Motion 13 from Councillor Hazel Chu**

This committee asks for a traffic feasibility study to be carried out at Dunville Avenue and surrounding roads especially during school times to see what practical solutions we can put in place to alleviate the congestion and also to improve the safety for pedestrians and cyclists.

**Order: Report to Councillor.**

**Motion 14 from Councillor Hazel Chu**

This committee requests for the manager to write and meet with the National Transport Authority to discuss the issues that have arisen post the commencement of the Bus Connect C Spine Service which affects several areas (inclusive of Park Avenue in Sandymount).

**Order: Agreed.**

**Motion 15 from Councillor Hazel Chu**

This committee requests the manager to implement a ban on 5 axle vehicles during the hours of 7am and 7pm on Upper Rathmines Road. In particular at the Tesco junction where HGVs delivering are posing a danger to children during school hours (there are a high number of schools in the vicinity), pedestrians, cyclists and motorists due to the tight space to manoeuvre in the area.

**Order: Report to Councillor.**

**Motion 16 from Councillor Hazel Chu**

This committee requests the manager to provide for a climbing frame (similar to Mount Pleasant Square) or play facilities for the green space at Williams Park Rathmines. This area has one crèche and two schools adjoining it and constantly has children playing and climbing on the walls. It serves as a play area for the residential apartments in Rathmines village. Having play facilities will provide for them directly and for school and local communities.

**Order: Report to Councillor.**

9           **Questions to the Chief Executive 13th December 2021**  
**Order: Noted.**

**Councillor Dermot Lacey**

**Chairperson**

**Monday 13<sup>th</sup> December 2021**

**Attendance:**

**Members:**

Dermot Lacey (Chairperson)  
Claire Byrne  
Daniel Céitinn  
Paddy McCartan  
Pat Dunne  
Hazel Chu

**Members:**

Claire O'Connor  
Danny Byrne  
Mary Freehill  
Carolyn Moore  
Mannix Flynn

**Members:**

Kevin Donoghue  
Deirdre Conroy  
James Geoghegan  
Anne Feeney  
Tara Deacy

**Officers**

Brian Hanney  
John MacEvilly  
Michael Noonan  
Debbie Clarke  
Ronan Fallon  
Paul O'Halloran  
Leah Johnson

Derek Kelly  
Neil O'Donoghue  
Phil Dunne  
Marie Gavin  
Myles Farrell  
John O'Hara  
Joe Kelly

Jennifer Wall  
Gerry McEntaggart  
Iva Geci  
Claire French  
Fiona O'Brien

## **Question to the Chief Executive**

## **South East Area Committee** **Meeting 13<sup>th</sup> December 2021**

### **Q.1 Councillor Dermot Lacey**

To ask the Manager why the waste bin was removed from the corner of Gilford Road and Park Avenue, Sandymount and if he will consider putting it back.

#### **Reply:**

Waste Management Services had the damaged bin at the above mentioned location replaced on the 18th November 2021.

### **Q.2 Councillor James Geoghegan**

To ask the Area Manager if he can confirm that the Kildare Place National School on Rathmines Road Upper shall be granted a safe school zone initiative and if he can confirm when this is scheduled to be installed.

#### **Reply:**

Kildare Place National School was successfully applied for both a School Zone and Safe Routes to School. Site visits were carried out and a concept design was produced. We are currently awaiting engineering resources to be assigned to the School Mobility Programme, after which we will re-visit the school and progress plans.

### **Q.3 Councillor James Geoghegan**

To ask the Area Manager if he can investigate the tree at 7 Cowper Gardens, Rathmines, Dublin 6 where fungus is growing out of it and it may need to be felled.

#### **Reply:**

Arrangements will be made to remove this dead tree very shortly.

### **Q.4 Councillor Dermot Lacey**

To ask the Manager if the footpaths in the Ramleh Close area could be examined and listed for repair/replacement as requested in email submitted with this question.

“Finally, on behalf of some of my even more elderly neighbours I would be grateful if you could make representations to the City Council Executive about replacing the pavements in Ramleh Close. The original pavements date back to when the houses were built (late 60's?). They are in very poor condition and a hazard to the older residents who walk to avail of public transport, shopping, churchgoing etc.”

#### **Reply:**

The footpaths in Ramleh Close were inspected and defects found were logged on our Works List for repair.

The footpaths in Ramleh Close will be nominated for inclusion in our future Footpath Reconstruction Programmes.

### **Q.5 Councillor Dermot Lacey**

To ask the Manager if he will arrange for this pothole to be repaired:

There is a large pothole dip in the footpath outside Merrion Cricket Club on Anglesea Road where the tarmac fill in from Irish water has sunk. There have been numerous falls here over the last two weeks including a bad one on Sunday with an elderly man taking a very heavy fall. Is there any chance this can get priority?

#### **Reply:**

Please be advised that Road Maintenance Services will notify Irish Water or the utility responsible for the defective temporary reinstatement and request the repair of same at the address specified. Road Maintenance Services will provide an update once received from Irish Water.

Irish Water have since advised that their contractor was unable to get permission to carry out the permanent reinstatement due to operation free flow.

However, it is scheduled to be reinstated in early January, as a priority.

**Q.6 Councillor Dermot Lacey**

To ask the Manager if there are any plans to improve safety for pedestrians in the vicinity of the Rathmines Road Upper and Church Road junction and if not to refer same to the Traffic Department for action.

**Reply:**

The area engineer has recommended that pavement buildouts be provided on Church Avenue at the junction with Rathmines Road Upper to slow traffic exiting/entering Church Avenue.

The area engineer has recommended the provision of a pedestrian crossing on Rathmines Road Upper south of the junction with Church Avenue. Currently this project is on Package 7 lot 2 and is at design stage with DCC's engineering consultants. The aim is to have the package out for construction in early 2022.

**Q.7 Councillor James Geoghegan**

To ask the South East Area manager if the issues raised in the email below from the principal of St Mary's School could be addressed.

"I am extremely concerned at the delay in repositioning of the yellow box on Mount Eden Road. I see that double yellow lines were continued opposite the entrance to the school but the yellow box remains in the same location. The positioning of the yellow box down from the entrance to the school is extremely dangerous. Observing the children entering and egressing the school since the yellow box was installed has confirmed my thoughts on the ill-positioning of same. The children egress the school campus and naturally walk straight across the road, even though the school warden is positioned further down the road at the yellow box. I have been trying to supervise the crossing of the road daily but with the best will in the world, this is sustainable. I cannot stand over the current location of the yellow box from a health and safety perspective – the situation is extremely dangerous!"

It took almost 3 months for the installation of the yellow box from my initial approach to the DCC in August 2021. Should the repositioning of the yellow box extend to a similar time-line, I fear there will be an accident on the road.

I ask that you do everything in your power to arrange for the repositioning of the yellow box at the entrance as a matter of urgency.

I am happy to have a site visit at school opening and closing time."

**Reply:**

Getting children to school safely is a key part of planning for schools. In urban areas, this means promoting various alternative means for children to get to school in a safe way, including walking and cycling. Reducing the number of drop-offs and pickups by private vehicle at the school gate will free up space at school gates to allow for safe physical distancing while reducing hazards for children walking, cycling and scooting to school. Dublin City Council's Transport Advisory Group were contacted by the school warden coordinator that the principal was requiring more safe access for children at the school gate.

The Transport Advisory Group Area Engineer assessed Mount Eden Road to implement a school warden crossing control point as per the Road Traffic Legislation, Design Manual for Urban Roads and Streets (DMURS) and National Transport Authority design recommendations. The Area Engineer assessed the sightlines as per the guidance above and put in a school warden crossing control box at the most suitable safe location. "Slow" road markings were also implemented as part of the solution. The Transport Advisory Group do not put school warden crossing controls directly in front of a vehicular entrance.

The engineer is fully aware of the issues raised by the principal of St. Mary's National School. The area engineer met with the principal and explained why the school warden crossing control box is offset from the centre of the temporary school gates away from cyclists and vehicles entering the school. The school warden crossing control point was to facilitate the school warden to direct unaccompanied pupils to and from school in the mornings and afternoons. The yellow box was recommended by the area engineer to be provided away from the middle of the temporary gates. This decision was made in the interests of safety for the pupils and school warden crossing Mount Eden Road.

The Transport Advisory Group's Area Engineer is willing to arrange a meeting on site with the principal to discuss her issue and if she requires the councillors to attend, could she let us know the time and date and we can arrange the meeting so that they can be given the opportunity to attend?

**Q.8    Councillor Dermot Lacey**

To ask the Manager if he can give an update on the research into the pollutants going into the Elm Park stream and subsequently into Dublin Bay at Merrion Strand as previously reported.

**Reply:**

Further to the report issued by the Bathing Water Task Force on March 8<sup>th</sup> 2021 (Appendix A, below), the following updates are provided;

The Protection of Water Bodies Office (PWBO) was recently established to amalgamate the remit of the Water Pollution Control and Water Framework Directive sections and establish a revised programme of work for improving water bodies in Dublin City in accordance with the objectives of the Water Framework Directive, including Dublin Bay and the Elm Park Stream. This new office has also taken responsibility for the role of Chair for the Bathing Water Task Force (BWTF), as well as participation on the national Bathing Water Expert Group. The closer alignment of these offices is to provide a more efficient and effective delivery of actions for delivering the principle objectives of the Water Framework Directive over the coming years, namely improving the open water quality in Dublin City to 'good' status.

**The Bathing Water Task Force**

In November 2019, Dublin City Council (DCC) set up a Task Force including representatives from Irish Water, Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government (DHPLG) and Dun Laoghaire Rathdown County Council (DLRCC). The Task Force meets on a regular basis and is working to coordinate the activities of the pertinent agencies to achieve good water quality on the designated and monitored beaches in Dublin Bay.

**Bathing Water Management and Bathing Prohibitions**

The PWBO published their annual report for the 2021 Bathing Season which is available to view at [www.dublincity.ie/bathingwater](http://www.dublincity.ie/bathingwater). We continue to monitor and report on bathing water quality at six locations throughout the year in accordance with the standards set out in the Bathing Water Regulations 2008. The aforementioned report sets out the activities, monitoring and assessments undertaken during the designated bathing season from 1<sup>st</sup> June to 15<sup>th</sup> September. Water quality assessment data from outside of the bathing season is also available on our website. The water quality assessment results are set out in the following table:

	2021 (Inside Bathing season)																			
DATE OF SAMPLE	25/05	08/06	15/06	22/06	27/06	05/07	06/07	13/07	20/07	27/07	03/08	09/08	10/08	18/08	23/08	25/08	01/09	05/09	07/09	15/09
DOLLYMOUNT	Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue
SANDYMOUNT	Blue	Blue	Red	Blue	Blue	Orange	Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue	Red	Blue	Blue	Blue	Red	Blue	Blue	Red
MERRION	Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue	Red	Blue	Red	Blue	Blue	Orange							
SHELLEY BANKS	Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue	Green	Blue	Green	Blue	Blue								
HALF MOON	Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue
NORTH BULL WALL CAUSEWAY	Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue	Red	Orange	Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue	Green	Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue	Green	Blue	Red

Figure 1 – Summary of 2021 bathing water results available online

	Indicates excellent water quality – Samples should not exceed 250 MPN E. Coli and 100 CFU Intestinal Enterococci per 100 ml.
	Indicates good water quality – Samples should not exceed 500 MPN E. Coli and 200 CFU Intestinal Enterococci per 100 ml.
	Indicates sufficient water quality - samples should not exceed 1,000 MPN E. coli and 250 CFU Intestinal Enterococci per 100 ml
	Indicates poor water quality - samples exceed 1,000 MPN E. coli and 250 CFU Intestinal Enterococci per 100 ml
<b>Date*</b>	Additional Investigative Sampling carried out

MPN = Most Probable Number  
CFU = Colony Forming Unit

During the 2021 bathing season the PWBO, in collaboration with the UCD School of Biomolecular and Biomedical Science, has included novel testing methodologies as part of its investigative monitoring programme to differentiate between faecal contamination of human and animal origin (PCR analysis). This information has been particularly useful in identifying possible sources of pollution at our designated beaches during the 2021 season. Furthermore, it provides valuable information to the Bathing Water Task Force in terms of identifying the primary sources of pollutants affecting the most recent failed water quality assessments.

A review of 2021 PCR analysis carried out by University College Dublin, indicated that the dog faeces marker was the most frequently detected and quantified faeces marker and at times reached very high levels. While dog fouling was known to be a pressure on water quality, the true extent of its proliferation and damage has been highlighted via PCR analysis. A summary of PCR analysis is illustrated in the Bathing Season Report.

#### Some of other key actions arising from the work of the Task Force have been:

- The completion of misconnection surveys of all potential misconnections to the Elm Park Stream in the Dublin City Council area. (Misconnection surveys of private domestic properties have been largely delayed/postponed due to Covid. The Task Force is considering how to reinitiate this work in 2022 should the pandemic restrictions continue to restrict our previous methods of carrying out this critical work to tackle pollution of waterbodies. This relates to misconnection work across both local authorities).
- Dun Laoghaire Rathdown County Council (DLRCC) continues to meet with private businesses within the Elm Park Stream catchment pertaining to investigations and misconnections. Significant progress has been made in engaging with substantial organisations wherein our studies indicate significant sources of pollution may originate. The relevant landowners are proactively engaging with the Local Authorities and the BWTF, and are currently engaging their own contractors to undertake investigative work. This investigative work is likely to be time consuming and complicated. Nonetheless, this is a positive step and we expect to be kept up to date on the progress of that work.

- Irish Water has removed a Combined Sewer Overflow (CSO) at Larchfield in DLRCC which overflowed into the Elm Park Stream. This substantial undertaking has delivered the removal of a significant source of pollution during heavy rainfall events and contributes significantly to objective of the task force.
- Irish Water continues to trial application of UV treatment at the Ringsend Waste Water Treatment Plant (RWWTP) to the end of 2021. The primary purpose of the trial being to assess the impact this activity has on bathing water quality. This assessment will take place early in 2022
- The Irish Water design team is continuing to assess considerable engineering task of removing this CSO from Ailesbury pumping station by upgrading the foul sewer infrastructure to accommodate that task.
- The BWTF has appointed a water modelling consultant who is continuing to develop a system to predict bathing water quality. The purpose of the system is to provide the BWTF (and in turn the public) with ‘predictions’ of water quality (in terms of bacteria concentrations) at designated bathing waters, through the use of historic and ongoing sampling data, weather forecast data, and sewer network and coastal modelling. This initiative complements the work being carried out under the Acclimatise Project.

### **EU Bathing Water Directive**

The European Union held a public consultation on the 2006 Bathing Water Directive earlier this year. The purpose of the consultation was to examine how the 2006 Directive has helped protect public health and improve water quality and if there was a need to review and update the existing legislation. From the EU website we can report that a total of 51 submissions were made as part of the consultation. Please note the Bathing Water Regulations 2008 (SI 79) are derived from the EU2006 Bathing Water Directive.

The Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage submitted a joint response on behalf of the Bathing Water Taskforce and National Bathing Water Expert Group. All 51 submissions, including the submission from the Department are publicly available online to view at [https://ec.europa.eu/info/law/better-regulation/have-your-say/initiatives/12658-Bathing-water-quality-review-of-EU-rules/feedback\\_en?p\\_id=22201307](https://ec.europa.eu/info/law/better-regulation/have-your-say/initiatives/12658-Bathing-water-quality-review-of-EU-rules/feedback_en?p_id=22201307). (DHLGH feedback reference F2175439).

DCC and the BWTF is supportive of any initiative which would improve bathing water quality, however it is unclear how this would be achieved solely by extending the bathing season. It is also unclear at this time as to whether all the consequences have been identified and considered, should there be a substantial extension to our current bathing season. These potential consequences include the increased risk to our retention of our two designated bathing areas. DCC would require further information from the Department and/or Environmental Protection Agency as to the knock on effects should any particular of the regulations be amended.

A further EU public consultation period is currently ongoing (between the 28/10/21 to 20/01/22). Feedback can be made by any member of the EU, in the form of an online questionnaire. In advance of that closing date for submissions, a meeting between the EPA and the National Bathing Water Expert Group is scheduled for this month (December 2021). The Chair of the BWTF will attend this meeting and seek clarification on any proposed changes. The feedback will inform any further submission that Dublin City Council may submit to the current consultation. The EU roadmap suggests that the commission intends on adopting any revised Bathing Directive by the first quarter of 2023.

**Q.9**

### **Councillor Mannix Flynn**

Can the manager ascertain the condition of the water pipes on Lombard Street West? This report also to include what pipes are made of lead that are feeding the houses in this area of Lombard Street and St Kevin’s Parade.

**Reply:**

This is a matter for Irish Water who may be contacted directly. A dedicated email address is available for such purposes: [localrepsupportdesk@water.ie](mailto:localrepsupportdesk@water.ie)

In addition, Irish Water provides a dedicated service to councillors/deputies. This dedicated support desk can now be contacted on 0818 178 178 / 0818 578 578.

**Q.10 Councillor Mannix Flynn**

Can the manager issue a full report as to what works are taking place on the historical structure of St Nicholas Within the walls at Christchurch adjacent to the Peace Garden?

**Reply:**

The ruined church of St Nicholas Within is a Recorded Monument (RMP No. DU018-020085) and a Protected Structure (RPS No. 5830).

Dublin City Council Parks Department made an application and received grant funding in 2021 from the Community Monuments Fund (CMF). The award of €20,000.00 (inclusive of VAT) CMF funding was for the preparation of a Conservation Management Plan to guide the future conservation and management of the monument.

A Conservation Architect (Grade 1) was appointed by Parks Department CRES to prepare the conservation management plan along with a multidisciplinary team, including the conservation architect, a structural engineer, an archaeologist and a quantity surveyor. The consultant team are in the process of undertaking a detailed survey of the extant remains to inform future conservation works specifications, drawings, and all H&S requirements.

In order to carry out the survey, enabling works were required and vegetation was cleared both from the northern wall of the monument and internally. The condition of the exposed fabric is now being assessed. Any urgent repairs to the structure will be undertaken by a conservation stone mason using best conservation practice in accordance with a specification prepared and overseen by the Grade 1 Conservation architect.

The plan is managed by Parks and steered by a team of archaeology, heritage and conservation professionals in DCC.

**Q.11 Councillor Mannix Flynn**

Can the manager issue a full report with regards the advertising screen that is now in place on Wilton Terrace beside Wilton Park on the Grand Canal? This is a massive screen which appears to interfere and create a hazard for passing motorists. Many of the residents in the area complained that they were not consulted with regards this big screen. This report to include all documentation and communication between DCC various departments and those who own this screen and also the decisions to place this massive advertisement screen in this highly protected area.

**Reply:**

The recently activated Living Gallery installation at Wilton Park is not an advertising screen. It is an outdoor curated digital gallery for this new emerging art form of temporary artistic animation projection. It is a partnership between Dublin City Council, IPUT, the property owner and Algorithm as Creative Partner. The screen is within the curtilage of the park, and will act as a screen for the construction compound within the park for works at Wilton Terrace.

The Arts Office of Dublin City Council have worked closely with the project and an independent committee to curate content and make the medium as accessible as possible to all who wish to propose content. There is absolutely no advertising element to this installation.

The project has been developed over 18 months and has engaged fully with Dublin City Council requirements with regard to ecological evaluation and mitigation, light lux and spill,

including mitigation and responding to natural light levels and adjustment at various times of the day. The project also consulted with the local residents' association in advance of installation. A continuous review process is in place to take account of any unforeseen issues and feedback from local residents and businesses as well as from the general public.

Living Gallery has permission for 12 months, subject to ongoing review and availability of content. The independent committee has the following members:

Chairman - Patrick Murphy RHA  
Secretary - Nick Linders  
*Sheena Barrett Dublin City Arts Office*  
*Simon O Conor MOLI*  
*Daniel Staines Creative Director Algorithm.*

Attached –

1. Project Proposal
2. 4.1.f Partnership Agreement between Dublin City Council Planning Dept. and the Project Partners

**Q.12 Councillor Mannix Flynn**

Can the manager issue a full report with regards the hoarding that is now placed in the entrance to the Rates Office on Castle Street? This is a grade 1 listed building, probably one of the most unique in the city. To simply board up this important structure in this manner is an absolute disgrace. The place looks derelict and vacant and this immediately needs to be addressed. Bearing in mind the issues that emanated from the Cobblestone Bar and the destruction of culture within our city, it would appear to me that this example of the Rates Office and the manner in which DCC Conservation Office have treated this building at present is a worst-case scenario. Dublin City Council needs to redress this situation and show proper respect for the city's heritage buildings.

**Reply:**

Newcomen Bank Building is an extremely important building to Dublin City Council and is currently in the process of being redeveloped. The boarding to close off the portico was initially erected (in consultation with the City Conservation Officer and City Architects) in response to significant anti-social behaviour on the upper steps of the building, once it became vacant. This anti-social behaviour constituted a significant threat to health and safety for those involved in the redevelopment of the building (syringes, faeces, urine etc.) and to the building fabric itself (fire, rot, graffiti etc.).

The boarding to the portico will remain in place to protect the building as it is currently vacant and in the middle of a construction and investigation process. A series of enabling works has recently been completed which included a great deal of investigative works. This research will all feed into the preliminary design report which is due for submission to Dublin City Council from the appointed design team in late December 2021.

**Q.13 Councillor Mannix Flynn**

Can the manager issue a full report with regards the intention by the Peter McVerry Trust and the Dublin Regional Homeless executive to acquire a hotel on Baggot Street (90-100 Baggot Street) formerly a B and B, for emergency housing accommodation? This report to include, sight of any service level agreement. Cost of this initiative. What professional services, if any, are being offered to those who will use this facility? What is the make-up of the individuals that will use this service, i.e., male/female, single or otherwise, families and children etc.? Also, what consultation or engagement with the local community with regards this service has taken place in the locality?

**Reply:**

The PMVT Trust is intending to purchase this hotel on Baggot Street with the support of the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage. The proposal centres on using this hotel to provide accommodation in keeping with the established use of this property.

The proposed purchase is ongoing and preliminary discussions are underway in relation to a service level agreement and operational budget to run this hotel accommodation.

The PMVT proposal centres on using the hotel to accommodate adults experiencing homelessness in the short to medium term, while developing longer term plans to convert it to housing in line with the Government's Housing for All Strategy Actions 3.6 and 3.9.

Finally, I understand the Deputy Director of the PMVT is engaging with local stakeholders on a range of queries, in relation to the proposed purchase, planned management and operational structures.

**Q.14 Councillor Mannix Flynn**

Can the manager issue a full report in relation to the ongoing issues of the roof dilapidation and other defects that are impacting on the residents of Poolbeg Quay apartments? DCC is the mortgage holder for these apartments and serious defects have been detected within the structure of these apartments that are now creating huge health issues and health and safety issues for the owner/tenants here. DCC, as the mortgage holder, needs to make a clear statement as to how they are going to assist in addressing these serious defects, bearing in mind that DCC signed off on this building and indeed is the mortgage holder. We need to step up to the mark here and assist as we did with Priory Hall.

**Reply:**

This is a private development that is neither managed nor maintained by the City Council.

It was developed by an Approved Housing Body and all matters related to its construction were administered by them.

The City Council is aware that there are a number of issues pertaining to the ongoing maintenance of the structure of the development. It is up to the management company and or its representative on site (management agent) to attend to these matters as is common in all such private developments.

While the City Council may have provided a mortgage to some of the affordable applicants it is ultimately the duty and responsibility of the purchaser to carry out all due diligence as regards the status of the property to which they wish to purchase as is common practice with all of the financial lending institutions.

It is unfortunate that the owners of these properties are experiencing these difficulties however there should exist a process whereby if they engage with their Management Company they should be able to find a solution that best serves them and help resolve these matter as regards the development.

**Q.15 Councillor Mannix Flynn**

Can the manager give an update as to the CPO process that was called for with regards the dilapidated building which is adjacent to the Swan Bar on Aungier Street? See photo attached. This building has been lying idle for a number of years after the owner, without planning permission, removed part of the historic fabric seriously undermining this particular structure. This particular section of Aungier Street is to undergo a serious refurbishment and rejuvenation next year. The chances of this project not being fulfilled if this present building is not taken in charge by DCC is a serious enough issue to warrant action by DCC.

**Reply:**

The property is not the subject of a Compulsory Purchase Order. The Derelict Sites Unit has an active file on this property and there is ongoing engagement with the owner regarding proposed refurbishment works.

The matter is being kept under review and the Councillor will be kept informed of any developments.

**Q.16 Councillor Mannix Flynn**

Can the manager issue a full report with regards The Staircase Building on Aungier Street? This report to include how much money has been paid to date by Dublin Regional Homeless Executive/DCC to the owners of this building. Also, has DCC considered taking this building in charge bearing in mind that this is a National monument, a rare example of city architecture with its original staircase completely intact? This building was immaculately restored by the award winning Dublin Civic Trust. It is now simply unacceptable that this architectural gem lies idle and vacant and crumbling. Giving us another example of the disregard for the architectural and historical built culture of Dublin City, <http://www.dublincivictrust.ie/building-projects/aungier-st/conservation-work>

**Reply:**

With the support of the DRHE, the Peter McVerry Trust (PMVT) leased the Staircase, 21 Aungier Street, Dublin 2, in late 2016 to provide emergency accommodation for single adults experiencing homelessness. It was previously used for accommodating other vulnerable groups.

The building required works and as some elements within the building had been on the National Monuments Register prior to 2007, it was of interest from a historical, conservation and protected structure perspective. Work was carried out under the supervision of a Conservation Architect with oversight and co-operation from the National Monuments Service of the Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht, who confirmed that no damage or material alteration was made to the national monument as a result of the works.

There followed considerable opposition to the use of the building for persons experiencing homelessness and following extensive discussions with public representatives and stakeholders, agreement was reached not to proceed with the planned use of the building. The DRHE appreciates the outstanding efforts of the PMVT in providing both emergency and long-term solutions to homelessness. However, as it could not be used to accommodate persons experiencing homelessness and lease costs amounted to €195,000 per annum 2018 -2021 inclusive as well €54,000 in refurbishment costs in 2018, we advised the PMVT in October of this year that no funding will be provided after 31<sup>st</sup> December 2021.

**Q.17 Councillor Paddy McCartan**

To ask the manager to deal with the following issue from a constituent.

He writes,

"The lack of resourcing of Street Cleaning in the city is an absolute disgrace.

For the past few weeks all around this area it has been dangerous to walk on many of the footpaths. And it is not that autumn comes as a surprise every year!

The whole set-up for street cleaning in Sandymount needs much more resources. As of now Sydney Parade Ave is only scheduled to be cleaned by the sweeper truck once every 90 days!

Given that it is a busy road with a rail station this is not good enough. In fairness I do get in touch with Mick Boyle and he does send the trucks more often. However it should not be necessary to beg the council to clean the road."

**Reply:**

Waste Management Services operates an area based cleaning schedule to service residential areas across the city. Residential areas in Sandymount, including Sydney Parade Avenue are on a ten week cycle for area based cleaning. Extra cleaning on Sydney Parade Avenue is carried out between scheduled cleaning there when requested by the local residents' association. We also include Sydney Parade Avenue in our leaves removal programme during the autumn and winter months.

**Q.18 Councillor Paddy McCartan**

To ask the manager to address the condition of the road surface at Wellington Road, Ballsbridge. Many requests have been made over the years to have this issue resolved.

**Reply:**

We have inspected the road surface on Wellington Road and have added it to a list of streets that will be considered for inclusion in next year's annual carriageway resurfacing programme.

**Q.19 Councillor Paddy McCartan**

To ask the manager to deal with the following issue from a constituent.

She writes:

"I'd like to report a faulty pedestrian traffic light at the junction of Upper Leeson Street and Sussex Road – at roughly 53°19'52.2"N 6°15'07.4"W

This is a light that allows pedestrians to cross from the run of shops on Upper Leeson Street to the median where there is a second set of traffic lights (still functioning) that allows them to cross safely to the east side of Leeson Street.

Until about two weeks ago, the broken light was quite simply the best pedestrian traffic light in all of Dublin. This light worked immediately. It was absolute magic. It serves a very dangerous crossing: parking by the shops and a bend in the road means that a pedestrian standing on the south side of the crossing cannot see oncoming traffic which has a tendency to tear around that corner.

In the last few weeks, however, it is taking up to 4, even five, minutes for the light to turn red. Because it is so dangerous to cross without assistance, every time I've tried it lately there has been a small build-up of people waiting to see if the green man would ever come on. It doesn't and so, after a long wait, people take their lives in their hands and dash across. Unless, of course, they are too elderly or too burdened to run blind into potentially oncoming traffic.

My big worry is that this isn't broken at all. Could it be that Dublin City Council has decided that the one traffic light that I know of in the whole city that actually privileges pedestrians had to go, to make life easier for the vast carbon emitting SUVs of South County Dublin and their impatient drivers? Has the council deliberately changed the phase at that crossing, thereby exposing pedestrians to a lethal crossing? Whatever the cause, there is a terrible accident in the making: people, old and young, have now abandoned the pedestrian crossing completely and are taking their hands in their lives every time they try to cross three lanes of traffic                       at                              a                              blind                              junction.

Please restore the wonderful pedestrian crossing that used to exist! In fact, please consider using its (former) privileging of the pedestrian as a model for making a more liveable and walkable city."

**Reply:**

Thank you for your query, our maintenance contractor visited site and found an issue with the pedestrian push buttons on site. The broken button was repaired and the operation of all pedestrian push buttons on site has been checked.

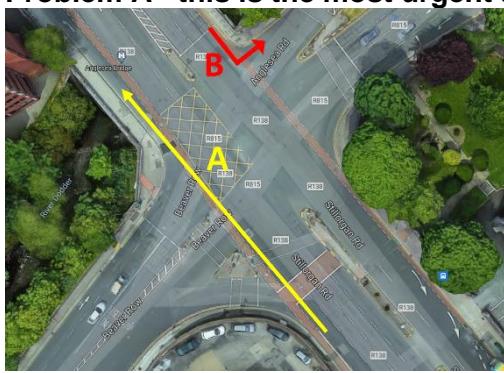
Please note Dublin City Council operates a 24\*7 free phone number 1800 293949 where any traffic light faults can be reported.

**Q.20 Councillor Paddy McCartan**

To ask the manager to address the following issues raised by a constituent.

"This is my first time writing to any councillor but I feel obliged to report a serious flaw in the cycle lanes at the [donnybrook- stillorgan road junction](#) that at lunchtime I almost witnessed a serious accident. I cycle this route about 6 times a day for the last 5 years and usually I have one near miss once a week. This is now once a day, and I just had to help an old man who got a serious shock from a close pass with an SUV. There are multiple issues with this junction but **issue A is by far the most urgent**.

**Problem A - this is the most urgent and dangerous one**



Traffic coming towards Donnybrook and taking the left exit to Ranelagh continues straight RIGHT THROUGH the cycle lane which veers right ([link 1](#) and [link 2](#)) . Often cars do not wait for the cyclist, or often don't even understand that the cyclist is continuing straight. The cycle lane needs to be straight here and cover all of the left two turning lanes. Please consult with experts to solve this. **Solving this problem is urgent. This is the primary school cycle route and I believe a fatality is likely here.**

**Problem B**

The left turning traffic gets a green light first so if you are cycling straight on you are blocking them. I get a lot of verbal abuse here and if you wait in lane 2, those drivers will beep too.

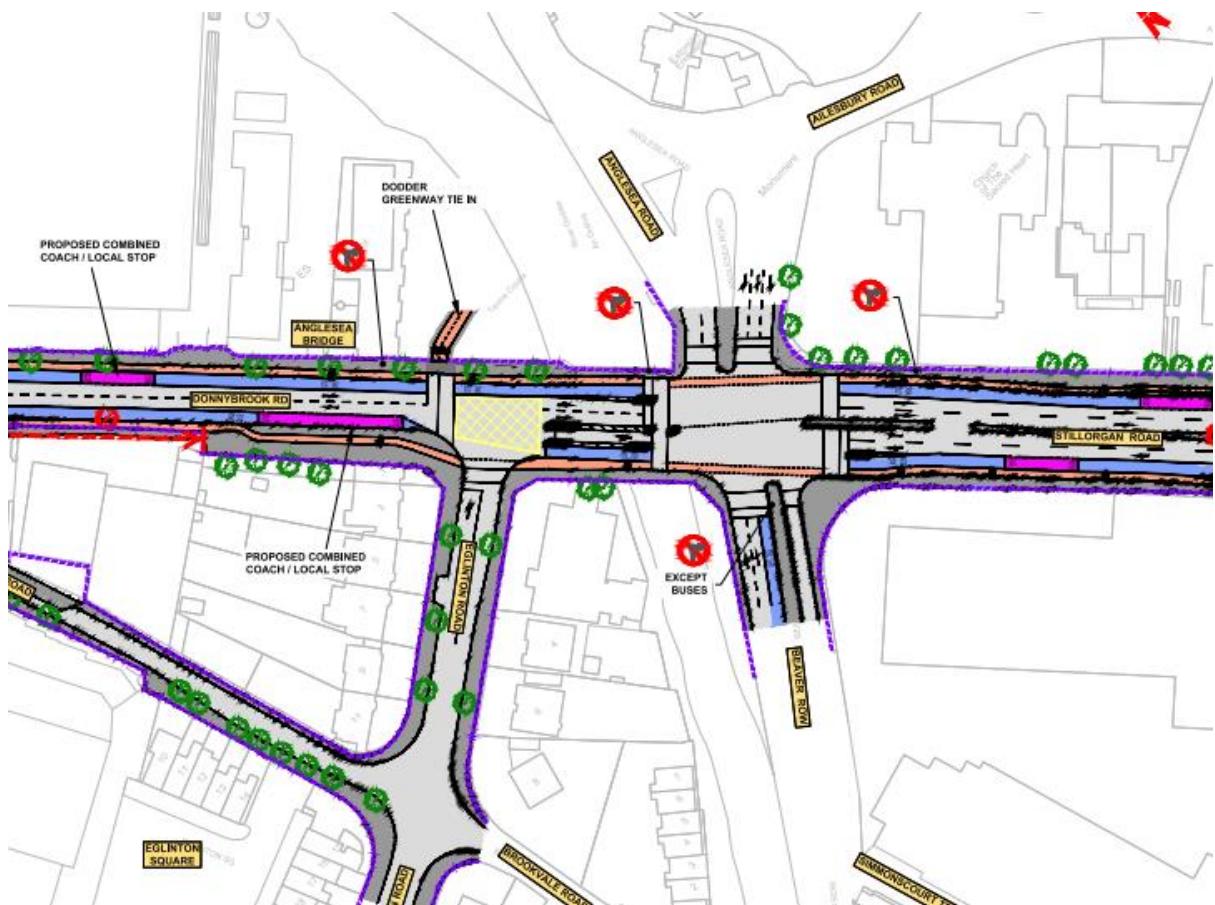
**Problem C**



Outside old Wesley, the bus lane and bike lane merge into one without any warning. I've had multiple close calls where bus drivers keep their line. Not as dangerous as A but needs to be fixed.

**Reply:**

These issues are to be resolved under the bus connects plans for that location:



The Covid Mobility team will assess this area for some rapid deployment safety measures and determine what can be achieved along this route to provide safe protected cycling.

**Q.21 Councillor Hazel Chu**

To ask the manager the number of fines issued in relation to dog fouling in the south east area for 2019, 2020 and 2021 to date.

**Reply:**

No fines were issued under Section 22 of the Litter Pollution Acts in relation to dog fouling in the South East Area for 2019, 2020 and 2021.

**Q.22 Councillor Hazel Chu**

To ask the manager for an extension of the laneway through Gulistan Depot to have extended opening hours as to facilitate school times. This will also provide for more accessible hours for those who need to use the depot facilities before work begins.

**Reply:**

Waste Management Services are not in a position to allow unsupervised access to Rathmines bring centre outside of operational hours. There are currently no plans to extend operational hours at any of our bring centres.

**Q.23 Councillor Hazel Chu**

To ask the manager for an area map of all the EV (Electric Vehicle) Charging facilities in South East Area, how the assessment is made on where they go in and details on proposals of further chargers in the area. In particular areas with smaller number of off street parking such as Ranelagh and Rathmines.

**Reply:**

Dublin City Council is aware of the transition to electric vehicles as set out in the Climate Action Plan as we prepare to respond to the needs of the citizens of the City by providing a sustainable urban mobility strategy. The Council is also aware that technology is changing rapidly and that a range of different solutions will be required to successfully address current and future mobility demand, not only in the City, but also across the wider Dublin Metropolitan Area.

This requires careful consideration and planning to ensure that the Council can play their part to facilitate the provision of a comprehensive, reliable and interoperable electric vehicle-charging infrastructure. This is so that members of the public and business community can be confident in making decisions to purchase electric vehicles and to use electric vehicles for personal, leisure and business use, for use on both short and long journeys.

In order to inform the four local authorities of the type and number of chargers required, the four Dublin Local Authorities, together with SMART Dublin and CARO, have commissioned a strategic study. This will allow us examine how the four Councils can best facilitate the provision of electric vehicle-charging infrastructure across the Dublin region and the scale of investment required.

The study sets out modelled EV uptake and consequent grid capacity requirements (ESBN are looking to pilot a number of new technical innovations). It also details numbers and recommended types of chargers required together with suitable business models, capital costs (including anticipated leveraged private sector capital), and areas more suited to Charge Points.

The Dublin Local Authority Electric Vehicle Charging Strategy is now practically complete. The consultants are currently finalising some additional inputs from stakeholder engagement and we expect delivery of the final report in the weeks before year end.

The working group are now moving forward with the next steps of the project, which will include a procurement plan required for the roll out of the strategy in balance with the Council's wider sustainable mobility policies. However this will be subject to resources & availability of funding from the Department of Transport.

ESBecars currently provide a map of their charger network:

<https://esb.ie/ecars/charge-point-map>

In addition, variations to the City Development Plan 2016-2022 introduced new objectives such that all new parking for new (or extensions to) housing, apartments and places of employment that provide car parking shall be electric charge enabled.

Dublin City Council shall work closely with the ESB and other stakeholders to increase the number of EV charge points across the city. All new (or upgraded) commercially operated car parking developments shall be required to provide a minimum of 50% of spaces with EV charging facilities.

The preparation of the new City Development Plan 2022-2028 will provide an opportunity to review the implementation of the revised objectives from the previous plan and also incorporate the relevant outcomes of the above mentioned study.

This is a pressing matter for us in the Council and indeed with our colleagues in the Dublin Metropolitan area that we may enable and facilitate the transition to more sustainable mobility.

**Q.24 Councillor Hazel Chu**

To ask the manager for a disabled car space and disability access from kerb to road just at Dunville Community Pharmacy.

**Reply:**

Between businesses No. 34 (Dunville Community Pharmacy) to No. 42 Dunville Avenue the 12 no. perpendicular parking bays at this location are on a private landing; this was confirmed by Dublin City Council's Law Agent. This private landing is not in charge of Dublin City Council, therefore the Transport Advisory Group is unable to provide a disabled parking bay at this location.

**Q.25 Councillor Hazel Chu**

To ask the manager how frequently the green space especially the dog fouling in Williams Park is cleaned. Since it is a high footfall area and a children's play area the increase in dog foul would be hazardous to a child's health if contact was made to their faeces.

**Reply:**

This area is not in charge of the Dublin City Council Parks Section.

**Q.26 Councillor Hazel Chu**

To ask the manager for 30kph signage and ramps at Northbrook Avenue Estate, currently there are cars going up to 50kph in a residential cul de sac.

**Reply:**

The slow zone signs are installed at the entry points to housing estates where a 30 km/h speed limit is being implemented and a 'Slow Zone' is being created. The slow zone signs are placed only at the point of change from one speed limit to another. In this case, the sign is installed at the junction of Ranelagh Road/Northbrook Road. It is Dublin City Council's policy not to erect repeater signs as this will lead to a proliferation of signage throughout the city. Therefore it is not recommended to install extra signage at Northbrook Avenue Estate.

The area engineer will carry out a site visit to assess the issues of vehicle speed and request for traffic calming on Northbrook Avenue Estate. The area engineer is currently addressing the backlog of outstanding service requests. The area engineer will assess Cllr. Chu's request in the New Year.

**Q.27 Councillor Pat Dunne**

Can the Area Manager ask that both our Street Lighting Section and Parks do a review of the street lighting on Rutland Avenue? One of the issues is that the streetlights are set back at the walls of the properties where on most other streets they are at the kerbside. Another question is are the number of streetlights adequate? Can Parks arrange to prune the trees where they are blocking out light?

**Reply:**

Arrangements will be made to undertake pruning of above mentioned 20 No. Hornbeam trees (*Carpinus sp.*) as a part of 2022 mature tree works programme. It is anticipated that this work will be undertaken during the dormant season.

The public lighting here was upgraded to LED lighting in 2017. Although the lighting columns are positioned at the back of the footpath, the lighting distribution sufficiently illuminates the road and footpaths on both sides of the road. The number of lighting standards is also adequate and there is no requirement for the installation of any additional lights. There are currently no reports of lights out at present, a night inspection will be carried out on December 13<sup>th</sup> to check that all lights are operating.

**Q.28 Councillor Pat Dunne**

Can the Area Manager report back on the legal ownership and management of (details supplied)? This building which was acquired many years ago to facilitate community

development and community activities is now largely unused and there are now local community groups who are seeking a base but do not have access to this building.

**Reply:**

The Property Management Section and the Crumlin Area Manager were recently made aware that the building may not be in use and are currently investigating the position.

The building in question is held under a 150 year lease from 1<sup>st</sup> September 1934 at an annual rent of £20 (€25.40). While the account is not fully up to date, rent is being paid on the premises.

If it is the case that the building is not being used for its intended community purpose it is likely that legal proceedings will require to be instituted for the council to retake possession of it.

**Q.29 Councillor Pat Dunne**

Can the Area Manager arrange for the concreted traffic islands on Clogher / Kildare Road and Kildare / Cashel Road be looked at to improve their visual appearance while adding planting?

**Reply:**

This request will be considered in the context of 2022 planting programme.

**Q.30 Councillor Pat Dunne**

Can the Area Manager arrange between the Roads Maintenance Section and the Parks Section to do an audit of empty tree pits on streets in the Crumlin, Kimmage and Lower Drimnagh area where trees once existed? This should be done with a view to seeing if trees can be reinstated and if not possible plant them with flowers or reinstate the footpath. Please provide a list of empty tree pits and the possibility of a tree being added or other alternatives.

**Reply:**

This audit will be carried out in early 2022.

If the Parks Division inform Road Maintenance Services of any redundant tree pits that there are no plans to re-plant, Road Maintenance Services will make arrangements to reinstate these.

**Q.31 Councillor Pat Dunne**

Can the Area Manager ask our Parks Section if a water fountain can be added to the Eamonn Ceannt Pavilion area to allow access to water for park users? Park users could use this to refill drinking containers and bottles.

**Reply:**

This request will be included in our parks improvements works programme and undertaken subject to funding.

**Q.32 Councillor Pat Dunne**

Can the bollards at the entrance of Sundrive Park (Wolfe cycles side) be replaced? They are currently in poor condition.

**Reply:**

The replacement of these bollards has been added to our Works List.

**Q.33 Councillor Pat Dunne**

Noting that several lamp posts have recently been painted can the Area Manager provide a list of lamp posts that are on the list to be painted in the Crumlin, Kimmage and Lower Drimnagh area and an expected timeframe for them to be done?

**Reply:**

Painting of public lighting poles was completed on the following list of roads in the Crumlin and Kimmage areas as part of the 2021 public lighting painting programme, and this was the biggest amount of public lighting painting work carried out in one specific part of the city, in over seven years.

This painting used a significant proportion of the painting budget in 2021, and as such, there are currently no poles in the Crumlin and Kimmage areas under consideration for painting in 2022.

**Roads painted in 2021 in the Crumlin and Kimmage Areas**

- Maple Drive
- Lismore road
- Ferns Road
- Durrow Road
- Aughavanagh Road
- Glenealy Road
- Rathdrum Road
- Cloyne Road
- Blarney Park
- Tonguefield Road
- Clonfert Road
- Kilfenora Road
- Grove Park
- Bangor Circle
- Clonmacnoise Road
- Crumlin Park
- Stannaway Road

There are a number (12) of poles to be painted on Bangor Circle in early 2022 at the request of the Crumlin Area Office.

The main list of scheduled works for 2022 would be provided by Public Lighting Dept.

There is a request for some funding from the Councillors Discretionary funding to allow for the painting of a number of heritage/ornamental poles throughout the South East Area. The number of poles is very small (around 70) and is aimed at preservation of the heritage/ornamental poles in the area. The list for 2022 is not yet complete and the work will be carried out by Public Lighting.

**Q.34 Councillor Pat Dunne**

Whilst welcoming the recent installation of a park bench on Clonmacnoise/Bangor circle the residents who requested it are disappointed that it was not erected immediately adjacent to the Tree of Hope. The Tree of Hope is a place where many bereaved people go to get solitude and peacefulness. It is very well maintained by local residents. They would like to be able to sit directly adjacent to the Tree of Hope could another seat be installed to allow for this?

**Reply:**

The bench was located in what was considered the most appropriate location in close proximity to the Tree of Hope. The residents may contact the undersigned to discuss their concerns.

**Q.35 Councillor Pat Dunne**

Can the Area Manager arrange with the relevant section to have the trees growing at the back of our Older Persons' Housing Complex at Clonmacnoise Grove inspected? Many

residents living on Leighlin Road complain that some of these trees are overgrown and blocking light in their houses and back gardens and that some overgrown, overhanging large branches could cause damage in a storm.

**Reply:**

An inspection of the trees has been carried out and while these are healthy trees, Dublin City Council will engage a tree surgeon to trim the trees and make them safe.

**Q.36 Councillor Pat Dunne**

Can the Area Manager arrange to have the type of caretaker facilities and other supports that are normal in most of our older persons' housing complexes extended to the 8 older persons' bungalows at the entrance to Poddle Park? Our tenants here complain that they receive no support our assistance.

**Reply:**

We are currently investigating what supports might be available to the residents here and we will come back with a more detailed answer.

**Q.37 Councillor Danny Byrne**

To ask the Manager if there is permission granted by Dublin City Council to short term let properties at details provided.

**Reply:**

Our records indicate that planning permission has not been granted by Dublin City Council for Short Term letting at details supplied.

Should the Councillor wish to make a formal complaint regarding alleged short term letting at a specific apartment(s) in this block the Planning Enforcement Section will refer the matter for investigation.

**Q.38 Councillor Anne Feeney**

To ask the Manager to arrange the following for Rathmines Close.,

- 1 Tidy up and replanting of raised flower beds and pruning of trees
2. Repair of potholes and treatment of weeds
3. Painting of railings

This small residential cul de sac off Upper Rathmines Road, which comprises of Dublin City Council houses and privately owned houses needs and deserves attention as the public areas look neglected. The improvements suggested are relatively small and low cost but are necessary and will make a big difference in enhancing this small development.

**Reply:**

Housing Maintenance will liaise with the Local Area Office and come up with a plan of works to address the issues in Rathmines Close.

**Q.39 Councillor Anne Feeney**

To ask the Manager for details of the leasing arrangement of the padel and tennis courts in Bushy Park including any agreed pricing structure for patrons.

**Reply:**

Following a tender process for the management of the pavilion, tennis courts and padel courts in Bushy Park, the facilities at this location are being managed on behalf of Dublin City by The Padel Federation of Ireland under a licence agreement since 2017.

They manage the opening/closing/staffing of the facility, as well as taking bookings/payments for the courts, day to day maintenance of the pavilion, its environs and courts area, cleaning of the public toilet facilities and the promotion of tennis and padel.

Under the terms of the licence, they manage both pay & play and have also been permitted to set up a club. The pay and play fees for the synthetic green courts are €6 per person per hour and €9 per person per hour for the clay courts, which are more suited to competitive players and also require more maintenance. The cost of floodlighting is €2 per hour. Discounts are available for students and senior citizens.

Details of memberships and other discounts available, can be found on their website [www.bushytennispadel.ie](http://www.bushytennispadel.ie) and memberships are open for renewal since 1<sup>st</sup> December 2021.

The tender for the management of this facility is due to be re-advertised in the New Year.

**Councillor Anne Feeney**

To ask the Manager to assess the following in Mount Argus Park and arrange for further protection. The Liquid Amber tree in the large open area beside the playground has been badly damaged by vandals removing bark. Can this tree be further protected from this type of damage by adding a mesh guard to the trunk? While acknowledging the mesh guard put around the badly damaged cedar tree in the open space, there is Carpinus along the path adjacent to the Cedar which also has had its bark stripped. Can this tree also be protected from further vandalism of this nature too?

**Reply:**

The above mentioned request will be undertaken shortly.

**Q.41 Councillor Anne Feeney**

To ask the Manager for an update re a more permanent solution to the parking and traffic congestion issues which are still a problem for the residents of Kimmage Grove. While DSPS have monitored the area during the day, they do not monitor or patrol the area at the busiest times between 6.15pm -9pm, the busiest time for traffic in the area given the popularity of Larkview Football Club. While appreciating the popularity and benefit of the football club for young people, a more permanent solution needs to be found to address the problem for local residents in this one road in and out small estate.

**Reply:**

Currently there is freely available parking on Kimmage Grove; the residents could request Dublin City Council to provide a Pay and Display and Permit Parking Scheme for Kimmage Grove. This would mean the area could be better monitored in terms of on-going parking issues.

If Cllr. Feeney can direct residents to consult the Dublin City Council Website to view the criteria for residents to request a Pay & Display and Parking Scheme. Please click on the following link.

<https://www.dublincity.ie/residential/parking-dublin-city-centre/start-parking-scheme>

Please see below the number of requests received for Kimmage Grove attended by Dublin Street Parking Services. Kimmage Grove is patrolled regularly and Dublin Street Parking Services are aware of the times that the area is busiest and will continue to enforce any illegal parking.

<b>Month</b>	<b>Count</b>
Jun	6
Jul	10
Aug	8
Sep	14
Oct	12
Nov	12
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>62</b>

**Q.42 Councillor Carolyn Moore**

To ask the area manager to reinstate the double yellow lines along the bollards between Castlewood Avenue and Church Gardens in Rathmines to stop parked cars from blocking this modal filtered route.

**Reply:**

The location will be inspected in the coming days to establish why the lines were not reinstated.

**Q.43 Councillor James Geoghegan**

To ask the Area Manager if the issues raised in the email below could be addressed.  
"Dear Sir /Madam

I am writing to highlight an issue which is readily apparent to anyone living in Irishtown Ringsend and Sandymount. The presence of very smelly algae on our beach and the frequent contamination of the bathing water in the bay through a complete failure to provide proper and effective waste treatment is affecting our daily lives.

A letter to the Irish Times today highlights exactly the issue as regards the algae which is present as a result of the excess nutrients being dumped into the bay by Irish water in their failure to properly upscale the waste water treatment facility.

This is an environmental breach on many levels. Dublin city council appear to clean up beaches on the northside where algae of this scale appears however have left the algae untouched in Sandymount. The continuous pollution of the bay is an issue for the entire city. It is amazing in a modern city, that this is tolerated. The odours, the pollution of the bay and the algae are now becoming part of the daily life in this locality which is unacceptable.

There are many in our local neighbourhoods very unhappy with what has been allowed to happen. We would ask those who are in control of this city to take steps to have this rectified as a matter of urgency and not simply shrug it off as something that happens. The quality of the water in the bay affects all of Dublin's residents whether they be swimmers, walkers, children trying to play on the beach or simply residents who would prefer not to have a noxious odour permeate their day.

Surely it cannot be beyond us to have a functioning waste water treatment plant and not one which regularly overflows. If it overflowed once something should have been done about it. Frankly what has been allowed to occur and continue to be tolerated is a disgrace. Irish Water and those in control of this city must now step up and deal with this as a matter of urgency.

I appreciate your attention to this matter which is of significant concern to many living in this and the surrounding neighbourhoods."

**Reply:**

Correspondence on the same matter was received by the Chief Executive. A comprehensive reply is currently being prepared. A copy of the response will then be forwarded to the Councillor.

**Q.44 Councillor James Geoghegan**

To ask the South East Area manager if the issues raised in the email below could be addressed.

This is my first time writing to any councillor but I feel obliged to report a serious flaw in the cycle lanes at the [donnybrook- stillorgan road junction](#) that at lunchtime I almost witnessed a serious accident. I cycle this route about 6 times a day for the last 5 years and usually I have one near miss once a week. This is now once a day, and I just had to help an old man who got a serious shock from a close pass with an SUV. There are multiple issues with this junction but **issue A is by far the most urgent**.

**Problem A - this is the most urgent and dangerous one**



Traffic coming towards Donnybrook and taking the left exit to Ranelagh continues straight RIGHT THROUGH the cycle lane which veers right ([link 1](#) and [link 2](#)) . Often cars do not wait for the cyclist, or often don't even understand that the cyclist is continuing straight. The cycle lane needs to be straight here and cover all of the left two turning lanes. Please consult with experts to solve this. **Solving this problem is urgent. This is the primary school cycle route and I believe a fatality is likely here.**

**Problem B**

The left turning traffic gets a green light first so if you are cycling straight on you are blocking them. I get a lot of verbal abuse here and if you wait in lane 2, those drivers will beep too.

**Problem C**

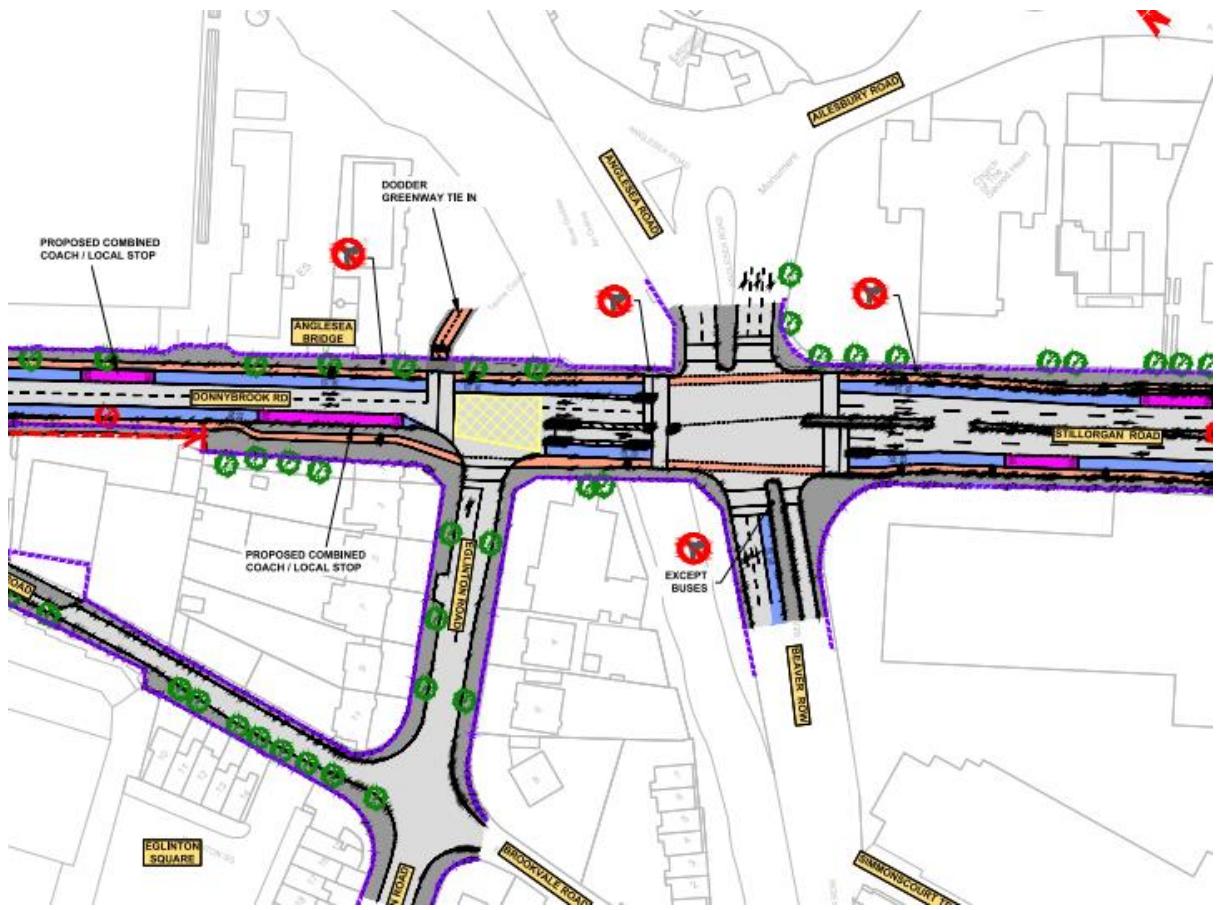


Outside old Wesley, the bus lane and bike lane merge into one without any warning. I've had multiple close calls where bus drivers keep their line. Not as dangerous as A but needs to be fixed. C

Please, please do something about this junction before someone is killed.

**Reply:**

These issues are to be resolved under the bus connects plans for that location:



The Covid Mobility team will assess this area for some rapid deployment safety measures and determine what can be achieved along this route to provide safe protected cycling.

**Contact:**

Claire French, Senior Executive Engineer, email: [claire.french@dublincity.ie](mailto:claire.french@dublincity.ie)