



MINUTES OF THE SOUTH EAST AREA COMMITTEE MEETING

HELD ON MONDAY 14 MARCH 2022

- 1 Presentation and Report on Temple Bar Square including Accessibility Report**
Order: Noted.
- 2 Presentation on Proposed Part 8 Works at Barrow Street**
Order: Noted.
- 3 Minutes of the South East Area Committee Meeting held on 14th February 2022**
Order: Agreed.
- 4 Environment and Transportation Department Matters**
 - i. Minutes of the Traffic Advisory Group Meeting held 22nd February 2022 taken with Motions 1, 3, 8, 10, 12, 13 and 17
Order: Noted.
 - ii. Belmont Avenue Traffic Proposals.
Order: Noted.
- 5 Planning and Property Management Department Matters**
 - i. Update on Gulistan Masterplan. Taken with Motion 7.
Order: Noted.
 - ii. Report on Proposed Disposal: Grant of further two year licence for placement of storage container in part of Drury Street Car Park to Joseph Clarges.
Order: Agreed to recommend to City Council.
 - iii. Report on Proposed Disposal: Fee simple in a plot adjoining to 14 Gordon Place to Gordon Properties Unlimited Company.
Order: Agreed to recommend to City Council.
- 6 Culture Recreation and Economic Services Department Matters**

- i. Update on Sculpture Dublin. Taken with Motion 9.
Order: Noted.

7 South East Area Office Matters

- i. Report of the Director of Services, South East and Central Areas.
Order: Noted.
- ii. Draft Discretionary Budget South East Area 2022.
Order: Agreed to recommend to City Council. Cllr. Ceitinn dissented from the Dartmouth Square Sculpture financial contribution.

8 Motions

Motion 1 from Councillor Dermot Lacey taken with item 4.i and Motions 3, 8, 10, 12, 13 and 17

This Committee requests a response to the issues below:

“I request that something be done about the very dangerous road arrangements at the N11/Donnybrook Main Road/ Donnybrook Church/Beaver Row/Anglesea Road/Ailesbury Road.

There are frequent accidents and daily anger/frustration and dangerous near misses in this area. Only in the last couple of weeks, on Sunday 23rd January, a 70-year-old male cyclist sustained serious head injuries on the N11 turning right into this junction approach.

The pedestrian lights only work sequentially in one direction and they are only on three sides of the main N11/Donnybrook/Beaver Row junction. There are elderly people going to the church, and children attempting to get to school, some even by bike, who take their lives into their hands daily. This is particularly the case since the increased construction traffic in the area. This junction could be better served by either a roundabout, or even by bringing Anglesea Road and Ailesbury Road up towards the main Donnybrook/N11 junction, getting rid of the triangle and re-locating the monument to the Alderman onto the roundabout or onto a new paved/grassy piece where the Anglesea/Ailesbury Roads have been brought up as described. This would reduce the accidents at a yellow box serving three roads (and no one seems to heed who has right of way here it's so complex).

At a bare minimum, altering the pedestrian lights, including having pedestrian lights on all four sides of the road, putting proper barrier divided cycle lanes in place or an overpass for pedestrians and bikes would help. The Protected Junctions described on your website would be essential in this location.

I know you have received so many complaints and comments about this junction over the years, please can the planning/road engineering department do something about this junction and soon.”

Order: Report to Councillor.

Motion 2 from Councillor Tara Deacy

April 2nd is World Autism day. D12 Autism Group will be doing a family fun day to celebrate our children and I ask that this committee agrees to support them and light up DCC spaces for the day in rainbow colours. We have really good links with other community spaces like the Bru, Crumlin and Sundrive Garda station etc. Could we link in with them and engage them also in this process? It would be a really positive step for our families in terms of inclusion acknowledgement and support. It would also create an opportunity for awareness raising and discussion.

Order: Motion agreed and agreed to refer the item to the Protocol Committee.

Motion 3 from Councillor Dermot Lacey taken with item 4.i and Motions 1, 8, 10, 12, 13 and 17

This Area Committee rejects the current National Transport Authority proposal to locate the Metrolink Terminus at Charlemont and urges the NTA to undertake the essential studies required to identify the best location for a City Centre terminus.

Order: Motion amended to read: “This Area Committee urges the NTA to undertake the essential studies required to identify the best location for a City Centre Metrolink terminus and requests the attendance of the NTA at a meeting of the South East Area Committee to explain the rationale for the decision and future plans for Metro provision.” and agreed.

Cllr. Claire Byrne agreed only that the NTA be requested to attend a South East Area Committee meeting.

Motion 4 from Councillor Mannix Flynn

That this meeting of DCC call on CAB (Criminal Assets Bureau) and the Minister for Justice to give to DCC all houses that are seized by CAB to Dublin City Council Housing Department. Further, that any other properties or buildings that could be suitable for housing development be also handed over to DCC within the Dublin region. It is outrageous that former homes, once owned by DCC are were later acquired privately, that have now been seized by CAB are lying idle and in an appalling state while many of our citizens remain on the housing list and in emergency accommodation. Some of these houses are in DCC housing estates and send out a negative message to many of those in the communities. It's time that DCC took these properties back in charge.

Order: Report to Councillor.

Motion 5 from Councillor Danny Byrne

That this area committee would agree to direct waste management to adapt to the increasing usage of outdoor walks such as the Irishtown nature walk and empty the bins more regularly.

Order: Report to Councillor.

Motion 6 from Councillor Mary Freehill

This LAC reiterates yet again as agreed 6 months ago that the working group with Sports Officer and Parks Department to focus on the shortage of playing fields in the Dublin 6 area be convened forthwith.

Order: Report to Councillor.

Motion 7 from Councillor Mary Freehill taken with Item 5.i

That this LAC maintain a working brief on the Gulistan site by having regular meetings with the City Architects Section who have oversight of the development of the site as agreed by this committee.

Order: Report to Councillor.

Motion 8 from Councillor Mary Freehill taken with item 4.i and Motions 1, 3, 10, 12, 13 and 17

Because of the serious accidents that have occurred on Greenmount Lane, Harold's Cross that this road be made one way entering from Harold's Cross.

Order: Report to Councillor.

Motion 9 from Councillors Anne Feeney, Pat Dunne, Mary Freehill, Carolyn Moore, Deirdre Conroy and Tara Deacy taken with Item 6.i.

This Committee requests a meeting between the Parks Manager, Councillors for the Kimmage Rathmines LEA and Harold's Cross Village Community Council in relation to the operational decision to no longer have council park staff located in Harold's Cross Park. The implications for this iconic park in the South East area need to be outlined to Councillors and the community.

Order: Report to Councillor.

Motion 10 from Councillor Claire Byrne taken with item 4.i and Motions 1, 3, 8, 12, 13 and 17

That this committee requests the Area Manager if he could please install red surfacing denoting cycle lanes at the road junctions along the Grand Canal Cycle Route. These crossings are often blocked by causing an obstruction and a safety risk to cyclists and pedestrians. This would make it clearer to cars that they can't stop here. This is used successfully on the Liffey Cycle route at the junctions of the bridges and works well and therefore should be considered for the Grand Canal also.

Order: Report to Councillor.

Motion 11 from Councillor Claire Byrne

That this Area Committee calls on the Area Manager to please fix the pathways on South William Street outside Powers Court Town House Centre which are covered in dumped tarmac and causing a trip hazard. Can they be fixed with a material that is complimentary to the existing footpath?

Order: Report to Councillor.

Motion 12 from Councillor Claire Byrne taken with item 4.i and Motions 1, 3, 8, 10, 13 and 17

That this Area Committee reiterates its support for the full pedestrianisation of South William Street and agrees to write to the new owners of Brown Thomas to formally request that they reverse the traffic flow from the exit of their car park towards Wicklow Street / Clarendon Street to facilitate the full pedestrianisation of South William Street.

Order: Report to Councillor.

Motion 13 from Councillor Claire Byrne taken with item 4.i and Motions 1, 3, 8, 10, 12 and 17

That this Area Committee calls on the Area Manager to please install Audible Accessible Pedestrian Signals at the junction of Sean Moore Road and Stand Road. The lack of audible crossing signals at the above intersection has impacted the quality of life of a local resident, whose freedom of independent movement has been significantly impacted due to being unable to cross the road safely with a vision impairment. Can the Area Manager please treat this as a matter of urgency?

Order: Report to Councillor.

Motion 14 from Councillor Mary Freehill

That consideration is given to install exercise machines in Harold's Cross Park. They would be useful for young students in the Educate Together School across the road and also for older people.

Order: Report to Councillor.

Motion 15 from Councillor Carolyn Moore

In light of the fact that the Tram Café now opens the gate to Eamonn Ceannt Park and removes a bollard beside the barrier that allows people on bicycles, with buggies and using wheelchairs to easily access the park during the café's opening hours, while still preventing cars from accessing the park, this committee agrees

that the kissing gates at both entrances to Eamonn Ceannt Park on Sundrive Road are now redundant and should be removed. Wheelchair users from across the community should be able to access the park, and many families and children in the area would use the park as part of a safe route to school. In light of the findings of the recent IPCC report, this committee should be doing everything in its power to facilitate a modal shift and accommodate those choosing active travel by making it a safe and attractive choice.

Order: Report to Councillor.

Motion 16 from Councillor Carolyn Moore

This committee agrees that the triangle of green space between Clonmacnoise Road and Clonard Road should be made wheelchair accessible. While efforts were made in the past to put a ramp alongside the steps on Clonard Road, it remains difficult for wheelchair users to navigate the kerbs and ramps, and steps at the other two ends mean they cannot exit the green.

Order: Report to Councillor.

Motion 17 from Councillor James Geoghegan taken with item 4.i and Motions 1, 3, 8, 10, 12, and 13.

The South East Area Committee agree that in accordance with the policy set out in Report No. 33/2022, point 3, that Templemore Avenue be assessed as to what alternative options are available to facilitate residential parking.

https://councilmeetings.dublincity.ie/documents/s35737/33%20Footpath%20Parki ng%20report%20to%20Council_Feb22%20002.pdf

Order: Report to Councillor.

Motion 18 from Councillor Danny Byrne

That this area committee agree to trial community composting. Portobello tidy towns have expressed an interest in same.

Order: Report to Councillor.

Motion 19 from Councillor Danny Byrne

That this area committee agree that as part of the planning process for developments, that a contact person is identified in advance to the public reps.

Order: Report to Councillor.

9 Questions for the Chief Executive 14th March 2022

Order: Noted.

Councillor Dermot Lacey

Chairperson

Monday 14 March 2022

Attendance:

Members:

Dermot Lacey (Chairperson)
Claire Byrne
Deirdre Conroy
Kevin Donoghue
Mannix Flynn
Paddy McCartan

Members:

Danny Byrne
Daniel Céitinn
Pat Dunne
Mary Freehill
Carolyn Moore

Members:

Hazel Chu
Tara Deacy
Anne Feeney
James Geoghegan
Claire O'Connor

Officers

Karl Mitchell
Kathy Quinn
Les Moore
Andrew Duff
Jennifer Wall
Ronan Fallon
Iva Geci

Brian Hanney
Owen Keegan
Phil Dunne
Derek Dixon
Richard Shakespeare
Garrett Hughes

John MacEvilly
Neil O'Donoghue
Helen Mc Namara
Paul Clegg
Brian Kirk
Oliver Hickey

Apologies:

Non-Members:

Question to the Chief Executive

South East Area Committee
Meeting 14th March 2022

Q.1 Councillor Dermot Lacey

To ask the Manager to make contact with the ESB to seek an update on when they intend to paint the Poolbeg Chimneys.

Reply:

The ESB was contacted on 23/02/2022. The Councillor will be updated on receipt of any response.

Q.2 Councillor Paddy McCartan

To ask the manager to deal with the following issue from a constituent in Seabury Apartments Sandymount.

She writes,

I want to raise a concern about the newly built Circle K Carwash adjacent to the apartment. The contracted hours are 9am- 9pm according to the granted planning permission (below DCC RFI contracted hours) but the carwash is in full function 24 hours, 7 days. The carwash is a source of noise pollution, wastes huge amounts of water, cars queuing with engines running adjacent to the apartment and it is visually unattractive. There were previously four mature trees (removed during construction) in place which acted as a visual and sound buffer between the end gable of our apartments and the petrol station. In a climate crisis I am disappointed that the DCC would freely allow planning for such a service when it is just not a necessity given that there are 5 car washes 1km away on the Merrion Road and at Booterstown.

I would be very grateful if you were in a position to address the opening hours and enforce Circle K to honour what was granted (9am-9pm Mon-Sun) please as I am not sure what to do and it is quite upsetting".

Reply:

The Planning Enforcement Section will investigate this as a matter of urgency and will respond to the Councillor once the facts of the case have been ascertained.

Q.3 Councillor Paddy McCartan

To ask the manager to have two street lights fixed on Ringsend Park Road on the right hand side of the road as you come off Cambridge Road.

Reply:

The two street lights on Ringsend Park (pole numbers 1 and 2) were repaired on the 17/02/22 and are currently fully operational.

Q.4 Councillor Mannix Flynn

Can the manager issue a full report regarding the legalities of parking in loading bays that have been built out as part of the outdoor dining initiative. Many delivery trucks in the city with very little space to park as loading bays have been commandeered are now simply parking up on the built out areas. Can the manager issue a statement as to the legalities of this bearing in mind that the loading bays have not been rescinded or stood down in law?

Reply:

Loading bays have been legally rescinded and where the footpath has been extended that extended area forms part of the footways and therefore, the same restrictions for vehicles apply.

Q.5 Councillor Mannix Flynn

Can the manager issue a full update as to the amount Dublin City Council and Dublin Regional Homeless Executive paid for the two buildings it acquired – 99/100 Baggot Street that are to be formed into a hotel to be managed and run by the Peter McVerry Trust for housing services?

Reply:

The Peter McVerry Trust secured CAS funding of €6.5m approximately to purchase this hotel, which is inclusive of acquisition costs, improvement works, technical and legal fees.

Q.6 Councillor Mannix Flynn

Can the manager issue a full report with regards to how many businesses in the SEA and the city centre area are subject to the BID levy? Also, outline how DCC will carry out this election process and the counting process?

Reply:

The number of businesses which are liable for the bid levy is approximately 2,915. It should be noted that the number fluctuates due to new properties, property divisions and properties scheduled for de-listing.

Dublin Town notified Dublin City Council in writing of their intention to proceed a plebiscite on 19th February last. The Legislation that governs the process is the Local Government (Business Improvement Districts) Act 2006 and SI No 166/2007- Local Government Business Improvement Districts Ratepayer Plebiscite. The Statutory Instrument outlines the process in detail, Section 4 states the following

“Following receipt by a rating authority of written confirmation from a BID proponent under section 129F (2) (a) of the Act, the manager of the rating authority concerned shall appoint a local authority employee to be a returning officer for the purposes of the ratepayer plebiscite.”

The Chief Executive will appoint a Returning Officer by Chief Executive Order.

The Act also specifies the timelines that apply:

“Within 60 days of receiving written confirmation delivered in compliance with section 129F(2)(a), the rating authority concerned shall, in accordance with this section and the regulations made under subsection (6), hold a plebiscite to determine the level of support for the proposal among ratepayers of rateable property in the proposed business improvement district.” Therefore the latest date for return of ballots 20th April 2022.

“No later than 45 days after receiving written confirmation under section 129F(2)(a), the rating authority concerned shall send, by ordinary post or any other means that may be prescribed by regulation, all ballot papers for completion under subsection (3) to the ratepayers concerned.” Therefore the latest date for the issuing of ballots is 5th April 2022.

The count will take place as soon as possible thereafter, details of which will be announced once the Returning Officer has been appointed.

The City Council will prepare and publish procedures covering all aspects of the conduct of the ballot. Counsel will also be engaged to review the procedures and to oversee the entire process.

Q.7 Councillor Mannix Flynn

Can the manager invite the Little Museum of Dublin to make a presentation to the SEAC on their future plans for the Museum on St. Stephen's Green?

Reply:

An invitation to the Little Museum of Dublin was issued on 28/02/2022.

Q.8 Councillor Mannix Flynn

Can the manager inquire as to whether the Post Office in Rathmines which is an Art Deco building of extraordinary merit is to be closed? If so, could DCC acquire this building as a community youth facility for the large community in and around the Rathmines area.

Reply:

The South East Area Office wrote to An Post on 11th March 2022 to enquire whether or not the post office in Rathmines is to be closed. The councillor will be advised of their response.

Q.9 Councillor Mannix Flynn

Can the manager issue a full report as to what supports DCC give to Tradfest one of the largest traditional festivals in the country? Also what way does DCC publicise the Tradfest event?

Reply:

The Communications Section supports Tradfest on a yearly basis, giving them free access to our out of home advertising panels. This includes 23 double sided digi-panels, 60 bus shelter sites & 30 Metropole sites across the city. This year they were included on 2 cycles for each format: Cycle 1 (02/01 - 15/01) & Cycle 2 (16/01 - 29/01).

We also support Tradfest through our corporate Social Media Channels – Twitter, Facebook & Instagram.

Q.10 Councillor Mannix Flynn

Can the manager issue a full report with regards the Sunday cleaning services that are supplied by DCC for the Camden Street/Harcourt Street area? Many complaints have come in about this area being left absolutely filthy from the Saturday night crowds who frequent the pubs, restaurants and food outlets.

Reply:

Camden Street and Harcourt Street are serviced by the Bow Lane City Centre Depot from 6am to 9pm 7-days a week. We have spoken to fast food outlets on Camden Street / Wexford Street about their responsibility to clean outside their premises and this has made a difference. We also supply barrels to the same location at weekends and this is also making a difference. We give this area a deep mechanical clean before 9am on Sunday mornings to deal with litter from the Saturday night crowds.

Q.11 Councillor Mannix Flynn

Can the manager issue a full report with regards the installation of heat pump systems on the backs of houses which are now turning up as a noise nuisance? Are these heat pumps which are a substantial construction subject to planning regulations?

Reply:

In accordance with Class 2 of Schedule 2 (Exempted Development) of the Planning and Development Regulations 2000 (as amended), the installation of a heat pump system (horizontal and vertical) on or within the curtilage of a house or an air source

heat pump is exempt from the requirement to get planning permission subject to complying with the following conditions and limitations;

1. The level of the ground shall not be altered by more than 1 metre above or below the level of the adjoining ground.
2. The total area of such a heat pump, taken together with any other such pump previously erected, shall not exceed 2.5 square metres.
3. The heat pump shall be a minimum of 50cm from any edge of the wall or roof on which it is mounted.
4. No such structure shall be erected on, or forward of, the front wall or roof of the house.
5. Noise levels must not exceed 43db (A) during normal operation, or in excess of 5db (A) above the background noise, whichever is greater, as measured from the nearest neighbouring inhabited dwelling.

If the heat pump fails to meet the above conditions and limitations, planning permission may be required or it may be open to planning enforcement proceedings.

Any specific incidences of noise from these pumps may be referred to the Air Quality Monitoring and Noise Control Unit for investigation.

Q.12 Councillor Mannix Flynn

Can the manager issue a full report as to the progress of reopening the George Bernard Shaw Museum in Portobello?

Reply:

Due to the historical significance of the structure, a thorough assessment of the existing building condition was undertaken with emergency conservation works identified at roof level and rear elevation which would safeguard the building into the future. These repair and renewal works are currently underway and due to complete shortly. It is envisaged that works to renovate the house interior and to repair external windows will follow. Works have also been carried out in the rear garden to control vegetation overgrowth.

Roof works

There is a construction contract in place with essential roof renewal works being carried out under the Built Heritage Investment Scheme, with these works due to complete onsite shortly. These works include rebuild of lead valleys, natural slate internal and front roofs, natural slate gables, reconstruction of chimney crowns and lime repointing, lead recapping of parapet, repairs to rear elevation natural slate facade and ancillary works.

Contents Survey

A full survey of the content of 33 Synge Street was conducted by Sven Habermann of Conservation Letterfrack in August/September 2021. The inventory is available in hardcopy and digital record.

Renovation Works

The property at no.33 Synge St, a protected structure, is to be converted from its previous use as a museum, to an 'artist-in-residence' dwelling. Through further assessment of the existing condition, the works package has been sensitively developed and adapted to accommodate two writers, if required, and to minimise impact on original fabric. The presentation of this Victorian residence will be maintained. It is anticipated that this main body of works to renovate the property will be undertaken in Q2/Q3 of 2022.

Q.13 Councillor Mannix Flynn

Can the manager arrange a meeting for all the residents of Glovers Court to address the serious issues of unhealthy living conditions and dilapidation of the blocks, the possibility of de-tenanting these blocks and where people are to go? Also, the future rejuvenation and regeneration of new social housing builds on this site. Many residents here have chronic health issues as a result of the appalling conditions of the block. People are at their wits end and no longer want to be even in their homes. Notwithstanding the fact that on top of these appalling living conditions they have to face threats and anti-social criminal behaviour on a regular basis.

Reply:

Dublin City Council (DCC) applies for social housing capital funding from the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage (DHLGH) in accordance with its 4 stage approval process. A Stage 1 application for initial project and funding approval for the regeneration of Glovers Court was submitted to the DHLGH on the 2nd March 2022. A de-tenanting strategy is only initiated after stage 1 approval has been granted and phase 2 has begun.

If there are maintenance issues in any property they need to be dealt with on a one to one basis and not at a public meeting. We have recently held meetings with the tenants, councillors and other stakeholders regarding ASB in Glover's Court. In addition, our Community Section will shortly be organising a community event for the tenants in Glovers in Court.

Q.14 Councillor Dermot Lacey

To ask the Manager if he could respond positively to this request for outdoor sports equipment for Palmerston Park as outlined below:

Could I enquire about getting a couple of basic fitness stations in Palmerston Park, something very similar to Herbert Park, just a couple of pull up bars of varying heights, dip bars, and basic exercise equipment stations for outdoor workouts? Nothing too crazy.

The park is a great amenity in the local area, we have a really good kids' playground, so why not add a small one for adults? There is loads of space, and many areas of the park are really just muck / muddy and are not suitable for walking or sitting on the ground. So a little fitness area would fit in great. The council have done great work over the last 12 months clearing brush and trees and this would be an excellent addition.

Reply:

Parks Improvements for 2022 are being prepared and budgeted for at the moment. There are no proposals to install exercise equipment in Palmerston Park at this time. A number of request have been received for new exercise equipment and there are already a significant number of other potential projects. DCC Parks Section will carefully assess the need and deficit of such equipment in the South East Area from a standpoint of prioritisation for its installation in the future Parks Improvement programmes. The delivery of any will depend on future budgetary allocations.

Q.15 Councillor Dermot Lacey

To ask the Manager if he will arrange for a positive response to this issue of public lighting on Creighton Street:

“When Hibernia Reit finished their development along the east side of Creighton St. DCC removed 3 DCC lamps on the west (residents) side of the street. Four lamp were erected on the East (Hibernia-Reit) side of the street. We are not sure if these new lamps were erected by DCC or Hibernia-Reit.

In any case the new lighting is completely inadequate. There are now no lamps on the residents’ side of the street. The new lamp stands on the East side are shorter than the old DCC lamp stands and the light cones are smaller. The result is that the resident’s side of the street is in pools of darkness.

Attached are 3 photographs: 2 day time photos showing the old DCC lampstands, one on the east side, 2 along the west (residents) side of the street and one at the Hanover St. junction. A night time photo looking south along the street.

One of the old DCC lamp stands was left in position, however DCC Lighting Dept. refuse to replace the lamp in their own lampstand! There are 2 ESB poles along the residents’ side of the street.

I forward my correspondence with the DCC Lighting Dept. on this issue.

We understand that DCC has a program called "Crime prevention through Environmental Design".

Can we ask your office as a matter of urgency to look into this environmental problem?”

Reply:

The new lighting on the east side of Creighton Street was installed as part of the Hibernia Reit development, in consultation with DCC Public Lighting Services. The lighting scheme is comprised of 4 no. 6m columns post top mounted with LED light fittings, and maintains a Class P3 lighting level in accordance with EN13201. The installation which is also fed from a new underground public lighting supply, provides public lighting to the entire road, and allowed for the removal of existing lighting with legacy issues.

Following the removal of the original lighting infrastructure, one no. pole was left in situ (at H15/16) as it supports an ESB Network service. This pole was subsequently taken in ownership by ESB Networks, and is no longer the property of DCC.

Further to a review of the lighting calculations and night time assessment, the installation of a public light on the former DCC pole, in addition to the new lighting scheme is not required. To do so would be energy inefficient and would over light the area beyond recommended European Standard requirements.

In relation to the 2 no. ESB poles mentioned on the street, in addition to the former DCC lighting pole referenced above, these wooden poles are considered to be Telecom poles. The installation of public lighting on Telecom poles is not feasible (or required on this road) and the placement of the poles is a matter for the utility service provider.

Q.16 Councillor Deirdre Conroy

To ask the Manager and relevant City Council Department to provide more public toilets in the South East Area of Dublin. In particular to provide a toilet near Merrion Square/Mount Street/Holles Street.

I am advised by the enquirer that currently homeless and others are defecating and urinating in the arches in Mount Street regularly.

Reply:

DCC have no plans are in place for the provision of toilets in the above area.

The provision of automated public toilets in the city centre has been considered and it is the view that such units would not be suitable for city centre locations and would not be sufficient to provide suitable family friendly facilities in the city.

We are currently examining a serviced retail based model that is in place in many European cities to see if such a service provision would be viable for Dublin city centre. These facilities operate on a street facing shopfront level and provide serviced, attended facilities that cater for all users including family friendly and accessibility needs in or close to high footfall areas.

DCC currently have 29 toilets inclusive of 2 temporary units.

In 2021 a tender for mixed retail toilets was advertised, Albert College Park is now in place. Additional units are progressing under this tender with plan to launch the following in 2022.

- Griffith Park
- Clonmel Street Iveagh Gardens
- Wilton Terrace
- Sean Moore Park
- Clontarf Promenade

Toilet Listing

Grafton Street	10am to 7pm Monday to Sunday
Ryders Row	10am to 7pm Monday to Sunday
Dollymount, Bull Wall	24 Hours
Sandymount, Strand Road	24 Hours
St. Anne's Park Tearooms	9am to 6pm Monday to Sunday
Herbert Park Tearooms	9am to 5pm Monday to Sunday
St. Patrick's Park Tearooms	10am to 6pm Monday to Sunday
City Hall, Dame Street, Dublin 2	10am to 5pm Monday to Sunday
Markievicz Leisure Centre, Townsend Street, Dublin 2	10am to 8pm Monday to Friday, 10am to 5pm Saturday and Sunday
St. Catherine's Sports Centre, Marrowbone Lane, Dublin	10am to 8pm Monday to Friday, 10am to 5pm Saturday and Sunday
Irishtown Stadium, Strand Street, Dublin 4	10am to 8pm Monday to Friday, 10am to 5pm Saturday and Sunday
Finglas Leisure Centre, Mellows Road, Finglas, Dublin 11	10am to 8pm Monday to Friday, 10am to 5pm Saturday and Sunday
Cabra Parkside Sports Centre, Ratoath Road, Cabra, Dublin 7	10am to 8pm Monday to Friday, 10am to 5pm Saturday and Sunday
Ballymun Leisure Centre, Ballymun Road, Ballymun, Dublin 9	10am to 8pm Monday to Friday, 10am to 5pm Saturday and Sunday
Ballyfermot Leisure Centre, Blackditch Road, Ballyfermot, Dublin 10	10am to 8pm Monday to Friday, 10am to 5pm Saturday and Sunday
Clontarf Rd. Sports Pitches, Clontarf Road, Dublin 3	10am to 8pm Monday to Friday, 10am to 5pm Saturday and Sunday
Ballymun Library, Ballymun Road, Ballymun, Dublin 9	Monday & Thursday 1pm to 8pm Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday & Saturday 10am to 4pm

Cabra Library, Navan Road, Cabra, Dublin 7	Monday & Thursday 1pm to 8pm Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday & Saturday 10am to 4pm
Coolock Library, Barryscourt Road, Kilmore, Dublin 17	Monday & Thursday 1pm to 8pm Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday & Saturday 10am to 4pm
Raheny Library, Howth Road, Raheny, Dublin 5	Monday & Thursday 1pm to 8pm Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday & Saturday 10am to 4pm
Ballyfermot Library, Ballyfermot Road, Kylemore, Dublin 10	Monday & Thursday 1pm to 8pm Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday & Saturday 10am to 4pm
Pearse Street Library, Pearse Street, Dublin 2	Monday & Thursday 1pm to 8pm Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday & Saturday 10am to 4pm
Rathmines Library, Rathmines, Dublin 6	Monday & Thursday 1pm to 8pm Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday & Saturday 10am to 4pm
Drumcondra Library, Millmount Avenue, Drumcondra, Dublin 9	Monday 1pm to 8pm Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday 10am to 4pm
Dolphins Barn Library, Parnell Road, Crumlin, Dublin 12	Monday 1pm to 8pm Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday 10am to 4pm
Kevin Street Library, Lower Kevin Street, Dublin 8	Monday 1pm to 8pm Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday 10am to 4pm
Pembroke Library, Anglesea Road, Dublin 4	Monday 1pm to 8pm Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday 10am to 4pm
Terenure Library, Templeogue Road, Terenure, Dublin 6W	Monday 1pm to 8pm Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday 10am to 4pm
Albert College Park, Whitehall, Dublin 9	9am to 5pm Monday to Sunday
Walkinstown Library, Percy French Road, Walkinstown, Dublin 12	Monday 1pm to 8pm Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday 10am to 4pm

Q.17 Councillor Deirdre Conroy

To ask the Manager and relevant City Council Department to renew the sewers in Fortfield Terrace, Rathmines. The enquirer notifies that the resident houses have troubles with blocked sewers regularly. The sewers are too old and are not fit for purpose.

Reply:

Since 2014, Irish Water have responsibility for the foul and combined sewer network. Any requests for sewer rehabilitation should be made directly to Irish Water. A dedicated email address is available for such purposes: 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.18 Councillor Deirdre Conroy

To ask the Manager and the Parks Department to provide some relevant trees in Fortfield Terrace, Rathmines.

Reply:

The pathways are mainly unsuitable for tree planting due to the footpaths being too narrow to accommodate tree pits while not impeding accessibility. In addition, the presence and volume of existing services is further reducing tree planting opportunities.

Q.19 Councillor Tara Deacy

Can we get an up-date in relation to the citywide review of kissing gates, in particular the South East area? Where are we in terms of looking at alternatives in parks like Eamonn Ceannt?

Reply:

There are a number of parks in the city where removing kissing gates is not advisable due to the likelihood of scramblers gaining access. In South East Area Eamonn Ceannt is one of the few parks that still has kissing gates on its main entrances. Last summer with the opening of Tram Café the gate at Rutland Grove entrance is opened and closed in line with the café opening times. This arrangement is working well. The kissing gate at this location will stay in place to allow for entry/exit out of hours.

The entrance from Sundrive Road will be upgraded later this year and as part of those plans will include removal of the kissing gates on a trial basis.

Q.20 Councillor Tara Deacy

Can the dog waste bin at the gates of the Sundrive entrance of Eamonn Ceannt Park be replaced with a more suitable larger bin? It's unsuitable for the number of dog walkers and park users accessing the park at present and is often overflowing.

Reply:

Waste Management Services will ensure that the above mentioned waste bin is emptied on a more regular basis. We will monitor the situation there and keep this request for a larger bin there in mind.

Q.21 Councillor Anne Feeney

To ask the Manager when will we receive an update and implementation of a traffic management strategy for Rathdown in Terenure. This is now over a year overdue and the delay is unacceptable given the many promises made by the Traffic Department. The level of activity in Bushy Park is increasing post Covid and as we go into the spring and summer and this is to be welcomed but an effective traffic management and parking solution is required for safety of all.

Reply:

The Transport Advisory Group are finalising and completing the public consultation report for the Rathdown traffic management strategy.

This public consultation report will be sent to the South East Area Committee Meeting in April 2022.

Q.22 Councillor Anne Feeney

To ask the Manager for consideration to be given to moving the bottle bank in Terenure Car Park to a less visible position in the village where the noise and litter would be less of an issue for local residents and keeping Terenure village tidy and attractive looking. The painting of the bottle banks has been an improvement in how they look, but a longer term location needs to be found.

Reply:

Waste Management Services is committed to recycling and providing the best infrastructure we can in a busy, urban environment. However, the reality is that finding sites for new bottle banks in the city is very problematic. Publicly owned land is at a premium. The majority of Bottle Banks in the city are located on privately owned land such as the HSE car park in Terenure and we rely on the goodwill of property owners to continue to provide recycling infrastructure in some areas.

We are restricted to where we can place bottle banks under planning regulations and our service provider needs to be able to service all sites in a safe manner. The area must be free of overhead cables and overhanging trees, must not conflict with bus or cycle lanes and must be directly accessible by HGV.

Waste Management Services have attempted to find a suitable alternative location for the recycling facilities in Terenure Car Park on a number of occasions but have been unsuccessful to date. However, we are happy to continue to work with the Area Office to identify suitable locations and to investigate any feasible suggestions from members of the public.

Q.23 Councillor Anne Feeney

To ask the Manager to review the sequencing of lights at the junction of Fortfield Road and Wainsfort Road as there are concerns in relation to potential danger for vehicles exiting The Orchard, i.e. sometimes there is a green light for them and sometimes the green light skips a sequence.

Reply:

A site visit was undertaken on 3/03/22. This junction comprises of three phases outlined below:

A Phase

Main Road Movements on Wainsfort Road to/from KCR and the minor arms

B Phase

Movements from Fortfield Road

C Phase

Movements from The Orchard residential estate

The stop-line and traffic signal from The Orchard's exit is recessed approx. 12m back from the road. This is a controlled crossing and the green lights on the signal indicates when vehicles are safe and have the priority to proceed. From on-site observations it was noted that vehicles would pass the stop line and drive closer to the road therefore having no visibility of the traffic signal and not treating the junction as a controlled crossing. Vehicles must stop at the stop-line and the traffic camera detects the vehicle and places a demand for the C Phase. The operation of the detection unit was also verified and confirmed on-site.

In addition following a query from local residents the timings were changed in the controller to offer increased green time for residents exiting The Orchard residential estate (C Phase). These changes were made by our maintenance contractors on the 12th December. This change assists residents living in The Orchard.

Q.24 Councillor Anne Feeney

To ask the Manager to paint the railings around the raised green area in Rathmines Close.

Reply:

The Rathmines Close Senior Citizens' Complex is due to be painted later on this year and we will arrange to paint these railings in conjunction with the painting of the complex.

Q.25 Councillor Anne Feeney

To ask the Manager to provide an update as to when the final phase of the Rathgar Improvement Plan will be completed i.e. around Hertzog Park. This work is long overdue, funds are committed and if internal DCC resources are not available to complete it, then other options should be considered.

Reply:

Road Design have confirmed that they will progress this job with an internal or external resource.

The Councillor will be informed of a timeline in the coming weeks

Q.26 Councillor Anne Feeney

To ask the Manager to replace the small dog poo bins at the entrances to Eamon Ceannt Park as they are regularly overflowing which is unsightly and nasty for Council staff to have to clean up. Could they be replaced with larger bins please?

Reply:

Waste Management Services will ensure that the above mentioned dog waste bins are emptied on a more regular basis. We will monitor the situation there and keep this request for larger bins there in mind.

Q.27 Councillor Claire Byrne

To ask the Area Manager can he please investigate complaints about raw sewage smells at the following premises details supplied: This is an ongoing issue. Could the Manager please work to find a solution?

Reply:

Drainage Division has investigated these odours and identified their source as a pumped sewage facility in a nearby premises. Drainage Division has formally notified the building's owners / occupiers that they are causing an odour nuisance and is currently working with them to rectify the situation. This requires some significant changes to the building's pumping facility and its mode of operation. The building owners/occupiers advise that they have ordered the new equipment and intend implementing the changes in the week beginning 21st March 2022. DCC Drainage Division will continue to monitor the situation and will undertake a further odour survey when notified by the building owner/occupier of the completion of its remedial work.

Q.28 Councillor Claire Byrne

To ask the Area Manager for an update on the plans for Baggot Street Hospital.

Reply:

On foot of a request to allow a local community group use part of the grounds as a community garden, the building manager advised the South East Area Office on 24/07/2018 by phone call that the building would be sold when services were relocated. A further such request was made on 14th December 2018. There has been no subsequent update.

Clarification was sought from the councillor if these were the matters on which she required an update. The matter will be investigated on receipt of her reply.

Q.29 Councillor Claire Byrne

To ask the Area Manager can he please inspect and fix the road surface on Longford Street Lower / Noel Purcell Walk. This road surface on the entire street is completely due to poor workmanship of what appears to be the laying of utilities. This is a serious hazard to cyclists.

Reply:

There is an existing utility reinstatement on these roads which is in poor condition in places. This will be considered for inclusion in our future carriageway resurfacing schemes. In the interim, temporary repairs will be arranged.

Q.30 Councillor Claire Byrne

To ask the Area Manager what are the plans for Hatch Hall which still lies vacant after moving its Direct Provision residents almost 3 years ago.

Reply:

As requested by the South East Area Office, set out below is the most recent planning history for this site:

Applicant – Red Carnation Hotels (UK) Ltd.

Planning Ref: 2489/20 - Hatch Hall, 28A, Hatch Street Lower, Hatch Place and Hatch Lane, Dublin 2, D02 TF34

Decision: Dublin City Council granted planning permission for this site on 12/03/2021

Appeal: A third party appeal was lodged with An Bord Pleanála on 08/04/2021. Dublin City Council awaits the decision of the Bord.

Proposal:

PROTECTED STRUCTURE: Planning permission for a 60 no. bedroom hotel at Hatch Hall (Protected Structure) Ref: 3642), 28A, Hatch Street Lower, Hatch Place and Hatch Lane, Dublin 2, D02 TF34 on a gross site area of 0.2242 ha. Hatch Hall currently ranges in height from 3 no. floors to 5 no. floors. The proposed development will consist of the following:

- Refurbishment of Hatch Hall and its change of use from residential institutional use to hotel use. The proposed hotel development includes 2 no. bars, lounge and hotel shop. The conversion of the former chapel building to meeting room/restaurant. The proposal involves alteration and conservation works to the existing fabric including amendments to the internal layout of the building, including the removal of internal partitions and screens to provide for bedrooms and the addition of a lift core. On the southern and eastern sides of the internal courtyard, a single storey glazed extension shall wrap around the protected structure, adjacent to the outdoor terrace. Opes shall be created at the southern side of Hatch Lane at first floor level (internal to the courtyard) to provide access to ground floor roof level for use as terrace. An enclosed fire escape from the upper floor of the chapel building shall be provided to the courtyard;
- Demolition of a section of the existing 3 and 4 no. storey building at the junction of Hatch Lane and Hatch Place and construction of an 8 no. storey extension, with plant at roof level;
- An additional floor is provided on the existing 4 no. storey Hatch Lane elevation, setback from the existing edge;
- Provision of 2 no. levels of basement. The second basement level will accommodate plant; welfare facilities, and storage, with kitchen, administration, gym and associated facilities at the first basement level. A fire escape corridor shall be provided to the courtyard;

- The existing pedestrian entrances are retained from Hatch Street Lower and Hatch Place. A new pedestrian entrance is provided from Hatch Lane. New delivery goods accesses/service entrances are provided from Hatch Place and Hatch Lane and new fire escape doors are provided from Hatch Lane;
- 8 no. bicycle spaces for visitors and 12 no. bicycle spaces for staff will be provided;
- Works to the public road and footpaths shall be undertaken to provide for a new drop-off area to the front of the proposed hotel and provision of additional 8 no. bicycle spaces for visitors. A glazed canopy over the entrance to the proposed hotel will be provided;
- Green roofs shall be provided over the fire escape corridors, adjacent to the former chapel, at fifth floor over the additional floor and at 8th floor in the new extension;
- Landscaping works shall be carried out to the internal courtyard. The proposal also includes for all associated site development works, including substation accessed off Hatch Place.

The proposed development will have a Gross Floor Area of 7,292 square metres.

Q.31 Councillor Claire Byrne

To ask the Area Manager can he please inspect and repair the tarmac that was laid down on Leinster Road recently on behalf of Irish Water. The tarmac that was laid down was of very poor quality and has already broken down and lifted causing a serious trip hazard.

Reply:

Irish Water are carrying out a network upgrade on Leinster Road. This work involves the replacement of connections into the houses along the road. Openings have been temporarily reinstated with bituminous material. This is stage one of the reinstatement process. Permanent reinstatement is stage two of the process. Irish Water's contractor have substantially completed permanent reinstatement of the footpaths on Leinster Road. Pipework is ongoing on the carriageway sections of the road, which are temporarily reinstated. Permanent reinstatement will follow this operation. Irish Water have been advised to ensure that the temporary reinstatement is made safe until permanent reinstatement is complete.

Q.32 Councillor Claire Byrne

To ask the Area Manager to please address the ongoing litter issue on Ropewalk Place. Can the Manager increase the frequency of cleaning, install a bin and place further signage about littering and dog waste?

Reply:

Waste Management Services have Ropewalk Place cleaned every day, Monday to Friday. We will arrange some weekend cleaning here, when possible. We had to remove the litter bin from here at the residents' request due to the amount of household rubbish being left at the bin. This led to a significant reduction in illegal dumping there. The Litter Prevention Officer will assess this location regarding further signage about littering and dog waste.

Q.33 Councillor Pat Dunne

Can the Public Domain Unit initiate a programme to deal with increased incidents of discarded dog dirt along Sundrive Road? The dog dirt disposal bin at the gates in

Eamonn Ceannt Park are too small and overload quickly. Signage and other deterrents are needed on this road.

Reply:

Waste Management Services will ensure that the above mentioned dog waste bins are emptied on a more regular basis. We will monitor the situation there and keep a request for a larger bins there in mind. Our Litter Prevention Officer will arrange appropriate signage there.

Q.34 Councillor Pat Dunne

Can our Road Maintenance Section inspect the roadway on Bangor Road (heading towards Poddle Park)? There are wide cracks and deep fissures on the surface and is very hazardous for cycling. I reported this to the council 18+ months ago and nothing has been changed.

Reply:

There is considerable surface cracking on this segment of concrete roadway. It will be put forward for consideration for future carriageway resurfacing programmes. In the interim, temporary repairs will be arranged.

Q.35 Councillor Pat Dunne

Can we install a Safe School zone including "pencil bollards" around the Marist primary school on Clogher Road to prevent illegal parking and dangerous turning manoeuvres by parents dropping children to school? The area is unsafe for children and parents on foot and on bike, and for those simply trying to make their way down this road. Could the church car park could be used by those who insist on driving kids to school?

Reply:

The Marist Primary School on Clogher Road did not apply for either a School Zone or a Safe Route to School. We are prioritising infrastructure interventions at school who have applied for one of these schemes. There are over 80 schools requiring interventions from these lists. We will contact the Marist Primary School to establish the potential for a Park and Stride at this location.

Q.36 Councillor Pat Dunne

Can our Public Domain Section renew its efforts to deal with the ongoing issue of people from outside of the area (and some residents) feeding seagulls? Food (including animal bones and certain vegetables) can be extremely dangerous for pets and are dropped by the birds into local gardens, into gutters and down chimneys. Requesting signed and information campaign (leaflets) asking people not to feed the birds. The problem is particularly bad around Clonmacnoise Circle (& triangle), and around Durrow and Kells Greens.

Reply:

Litter Wardens will call to premises and distribute leaflets at the locations indicated in the coming weeks.

I have asked that Parks Department erect signage at the locations indicated.

Q.37 Councillor Pat Dunne

Can illegal dumping be tackled at the lane that connects Windmill Park and Crumlin Village (St Agnes Rd)? Apart from the obvious illegal dumping, it is also a dark at night-time. As it is literally beside the Garda station, can the Gardaí be asked to patrol it more regularly?

Reply:

The area is monitored by Litter Wardens as part of regular patrols. Efforts are being made in association with the Crumlin Community Clean Up Group to enhance the laneway with street art. Crumlin Gardaí have agreed to allow the wall of the station to be used for part of this project. Other property owners on the laneway have been approached to obtain the appropriate permissions to have their walls painted.

The matter been referred to the Gardaí via the J.P.C. Steering Group.

Waste Management Services remove dumped rubbish from the above mentioned lane at least three days a week. A litter warden will include this location as part of his regular patrol.

The public lighting at the lane that connects Windmill Park and Crumlin Village (St Agnes Rd) was replaced with LED lighting in 2018. There are no plans to provide additional lighting in the lane.

Q.38 Councillor Pat Dunne

Can contact be made with bike sharing schemes (Moby, Bleeper, Dublin Bikes) to assess the cost of these providers operating in areas that do not currently operate like Crumlin and Drimnagh?

Reply:

All operators will be contacted regarding this query.

Q.39 Councillor Pat Dunne

Can it be determined who owns the carpark at Crumlin Bowling Club that fronts onto St. Mary's Road? This car park tends to be used for all day parking by hospital staff and visitors. Are there any measures that can be adapted to ensure that there are car parking spaces available for users of the Bowling Club?

Reply:

Dublin City Council is the owner of the car park in question located at an entrance to Willie Pearse Park. Although used by members of the public for parking the area is not in the charge of the Environment & Transportation Department. It is not considered possible to regulate parking there for the exclusive use of any group.

Q.40 Councillor Pat Dunne

Given improvements to local greens in recent years the residents of Kells/Leighlin Green feel that they have been left out. Can improvements to this green be prioritised? The footpaths across the green need to be reinstated and more planting is needed.

Reply:

The green at Kells / Leighlin has received mass bulb planting in 2021 and 2022. Parks will also include the green space for additional tree planting this season.

Q.41 Councillor Pat Dunne

Can the Public Domain Unit initiate a programme to deal with increased incidents of discarded dog dirt along Cashel Road leading onto Stannaway Road? Signage and other deterrents are needed on this road also there continues to be reports of dogs running off leashes in Stannaway Park where the discarding of dog dirt is also an issue.

Reply:

Dublin City Council did not employ Dog Wardens from 2011 to November 2021.

From November 2021 Dublin City Council has employed one Animal Welfare Inspector and two Dog Wardens/Animal Welfare Officers in a fulltime capacity. The Council intends to employ a further two fulltime Dog Wardens/Animal Welfare Officers in the coming weeks bringing the total to four plus one Inspector.

Arrangements will be made to put in place signage in relation to dog fouling at the above locations.

Litter Wardens will patrol the locations listed and will monitor for instances of dog owners not picking up after their dogs. This includes a failure to dispose of dog waste in a sanitary fashion.

Q.42 Councillor Carolyn Moore

The railing mounted dog poo bins at the Sundrive Road gates to Eamonn Ceannt Park are frequently full to overflowing (as identified by Parks this style of bin is not fit for purpose). Can the area manager agree to put signage on the bins directing park users to the nearest general litter bins: one at the bus stop near the junction with Stannaway Road and one directly opposite the park entrance opposite Clonmacnoise Road?

Reply:

Waste Management Services will ensure that the above mentioned dog waste bins are emptied on a more regular basis. We will monitor the situation there and keep a request for a larger bins there in mind. Our Litter Prevention Officer will arrange appropriate signage there.

Q.43 Councillor Carolyn Moore

Can the area manager ensure that the damaged Sheffield bike stands outside Spar at 334 Harold's Cross Road, which look to have been impacted by a vehicle collision, are replaced?

Reply:

A request to replace the damaged cycle stands at 334 Harold's Cross Road has been forwarded to DCC's Maintenance Contractor.

Q.44 Councillor Carolyn Moore

Can the area manager consider an urgent traffic or infrastructural intervention to slow down cars turning left off Sundrive Road at Sundrive green, towards Clonmacnoise Road? The wide, rounded corner at Perfect Pizza encourages drivers to take this turn at speed which makes it dangerous for pedestrians accessing the shops and for those attempting to exit Ferns Road. Visibility for drivers taking a fast left here is often impeded by cars and vans parked illegally on the footpath and this heightens the dangers for anyone using this junction, and building out the corner on each side of the green would lessen the distance for pedestrians to cross and create an opportunity for seating, greening or other urban realm enhancement.

Reply:

Both junctions at Sundrive Road (in front of Perfect Pizza Dublin and also in front of Tops Pizza & Chicken) have been listed on Traffic Advisory Group future programme of works. The Transport Advisory have engaged with traffic consultants for detailed designs to consider appropriate traffic calming measures to be installed at both locations. The start of construction is estimated to happen in 3rd or 4th Quarter of 2022.

Dublin Street Parking Services will patrol the area and enforce any illegal parking.

Q.45 Councillor Carolyn Moore

Can the area manager via the parking team please provide an update on the status of the EV charge point on Church Avenue? This charge point has been in place for several years but was never operational as the ESB required ground markings in place to switch it on.

Reply:

This is an area of active consideration for the Council. 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, 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 and has considered the options regarding public charging for those without access to off-street charging. I understand that the SEAI scheme is currently being repurposed to take account of rapidly changing technologies and the realities of the business case and electrical infrastructure costs of public charging provision.

The Dublin Local Authority Electric Vehicle Charging Strategy is now practically complete and 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.

Whilst developments in this space are pending, it is a Parking policy objective that on street charging should only take place where a publicly accessible charge point has been provided and that the necessary parking fees must also be paid if within a parking controlled area.

Q.46 Councillor Carolyn Moore

Can the area manager outline what plans are in place to bring additional EV charge points to the Kimmage Rathmines area in 2022?

Reply:

EV charging is a complicated matter and not as straightforward as it may at first appear. Indeed this is one of the reasons we have embarked on a strategic approach to the question of public EV charging.

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.

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The Dublin Local Authority Electric Vehicle Charging Strategy is now practically complete and 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 and other private operators continue to expand their charging offerings. <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.

Dublin City Council has also been in close dialogue with the Department and the SEAI regarding a proposed new scheme of grant aid for Multiple Dwelling Units designed to facilitate EV charging infrastructure.

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.47 Councillor Danny Byrne

To ask the manager to fix the street light at details provided,

Reply:

These pole numbers are not operational due to ESB faults in the service cables. We have contacted the ESB about repairs to the cable in both locations and are awaiting a date for works to be carried out.

Q.48 Councillor Daniel Céitinn

It has been raised by a number of parents that on occasion upon entering playgrounds (especially Eamonn Ceannt) with children early in the mornings, drink bottles & cans, drug paraphernalia, faeces and used condoms have been strewn across the playgrounds. Could council staff be asked and reminded to properly check every morning whether playgrounds are safe for children to use and complete any necessary cleaning before opening the playgrounds to children?

Reply:

Playgrounds are cleaned daily. Due to scheduling of staff all playgrounds cannot be cleaned at the same time as soon as the park opens – most of our parks are not locked so can be accessed before the cleaning crew make it to the playground. Unfortunately there are occasions when unsuitable material may be encountered before the crew have arrived. The issue can be reported to parks on the email below so it can be prioritised.

Q.49 Councillor Daniel Céitinn

Could the manager request that Hazelbrook Road and Hazelbrook Drive receive some cleaning from a street-cleaning vehicle, that gutters be checked and cleared of leaves and other debris, and if trees on both could be added to the list for pruning?

Reply:

Members of the Gully Cleaning Crew cleaned 15 of the 16 gullies on Hazelbrook Road on 04/03/2022 and 16 of the 16 gullies on Hazelbrook Drive on 04/03/2022. No defects were found.

Waste Management Services had the above mentioned streets swept by a road sweeping machine on the 3rd March 2022.

The subject trees (Betula Pendula/Carpinus Betulus) situated at Hazelbrook Road and Hazelbrook Drive will be examined in the coming weeks and any works deemed necessary will be listed for consideration in the prioritised Tree Maintenance Programme for the area.

Q.50 Councillor Daniel Céitinn

To ask the Manager to arrange for the cleaning and repair of all housing lanes, including small side lanes, in the new houses estate in Ringsend particularly around Bremen Road; the unit responsible for this work and the unit responsible for approving/organising the resurfacing which occurred in November on Bremen Road.

Reply:

Housing Maintenance (Caretaking Unit) will arrange to have the small side lanes cleaned in the walkway between 37 Bremen Road and 28 Bremen Road, as well as the walkway between 44 and 22 Bremen Road. These lanes are in the charge of Housing Maintenance. The resurfacing of one of the lanes was organised by Mark's Lane Housing Maintenance Depot.

Q.51 Councillor Daniel Céitinn

To ask the Manager when a lighted junction will be installed on Pine Road / Sean Moore Road junction.

Reply:

The proposed signalised junction at Pine Road/Sean Moore Road is required to facilitate access to the Poolbeg West SDZ Development. A planning decision is expected this month on Phase 1 (600 units) of the development and the programme

for delivery of the junction is therefore not yet known, but it is unlikely that it will be installed this year.

Q.52 Councillor Daniel Céitinn

To ask the Manager for a status and progress report on the Glover's Court regeneration and Pearse House regeneration applications.

Reply:

Glovers Court, Dublin 2:

The Housing and Community Services Department are currently finalising the Stage 1 application for submission to the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage for initial project and funding approval. The intention is to submit the application before the end of this week, (week beginning 28th February 2022).

Pearse House, Dublin 2:

Dublin City Council received Stage 1 approval from the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage (DHLGH) for the first phase of the regeneration of Pearse House, Dublin 2.

The approved regeneration proposal involves the full deep retrofit and amalgamation of existing flats in Blocks L, M, N and P also known as the "Small Flats".

Presently our City Architects have issued tender documentation for the procurement of an integrated design team with tender assessment due to take place in the coming weeks. We anticipate having a design team appointed and working on progressing development design by May 2022.

Q.53 Councillor Daniel Céitinn

To ask the Manager the total spend which the council, including Parks, is considering proceeding with on a statue in Dartmouth Square; the council's assessment of the proposal and the historical merit and relevancy of the proposal; whether the council regards the proposal as one of historical importance; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

Reply:

The artistic, historical and cultural merit of this proposal is due to be considered by the Arts and Cultural Advisory Group of the Arts, Culture and Leisure SPC chaired by Cllr O Driscoll. This proposal will be considered by the External Arts Members, Staff and Councillors at that committee. Dublin City Council would normally match the funding on offer from a residents' association on any such improvement to a park.

Q.54 Councillor Daniel Céitinn

To ask the Manager for an update and report on engagement with stakeholders and other bodies and planning within the council since the beginning of 2021 regarding the pedestrianisation of College Green.

Reply:

An update on this project will issue shortly.

Q.55 Councillor Daniel Céitinn

To ask the Manager the number of void and vacant residential and commercial units held by the council across each area by ED, detailing size and bed numbers and energy ratings as appropriate; the date on which the property became vacant and the planned date for returning to active use; and to provide an estimate of vacant residential and commercial property across each area which are not held by the council.

Reply:

Current Refurbishment of voids underway

Number of Bedrooms	Central	North Central	North West	South Central	South East	Total
Bed 0	50	21	13	17	15	116
Bed 1	39	14	26	25	33	137
Bed 2	52	13	36	45	27	173
Bed 3	10	25	33	11	3	82
Bed 4	0	6	2	1	3	12
Bed 5	1	0	0	0	0	1
Total	152	79	110	99	81	521

The properties above are currently being refurbished through the Framework or by Direct Labour and are at various stages of completion, of these unit 344 of these units are vacant less than 6 months.

There are currently 177 properties in the Dublin City Council area that have been vacant for a period more than six months. This time period includes the period were Dublin City Council is securing the vacant possessions of its units. There can be various legal or structural reasons for this including:

- Where property was subject to an abandonment notice
- Where there was an illegal occupier case
- Where a unit has been brought back to use after a long term void period and if extensive refurbishment work is required i.e. some of our bedsit units
- Where there was dispute regarding access with a management company
- Issues with vacant possession, i.e. identifying family members and the handling of pervious tenant's personal belongings
- Where there was substantial works required i.e. fire remedial works, structural or engineering involvement.

The Law department has indicated that “usually when Dublin City Council are asked for a list of such addresses it is refused, as to provide such a list is inadvertently identifying the previous and future tenants as tenants of the City Council. Furthermore, the “why” of the voids would appear to be revealing even more information on the previous tenants”.

Dublin City Council has recorded a total of **783** potential long term private vacant residential units in its administrative area of the City. The Council is currently investigating these units as regards their relevant vacancy status.

Where a property has been identified as long term vacant the City Council will contact the owner and request then to return the property to use in a timely manner.

Any failure by the owner to comply with said request may result in the City Council invoking its legislative powers to ensure the property is returned to use.

The City Council has to date acquired the following properties in the City.

Acquired:	BRS	CPO	Other	Totals
Central	15	4		19
North Central	7	2		9
North West	8	9	1	18
South Central	11	4	4	19
South East	2	2		4
Totals	43	21	5	69

A total of 49 properties have been returned to use and the remainder are undergoing refurbishment works and will be returned to residential use in the near future. All refurbished properties will have a minimum C1 rating as per the Department of Housing Planning and Local Government guidelines for the Buy and Renew Scheme.

Q.56 Councillor Daniel Céitinn

To ask the Manager when the Sean Moore Road roundabout will be resurfaced and plans for same; if Sean Moore Road will be resurfaced; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

Reply:

The Sean Moore Road roundabout is due to be resurfaced in 2022 as part of Road Maintenance Services' 2022 Carriageway Resurfacing Programme.

Two no. substantial sections of the Sean Moore Road adjacent to pedestrian crossings were recently resurfaced by DCC Traffic Division.

The remainder of Sean Moore Road will be put forward for consideration for future carriageway resurfacing programmes.

Q.57 Councillor Daniel Céitinn

To ask the Manager to list the DCC estates in the South East Area for which the Housing Department have identified significant maintenance and repair challenges which are outside the scope of their budget and a list of same, with associated costs/estimates.

Reply:

There are a number of housing complexes in the South East Area which are at varying stages of the regeneration process and large scale works will be undertaken once the regeneration commences.

In the meantime, Housing Maintenance will look at any requests for repairs or maintenance on a case by case basis and all necessary works will be carried out.

Q.58 Councillor Daniel Céitinn

To ask the Manager to list the DCC estates in the SE Area which Housing have identified as in need of enhanced bin storage and waste management systems and a list of same, with associated costs/estimates.

Reply:

Dublin City Council has identified several initial complexes that will benefit from secure bin chambers in housing complexes in the South East Area. We are in the process of preparing the scope for these works and we will then appoint contractors to carry out the work. We are hopeful that this phase of work will be completed in 2022. When this work is complete, additional locations will also be examined for the potential installation of secure bin chambers.

Specifically, Dublin City Council has identified the following housing complexes in the South East Area that we are aiming to have secure bin chambers installed in 2022;

Leo Fitzgerald
Markievicz House
Conway Court
Glovers Court
Verschoyle Court / Powers Court / Stephens Place

We have also identified additional housing complexes in the South East Area that will benefit from secure bin chambers, once the above works are complete, as follows:

Beechill Villa
Grove Road, Rathmines
Rathmines Avenue
Maxwell Court
Mount Drummond Court
McDonagh House
Bishop Street
Mercer House – Block B & C
York Street
O'Carroll Villa
Digges Street
Cuffe Street
Boyne Street
Macken Villas
Rostrevor Court
Greenore Court
Cambridge Court
Beggars Bush

Q.59 Councillor Carolyn Moore

Can the area manager ensure the graffiti is removed from building hoarding at Captain's Place, Armagh Road, near the new health centre?

Reply:

Arrangements will be made to have the graffiti removed.

Q.60 Councillor James Geoghegan

To ask the Area Manager whether it has been possible to add these works set out in the email below to the public domain improvements.

Area 1

Further to our discussion and meeting the other day about bespoke public domain improvements.

The photographs below are at the corner of Ashfield Road, Dublin 6 and Ashfield Avenue, Dublin 6.

Both of these roads were recently resurfaced but there is an ongoing issue that has not been fixed where bin trucks and delivery vehicles reverse or drive onto this small spot of pavement crumbling it. A resident requested planters to try and stop the trucks/lorries going onto the pavement and they were given put placed on the footpath and as you can see they are not maintained and haven't served the intended purpose.

The request is to have this corner resurfaced but also some form of bollard or something installed to prevent lorries/trucks reversing or driving onto the pavement at this corner.

I would really appreciate if this area could be allocated funding.

Area 2

The second issue in terms of public domain improvements concern improvement of footpath surfacing along the following small roads:

- Cowper Gardens,
- Cowper Drive
- Park Drive
- Tudor Road





Reply:

The two planter boxes were installed at the request of local residents under the Community Team's Friends of Green Spaces initiative a number of years ago. Under this community initiative, Dublin City Council provide the planter boxes with the local community committing to maintaining them thereafter. Financial assistance to maintain them is often provided through the Community Grant Scheme. As the local group have not applied for such grants, the Community Team will now assist with providing the group with some plants for them. It must be noted however that planter boxes are provided for environmental purposes and not as a measure to impede illegal parking.

Area 1

We will examine if the existing infrastructure will allow bollards to be erected on these 2 no. corners of footpaths.

Area 2

These footpaths will be inspected and put forward for consideration for future footpath reconstruction programmes as appropriate.

Q.61 Councillor James Geoghegan

To ask the Area Manager if he can consider the content of the below email and photo and furnish a reply.

Reply:

The council, through the effective exercise of the legislative provisions in the Derelict Sites Act 1990, proactively strives to achieve the eradication of dereliction in the City and the return of derelict sites to active use. The implementation of an ongoing acquisition strategy since 2017 is a key part of the Council's Active Land Management Initiative which aims to eradicate underutilised, vacant and derelict lands and buildings in the city. Any site entered on the Derelict Sites Register can be considered for possible acquisition, regardless of how long it has been entered on the register. The council is currently reviewing the Derelict Sites Register to identify sites for possible acquisition and this site being on the register will be included in the review.

Q.62 Councillor James Geoghegan

To Ask the Area Manager if he will consider the issues raised in the email below and furnish a reply.

"I would like to enlist your help in trying to get Double Yellow lines across the entrance to The Willows and Mill Close there are 3 houses in the Willows and 5 in the Close our houses are directly opposite the Kiosk on Orwell Road (owned by Dublin City Council) there are Bus Stops on both sides of the Road and we are at the bottom of a hill. The High School playing fields back entrance is on the same side of the road as

the kiosk. The High School rents their Playing Fields to Rathgar Hockey Club and training and matches take place there both in the day time-i.e. Thursday afternoon a big number of children are training there and also Seniors in the evenings. I have been in touch with both the club and the school to ask them to ask motorists to refrain from parking at our exits but to no avail and I have had on running correspondence with Dublin Traffic about this problem. I would be the last person in the world to try and stop people engaging in Sport but I also need access to my home. The problem is that when one is trying to leave our homes we have to watch carefully the traffic coming down the hill and getting out (especially) if one is trying to go left and one of these large cars is parked on the left - try to see around this and the problem is not made any easier by there being Bus Stops on either side of the road. On 30th January last p.m. my son could not get into pick me up and my neighbour in the Close couldn't leave. While this is very annoying it is also extremely dangerous as I have seen people with small children having to resort to going on to this busy road to gain access to the steps that lead down to the Dodder Walk. Recently the Council placed an embargo on Parking on Orwell Bridge and as this is not policed it seems to have made the trouble worse. I know in the greater scheme of things this may seem very petty but it is not so when one has to live with it. "

Reply:

The Transport Advisory Group Area Engineer has assessed the site and the appropriate measures are in place on Orwell Road. There is a continuous white single centre line placed on the roadway, starting from a point opposite to the entrance to The Willows and The Mill Close extending to the end of Orwell Bridge. The continuous single centre line prohibits parking on both side of the roadway.

There are no provision to install road markings, such as double yellow lines on a footpath and Dublin City Council does not install parking restrictions, such as placing double yellow lines across driveways, where restrictions are already covered under the law. Under The Road Traffic (Traffic & Parking) Regulations, Section 36 paragraph (2) (g); "A vehicle shall not be parked in any place, position or manner that will result in the vehicle obstructing an entrance or an exit for vehicles to or from a premises, save with the consent of the occupier of such premises".

Parking Infringements should be reported to Dublin Street Parking Services, phone no. 01 6022500 or the Gardaí as they occur.

The parking enforcement inspector will visit the location and report back his findings.

Q.63 Councillor James Geoghegan

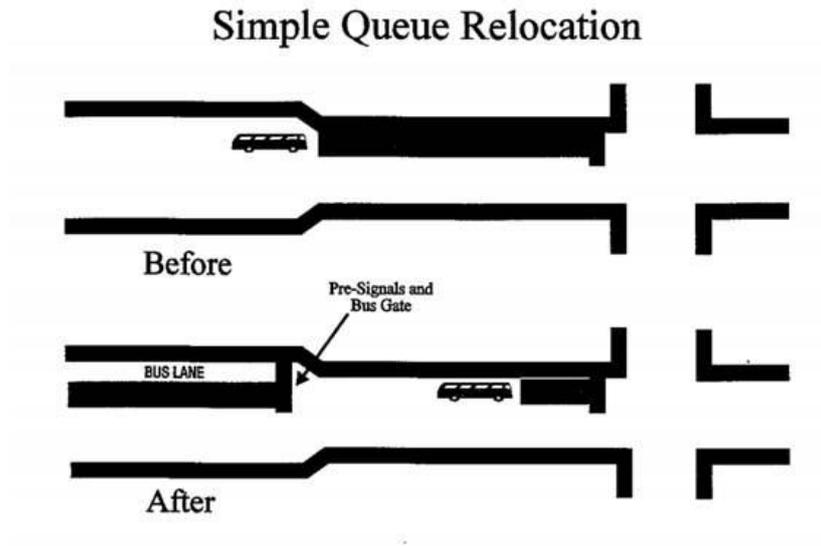
To ask the Area Manager if the traffic light signalling gaps in Rathgar village could be reviewed as some residents on Highfield Road have expressed concern about how it impacts on traffic.

Reply:

The signals on Terenure Road East are located between Rathgar village and Terenure village and functions as a bus gate otherwise known as a queue relocation facility. It operates in a similar fashion to the bus gate on Templeogue Road.

The theory behind simple queue relocation can be easily understood, as illustrated below. In the "before" scenario, queuing traffic builds at the approach to a signalised junction. DCC's traffic control management systems SCATS facilitates the relocation of all the excess queuing traffic, in such a position in the road network that public transport can pass it and thus be given an advantage.

The 'end of queue' detection is downstream from the 'Pre Signal/Bus Gate'. So for that downstream junction, when the traffic queue goes back to a certain point, general traffic at the 'Pre Signal/Bus Gate' is stopped but the bus can still continue, thus keeping the road space available for public transport, this is shown as the "after" scenario. Queue relocation schemes of this nature have demonstrated very good advantage to bus traffic, showing a dramatic reduction in bus journey times and increase in journey time reliability, without having a significant adverse impact to general traffic.



The bus journey times have been reviewed and there has been an improvement in bus journey times for bus services along this route.

Q.64 Councillor James Geoghegan

To ask the Area Manager if he will consider the issues raised by the residents' association in Grosvenor Park as detailed below and furnish a reply in respect of each.
 Management of Bins

Repairing Paths

For Management of Bins & Parking Issues, we would be interested to see if DCC have any feedback/best practices on ways for dealing with these types of issues, presumably we're not unique in dealing with them and with repeat offenders? One example would be some residents leaving their bins out in public spaces blocking footpaths 5 days after collection day. A second example would be residents continuing to park on footpaths

Irish Water works on Leinster Road; Irish Water and GMC began work in Oct, I appreciate these are essential works to prevent leakages etc. but they are still ongoing. The footpaths and roads were never great, but they have been badly impacted by these works. Will the roads department be resurfacing Leinster Road and the footpaths once these jobs are completed? Have you walked, pushed a pram, cycled or drove on Leinster Road recently? Would be happy to meet and walk or cycle the road, so you can see how bad it's become

Bike Bunkers; is it possible to get a bike bunker on Leinster Road in a parking spot close to the entrance of Grosvenor Park? There are up to 20+ interested cyclists in the Park.

Car Parking; There are not enough car parking spaces for those who need one in the Park. People are consistently parking on the footpaths and double yellow lines. Is it possible for residents of Grosvenor Park to apply for parking permits on Leinster Road or Grosvenor Place where there are always an abundance of free spots?

Reply:

The Waste Management Bye-Laws for the Storage, Presentation and Segregation of Household and Commercial Waste 2018 in section 2.5 detail that kerbside waste shall be presented for collection no earlier than 5pm on the day immediately preceding the designated collection day and should be removed no later than 10am the day following the designated collection day. Fines can be issued for residents leaving bins on the public footpath, roadway or any other public place outside of the presentation times. We will do a letter drop to residents detailing their responsibilities under the Dublin City Council Waste Bye-Laws for presentation of kerbside waste and will get a litter warden to monitor their adherence to these Bye-Laws.

The Litter Warden will follow up on the issues around the bins being left out on Grosvenor Park contrary to the bye laws.

In relation to the Irish Water works on Leinster Road.

Irish Water are carrying out a network upgrade on Leinster Road. This work involves the replacement of connections into the houses along the road. Openings have been temporarily reinstated with bituminous material. This is stage one of the reinstatement process. Permanent reinstatement is stage two of the process. Irish Water's contractor have substantially completed permanent reinstatement of the footpaths on Leinster Road. Pipework is ongoing on the carriageway sections of the road, which are temporarily reinstated. Permanent reinstatement will follow this operation. Irish Water have been advised to ensure that the temporary reinstatement is made safe until permanent reinstatement is complete.

Thanks for your interest in the bike bunker scheme. Can you please ask persons interested in having a bike bunker to register their interest? Please see attached link. <https://bikebunkers.ie/register-your-interest/>

If we receive sufficient interest in having a bike bunker and the location meets the strict criteria set out by the bike bunker team we can give this location serious consideration.

Picking Specific Locations for Bike Bunkers

When we're looking to find a suitable location for a BikeBunkers on your street, we're considering these aspects, and in this order of priority.

1. BikeBunkers are about convenience, and so we only consider within a certain radius (about 200m around where people applied).
2. We prefer to locate them on quieter residential streets, rather than busy main thoroughfares.
3. We then look at where we can locate them off-pavement in either existing car parking or sometimes we can find an 'unused' piece of the roadway.
4. Locating them on a pavement is only considered as an absolute last resort.
5. We then try to find a spot that's away from people's doors and windows – such as at gable ends – with the ideal being when a household or group of

neighbours comes forward with a suggestion for a location on their street (that also matches these criteria).

6. They'll usually open onto the public footpath rather than onto the roadway – and that footpath will also need to be wide enough for a user to swing their bike into the BikeBunkers. (And also to ensure that there's sufficient space remaining should the feet of the hangar be placed on the footpath, as many of them are designed to do.)
7. We prefer to keep them away from low rear walls – to reduce any security risk to premises.
8. All things being equal, we then prefer to position them under a street light to make them easier to use.

For further information on bike bunkers please visit the bike bunkers website - <https://bikebunkers.ie/>

In relation to the car parking part of the question, Dublin Street Parking Services will patrol the area and enforce any illegal parking.

It is not possible to allow the residents of Grosvenor Park to have residential parking permits for other streets as there is no residential parking scheme on Grosvenor Place.

Q.65 Councillor Mary Freehill

On several occasions I proposed that the tree at 64 Mount Drummond Square be cut down because it interferes with the wires running through the branches and as a result many residents cannot get phone service during the summer.

While the tree was pruned. You will see from the attached photo that by summer the tree branches will have grown again and residents will have the same problem but Parks will say they cannot do any work until the winter. Could you please deal with the matter in a constructive manner?



Reply:

The subject trees situated at the Mount Drummond Square Road were pruned last year as part of the Tree Maintenance Programme for the area.

It must be noted that trees often respond to excessive pruning by producing a flush of vigorous growth that can exacerbate existing problems. Furthermore, heavy tree

pruning can weaken trees and make them more susceptible to decay and disease, particularly older trees. DCC Parks Section will continue to monitor the tree at 64 Mount Drummond Square and carry out the works when deemed necessary.