

**QUESTIONS LODGED PURSUANT TO STANDING ORDER NO.18 FOR REPLY AT THE MONTHLY MEETING OF DUBLIN CITY COUNCIL TO BE HELD ON MONDAY, 9<sup>th</sup> MAY 2022**

**Q.1 COUNCILLOR MARY FREEHILL**

To ask the Chief Executive to please set out the legal powers and responsibility of local authorities in the event of the SLA being terminated with Irish Water. In that event what powers has the Council to ensure roads that have been opened by Irish Water are properly reinstated. Who is liable in the event of accidents, Leinster Rd in Rathmines is a case where the road has been left in a dangerous state by the IW Contractors.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Under the Service Level Agreement (SLA) between Irish Water and Dublin City Council, Irish Water took over responsibility for the water, foul and combined sewer network, in the Dublin City Council administrative area, on 1st January 2014. This responsibility includes maintenance, connections and upgrades of these service networks. Irrespective of when the SLA is terminated, the responsibility remains with Irish Water. The Acts governing the powers of Irish Water are The Water Services Acts 2013 and 2014.

Irish Water is a statutory Undertaker and as such have powers to open, dig or excavate the public road. However, to do so Irish Water require consent, in the form of a road opening licence, with conditions from Dublin City Council. The conditions of the road opening licence Vis a Vis reinstatement are as follows.

On completion of a permanent reinstatement, Irish Water is required to return each opening to Road Maintenance Services (RMS) for taking in charge purposes. An inspection of each returned opening is carried out by an Inspector in RMS. If the reinstatement does not meet the required standard, as set out in the 'Guidelines for Managing Openings in Public Roads', Department of Transport, Tourism and Sport, April 2017, the reinstatement is refused and returned to Irish Water for remedial action. Reinstatements remain the responsibility of Irish Water until they are accepted by Road Maintenance Services (by way of a T5) and the subsequent guarantee period has passed (two years for services that are within 1.5m of the road surface and three years for services deeper than 1.5m).

Therefore until such time as the guarantee period has passed all liability in relation to accidents remain with Irish Water.

With respect to Leinster Road, following the lead replacement upgrade on the Irish Water network, permanent reinstatement of the carriageway, is due to start on the week starting 11th April 2022. Also ESB Networks are carrying out permanent reinstatement of the footpath opposite Rathmines Library on weekend of 9th/10th April 2022, following their fault repairs at that location.

**Q.2 COUNCILLOR EIMER MCCORMACK**

To ask the Chief Executive to provide a report on the plans to repair and make safe the footpaths between 80 and 120 Navan Road, Dublin 7?

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

This section of footpath shall be added to the Central Area Works Programme 2022.

**Q.3 COUNCILLOR EIMER MCCORMACK**

To ask the Chief Executive to provide a report on the current negotiations with Irish Rail regarding the lands at Bannow Road and when construction of any kind might be expected to commence.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Negotiations with the TII are ongoing. The end of May has been set as a final date to agree Heads of Terms and Dublin City Council will be progressing the project at that stage. It is likely that it will be at least 2 years before construction commences.

**Q.4 COUNCILLOR EIMER MCCORMACK**

To ask the Chief Executive to report on any plans to include dog waste bins at Prospect Square, which has become a popular spot for local people to walk their dogs during the pandemic but is ill equipped to deal with waste disposal.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Waste Management Services have a dog foul bin at the above mentioned residential square to cater for the disposal of dog foul there by local dog owners. We are satisfied that there is no requirement for additional bins there.

**Q.5 COUNCILLOR EIMER MCCORMACK**

To ask the Chief Executive to report on whether there are any plans to seek payments of vacant site penalties on any and all developers seeking to acquire planning permission on long vacant sites. The site at Matts of Cabra being a case in point.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The site at 2A Faussagh Avenue, Cabra, Dublin 7 was entered on the Vacant Sites Register on 26<sup>th</sup> August 2019 as it met the criteria, as set out in the Urban Regeneration and Housing Act, 2015. A Demand for payment of a Vacant Sites Levy based on 7% of the market value of the site was served on the owners in 2021 and a further demand will issue in May 2022. Dublin City Council, along with all Local Authorities is responsible for identifying and dealing with vacant property within its administrative boundary, in accordance with the relevant legislation. The vacant sites levy is intended to encourage the development of vacant sites, reduce land hoarding and bring vacant land in urban areas into beneficial use.

The Vacant Sites Unit raises demands for payment annually and reminders for payment are issued quarterly. Under the vacant site levy provisions, there is a cumulative effect associated with not activating a site for development purposes for each year that a site remains vacant or idle and in respect of which levy liability is not paid.

The Law Department has advised that following changes to the Law Society contract rules in 2019, it is now the position that all queries on title have to be dealt with pre-contract with the vendor now under an obligation to disclose any notices served or burdens affecting the property. While proceedings have not issued for the collection of vacant sites levies, vacant site levy charges now appear on pre-contract planning searches and purchasers are now on notice of these charges. Where a vacant site levy becomes due and payable, it becomes a charge on the land concerned until it is paid.

**Q.6 COUNCILLOR TINA MACVEIGH**

To ask the Chief Executive for a report on the housing application status of **(details supplied)**.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The above applicant is active on Band 3 of the housing list for singles accommodation with registration date 30/06/2021, the applicant holds the following positions on the list:

<b>Area</b>	<b>Position</b>
Area E	1468
Area N	1359

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

The applicant should keep checking the Dublin City Council website for any Choice Based Lettings that may become available in their area of choice.

The applicant may be eligible for HAP which will provide them with financial assistance towards the cost of renting another property. Should the applicant wish to apply for the HAP scheme, she should make contact with the Allocations Section with income details for the previous 12 months where a Housing Advisor can provide information and advice on the scheme.

**Q.7 LORD MAYOR ALISON GILLILAND**

To ask the Chief Executive to arrange for the removal of the blue hoarding in front of the houses at **(details supplied)** and for the enhancement of the space behind it to include a bench and a green space for local enjoyment.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The location detailed above is under a 150 year licence to the ESB. We have made enquires with the ESB with regard to having the location cleaned.

If there is appetite to take this area back into DCC control, discussions could be held under advice/led by the Property Development section subject to safety and budget.

**Q.8 COUNCILLOR SOPHIE NICOULLAUD**

To ask the Chief Executive the following in relation to a private camera in a public tree on the public footpath on right side of Somerville when heading to St Agnes Road. It is before the small apartment complex. It is the first or second tree from St Agnes Road. What actions have been taken so far to remove it?

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The camera mentioned above has been removed.

**Q.9 COUNCILLOR CHRISTY BURKE**

To ask the Chief Executive if there is any progress from the minister to fund the need for traffic wardens in the city.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The Chief Executive is not aware of any case having been made to the Minister for funding for the provision of additional Traffic Wardens.

As the Councillor is aware parking enforcement is carried out in the City Council area primarily by a contractor, DSPS.

The issue of engaging Community Wardens is currently being examined and a report will be submitted in due course to the relevant SPC.

**Q.10 COUNCILLOR CHRISTY BURKE**

To ask the Chief Executive if he would ask Senior Management at Bus Eireann when they intend to develop the empty houses beside Parkgate Hall, Homeless section as they are many years empty. They are an eye sore given the housing shortage in Dublin and that the CEO get a positive reply from the senior management.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The Chief Executive wrote to CIE requesting action in relation to the properties at 10 to 13 Conyngham Road on 9 March 2022.

A response was received from CIE on 28 March 2022 noting that the facades, front steps and railings of Nos 10-12 are listed on the DCC Record of Protected Structures and advising that a contractor had been engaged to carry out structural stability works to the buildings including the installation of steel supports within the buildings, tidying up the light wells and replacement of the timbers in the blocked up windows. The City Council is liaising with CIE in relation to certain demolition works and the erection of a high quality hoarding as a short term measure.

**Q.11 COUNCILLOR CHRISTY BURKE**

To ask the Chief Executive if he would request a Garda unit to address the serious drug dealing and anti-social behaviour at **(details supplied)**, as senior Garda management need to address the ongoing issues on the stairwells of the complex from day time to evening time.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

An email was sent on the 6<sup>th</sup> April to the Superintendent in Store Street Garda Station outlining the ongoing anti-social issues within this block, which consists of drug dealing, intimidation and large gangs of up to 17 at any one time loitering on the stairwells.

Gardaí are monitoring this matter but the problem still persists.

**Q.12 COUNCILLOR CHRISTY BURKE**

To ask the Chief Executive if the central area have had an increase in dog and litter wardens in the area.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

There has been no increase in wardens in the Central Area. The Litter Enforcement Manager will be carrying out a number of Intensive Compliance Campaigns throughout the year around door to door enquires on waste arrangements, the searching of illegally dumped bags of waste and covert operations with the focus on tackling the issue of dog fouling.

Dublin City Council's Animal Welfare Unit provide a patrol service right across the city including weekends that includes the Central Area. In 2021, a number of Councillors identified areas of concern and those were addressed with additional patrols.

The Animal Welfare Unit continues periodic patrols in the Central Area and will concentrate on areas of concern if requested.

**Q.13 COUNCILLOR DECLAN MEENAGH**

To ask the Chief Executive to estimate how much electricity could be generated if rooftop solar was installed on all DCC property including social housing stock and to

further estimate how much energy could be generated for AHB housing stock. To ask for an estimate of what percentage of DCC property has solar at the moment and how much power it generates and if he will make a statement on the matter?

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Please see attached a reply from Codema.

**Q.14 COUNCILLOR ANTHONY CONNAGHAN**

To ask the Chief Executive to request the developer at **(details supplied 1)**, to address the issues with the gates and repair the gates at the **(details supplied 2)** side for vehicle access. At times they stop working and the emergency services do not have access.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

A reply will be issued to the Councillor with two weeks of the May City Council Meeting.

**Q.15 COUNCILLOR ANTHONY CONNAGHAN**

To ask the Chief Executive to consider a full re-instatement of the paths throughout **(details supplied)** where a number of locations have previously been reported at **(details supplied)** outside numbers 10,11,12,13, 14, 18a, 19- 23, 24, 28 & 35 at the NWA meeting 20th July 2021.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The footpaths on **(details supplied)** are not part of the footpath works programme in 2022.

The Area Engineer will note this location and consider its inclusion in the 2023 footpath works programme or if additional funding becomes available this year.

**Q.16 COUNCILLOR ANTHONY CONNAGHAN**

To ask the Chief Executive for a full update on the planning enforcement issue at **(details supplied)** where a local resident has tried to commandeer a public green space. Have legal proceedings been instigated and where are we on the matter? Local residents who have used this green space for decades are without the full use of this amenity for a long time now.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The Planning Enforcement Section are currently investigating this issue and a substantive response will issue directly to the Councillor once an updated inspection is carried out in early May at the location concerned.

**Q.17 COUNCILLOR ANTHONY CONNAGHAN**

To ask the Chief Executive to arrange for the re-alignment of the driveway at **(details supplied)**, as the dishing that was originally put in does not go the full width of the driveway. If these works could be part of the reinstatement of the paths at this location (programme of works 2022) that would make sense.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Road Maintenance will complete an inspection of this location **(details supplied)** and consider its inclusion in the footpath works 2022 if the allocated budget allows.

**Q.18 COUNCILLOR RACHEAL BATTEN**

To ask the Chief Executive for the paths on Greencastle Avenue, Donnybrook, D17 to be upgraded and repaired.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The footpaths on Greencastle Avenue are not part of the footpath works programme in 2022.

The Area Engineer will note this location and consider its inclusion in the 2023 footpath works programme or if additional funding becomes available this year.

**Q.19 COUNCILLOR MICHAEL WATTERS**

To ask the Chief Executive to arrange for the street currently called St. Michael's Estate in Inchicore, Dublin 8 to be changed; the name is linked to the former flat complex that was located there.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

St. Michael's Estate will be renamed as part of the regeneration of the Emmet Road site. It is premature to consider naming proposals at this early stage with a planning application likely to be submitted later this year. A report in relation to the renaming of St. Michael's Estate will be brought to Councillors when the development is nearing completion.

It is not recommended that an interim renaming proposal be considered.

**Q.20 COUNCILLOR MICHAEL WATTERS**

To ask the Chief Executive to arrange for a playground to be installed in Walkinstown Park, Walkinstown, Dublin 12.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Parks have no plans currently to install a playground at the above location. There is a playground in nearby Walkinstown Green which has the advantage of being in close proximity to houses.

**Q.21 COUNCILLOR MICHAEL WATTERS**

To ask the Chief Executive to explain Dublin City Council policy in relation to the installation of information boards in Dublin City Council parks.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Parks provide information boards in parks which have significant numbers of visitors from outside of the locality. Local parks which are known to the community do not require information boards other than a statement of bye laws. If there is an issue at a specific location please contact the email address below.

**Q.22 COUNCILLOR LARRY O'TOOLE**

To ask the Chief Executive to respond to the following re: construction work at **(details supplied 1)**. The green area at **(details supplied 2)** has been covered with rubble and debris. The public footpath on **(details supplied 3)** has been broken and is in a state of disrepair. It is also covered with soil while work is ongoing. Can Planning Enforcement engage in this?

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The Planning Enforcement Section will investigate the matters raised by the Councillor urgently and will respond directly to the Councillor once the areas concerned are investigated.

Irish Water installed a service connection to **(details supplied 1)** in March 2022. The water and debris in the **(details supplied 2)**, associated with the works has now been

cleared. The permanent reinstatement, including the grass verges, is scheduled for completion in the start of June.

**Q.23 COUNCILLOR LARRY O'TOOLE**

To ask the Chief Executive to respond to the following in relation to reinstating the grass margins at **(details supplied)**.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The damage highlighted in the photographs result from works which were undertaken by GMC on behalf of Irish Water to make the 4no. new foul sewer connections serving the DCC development currently under construction. This issue has previously been brought to the attention of DCC Roads, Infrastructure Management Unit and DCC Parks.

Irish Water have also been contacted directly on the matter, and have accepted responsibility for the poor condition of the reinstatement. Irish Water have advised that they are engaging with DCC Roads directly and will take all necessary measures to make good the reinstatement at the earliest practicable date.

Irish Water installed a service connection to the **(details supplied)** in March 2022. The water and debris in the **(details supplied 2)**, associated with the works has now been cleared. The permanent reinstatement, including the grass verges, is scheduled for completion in the start of June.

**Q.24 COUNCILLOR LARRY O'TOOLE**

To ask the Chief Executive to respond to this request at **(details supplied)**: Carry out repairs on the footpaths which are uneven, cracked and because of 'trips' are a hazard. Also can the tarmac sections be grassed – as has been treated in some nearby roads.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The footpaths on **(details supplied)** are not part of the footpath works programme in 2022.

The Area Engineer will note this location and consider its inclusion in the 2023 footpath works programme or if additional funding becomes available this year.

**Q.25 COUNCILLOR MICHAEL PIDGEON**

To ask the Chief Executive if there is a planned timeline and allocated funding to complete the pedestrianisation works on Suffolk Street. The junction with Grafton Street still has no-longer-needed traffic lights, for example.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

There is currently no planned timeline for Suffolk Street. The design brief is currently being looked at by the Environment and Transportation department.

**Q.26 COUNCILLOR NOELEEN REILLY**

To ask the Chief Executive to conduct a fire safety audit at Santry Cross/Forestwood after a number of fires there.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The development known as Santry Cross comprises a number of blocks: The Maieston, The Turnpike, The Charter, Linnbla and The Hampton from Phase 1 on the west side of the Ballymun Road, and The Goulding, The Kilmore, The Landey and The Claremont are Phase 2 on the east side of the Ballymun Road. Each building was the

subject of a fire safety certificate application and these applications were lodged between 2002 and 2004.

Dublin Fire Brigade have been liaising with Access Property Management (APM), the current managing agents for the development, and had previously been in contact with DPM Property Services Limited (the previous managing agents) since receipt of a notification detailing fire safety concerns regarding Phase 1 in 2021. Since that time it has been confirmed that a Fire Safety Consultant had been retained and would undertake a Fire Safety Audit of the blocks of Phase 1.

Confirmation that the Fire Safety Consultant attended the blocks of Phase 1 on the 9th July 2021 was received on the 16th July 2021 to confirm that the concerns were being investigated and fire safety systems in place.

More recently, in January 2022 DFB received correspondence from APM in relation to the Phase 1 blocks which confirmed that fire safety systems were in place.

Correspondence was received by Dublin fire Brigade on the 22nd April 2022 from APM with up to date certification for Phase 1 & Phase 2 of Santry Cross Apartments which confirms that the active fire safety systems are in place.

It is intended to extend the scope of the required Fire Safety Assessment currently in preparation to include Phase 2 of the development.

DFB continues to actively engage with the property management company to ensure the continued operation of fire safety systems and the fire safety management and operation of the premises.

**Q.27 COUNCILLOR MÁIRE DEVINE**

To ask the Chief Executive for the details on derogations granted to extension of work hours at Chamber St development, Dublin 8, and to ascertain if the contractor has abided by the planning conditions that the near neighbours be informed for each derogation granted?

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

To date there are no derogations granted for this site Planning Ref: 3498/19

- The scheme of 55 homes currently under construction are permitted by the Part 8 to work between the following hours:
- Mondays to Fridays: 7.00am – 6.00pm
- Saturday: 8.00am – 2.00pm
- Sundays and public holidays: No activity on site.

Included below is the full text of the planning condition relating to the permitted working hours for information.



(a) The site and building works required to implement the development shall only be carried out between the hours of:

Mondays to Fridays - 7.00am to 6.00pm

Saturday - 8.00 a.m. to 2.00pm

Sundays and Public Holidays - No activity on site.

b) Deviation from these times will only be allowed where a written request with compelling reasons for the proposed deviation has been submitted and approval has been issued by Dublin City Council. Any such approval may be subject to conditions pertaining to the particular circumstances being set by Dublin City Council.

Reason: In order to safeguard the amenities of adjoining residential occupiers.

It should be noted that there is no requirement contained within the grant notice regarding informing residents in relation to out of hours working. As part of any derogation approval issued by Dublin City Council, it is stipulated that the contractor should notify the residents and Local Area Office staff of same.

- The following is a list of all derogations issued for works outside normal working hours on the site at Cork/Chamber streets to date:
  - 
  - **Derogation No.1 for 01/10/2020**  
Reason of works: Concrete slab pour  
Notification: Residents were notified by Sisk via a letter drop.
  - **Derogation No.2 for 11/11/2020**  
Reason of works: Concrete slab pour  
Notification: Residents were notified by Sisk via a letter drop.
  - **Derogation No.3 for 03/12/2020**  
Reason of works: Concrete slab pour  
Notification: Chamber St residents were notified by Sisk via a letter drop. Residents of Oscar Sq were not informed on this occasion. The Sisk Project Manager apologised and admitted that it was an oversight on contractor' behalf.
- The following is a list of documented instances Dublin City Council are aware of, where due to exceptional circumstances, works took place outside the permitted hours without a derogation being sought or granted:
  - **22/10/2020 – Concrete slab pour in late hours**  
The following explanation was issued by the Contractor on 05/11/2020: “We had planned to pour ground beams on Block A at 1pm – the pump company had told us the pump was slightly delayed due to finishing on another project and would be with us within the hour, as such we made the decision to start pouring the beams with a skip, it later transpired that both the pump and concrete wagons had been delayed due to a covid protest on another Sisk project (We later found out that it was some of the residents adjacent to this project that organised the protest). The pump did not get to Cork Street site until after 6pm, had we known the full extent of these issues we never would have begun pouring unfortunately once we started to pour we had to continue.
  - **30/10/2020 – Concrete slab pour in late hours:**  
The following explanation was issued by the Contractor on 05/11/2020: 1st Floor slab pour, Block B – It should be noted that we took reasonable precautions to be off the

slab by 6pm, the pour started at 8am and finished at 10:30am, as such we expected to be power floating by 2pm. However the recent drop in temperature coupled with storm Aidan prevented the slab from curing thus preventing us from power floating. Sisk did notify the residents that the slab wasn't curing as planned and as such we would be on site later, however Sisk grossly underestimated the effects of Storm Aidan.

- **26/05/2021**

This was one-off incident and it was briefly explained by the Contractor on 28/05/2021: I apologise for the late working which was an oversight not informing all residents for which I sincerely apologise and all works will continue to finish at 6pm. The late works in question was due to a late delivery.

For each of the incidents where notice was not given, an explanation has been offered. It is our understanding that there have not been any noted incidents of out of hours working beyond those listed above at time of writing. If there are any additional specific dates where out of hours working have been alleged, we would be happy to investigate these directly with the contractor and revert.

**Q.28 COUNCILLOR MÁIRE DEVINE**

To ask the Chief Executive when the availability of staff to engage via telephone will be restored/extended from the current restricted hours which have led to long wait times queued- especially when making an enquiry regarding housing.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The Allocations telephone service operates in the afternoons to allow staff sufficient time in the morning to assess and process applications, conduct in person appointments and fulfil other assigned duties. There have been delays in phone answering times over recent weeks and we have taken remedial action to improve this.

- We are monitoring wait times closely and there has been an improvement since we took staff off other work;
- We are ensuring there are sufficient staff numbers available to respond to calls;
- There is a live recruitment process for Housing Advisors;

We will keep the service hours under review and the balance between assessing/processing applications and having sufficient staff available for phones/in-person appointments.

**Q.29 COUNCILLOR MÁIRE DEVINE**

To ask the Chief Executive that DCC provide a report on how to best manage and satisfy the significant upsurge in demand for allotments that reflects communities renewed focus on urban growing and "doing their bit" to address concerns about climate change?

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Dublin City Council has no Allotments in the North Inner City. However, The Area Office supports a number of Community Gardens and supports groups such as Mud Island, Eastwall Men's Shed and Ballybough Pride of Place to build and manage planter units in the public domain. We also encourage groups in residential settings to grow and maintain flower boxes and hanging baskets. In 2021, the area office provided funding for the installation of green houses in two housing complexes. Opportunities to extend this particular programme will be examined for 2022.

Dublin City Council and The North East Inner City programme office has embarked on a major Greening Initiative for the area and has already delivered significant high profile projects for the area.

There are no allotments in the remit of the Cabra – Glasnevin area.

The Finglas area has two working allotments:

Fairlawn Prospect Hill Community Allotment has 40 plots and is run and managed by a voluntary committee.

Greenview Allotment has 52 plots and is run and managed by Dublin North West Area Partnership.

The demand for allotments varies in both facilities with plots becoming available at the start of the planting season. Available appropriate space for allotments is very limited and therefore meeting demand would prove to be difficult.

DCC Parks Department run and manage allotments in Meakstown.

There are currently two large scale allotments in the North Central Area, one in St. Anne's Walled garden which is run by our Parks Department and the other is in Belmayne.

In 2012 the Belmayne allotments consisting of 112 allotments and 1 Community Garden were opened. There are 68 plots measuring 63sqm and 44 plots measuring 30sqm. All of the 112 plots are allocated, with licences signed in February 2022 for the forthcoming year. During consultations with local groups and residents during the Belmayne/Clongriffin Local Area Plan submissions, there was a very keen interest to develop allotments in the area & there is still a very keen interest in the allotments with 6 people currently on the waiting list.

**Q.30 COUNCILLOR MÁIRE DEVINE**

To ask the Chief Executive that **(details supplied)** be urgently transferred following the assessment and report on the premises by EHO which is of significant concern?

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The above applicant is on Band 3 the Transfer List (as a HAP tenant in receipt of mainstream HAP since July 2019) with an application registration date of 03/07/2018. The applicant holds the following position on the list:

Area	Bedsizes	Position
Area K	2	585

Dublin City Council are allocating properties based on time on the list and currently there are applicants on the Waiting List of longer standing who have to be considered as suitable vacancies arise.

In June 2021 the HAP section granted permission to the above applicant to move and seek out a larger 2 bed tenancy with an alternative HAP landlord. A HAP pack was issued to the applicant by post on 09/06/2021, but it has not been completed and returned to the HAP section yet.

The above applicant submitted an application for priority under Exceptional Medical Grounds in the middle of February this year, it is currently under review by the Medical Examiner and the applicant will receive a written notification of the decision in due course.

**Q.31 COUNCILLOR NOELEEN REILLY**

To ask the Chief Executive for exact details of the Community facilities which will be provided at the New Northside Depot in Ballymun.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The NCOD is a dedicated staff-only depot that includes: a staff welfare and office building; a multi-storey car park; a number of new workshops; a central stores and a salt barn. Adjacent to the depot will be a new Civic Amenity Centre. This recycling centre will consist of a purpose built office and facility where the community and general public can bring their recyclables including paper, cans, tetrapak, cardboard, glass bottles, plastic bottles as well as other items such as electrical goods and bulky waste.

**Q.32 COUNCILLOR RACHEAL BATTEN**

To ask the Chief Executive to outline in detail the arrangement at Collins Avenue corner with the coach arrangement. Also outline why there was no noise to the residents or councillors. What fees are being paid and how those funds are being used to ensure that the facilities are improved in the area such as toilets in Ellenfield Park.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

As part of the approved Outdoor Event Licence for the recent two Ed Sheeran concerts in Croke Park, a traffic and transportation management plan was required to be submitted and approved by Dublin City Council and An Garda Síochána. A private coach/bus parking location with appropriate facilities needed to be provided, given the large number of private coaches/buses expected for the concerts. The site in Whitehall at the Swords Road/Collins Avenue Junction was identified by the Promoter and approved by the relevant statutory agencies, including Dublin City Council, the NTA and An Garda Síochána. The site is owned by Dublin City Council and prior to its temporary use in connection by the recent concerts in Croke Park was used for the purposes of storing and transferring materials for road maintenance projects in the area. A licence was granted by Dublin City Council to the promoter for the use of the site in connection with the recent Ed Sheeran concerts in Croke Park and also for the series of Garth Brooks concerts in September. There were significant works required to be carried out to the site to make it fit for purpose in connection with the parking of private buses associated with the event, including the scraping off of the top layer of spoil from the site. The site surface then required to be stoned and compacted. All these works were carried out by a contractor engaged by and paid for by the promoter at considerable expense to him. There were no additional fees charged to the promoter for the use of the site.

The benefit to Dublin City Council was that the provision of the facility concerned in association with the concerts means that traffic and cycling routes throughout the north side of the City were kept moving safely throughout the days and evenings of the concerts concerned, and the site also gave patrons arriving by coach/bus a safe and secure route and location to walk to and from the venue. The site has also been left in a much improved condition than had been the case prior to the promoter carrying out the work concerned. Dublin City Council are the beneficiaries of these improvements at no cost to the council.

There was an established and well known traffic management company engaged by the promoter on the days of the shows to manage the site and the relevant access and egress from it. An Garda Síochána were also present at all times to ensure that there was no disturbance associated with the sites use and to assist with traffic management. 50 portable toilets were provided on site as well as numerous bins to ensure that there were no issues relating urination or litter in the area.

Dublin City Council also had two very experienced event management staff on site to oversee and make sure that the facility was run safely and that no disturbance was caused to local residents or businesses as a result of the use of the site. I can confirm that there were no complaints received from the locality in connection with the sites use.

**Q.33 COUNCILLOR LARRY O'TOOLE**

To ask the Chief Executive to respond to the following housing request: **(details supplied)**. This couple and their two daughters, aged thirteen and four, wish to transfer from their current accommodation to a two bedroom house. Can they be considered for a transfer to a more suitable accommodation.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The above applicants are on the priority HAP Band of the Transfer List (as HAP tenants in receipt of Homeless HAP since February 2019) with an application registration date of 06/03/2012. The applicants hold the following position on the list:

Area	Bedsize	Position
Area B	2	59

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

Dublin City Council are increasing the number of units that are allocated through the Choice Based Letting Scheme, such vacancies are advertised on the DCC website: [www.dublincity.ie/residential/housing/i-am-looking-home/choice-based-lettings](http://www.dublincity.ie/residential/housing/i-am-looking-home/choice-based-lettings)

If there are no properties available at present, nothing will be advertised. The above applicants can only apply for properties in their chosen area/s (Area B) that meet the size requirement of their household (2 bed).

**Q.34 COUNCILLOR DANNY BYRNE**

To ask the Chief Executive for an update on the provision of a bath at **(details supplied)**. The tenant states that the assessment was done some two years ago and the health of his wife has deteriorated in the interim.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The Adaptations Unit has not received any application from this tenant under the scheme. For the tenant's information, the scheme does not install baths, instead it removes baths to install level access showers.

**Q.35 COUNCILLOR NOELEEN REILLY**

To ask the Chief Executive for an update on the affordable housing scheme for Ballymun, for timelines and details on the lands at Sillogue and Balbutcher lanes.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Affordable Housing is proposed for both Sillogue Road (LAP Site 12) and Balbutcher Lane (LAP Site 14). Current proposals are for 101 houses at Sillogue Road (66 three-bed and 35 two-bed) and 105 houses at Balbutcher Lane (79 three-bed and 26 two bed).

The current timeline is as follows:

- |    |                           |                |
|----|---------------------------|----------------|
| 1. | Part VIII:                | Q2 2022        |
| 2. | Procure design and build: | Q3 and Q4 2022 |
| 3. | Detailed design:          | Q1 and Q2 2023 |
| 4. | Construction:             | 2023 -2025     |

**Q.36 COUNCILLOR NOELEEN REILLY**

To ask the Chief Executive for an update on the household waste management collection service budgeted for in 2022.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

An update on the above will be made pending discussion with the Climate Action, Environment and Energy SPC.

The household waste management collection service has gone out to tender. All information in relation to this tender is available for viewing on e-Tenders, the Government's electronic tendering platform administered by the Office of Government Procurement at: [www.etenders.gov.ie](http://www.etenders.gov.ie)

**Q.37 COUNCILLOR MANNIX FLYNN**

To ask the Chief Executive to write to the relevant minister requesting a full overview and examination of the BID legislation that is causing grave concern to many businesses in the city centre area who wish to exit the BID. It would appear that the process of the plebiscite is wholly undemocratic, lacks any clear transparency. Is not subject to any independent scrutiny by an individual or body. That no member of the BID can scrutinise one vote for irregularities. That the register of electors seems to be unavailable in hard copy for those who wish to oppose the BID in a democratic manner.

Also, it would appear that the supermarkets, shopping centres and indeed chains or multiples can manipulate the vote in their favour to retain the BID while many of the sole traders, small coffee shops and artisan businesses find it wholly inequitable that this anomaly is taking place. Indeed, during the recent process regarding the campaign for BID renewal it was very obvious that many questions asked by the business community who wished to exit the BID were left with unsatisfactory answers. This is not to say that DCC staff did not do their job but simply that the legislation is unsound and rather confusing and is not fit for purpose. I am sure that the city manager and his staff are aware of these anomalies.

Further, I would request that the city manager retain all documentation, ballot papers, envelopes that have got to do with the recent plebiscite in order that they may be examined to ascertain discrepancies and irregularities regarding signatures etc. Also, to ascertain who exactly is the rate payer in this instance? Who exactly is this vote made out to?

These are very important issues for the city council who conducts this plebiscite and is also charged with recovering these rates for a private company. There is great disquiet among businesses about this rates inequality that will have to face now for the next five years. Bearing in mind the great economic uncertainty that is facing Dublin city centre.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The Chief Executive is satisfied that the BID plebiscite was conducted by City Council staff in strict accordance with the relevant statutory provisions.

The margin in favour of retaining the BID Company in the plebiscite was significant.

While the Chief Executive is aware that some issues of concern were raised during the process, and are set out in the question, he is reluctant to write to the relevant Minister on what is an important policy/legislative issue until the matter has been considered by the relevant Council SPC and/or considered by the City Council on foot of a motion to Council.

While there is no specific statutory requirement to retain BID plebiscite documentation a decision has been made to retain this documentation for a period of 6 months. Given the overriding obligation to respect the secrecy of the BID plebiscite it is unlikely that permission to access the documentation will be granted to any external party in the absence of a Court Order.

**Q.38 COUNCILLOR MANNIX FLYNN**

To ask the Chief Executive to make available Dublin City Council's policy with regards advertising in Dublin city. Further, can the manager issue a statement with regards the ceasing of business by the IPA Company which has advertising boards on many DCC properties and other properties throughout the city.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The strategy for outdoor advertising for the city is set out in Paragraph 4.5.6 of the Dublin City Development Plan 2016-2022. This strategy is supported by a practical policy to be applied to all proposals for outdoor advertising which is laid out in Appendix 19 of the Plan. The policy is based on geographical zones and a strategy of rationalisation. In respect of rationalisation, any proposal for upgrading of an existing outdoor advertisement structure or provision of a new advertisement structure will only be permitted if at least one other display panel in the city is decommissioned and the licence for the site extinguished. The Draft City Development in Appendix 17 broadly replicates the strategic approach of the 2016 Plan. DCC is aware that IPA have ceased trading and no longer put event advertising on boards in the City.

**Q.39 COUNCILLOR MANNIX FLYNN**

To ask the Chief Executive to initiate the process to fast track the de-tenanting of Glovers Court with the view to regenerating and redeveloping this site. Conditions in Glovers Court are pretty appalling. Water is contaminated, sewage coming up through sinks, damp, mould and general dilapidation. These two blocks are in the most serious condition and are in breach of human rights. It is high time that Dublin City Council begin to engage in the process of moving people out of these deplorable conditions. I would hope that the CEO would respond positively and use the many apartments that are becoming available in Charlemont Square to bring some relief to the tenants of Glovers Court.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S 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.

We are currently awaiting feedback on the Stage 1 funding and project approval application submitted to the DHLGH for the redevelopment of Glovers Court. The

preferred option is for the demolition of the existing housing blocks and to construct a new housing scheme to provide approximately 50 homes.

Discussions around de-tenanting can only commence once Stage 1 approval has been secured. The de-tenanting of Glovers Court will be a matter for the Area Housing Officer and Housing Allocations and when appropriate, all opportunities will be explored.

Tenants can report any housing maintenance issues to the Council by contacting Customer Services or their Local Area Office.

**Q.40 COUNCILLOR MANNIX FLYNN**

To ask the Chief Executive to issue a full report with regards the resignation of the City Architect of DCC recently and the subsequent reinstatement of that individual. This report to include all procedures used. Whether the role was re-advertised bearing in mind that a public announcement was made? What process was used for the reinstatement? And does the CEO have confidence in these procedures that were used in this instance?

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The City Architect signalled her intention to resign from Dublin City Council in December of 2021 but never formally resigned. Following reflection and discussion, it was decided that she would not resign. As a formal resignation had not taken place, no procedures were required.

**Q.41 COUNCILLOR DECLAN MEENAGH**

To ask the Chief Executive what is the total number of council houses that are rapid build? What percentage of our housing stock does this represent? What percent of our total maintenance requests were for rapid build units? Can this be provided broken down year by year for the past 3 years? And to ask the manager to make a statement on the matter.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The number of 'rapid-build' homes **completed is 240 homes on 8 sites** (all houses) as follows:

**Poppintree** - 22 Homes at Baile na Laochra, Ballymun, Dublin 11

**Cherry Orchard 1** - 24 Homes at Cherry Orchard Drive, Cherry Orchard, Dublin 10 & Croftwood Gardens, Cherry Orchard, Dublin 10

**St Helena's** - 39 Homes at St. Helena's Court, Finglas, Dublin 11

**Mourne Road** - 29 Homes at Knocknarea Court, Drimnagh, Dublin 12

**Belcamp H** - 38 Homes at Belcamp Avenue, Priorswood, Dublin 17 & Moatview Avenue, Priorswood, Dublin 17

**Rathvilly** - 13 Homes at Virginia Park, Finglas, Dublin 11 & Rathvilly Park, Finglas, Dublin 11

**Woodbank** - 3 Homes at Woodbank Drive, Finglas, Dublin 11

**Cherry Orchard 2** - 72 homes at Cherry Orchard Green, Elmdale Park, & Elmdale Crescent, Cherry Orchard, Dublin 10



In addition there are **261 homes under construction on four sites (mostly apartments)** as follows:

**Bonham Street, Dublin 8** - 57 Apartments

**Cork Street, Dublin 8** - 55 Apartments

**Bunratty Road, Dublin 17** - 64 Apartments and 14 Houses (78 homes total)

**Springvale Chapelizod, Dublin 20** - 71 Apartments

Since 2016 Dublin City Council has built 240 rapid build homes (not including AHB stock). This represents below 1% (0.009) of our housing stock (total housing stock is 26,541).

Since the rapid build homes were constructed, we have had 1,951 repair requests for these type of homes, which compares very favourably with our older housing stock. We are not in a position to provide a breakdown of these figures for the past three years, however, it works out at an average of 8.15 requests per unit over six years, which is a little over 1 request per rapid build unit per annum.

**Q.42 COUNCILLOR DERMOT LACEY**

To ask the Chief Executive if he will contact the owner of the Martello tower in Sandymount seeking discussions on the future of same.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

This building is in private ownership and its future use etc. is a matter for the owner.

**Q.43 COUNCILLOR DERMOT LACEY**

To ask the Chief Executive if he has any meetings with the Secretary General of the Department of Housing, Heritage and Local Government in 2022 and if so the purpose and outcome of those meetings.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The Chief Executive has had no one to one meetings with the Secretary General of the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage in 2022. However, the Secretary General attended a meeting of the Dublin Housing Delivery Group on 9 February 2022, which was chaired by the Chief Executive.

**Q.44 COUNCILLOR DERMOT LACEY**

To ask the Chief Executive if he can seek to expedite planning for flood protection works at the northern end of Sandymount Strand and to outline a possible timescale and anticipated delays in progressing this.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Any flood alleviation measures on the coastline have to go through a large number of stages to complete planning. For this section of defence works which is just over 700m in length, the Tender Documents have been completed to procure a Consultant for Stage I: Scheme Development and Preliminary Design and Stage II: Planning Statutory Delivery Route and Public Exhibition. These Tender Documents are currently being checked by the Council's *Central Procurement Unit* and the *OPW*.

Our aim is to advertise for a Consultant in June 2022, complete the procurement and appoint the Consultant in Quarter 4 of this year. Following the appointment of the Consultant, the development of the design options, Project Risk Register and Project Programme showing all the key milestones to Project completion - Part 10 planning permission through An Bord Pleanála, procurement of Consultant for the Construction

Stage, procurement of construction Contractor, construction period, handover of completed works – can then be advised and presented.

The possible delays in progressing to completion of planning are as follows:

1. Development of a scheme that meets the required cost beneficial ratios.
2. Getting approvals from the *OPW* to progress the scheme at the different project milestones.
3. Obtaining Planning Permission from An Bord Pleanála.
4. Getting buy in from the public and other stakeholders.
5. Obtaining statutory environmental agreements.
6. Obtaining a foreshore licence.
7. Agreements with existing arterial underground service providers.
8. Securing funding for the preferred option.

**Q.45 COUNCILLOR DERMOT LACEY**

To ask the Chief Executive to consider the inclusion of the RTE Mast at Donnybrook on the list of protected structures as a symbol of the modernising of Ireland in the 1960's.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The RTE Mast at Donnybrook is on the list of nominations for addition to the City Council's Record of Protected Structures (RPS).

This area has not yet been surveyed by the National Inventory of Architectural Heritage (NIAH) in their ongoing, phased survey of the city. Once the survey of the area has been completed, the Conservation Section will review any recommendation published by the NIAH and/or the Minister in relation to the RTE Mast at Donnybrook.

**Q.46 COUNCILLOR DEIRDRE CONROY**

To ask the Chief Executive how will the City Council detail community funding in relation to a new provision provided by Government, to support Ukrainians and our local communities supporting locals and Ukrainians. As the list from the Government includes Disability Access which will require re-construction on some Community buildings, I am including Evergreen Community Hall in Terenure as a request to be funded. **(See details supplied).**

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The members of Dublin City Local Community Development Committee have been informed of the scheme and will support any applicants as requested. To date, there are no applications submitted.

**Q.47 COUNCILLOR DEIRDRE CONROY**

To ask the Chief Executive in respect of Government Minister for Housing requesting that Local Authority can purchase empty houses for the necessity and needs of the Ukrainian people having to come to Ireland, local residents are asking now if empty houses can also be purchased for current homeless people in Dublin and people on the waiting list?

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

It is the policy of Dublin City Council to use the acquisition programme to address the needs of those on our social housing waiting list, and we acquire properties in line with the guidelines set out by the Department of Housing.

These guidelines set out the categories of housing need for whom a Local Authority can seek to acquire properties for, they include the following.

- One bedroom units to deliver on Housing First and meet the short supply in this category
- Other properties that allow persons/families to exit homelessness; and
- Specific housing required for/suitable for individuals with a disability or other particular priority needs

The most recent Circular from the Department reinstated the delegated sanction to local authorities, which allows Dublin City Council to acquire properties and recoup the funding following the purchase of the property.

**Q.48 COUNCILLOR COLM O'ROURKE**

To ask the Chief Executive to ensure that Dublin City Council takes a more leading role in celebrating National Tree Week, which is held annually in March, and to hold several initiatives, including but not limited to partnering with Coillte to offer free trees to members of the public.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Dublin City Council is represented on the board of the Tree Council of Ireland by the City Tree Officer. During National Tree Week. In partnership with Coillte, Dublin City organised two events in Tolka Valley Park and Lansdowne Valley Park. Where 1,000 trees were planted. Events have been limited however, due to covid and it is intended to have at least one event in each Area Committee in 2023. With regard to the distribution of small tree whips to the public, our preference would be to plant the trees with community involvement to ensure that they are planted correctly in locations where they can be monitored and maintained. However, there was a programme that was to be trialled in the North Inner City in 2020 but had to be stopped due to the COVID pandemic. This will now happen during the next planting season.

**Q.49 COUNCILLOR COLM O'ROURKE**

To ask the Chief Executive to remove the poles with lights at the top that were previously installed as a feature on Dorset Street and Drumcondra Road but no longer work as the light bulbs for these poles cannot be replaced, causing unnecessary clutter.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

A final effort will be made to try and source a suitable replacement light. If that proves unsuccessful arrangements will be made to remove the columns.

**Q.50 COUNCILLOR JOE COSTELLO**

To ask the Chief Executive to request a report from the City Archivist/City Librarian on the links between Dublin and Bristol, considering that 2022 marks the 850th anniversary of the signing of the Charter by King Henry II of England, granting the City of Dublin to "his men of Bristol"; that the report be circulated to all councillors and to the Protocol Committee with a view to examining and developing future links between the two Cities.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

A report will be drafted and circulated as requested, as soon as the new City Archivist has taken up duty.

**Q.51 COUNCILLOR JOE COSTELLO**

To ask the Chief Executive to establish a one-stop-shop in the City to advise neighbourhoods on establishing sustainable energy communities; to advise on grant availability and to facilitate grant applications.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Dublin City Council is working in collaboration with the SEAI and CoDEMA to assist Sustainable Energy Communities develop Energy Master Plans (EMPs). To this end, experienced mentors have been appointed to work with communities to help them avail of support through the SEAI SEC programme. The SEAI require Energy Master Plans to guide communities as they progress on a more sustainable pathway and seek funding.

Communities have in the past faced a cash flow problem in respect of funding their Energy Master Plans. DCC recognised this issue and has appointed a panel of consultants to assist. DCC will fund the EMPs (on a cost neutral basis, claiming back agreed fees paid out from SEAI) to allow SECs focus on getting organised and formulating their EMPs.

A series of webinars and presentations were conducted to raise awareness and to facilitate networking and there is an active list of SECs at various stages of preparedness to proceed.

The panel of consultants was appointed earlier this year and already the process of EMP engagement has commenced in several SECs who are organised and prepared for the process. There are approximately 30 SECs in Dublin City, with about one third of these in the active cohort.

Many control measures and quality guidance templates have been developed to ensure that SECs follow a 'best practice' process and to track necessary administration. In addition, DCC will look to pilot innovative projects in SECs, with a view to future roll out and awareness raising across the City.

**Q.52 COUNCILLOR JOE COSTELLO**

To ask the Chief Executive to outline what steps he has taken to assist the artists who are threatened with eviction from the Richmond Road Studios.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The City Arts Office have been in contact with Richmond Road Studios and advised them of upcoming applications for new Artists Workspaces at Artane Place. It is estimated that 1,500 spaces of this kind are needed in Dublin and the deficit is leading to severe pressure on Artists finding space.

Further temporary and long term use of council owned buildings at Curved Street, Meeting House Square and 7/8/9 Merchants Quay are planned for this year subject to Planning and making these buildings safe for the occupants.

At the recent North Central Area Meeting Cllrs requested that City Valuers explore the possible purchase of the building at Richmond Road and this can be explored subject to budgetary requirements and suitability for purchase.

**Q.53 COUNCILLOR JOE COSTELLO**

To ask the Chief Executive if he can act to remedy the situation whereby the waiting time for NCT tests in Dublin is now six months.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Responsibility for NCT Testing lies outside Dublin City Councils operational control. Enquiries related to this service should be directed to the Road Safety Authority.

**Q.54 COUNCILLOR DEIRDRE HENEY**

To ask the Chief Executive in relation to the hazardous tree root protrusion in footpath at **(details supplied)**, can he please attend to same as a matter of urgency and make the area safe as vulnerable pedestrians and our elders are in danger of sustaining serious injury as a result of same.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Road Maintenance Services will complete an inspection of the footpath at **(details supplied)**. If any defects are found they will be noted and recorded. A repair will then be scheduled for when one of our crews is working in the area

The tree at **(details supplied)** will be listed for inspection and any necessary works will be carried out.

Roads Maintenance have been notified and asked to investigate the condition of the footpath.

**Q.55 COUNCILLOR DEIRDRE HENEY**

To ask the Chief Executive in relation to the path at **(details supplied)**, can he please arrange to have necessary repairs carried out as it is a danger to pedestrians, particularly our elders, one of whom recently tripped and fell down, causing serious injury to her face, jaw and eye; she also broke her wrist.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Road Maintenance Services will complete an inspection of the footpath at **(details supplied)**. If any defects are found they will be noted and recorded. A repair will then be scheduled for when one of our crews is working in the area

**Q.56 COUNCILLOR DEIRDRE HENEY**

To ask the Chief Executive in relation to **(details supplied)** to say where he is on the housing list and confirm if medical evidence has been taken into account in relation to his underlying health conditions. He needs to get out of his current home which is unsafe for a man of his age in life.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The above applicant is on Band 3 of the Older Person's Housing List with a registration date of 01/06/2021 and the applicant's positions are listed as follows:

<b>Area</b>	<b>Bedsizes</b>	<b>Position</b>
Area B	1	43
Area M	1	75
South Dublin County Council	Details unavailable	Details unavailable

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

On 15/02/2022 the applicant was issued with a mainstream HAP pack, and a referral letter to Homeless Services to request an eligibility assessment for Homeless HAP.

The applicant also submitted an application for priority under Exceptional Medical Grounds on 18/02/2022 and was recently notified in writing that the Medical Examiner did not award the priority. Any appeal to this decision should be submitted in writing, with further medical documentation to support the appeal.

The applicant should contact their landlord regarding the need for repairs or other concerns. If this does not resolve the issue of the standard of the accommodation the tenant may refer the issues to the Environmental Health Section for investigation of a violation of Private Rental standards. The section can be contacted on 01 222 6500 or [privaterented@dublincity.ie](mailto:privaterented@dublincity.ie).

The applicant's contact details have been passed on to a Housing Support Officer to follow up with the applicant in relation to his current living situation.

**Q.57 COUNCILLOR DEIRDRE HENEY**

To ask the Chief Executive to make right/secure the manhole cover at (**details supplied**).

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

A DCC Drainage Crew identified the manhole on 29/04/2022 and have taken measures to temporarily prevent the banging cover. The frame and cover will be fully exchanged shortly as a permanent solution.

**Q.58 COUNCILLOR DANNY BYRNE**

To ask the Chief Executive how many unauthorised developments investigations were carried out in 2019, 2020, 2021 and 2022 to date. How many warning letters were issued in each year and in how many cases were legal proceedings issued in each year.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Please see attached spreadsheet.

**Q.59 COUNCILLOR DARRAGH MORIARTY**

To ask the Chief Executive to confirm the timeline for when a Director of Service level staff member, supported by a small team, will be assigned fulltime by DCC to coordinate the local response between all of the agencies and community groups engaged in support and service provision to the Ukrainians. Can the Chief Executive also explain how this position will be resourced and what impact, if any, it will have on services provided?

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The Dublin City response to the Ukrainian humanitarian situation is currently being coordinated between the Housing and Community Services Department, Dublin Fire Brigade and Civil Defence. No specific staff member has been assigned to this task but staff at Director of Service level and above are coordinating all interactions. To date the following actions have been undertaken:

- Provision of temporary rest centres for newly arrived Ukrainians since 16 March. We have operated up to 4 rest centres as short term accommodation, with capacity for 220 people, dealing with nearly 600 people in total over that time. Dublin regional rest centre operations moved to Ballyogan on the 27th April so we have closed all our rest

centres for now. Depending on numbers coming into the state, we may need to revisit this.

- Sourcing of approximately 400 rooms across the City for the International Protection Accommodation Service in the Department of Children as medium term accommodation.

- Providing a list of unused buildings within the City to IPAS as possible longer-term accommodation. The Department of Children have engaged some ex-Senior LG officials to lead out on these properties.

- We are assisting IPAS, Irish Red Cross and Department of Children with the assessment of pledged properties under the Red Cross pledge scheme. So far, 44 properties have been passed on to us with 28 proceeding to inspection and 11 to providing accommodation. This is phase 1, which relates to vacant properties. We await information on shared pledges.

- We continue to manage and facilitate the Community Forum on Ukraine for the City, which brings together all stakeholders to discuss and coordinate delivery of services to newly arrived Ukrainians.

**Q.60 COUNCILLOR DARRAGH MORIARTY**

To ask the Chief Executive to provide a list of the vacant buildings given to the Department of Housing as part of the 500+ sites given by the 31 Local Authorities across the country, which could be repurposed for housing Ukrainian refugees in the short-term.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Dublin City Council has submitted 11 properties to the Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth as part of the 500+ sites. It should be noted that the availability of appropriate properties in the Dublin City Area is significantly curtailed due to economic activity and constraints on Housing supply. Most suitable available properties have already been assessed for other uses. Of the 11 properties, 4 have been activated and The Abigail Centre is the only one in the ownership of Dublin City Council. The Abigail Centre is deemed unsuitable due to its impending development. The remaining properties are in the ownership of third parties. The assessment and negotiations are the responsibility of the Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth.

**Q.61 COUNCILLOR DARRAGH MORIARTY**

To ask the Chief Executive to provide an indicative timeline for when DCC will bring Donore Avenue Youth and Community back into use.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

CRES are putting in place an Architect-Led Multi-Disciplinary Design Team, with input from City Architects for procurement matters, which is due shortly.

CRES are liaising with the insurers and loss adjusters, with technical input from City Architects.

Technical information is required by the Insurers to allow for a safe inspection to be carried out on the locus of the fire by forensic engineers.

A meeting with CRES, DCC Architects and the Insurers Design Team/Engineers will be arranged to discuss repair scope and enable DCC progress with works.

Following that meeting a time line should be available and a report made available with a more concise timeline and project works schedule.

**Q.62 COUNCILLOR CAT O'DRISCOLL**

To ask the Chief Executive what the current status on the Victorian Fruit Market is and to indicate an expected timeline for activity to begin there?

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The Part 8 permission for the Fruit and Vegetable Market allows for the full conservation and refurbishment works needed to secure this iconic Victorian building into the future. It also provides for the introduction of a retail food Market in the building and all associated works to bring to modern food production standards.

A meeting of the Markets Advisory Group is being convened in the coming days to agree a methodology for completing essential conservation works using monies secured from the URDF. A Conservation Architect has been engaged to scope the works with a view to producing a tender package during the summer. It is envisaged that these works will commence quarter 3 of 2022. The remaining works and the operation of the market will be discussed with the Group.

An exact timeline will be available when contracts are in place.

**Q.63 COUNCILLOR VINCENT JACKSON**

To ask the Chief Executive to consider placing a tree in the footpath outside **(details supplied)**. There was a tree previously in the footpath here, however it was removed like so many others and never replaced. The constituent is having lots of problems with people parking on the footpath outside his home on some occasion's cars were left / abandoned and DCC / An Garda Síochána had to remove them. The planting of a Tree will stop the footpath car parking and provide a beautiful Tree.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Parks have inspected the above location and found that due to the presence of overhead wires the location is unsuitable for replacement tree planting.

**Q.64 COUNCILLOR VINCENT JACKSON**

To ask the Chief Executive to review the housing situation of **(details supplied)**.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The above applicant was nominated to a 3 bed house with Tuath Housing in June 2020. We have recently received a transfer application from her with supporting documents, which will be processed & registered to a date in June 2022 when she will have held her Tuath tenancy for 2 years.

The applicant is advised to link in with the Social Work section on 01 222 2233 to submit an application for priority under Exceptional Social Grounds given her current circumstances.

The applicant may also wish to look into [www.homeswapper.ie](http://www.homeswapper.ie) to explore the possibility of a mutual exchange with the tenant of another 3 bed social housing unit away from **(details supplied)**.

**Q.65 COUNCILLOR VINCENT JACKSON**

To ask the Chief Executive to provide the procedure for a drive-in dishing at **(details supplied)** to the lady who lives here with her young child. The house was constructed approx. 16 years ago but never had a proper dishing other than the vehicle access.



**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

If there is a need to modify a footpath to allow vehicles to enter and exit the property then an application will be required to DCC, Road Maintenance, for permission. There are two ways that this application can be made:

- A) Apply directly to Road Maintenance to install the vehicular dishing.
- B) Employ a contractor to install the vehicular dishing under a Road opening Licence and T2 permit.

If you choose option (A) for a property that has had a vehicular entrance for a very long time, you would need to obtain a sworn affidavit in lieu of planning permission. This affidavit must certify that the entrance has been used for vehicle access for at least 7 years. This signed declaration can be obtained through a solicitor or a peace commissioner.

Once this is in place, contact [road.maintenance@dublincity.ie](mailto:road.maintenance@dublincity.ie) or 222-2556 and request the Area Inspector, Ken Fitzgerald, to call out, inspect and provide an estimate for the works. The current fee for a vehicular dishing is €556.00 for a standard 7 Sq.M. If agreed the works will be scheduled to be carried out by DCC direct labour.

If you choose option (B) the client would hire a competent contractor to carry out the works under a Road Opening Licence and a T2 permit to legally carry out works to a public footpath. This is the more expensive option with a bond being taken and held for a 24 month maintenance period. This document can be viewed on DCC website, [www.dublincity.ie](http://www.dublincity.ie), home, residential, transportation, apply for a licence or permit, Road Opening Licence. This application can only be made by the main contractor.

**Q.66 COUNCILLOR VINCENT JACKSON**

To ask the Chief Executive to draw up a full biodiversity plan for the Chapelizod Area of Dublin 20. This beautiful village probably the finest in our administrative area needs to be protected and enhanced going forward on the banks of the River Liffey and surrounded by the Phoenix Park. The area has some major infrastructural issues with a combined sewage system which can leak in addition there are 2 houses at the bridge which when the stump blocks raw sewage can flow into the River Liffey. The Chapelizod Tidy Towns Committee representative Mr Peter Kavanagh would be delighted to work alongside our bio-diversity officer on this plan as it all impacts on the National Tidy Towns initiatives.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Any issue in relation to sewage should be initially raised with Irish Water. As agents for Irish Water, DCC Drainage is not aware of any issues at this location.

The Biodiversity Officer will be happy to work with Mr Kavanagh and Chapelizod Tidy Towns Committee to advise on biodiversity and explore the potential for developing a biodiversity action plan for the Chapelizod Area.

**Q.67 COUNCILLOR DAITHÍ DOOLAN**

To ask the Chief Executive In light of the damage done to the Glebe House, a building built in 1791 and a protected structure in the Crumlin Architectural Conservation Area, will Dublin City Council request that the owner Seabren Developments Ltd carry out the necessary repairs restore the house immediately?

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The reconstruction and/or restoration of Glebe House, St. Agnes Road, Crumlin, following the recent fire, is a matter for the owner of the property. As the building is a

protected structure, the procedures involved should be advised by Chapter 16: Making Good Disaster Damage of the Architectural Heritage Protection Guidelines for Planning Authorities (2011).

The Conservation Section will inspect the site and will contact the owner regarding immediate action required as well as be available to advise the owner on request.

**Q.68 COUNCILLOR DAITHÍ DOOLAN**

To ask the Chief Executive for a full and detailed update on maintaining works carried out since January 2022 in Lissadel Maisonettes, Drimnagh?

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

There are 50 Maisonettes on Lissadel Road and Rafter's Lane. Since January 2022, Housing Maintenance has completed and/or inspected 51 jobs that have been logged with us. They are broken down as follows:

Type of Works	Completed	Inspected but cancelled
Electrical	11	10*
Plumbing	8	
Heating	5	
Pest	4	
Other	4	
Choke Car	3	
PVC	1	
Plastering	1	
Carpentry	1	
Brick Work	1	
Roofing	1	
Glazing	1	
<b>Total</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>10*</b>

\*This refers to call outs for Electrical Services works that upon inspection did not require any further works.

Furthermore, Housing Maintenance has arranged conditional surveys of all the maisonettes in Lissadel and Rafter's Lane. There are a total of 50 maisonettes between Lissadel and Rafter's Lane.

We have a number of properties that it has proven difficult to gain access to in order to inspect them, however, the Residents' Association are assisting us with this. We have gained access to and we have completed conditional surveys of just over 60% of the maisonette units and we have someone on site everyday calling and getting assistance from the Residents' Association, in order to progress this.

We have a contractor onsite working through the issues on the properties that we have been able to gain access to and the surveys are still ongoing. The majority of the issues relate to smoke alarms, fire blankets, ventilation, mould, and issues in a number of

bathrooms. The work so far has involved upgrading of smoke and fire alarms in approximately 15 units and installing mechanical ventilation in around 4 units. There is also currently 4 units where there are some issues in the bathrooms and once these works are complete, the Council will arrange for the units to be painted with an anti-mould paint.

**Q.69 COUNCILLOR DAITHÍ DOOLAN**

To ask the Chief Executive When will the feasibility study on the future plans for Lissadel Maisonettes be ready and circulated to City Councillors?

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Dublin City Council's City Architects division are currently finalising the feasibility study examining the redevelopment proposals for Lissadel Maisonettes.

Once the feasibility study has been completed and costed, a presentation showing the proposals will be given to the local elected members.

**Q.70 COUNCILLOR DAITHÍ DOOLAN**

To ask the Chief Executive How many 2 and 3 bed units did DCC acquire as part of the Tenant in Situ since DCC began the initiative?

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Dublin City Council initiated the Tenant in Situ scheme towards the end of 2017. Since then the Council has acquired 81 two bedroom and 61 three bedroom tenant in situ properties.

**Q.71 COUNCILLOR SÉAMAS MCGRATTAN**

To ask the Chief Executive to inspect the playing pitches at **(details supplied)** and arrange for any upgrade works if needed.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

An inspection of the pitches at **(details supplied)** is scheduled for the coming weeks. Any works deemed necessary will be included in the prioritised pitch care programme for 2022, subject to available resources.

**Q.72 COUNCILLOR SÉAMAS MCGRATTAN**

To ask the Chief Executive when will the insulation programme restart for tenants in the Cabra/Glasnevin ward?

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Cabra and Glasnevin are part of the same lot under the Energy Efficiency Retrofitting Programme framework. The Energy Efficiency Retrofitting Programme for 2022 has now recommenced, including works in the Cabra and Glasnevin lot.

**Q.73 COUNCILLOR SÉAMAS MCGRATTAN**

To ask the Chief Executive to install a yellow box at the junction of **(details supplied)**.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

During recent site inspections carried out by the Area Engineer, there was no continuous blocking of the junction at peak times, therefore the Transport Advisory Group do not recommend the installation of a yellow box at this time.

**Q.74 COUNCILLOR SOPHIE NICOULLAUD**

To ask the Chief Executive to provide information on how DCC can participate in offering a solution for resident's whose bins have been burnt from ASB to replace their bin. Before privatisation of waste, how did the corporation deal with the matter?

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

When Waste Management Services was in the waste collection service, we would remove the burnt bin for the customer and provide them with a replacement bin. The charge for this replacement bin went on their next bill. This problem usually arose around Halloween time and the best solution was when residents would ensure their bins weren't out any longer than necessary, which minimised the occurrence of these burnings. The burning of bins would be part of Garda investigation into anti- social behaviour in any given area.

The tenant concerned should contact the Area Manager to report all incidents of anti-social behaviour. Bins are replaced for Senior Citizens and Council apartment (flat) complexes by reporting same to Housing Maintenance. All other households should contact their private operator.

**Q.75 COUNCILLOR SOPHIE NICOULLAUD**

To ask the Chief Executive to provide the following update concerning the Lissadel Maisonettes: how many duplexes are in the complex, how many asked to be repaired and how many have been repaired. What is the timeline for the rest of them.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

There are 50 Maisonettes on Lissadel Road and Rafter's Lane. Since January 2022, Housing Maintenance has completed and/or inspected 51 jobs that have been logged with us. They are broken down as follows:

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Brick Work	1	
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We have a contractor onsite working through the issues on the properties that we have been able to gain access to and the surveys are still ongoing. The majority of the issues relate to smoke alarms, fire blankets, ventilation, mould, and issues in a number of bathrooms. The work so far has involved upgrading of smoke and fire alarms in approximately 15 units and installing mechanical ventilation in around 4 units. There is also currently 4 units where there are some issues in the bathrooms and once these works are complete, the Council will arrange for the units to be painted with an anti-mould paint.

**Q.76 COUNCILLOR SOPHIE NICOULLAUD**

To ask the Chief Executive where and when will the trial for water stations in parks take place? Will DCC consider doing a trial in the Ballyfermot/Drimnagh constituency?

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

There is one Northside location (Poppintree) and two locations on the Southside of the City (Bushy Park and Ringsend Park) earmarked for trials of additional water stations in parks. The stations will be installed this year. If they are deemed successful Parks will look at rolling them out in other parks next year subject to funding.

**Q.77 COUNCILLOR CAROLINE CONROY**

To ask the Chief Executive can bike racks for blepper bikes please be located near the Community Hall beside the sacred heart boy's school, Ballygall, Dublin 11.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The location near the Community Hall at Ballygall will be examined and if deemed suitable cycle parking will be installed as part of Batch 19 of the On-Street Cycle Parking Project.

**Q.78 COUNCILLOR CAROLINE CONROY**

To ask the Chief Executive can bike racks be located outside Finglas Childcare Ltd?

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The footpath adjacent to Finglas Childcare Ltd. is unsuitable for installing cycle parking given the available width for vulnerable road users. Installing cycle parking on the carriageway is not possible as it would impede traffic flow due to the bus stop and car park directly opposite.

Given that there are 8no. Cycle parking spaces less than 60m away at the junction with Jamestown Road and a further 10no. Cycle parking spaces 90m away on Jamestown Road, the Environment & Transportation Department are not considering installing further cycle parking at this time.

**Q.79 COUNCILLOR KEITH CONNOLLY**

To ask the Chief Executive to carry out a review of the traffic light sequencing at (details supplied).

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The ITS section has reviewed the traffic signal timings at the junction of **(details supplied 1)** in light of your query.

The Traffic signals at this junction are controlled by the City Council's Urban Traffic Management System, SCATS. SCATS is an adaptive traffic control system that alters signal timings based on traffic flows and traffic demands taken from vehicle detectors at each approach to the junction.

The traffic signal timings at this junction allow a maximum of 30% of available green time each cycle of the traffic signals to the **(details supplied 2)** approach.

The traffic signal cycle time fluctuates dependant on traffic demand with a maximum cycle time of 100 seconds being normal during peak times.

Extra timings are also added by BusPriority systems when a bus approaches the junction on the **(details supplied 2)** approach.

The **(details supplied 3)** approach is the main approach at this junction and traffic volume data shows it to carry the highest traffic volumes.

As SCATS has to manage multiple other approaches, public transport priority and busy pedestrian demand at this junction, there would not appear to be scope to further increase signal timings for the **(details supplied 2)** approach but the junction will continue to be monitored and changes made as required where there is scope to do so.

**Q.80 COUNCILLOR KEITH CONNOLLY**

To ask the Chief Executive following Q63 of the January Council meeting when will the wall be repaired at **(details supplied)**.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Parks services bricklayer has inspected this work and listed requirements. Due to a combination of unforeseen circumstances and heavy workload has not managed to complete this work yet. Once other commitments in the Central District are completed, these works will be carried out.

**Q.81 COUNCILLOR KEITH CONNOLLY**

To ask the Chief Executive following on from question 52 of the July 2020 when will the potholes be repaired in the car park at **(details supplied)?**

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

An inspection was carried out here and a number of defects were identified previously. These were due to be repaired in Jan 2022 (Council Question Q15 Dec 2021) but were pushed back due to crew availability. There are now due to be completed in the coming days with a crew assigned to the task.

**Q.82 COUNCILLOR KEITH CONNOLLY**

To ask the Chief Executive to provide a report on the recent changes to the grass cutting in the city outlining:

- A) Why was there a delay in grass cutting?
- B) The main changes from the previous contract
- C) How often will the grass be cut going forward
- D) Will a before and after system be put in place

- E) Are there penalties associated with insufficient performance of the contract?  
 F) How long is the duration of the contract?

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

**A) Why was there a delay in grass cutting?** : There were problems relating to direct labour works which resulted in a delay in some areas in controlling the seasonal grass growth. This has been resolved.

**B) The main changes from the previous contract:** Elimination of herbicide use in lieu of strimming using battery powered equipment. Weekly attendance on site for litter picking and grass maintenance. Providing for more wildflower meadows which will be cut less frequently.

In accordance with a more sustainable policy and to support the establishment of wildflower rich swards, DCC will not be cutting grass margins in residential estates. Residents who wish to maintain a more manicured margin can do so. This policy is in keeping with the policy of the other local authorities in the country. Support for Tidy Towns and environmental groups who wish to contribute to the appearance of their neighbourhood streets will be available by contacting their local public domain officer.

**C) How often will the grass be cut going forward:** Standard Grass Sward Maintenance: the contract is based on height of cut. It is not based on the number of cuts per year. Standard grass maintenance must be within the following limits:

Maximum permitted height of grass growth	60 mm
Minimum permitted cutting height	30 mm

For playing fields/sports pitches:

Maximum permitted height of grass growth	40 mm
Minimum permitted cutting height	20 mm

**D) Will a before and after system be put in place**

**E) Are there penalties associated with insufficient performance of the contract?**  
 :

The Parks Service will be monitoring Contractors performance over the period of the contract/framework. DCC may give a Contractor a written notification and the Contractor must demonstrate to DCC's satisfaction that it has implemented steps to redress the problem. DCC can exclude a Contractor from any competition under the Framework in which it is due to participate until the Contractor has demonstrated to DCC's satisfaction that it has implemented steps to redress any issues raised. DCC may terminate a Contract and remove a Contractor from the Framework if unsatisfactory service continues.

**F) How long is the duration of the contract?**

The Framework Agreement will be for a period of 4 years, 2022 -2025.

**Q.83 COUNCILLOR BRIEGE MACOSCAR**

To ask the Chief Executive to provide an update on the installation of a single yellow line at **(details supplied)**. Single yellow lines had been recommended at the bottom of the lay by near the green space but were not installed. The return of schools and colleges to full activity has led to frequent dangerous parking and commuter parking at this location making access to drive ways difficult.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The Transport Advisory Group have recommended the installation of double yellow lines at **(details supplied)**, and these are to be installed at the eastern end of the lay by in the coming weeks (weather permitting).

**Q.84 COUNCILLOR BRIEGE MACOSCAR**

To ask the Chief Executive to outline why public lighting on **(details supplied)** were repaired by 'looping' between two lights so that a cable runs between them?

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Overhead public lighting cables are used:

- Where there is no underground ESB cable or infrastructure available;
- Where there is an ESB dead service to a column;
- Where there is a cable fault on an underground cable that is cost prohibitive to repair; or,
- As a temporary measure to keep lights operational, until a cable fault can be fixed or to facilitate building works by others.

With regards to the overhead cable between poles **(details supplied)** that the Councillor is referring to, this particular overhead cable was replaced in 2016.

**Q.85 COUNCILLOR DECLAN FLANAGAN**

To ask the Chief Executive for an update regarding DCC's action plan for climate change and if he will make a statement on the matter.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

A special meeting of the City Council is proposed, the Chief Executives Department will advise of the date in due course.

A Special City Council meeting regarding the DCC Climate Change Action Plan will be held on Tuesday, 17<sup>th</sup> May 2022 at 6.15pm in the Council Chamber, City Hall.

**Q.86 COUNCILLOR DECLAN FLANAGAN**

To ask the Chief Executive whether there are plans to use modular housing to house Ukrainian refugees and if he will make a statement on the matter.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Dublin City Council is not progressing or aware of any plans to progress modular housing for Ukrainian refugees in its administrative area at this time.

**Q.87 COUNCILLOR DECLAN FLANAGAN**

To ask the Chief Executive for an update regarding the 4 following capital projects and whether there is a full complement of project managers in place to deal with all DCC projects

- Parnell Square Cultural Quarter
- Dalymount Park
- Public Lighting Upgrade Project
- North city operation Depot

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

- **Parnell Square Cultural Quarter:**



A Project Manager was appointed by competition to the Parnell Square Cultural Quarter in January 2021.

An Bord Pleanála approval and a preliminary design is in place for the Parnell Square Project Phase 1. Phase 1 includes the demolition of the existing Amhraclann building, a new City Library, essential works to Georgian houses 25 to 28 and full fit out of House No 27. Essential works to the Hugh Lane Gallery have also been incorporated into the Project. Works to the Public Realm are not included in Phase 1.

Initial approval for URDF (Urban regeneration and development fund) is in place with work focusing on the preliminary business case at present in line with the Public Spending Code.

The SAQ (Suitability Assessment Questionnaire) for the demolition of the Amhraclann tender returned on 08th April 2022. Four tenderers have been invited to go through to the next stage. We remain on target to have the demolition Contractor on site by late summer 2022.

Following the termination of the incumbent multi-disciplinary design team, an SAQ for a restructured design team was published on the 30<sup>th</sup> April 2022 and will return on the 03<sup>rd</sup> June 2022. It will be led by a Quantity Surveyor to ensure that cost management is top of the agenda. It will be a single party framework.

Following the appointment of the restructured design team, the detailed design of Phase 1 will take approximately one year.

Completion of the project is due for 2027.

### **Dalymount Park:**

The current plan for the redeveloped Dalymount Park is:

- UEFA Category 3 Stadium with a capacity of 6000
- Community Facilities including a new library and flexible community facilities
- A project Manager, Project Board & Project team is in place to deliver the refurbishment of Dalymount Park.

A project Manager, Project Board & Project team is in place to deliver the refurbishment of Dalymount Park. A preliminary design for the Dalymount Park Redevelopment Project was completed by the appointed architect led design team, and is currently being reassessed after input from a number of stakeholders.

There is funding in place to get the project up to the construction stage via a grant from the Large Scale Sports Infrastructure Fund (LSSIF) stream 1 and internal DCC funding. The current plan is to lodge a Part 8 Planning Permission Applicant in Quarter 4 2022. The further progress of the project following the planning process is uncertain until the City Council receive further clarity about the application process for Steam 2 of LSSIF.

The Tender Evaluation Process for the Public Lighting Upgrade Project has just been completed and approval has been given to proceed to the next stage which is to establish the Framework and award the first contract.

There is a Project Manager in place for the project.

The NCOD project commenced in May 2020 and is due for completion in late 2022. The construction of all building elements of the complex are well advanced at this

stage. In the coming 2-3 months is it expected that all buildings will be weather-tight and internal works will advance. The project is on programme and on budget at present. The Council has a Project Manager and Team assigned fulltime to this project.

**Q.88 COUNCILLOR DECLAN FLANAGAN**

To ask the Chief Executive when is it planned to permanently re-instate (**details supplied 1**) after the recent works & can the potholes along this full stretch of road up to (**details supplied 2**) be fixed. Are there plans to request extra funds from central government to deal with the shocking deterioration of roads in the North Central Area.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

With respect to (**details 1 up to details 2 supplied**), Irish Water installed a service connection to The Bunratty Housing Development. Irish Water's Contractor have yet to complete their permanent reinstatement. The permanent reinstatement, including the grass verges, is scheduled for the start of June.

The remaining part of (**details 1 up to details 2 supplied**) are not part of the North Central Areas works programme in 2022. Road Maintenance will note this location and consider its inclusion in the 2023 works programme or should additional funding become available this year.

Road Maintenance Services is in the process of applying to the National Transport Authority for additional funding to support the delivery of the 'Active Travel Elements' of the Division's Annual Works Programme. If successful this could allow for the completion of some additional carriageway and footpath renewal works, however this will be subject to the tenders sums received from contractors at tender competition stage. We note that there are currently significant inflationary pressures in the market.

**Q.89 COUNCILLOR TERENCE FLANAGAN**

To ask the Chief Executive to deal with the litter & dumping between (**details supplied**). Can this area be cleaned & dealt with & can new flowers & shrubs be planted to improve the appearance.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Waste Management Services clean the main (**details supplied**) and empty the litter bins along there on a daily basis. We remove dumped rubbish from there when necessary to do so. We will ensure that every effort is continued to be made to keep this location as clean as possible.

Parks will arrange for the area at (**details supplied**) to be inspected and if it is deemed suitable and appropriate, it will be included in forthcoming planting programmes.

**Q.90 COUNCILLOR TERENCE FLANAGAN**

To ask the Chief Executive to have the yellow box painted at the entrance (**details supplied**).

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The location will be inspected in the coming days. Any requirement for the yellow box to be painted at the entrance will be carried out within 30 working days of the Council Meeting on May 9<sup>th</sup> 2022.

**Q.91 COUNCILLOR TERENCE FLANAGAN**

To ask the Chief Executive to have the leaning lamppost outside (**details supplied**) repaired or replaced.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

We will get Pole 8 at House (**details supplied**), examined, and any repairs necessary will be carried out.

**Q.92 COUNCILLOR TERENCE FLANAGAN**

To ask the Chief Executive to have the following works carried out at (**details supplied**). The road swept especially in the middle. There is a lot of dirt, stones & sand along this stretch to Baldoyle. The road markings repainted as they are fading along this stretch of road.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Waste Management Services have the above mentioned road swept every morning and we will ensure that any grit or dirt in the middle of the road is cleared as best we can from this busy road traffic wise.

The location will be inspected in the coming days. Any requirement for the road markings to be repainted along this stretch of road, will be carried out within 30 working days of the Council Meeting on May 9th 2022.

**Q.93 COUNCILLOR NAOISE Ó MUIRÍ**

To ask the Chief Executive to undertake a detailed examination of the legal issues raised in (**details supplied**) with respect to a letter of consent which was subsequently used in planning application 3617/22. Can the CEO provide a detailed response to all items raised including the legal basis under which the Executive can give such a consent.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The proposals as set out in planning application 3617/22 were the subject of consideration by the DCC Telecoms unit (set up in 23<sup>rd</sup> Feb 2022), the Planning and Development Department, and the Parks Service.

The Law Agent has advised as follows:

*“The legal basis for the requirement of the consent of the owner for a planning application is Regulation 22 (2) (g) of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001 – 2021 which concerns the content of planning applications generally. Regulation 22(2)(g) provides that where the applicant is not the legal owner of the land that the application for permission shall be accompanied by the written consent of the owner. The consent involved is merely a consent to submit a planning application. It does not imply any consent to dispose or deal with the land in any way. It merely indicates that the owner is consenting to the application being submitted by a party that is not the owner.*

*The giving of a consent to submit a planning application in respect of local authority owned lands is an executive function pursuant to Section 149(4) of the Local Government Act 2001 which will be validly exercised by the Chief Executive or an official to whom the function have been delegated pursuant to Section 154 of the Local Government Act 2001.”*

The other issues raised in (**details supplied**) will be the subject of a more detailed response which is not possible in the timescale for this response.

**Q.94 COUNCILLOR NAOISE Ó MUIRÍ**

To ask the Chief Executive to organise for the footpath outside No. 27 Vernon Grove, Clontarf, Dublin D03W4F3 to be repaired and to address the issues highlighted in **(details supplied)**.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The public area extends to the back of path up to (not including) the boundary wall of the property. It is the owners responsibly to maintain everything within their own private property. Therefore it would appear that the rectangular paving is considered private and not part of the public area.

Road Maintenance Services will complete an inspection of the public concrete footpath outside **(details supplied)**. If any defects are found they will be noted and recorded. A repair will then be scheduled for when one of our crews is working in the area.

**Q.95 COUNCILLOR NAOISE Ó MUIRÍ**

To ask the Chief Executive please provide a detailed report on the position of **(details supplied 1)** on the housing list. Can the CEO indicate if there have been any offers made in the last year and also provide an indicative timeframe as to when an offer might be forthcoming. Can the CEO also confirm if **(details supplied 2)** is DCC housing and if **(details supplied 1)** could be considered for this property given proximity.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The above applicant is on Band 2 of the Housing List with a registration date of 11/06/2008 and the applicant's positions are listed as follows:

Area	Bedsize	Position
Area B	3	6

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

The applicant's interest in the address (a DCC social letting) above has been noted on her housing file. The unit was surrendered by the previous tenants in January this year, and is currently under maintenance for re-letting. The unit will be allocated to an applicant based on their position on the list, in accordance with the Adopted Allocations Policy - Scheme of Lettings Priorities.

**Q.96 COUNCILLOR NAOISE Ó MUIRÍ**

To ask the Chief Executive if he envisages a further round of applications for the School Zone or Safe Routes to School programmes and if so when? I understand that there is interest from St Brigids Boys National School in Killester in this regard but unfortunately they didn't apply within the initial process. If there are no further programmes planned is there a mechanism by which the above school could be considered on an exceptional basis for the School Zone scheme? Students exit directly onto a busy part of the Howth Road and a School Zone would assist greatly here.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

We currently have a request to tender advertised on eTenders to procure consultancy services for the design of Schools Zones and Safe Routes to School in the Dublin City Council administrative area. We currently have 52 Schools awaiting School Zone

designs and 50 on our Safe Routes to School list (27 on round 1 and 23 on round 2). In addition, additional minor works are required on some of the implemented School Zones. Once the consultants are appointed, we will determine a schedule to carry out all these works. Following this, we will be able to determine the merit of re-opening the School Zone application process.

**Q.97 COUNCILLOR JANET HORNER**

To ask the Chief Executive for an update of the DCC public realm strategy and the expected points of progress in 2022?

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**  
**Public Realm Strategy Overview**

The Public Realm Strategy was adopted in 2012. As a follow up to the stated objectives and actions, Dublin City Council went on to develop a suite of resultant plans, that identify challenges and projects in specific areas of the city and these continue to guide works and projects throughout the city core. The Public Realm Working Group is a multidisciplinary group who guide these projects and bring forward policy in relation to public realm design and maintenance. This Group reports to a Public Realm Co-ordination Group, which have representatives from each of the works areas involved in public realm delivery at Head of Department level.

**Public Realm Working Group**

The Public Realm Working Group is a multi-disciplinary team whose remit is to work collaboratively to implement the actions and objectives of the Public Realm Strategy and plans. Implementation of the Strategy and Public Realm Plans are a core objective of the City Development Plan. The Group also develop and support new work process and policy within Dublin City Council to address the identified challenges both in the public realm and with regard to project delivery. The Strategy brought forward an agreed hierarchy of streets, linking projects and assigns an order of importance. New and collaborative design process have been implemented through project delivery. The Group meet monthly, undertake design reviews, and support public realm projects at all stages of development.

I attach below a list of projects delivered across 2021/2022. This list does not include smaller animations and projects like Dublin Canvas and local area improvements supported by the Public Realm Working Group

The following are projects delivered across 2021/2022

**Completed Projects****Grafton Street Quarter PRP**

Clarendon Street	E & T	Complete
Chatham Street / Harry Street Area	E & T	Complete
St Johnston Court	E & T	Complete
Wicklow Street	E & T	Complete
Francis Street	E&T	Substantively complete

**Other Master Plan Projects**

Wolfe Tone Street Crescent	P & D / CRES	Complete
Peace Park	P & D / CRES	Complete
Wolfe Tone Park/ Plaza		Complete
Bridgefoot Street	P & D / CRES	Complete

**Luas Associated Projects**

Broadstone Plaza	E & T	Complete
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**Area Office Public Realm Projects - South Central**

Dubline Projects	South Central Area	Complete
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**Parks Projects (Listed as PR by CPSO)**

Christchurch Cathedral Grounds Phase 2	P & D / CRES	Complete
Bridgefoot Street	P & D / CRES	Complete

**Liberties Greening Strategy**

Marrowbone Lane	P & D / CRES	Complete
High Street Greening (Median)	P & D / CRES	Complete
St Audeon's Park Phase 2	P & D / CRES	Complete

**NEIC Greening Strategy**

Dorset Street Median	P & D / CRES	Complete to Phase II
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Public Realm and Mobility Projects are the most challenging in an urban setting. They affect every section of Dublin City Council and the main business district of the city in the delivery phase. Design development through to planning and execution requires considerable time and resources to bring projects through initial feasibility, to outline design, stakeholder engagement and consultation, Initiate Part 8, Design detail, drafting tender documents, appointment of contractor to onsite and construction stage assuming no private development or traffic management issues arise. Projects are regularly impacted by addition requirements to upgrade services and infrastructure since *'they are on site anyway'* adding design and time requirements to projects. In essence Public Realm Projects are onerous to delivery while keeping the city functioning.

In order to inform the 2022 work plan, consideration has been given to projects in each of the areas as well as their importance to the city, impact of private development, impact of national infrastructure projects, funding etc.

The Working Group are also advancing development of Public Realm Plans and a project list for the following areas which will go to stakeholder consultation and the Area Committee over the coming weeks ;

- Public Realm Plan for the Markets Area
- Public Realm Plan for the Five Lamps Area

These plans, their identified projects and agreed objectives will sit under the Public Realm Strategy and alongside the location specific Grafton Street Quarter Public Realm Plan, The City Centre Public Realm Plan, The Docklands Public Realm Plan and the Temple Bar Public Realm Plan. Learnings from each project and integration of new approaches and policy continue to inform design and delivery.

The following project will advance in 2022/2023; others will commence early stage design;

- 1 Francis Street design and construction onsite
- 2 Clarendon St design and construction onsite
- 3 Liffey Street Upper and Lower to construction
- 4 Temple Bar Square to construction
- 5 College Green - Design
- 6 The Campshires
- 7 South Anne St/ Duke Street/ Lemon St / Duke Lane
- 8 Suffolk Street
- 9 Cathal Brugha Street
- 10 Sean Moore Road / Roundabout – Design
- 11 Point Bridge and roundabout
- 12 North Earl St -
- 13 Parnell Square Public Realm
- 14 Barrow Street

**Q.98 COUNCILLOR JANET HORNER**

To ask the Chief Executive for a breakdown of the BER ratings across the Council housing stock and whether BER ratings are recorded for properties of HAP tenants?

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

A Building Energy Rating (BER) certificate rates your home's energy performance on a scale between A and G. A-rated homes are the most energy efficient, whereas G-rated are the least energy efficient.

BER ratings for all Council houses upgraded under our Energy Efficiency Retrofitting Programme are on file. This totals 9,000 houses approximately and consequently, it would take some time to segregate a breakdown of the BERs across this housing stock.

**Q.99 COUNCILLOR JANET HORNER**

To ask the Chief Executive for an update on the process of tendering for new bike bunkers and the timeline for their delivery?

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

We are currently finalising the details of the tender. Over the past few months we have learned valuable lessons regarding the models of bunkers that are currently being trailed. In each model we have identified positives and negatives. All lessons learned have been incorporated into the tender, once the documentation of the tender has been through our internal processes it will be issued to the market.

**Q.100 LORD MAYOR ALISON GILLILAND**

To ask the Chief Executive to outline the monthly schedule for the power washing of streets in the core city centre area.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Please see the attached spreadsheet of the monthly schedule for the power washing of streets in the core city centre area.

**Q.101 LORD MAYOR ALISON GILLILAND**

To ask the Chief Executive to outline the schedule for the full reopening (for walk in queries as opposed to appointments) of all public counters in all DCC local offices, housing offices etc.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The City Council is committed to delivering the best possible service to our customers in an effective and respectful manner. We recognise that the customer is at the heart of what we do and that our services, and access to them, need to be designed with the customer journey at the centre.

Prior to the public health restrictions necessitated by COVID-19, considerable work had been carried out to assess the experience of customers accessing public counter services in the Civic Offices, including an Accessibility Audit with the Age Friendly Alliance and Customer Journey Mapping for various services. This work identified significant issues for customers around locating public counters, waiting times, and requirements to attend multiple counters during a single visit to the Civic Offices.

As a result of this, all public counter services, apart from Housing and Planning, were consolidated to reduce the number of public counters customers had to find and go to, and these services are now physically delivered in the Customer Services Centre. Appointment-based services were being examined as a way to reduce and better manage customer's time when visiting City Council offices.

During COVID-19 all services operated on an appointment basis and since the removal of public health restrictions these arrangements are being reviewed with a view providing services in the way that best meet customer needs. Current arrangements are:

Service	Current arrangements
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Customer Services	Walk-in and appointments
Rates	Walk-in and appointments
Culture, Recreation and Economic Services	Walk-in and appointments
Environment and Transportation Services	By appointment
Housing Services	By appointment
Planning Services	Walk-in and appointments
Area Offices	Walk-in and appointments
Motor Tax Office	By appointment

All services are being kept under review. With regards scheduling appointments, some departments have found this better serves the customer. In Housing for instance queuing times have been eliminated, and in Planning information and files required by the customer can be readily to hand where advance notice has been given. Moreover, some of the engagements are transactional, which have been conducted successfully via digital systems and emails. Motor Tax for instance has more than 94% online take-up.

Our long-term ambition is to provide customers with a full suite of engagement options including a walk-in service across all our offices. This will largely be achieved by consolidating and enhancing the role and strategic importance of the Customer Services Centre.

During 2021 the Customer Services Centre answered over 187,645 calls with 38.74% of these calls being answered within 30 seconds. The average delay for answering a call was 201 seconds. There was a 51.26% First Contact Resolution Rate (customers being dealt with, without the need to transfer them to anybody else).

In 2021 Customer Services:

- -Processed 38,000+ payments
- -Dealt with 17,000+ Parking Permit applications
- -Responded to 51,000+ emails
- -Logged 20,000+ requests for Housing Maintenance during 2021
- -Logged 21,000+ other service requests
- -Greeted 15,500+ visitors to the Civic Offices Reception Desks
- -Completed in excess of 365,000 transactions and services across a range of customer access channels

The Corporate Services and Transformation Department is presently nominating a Customer Experience Officer. This officer will work across the organisation to ensure we design and provide access to our services in a way that puts the emphasis on the customer's journey. The desired outcome is that the customer can access their public service in the simplest and most convenient way for them.

In March 2022 the Citizen Hub Platform was established. Via this new platform, customers can now engage with the council over a range of services ranging from Housing Allocations, Parks and Environment and Transportation. There are over 3,000 registered users for the Housing Allocations service. The Citizen Hub along with other digitisation initiatives enables customers to engage with the city council on a 24/7 basis. This service will be formally launched in June 2022.

**Q.102 COUNCILLOR CIERAN PERRY**

To ask the Chief Executive to provide an update on whether Condition 21 of the An Bord Pleanála decision on O'Devaney Gardens has been complied with and if so, can details of the Construction Environment Management Plan be provided to me?

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

To date there is no compliance submission received for Condition 21 for this development.

Condition 21 relates to a Construction and Environmental Management Plan which is to be submitted to the Planning Authority prior to commencement of the Development. The Development has not received full and final grant of planning permission as of yet, but it is hoped that this will be completed by the 6<sup>th</sup> May. Following receipt of Planning and prior to commencement it is required that the Construction and Environmental Management Plan will be submitted.