

DUBLIN CITY COUNCIL
SOUTH CENTRAL AREA COMMITTEE
19th October 2022

Q1 Councillor Máire Devine

To ask the Director of Services to determine the name “Patriot Way or Patriot Path” at the roadway fronting Richmond Barracks and ask that a street sign be erected at a suitable and visible point.

Reply

Patriots Path is the short upgraded pathway which extends from Emmet Road to the Old St. Michaels Estate Community Centre.

St. Michael’s Estate will be renamed as part of the regeneration of the Emmet Road site. 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.

Contact: *Brian Lyons, Senior Staff Officer, South Central Area*
Email: brian.lyons@dublincity.ie

Q2 Councillor Máire Devine

To ask the Director of Services that the markings to finalise the Permit Parking scheme at Rialto Cottages be installed asap and for the area to be patrolled more frequently for haphazard and illegal parking?

Reply

The Traffic Officer has reported that a small section of Double Yellow Lines are to be completed. Numerous efforts have been made to complete the works, however, as a result of access issues, this has not been possible. In order to ensure that the works can be finalised, it will be necessary to use No Parking signs during the installation of the remaining road markings.

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

Contact: *Mary Boyle, A/Senior Staff Officer, TAG Administration, Environment and Transportation Department.*
Email: mary.boyle@dublincity.ie

Contact: *Dermot Stevenson, Parking Enforcement Officer.*
Email: dermot.stevenson@dublincity.ie

Q3 Councillor Máire Devine

To ask the Director of Services to provide new impetus to affected residents by providing a reassessed plan to deal with the public lane at (details supplied) which has long been used for illegal dumping, is plagued with rats and is foul smelling which poses a health risk.

Reply

The area at the back of the houses on Lourdes Road formerly known as St James Walk and which formed part of the historic City Water Course which lay beneath, was

extinguished as a public Right of way in 2001. Development in the area therefore did not encroach across or above same.

Property Development Department engaged a contractor to undertake a clean-up of the area, however due to intimidation and threatening behaviour was unable to carry out the planned works. A detailed report will issue to the Councillor.

Contact: *Nicola Finegan, Administrative Officer,
Planning & Property Management*
Email: Nicola.finegan@dublincity.ie

The cleaning of the above mentioned laneway doesn't come under the remit of Waste Management Services.

This laneway referred to as 'Back of the Pipes' has been formally closed by City Council since August 2001. (Map attached).

Contact: *Mick Boyle, Senior Staff Officer, Waste Management Services.*
Email: mick.boyle@dublincity.ie

Contact: *Ronnie Hamilton, Senior Executive Technician, Road Maintenance Services.*
Email: ronnie.hamilton@dublincity.ie

Q4 Councillor Máire Devine

To ask the Director of Services to arrange a cleaning of Shannon Terrace, Dublin 8. It is adversely affected by debris from the derelict site running alongside their homes.

Reply

Waste Management Services had Shannon Terrace cleaned on the 6th October 2022.

Contact: *Mick Boyle, Senior Staff Officer, Waste Management Services,*
Email: mick.boyle@dublincity.ie

Q5 Councillor Máire Devine

To ask the Director of Services that tree planting be scheduled for St Luke's Avenue, Dublin 8 to assist in enhancing the vista and to progress the greening of the Liberties.

Reply

The Area Office continues to work with Parks Biodiversity & Landscaping Services to improve tree planting and to identify opportunities for greening across the South West Inner City.

Substantial tree planting and greening of St Luke's Avenue and Cork Street is envisaged under the Cork Street Greening Project, an ambition to roll out green infrastructure including street trees and SUDS features along this key route. The Greening Strategy is one of a number of projects that have been supported-funded by the URDF (Tranche II).

The Greening Project will also align with emerging Busconnects plans for Cork Street/St Luke's Avenue (which forms part of the Greenhills to City Centre Core Corridor), and which envisages enhanced bus and cycle provision and pedestrian facilities and localised public realm improvements along these streets.

A substantial area of landscaping is proposed to the front of the new Newmarket Yards development on St Luke's Avenue which is likely to be completed in early 2023. The development includes a hotel and over 400 apartments and includes a new pedestrian walkway through to Newmarket.

A small site at the junction of St Luke's Avenue and Brabazon Street, which is currently leased as a site office for an adjoining development, will revert to DCC later this year. It is envisaged that a landscaping plan can then be developed for the site to create a small incidental space/ parklet.

Contact: Stephen Coyne, Public Realm Projects Coordination, South Central Area Office

Email: stephen.coyne@dublincity.ie

Q6 Councillor Máire Devine

To ask the Director of Services that the requested kitchen be installed asap at (details supplied)

Reply

Housing Maintenance has received the order for the kitchen. It will be fitted as soon as a plumber and carpenter are available to work in tandem to install it for the tenant.

Contact: Clive Ahern, Senior Executive Officer, Housing Maintenance

Email: clive.ahern@dublincity.ie

Q7 Councillor Máire Devine

To ask the Director of Services if further consideration has been given to a future of the former Inchicore Library at Emmet Road and have any moves been made towards providing universal access to the premises.

Reply

Full consideration is currently being given to potential future uses for this important building taking into account its history, location and the need for community facilities in the Inchicore area.

As part of these considerations we will look at the options in the provision of universal access to the premises.

Contact: Nicola Finegan, Administrative Officer, Development Department

Email: Nicola.finegan@dublincity.ie

Q8 Councillor Darragh Moriarty

To ask the Director of Services the status of 39A Main Street, Chapelizod, what contact DCC has with the owner, if it will be included on the derelict sites register and what DCC is doing to bring the building back into use.

Reply

A Notice of Intention to enter the site on the Derelict Sites Register is due to be served on the owner of the site. The owner will then have a period of a month within which to make representations against entry on the register. In the event that there is no response, or no satisfactory response, the site will be entered on the DSR. Sites entered on the DSR are subject to a derelict sites levy of 7% of market value. Unpaid levies attract interest of 1.25% per month.

Contact: Nial Dully, Administrative Officer, Derelict Sites.

Email: nial.dully@dublincity.ie

Q9 Councillor Darragh Moriarty

To ask the Director of Services whether Bluebell Park at La Touche Road could be re-operated by DCC Parks as a local football amenity for clubs Inchicore Athletic and AFC Belgrave. Both clubs currently make use of DCC's recently installed all-weather astro in the area, but as their numbers and underage teams grow, they are outgrowing the astro space. Bluebell Park was previously in operation as an underage football pitch and to respond to local needs, can DCC Parks bring this space back into use through erection of goal posts and regular grass-cutting/upkeep?

Reply

The grass area in Bluebell Park is too small to facilitate a senior football pitch however, it could accommodate a 7-a-side for junior teams. Parks do not provide goalposts for junior teams, these are typically provided by the clubs themselves as mobile units. The area receives regular grass cutting as part of the Landscape Maintenance.

Contact: Brid Brosnan, A/Snr Parks Superintendent

Email: parks@dublincity.ie

Q10 Councillor Darragh Moriarty

To ask the Director of Services for an update on two scheduled roads improvements:

- a) Installation of pedestrian crossing at Marrowbone Lane/Earl Street/School Street junction (announced April 2021, no apparent progress since)
- b) Installation of pedestrian crossing at intersection of Donore Avenue & SCR (announced April 2021, no apparent progress since)

Reply

Dublin City Council is proposing to provide a Walking & Cycling Scheme from Kilmainham to Thomas Street. The scheme will provide an improved, safer walking and cycle route for residents throughout the scheme.

A pedestrian crossing on School Street is planned as part of this, including dished footpaths at the Marrowbone Lane / Earl Street / School Street junction.

A multi-disciplinary design team of consultants have been appointed to do a Business case and Strategic assessment which is required to complete the Concept and development phase. They will also do the Preliminary design work up to the handover of the project. It is currently estimated that construction of the scheme will start in 2024.

Contact: Éanna Mac Cana, Assistant Engineer, Active Travel Programme Office.

Email: eanna.maccana@dublincity.ie

The Donore Avenue crossing is going for tender by the end of October and it will most likely be early next year before they start on site

Contact: Claire French, Senior Executive Engineer, City Centre Transport Projects.

Email: claire.french@dublincity.ie

Q11 Councillor Darragh Moriarty

To ask the Director of Service the status of these vacant and derelict buildings on Emmet Road (picture provided), next to 109 Emmet Road, Inchicore. What contact has DCC had with the owner, will these buildings be entered onto the derelict sites register and what is DCC doing to bring the buildings back into use?

Reply

The site at 105-107 is deemed to be derelict within the meaning set out in the Derelict Site Act 1990. The Derelict Sites Unit has written to the owner seeking their proposals to remediate the site and is awaiting their response. In the event that there is no response or no satisfactory response a Notice of Intention to enter the site on the Derelict Sites Register (DSR) will be served. Sites entered on the DSR are subject to a derelict sites levy of 7% of market value. Unpaid levies attract interest of 1.25% per month.

Contact: Nial Dully, Administrative Officer, Derelict Sites.

Email: nial.dully@dublincity.ie

Q12 Councillor Daithí Doolan

To ask the Director Of Services to give an update on the proposed development of the sports facility at Cherry Orchard Park, beside St. Ultans, and a timeframe for the completion of the work?

Reply

Parks, Biodiversity and Landscape Services have commenced an exercise to re-design the park at Cherry Orchard which will include an up-grade and improvement of the playground and sports equipment. This will include a consultation process with the local community and key stakeholders. Proposals with regard to this consultation will be brought to the Area Committee in due course.

A topographical survey will be conducted on the site during October

Contact: Suzanne O'Connell, Exec Landscape Architect, Parks & Landscape Services

Email: suzanne.oconnell@dublincity.ie

Q13 Councillor Daithí Doolan

To ask the Director of Services for an update on the Cherry Orchard-Park West Local Area Plan?

Reply

The Park West – Cherry orchard Local Area plan 2019 sets out the blueprint for the physical development area over a 6 year period, along with extensive residential development it also contains plans for the enhancement of Cherry Orchard park to include a sporting hub along with the creation of a village centre through the provision of retail units on site 2.

A project manager has been appointed by the City Council to lead the proposed public private partnership for the development of retail units and residential accommodation on site 2 directly opposite St. Ultan's school. Members have been briefed by the project manager at an area committee meeting earlier this year and it is anticipated that a Part 8 planning application will be made in 2023.

The Parks team has appointed a design team to draft plans for the redevelopment of Chery Orchard Park and it is anticipated that public consultation will begin in late 2022/early 2023.

The affordable housing and pocket park development planned for site 1 received Part 8 planning permission at the October monthly Council meeting. It is planned to seek part 8 approval for the development of the accompanying access road, which will provide for cycle lanes in the near future

The Land Development Agency has a design team developing plans for the residential development of sites 4 & 5. A strategic housing development planning application lodged by Greenseed Ltd. for 750 no. apartments, along with a crèche, café, 1 no. retail unit and community space, was granted planning permissions for Phase 1 of Site 6, on the 16th June 2022.

Contact: Alan Sherry, Local Area Manager, Ballyfermot Area Office
Email: alan.sherry@dublincity.ie

Q14 Councillor Daithí Doolan

To ask the Director of Services (details supplied)

Reply

Housing Maintenance Adaptations section will review the up to date OT Report submitted by the tenant in this case and every consideration will be given to this applicant.

In the short term, we will arrange to have the Clerk of Works call to the tenant's home in order to see if there are any immediate changes that can be made to the property which will improve the quality of life for this tenant.

Contact: Clive Ahern, Senior Executive Officer, Housing Maintenance.
Email: clive.ahern@dublincity.ie

Q15 Councillor Daithí Doolan

To ask the Director of Services in light of recent flooding on Mourne Road and the fact that sewage was contained in the flood water, what is the timeline for the completion of the flood study on Mourne Road and when will flood prevention works commence?

Reply

Cleaning and CCTV surveys of the foul and surface water sewers on Mourne Road from Cooley Road to Mangerton Road and into Lansdowne Valley Park have been ongoing since the flood event of September 4th last and this work will continue. However, the investigations/studies to date have found the following:-

1. A utility service partially blocking the surface water sewer along Mourne Road near its junction with Donard Road.
2. Significant FOG (fats, oils and grease) deposits in the Foul Sewer along Mangerton Road presenting a restriction to that pipe's capacity.
3. Root ingress into both the Foul and Surface Water sewers where these enter Lansdowne Valley Park causing further flow restrictions.

The following actions are/will be carried out in response to the above.

1. Following meetings with ESB Networks, a Drainage Construction Crew will start on site week commencing 17th October to resolve this issue under ESB supervision.
2. The levels of FOG found in this sewer are not reflective of domestic discharge levels and the matter is being referred to Irish Water's discharge compliance office for follow up surveys/inspections as to source.
3. On behalf of both DCC and Irish Water, DCC Drainage will engage a specialist contractor to remove the roots and to seal the entry points in both the foul and the surface water sewers to prevent recurrence.

The flood study is ongoing but dependant on the above surveys that the drainage division is currently doing. Talks will commence with the parks department about a possible new outlet in Lansdowne Valley when the above investigations are completed.

Contact: Gerard O'Connell, Senior Engineer, Flood Projects and Water Framework Division.

Email: gerry.oconnell@dublincity.ie

Q16 Councillor Daithí Doolan

To ask the Director of Services for an update on the introduction of new, modified traffic calming measures for Cherry Orchard Avenue?

Reply

There are numerous traffic calming measures already in place on Cherry Orchard Avenue which consist of Roundabouts, Yield Signs and Speed Cushions (since this is a bus route, speed cushions are installed instead of ramps every 80 – 100 metres).

Dublin City Council have also implemented safety measures on Cherry Orchard Avenue with a school zone at St Ultans School which consisted of pencil bollards on the road which narrowed the road width and this help to increase the visibility of school children and reduce speed of vehicles in the area.

Dublin City Council are currently at detailed design stage for a signalised pedestrian crossing within the vicinity of the school which will enhance further traffic calming measures in the area.

TAMS Ref. 7029196

Contact: Neil O'Donoghue, South City Engineer, Transport Advisory Group.
Email: neil.odonoghue@dublincity.ie

Q17 Councillor Daithí Doolan

To ask the Director of Services how many Part 5 units are in The Crescent, Park West, have the tenants received the €68,000 bill other private residents received? How are DCC responding to the demand for this money to carry out remedial works?

Reply

In 2006, 35 affordable Part V units were sold privately under the 1999 Affordable Housing Scheme in The Academy Building, Part West. There were no Part V units delivered within The Crescent, Park West.

Dublin City Council own three units in The Crescent in Park West. No invoice has been received by the Council as yet in relation to these units.

*Contact: Michelle Robinson, Senior Executive Officer,
Housing & Community Services*
Email: michelle.robinson@dublincity.ie

Q18 Councillor Daithí Doolan

To ask the Director of Services how much funding is provided by the Department of Housing towards sports and recreational services in new DCC Housing Developments?

Reply

A response will issue to the Councillor directly within the next two weeks.

*Contact: Alice Simington, Senior Executive Officer,
Housing & Community Services*
Email: alice.simington@dublincity.ie

Q19 Councillor Vincent Jackson

To ask the Director of Services to give me details on the following (details supplied)

Reply

There is no record of an application from (details supplied). They should submit a Transfer Application, along with an Application for Exceptional Medical Grounds.

<https://www.dublincity.ie/residential/housing/i-rent-my-home/i-rent-city-council/moving-or-transferring-your-council-house>

Contact: Sandra Barry, A/Allocations Officer, Housing Allocations & Transfers
Email: sandra.barry@dublincity.ie

Q20 Councillor Vincent Jackson

To ask the Director of Services to please look into the following (details supplied)

Reply

The above applicant is on the Housing List with an application date of 01/09/2021, and the applicant holds the following positions on this list:

Area	Bedsize	Position
Area J	1	544

The applicant is not eligible for Older Persons until they are 60 years of age. 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, they 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.

Contact: Sandra Barry, Allocations Officer, Housing Allocations & Transfers
Email: sandra.barry@dublincity.ie

Q21 Councillor Vincent Jackson

To ask the Director of Services to please look into the following (details Supplied)

Reply

The above applicant is on the Transfer List with an application date of 8/9/2017, and the applicant holds the following positions on this list:

Area	Bedsize	Position
Area J	3	164
Area K	3	259
Area L	3	175

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 has made an application for Exceptional Social Grounds. She will be notified by the Social Work section once a decision is made.

Contact: Sandra Barry, Allocations Officer, Housing Allocations & Transfers
Email: sandra.barry@dublincity.ie

Q22 Councillor Vincent Jackson

To ask the Director of Services to please look into the following please put in a wheelchair accessible access point into the perimeter fence at the Lawns Park, Blackditch Road, Ballyfermot, Dublin 10, opposite number 58. A kissing gate currently exists and a couple of local people who are confined to a wheelchair find it next to impossible to access this vast Park and the modification of one entry point would allow access for those confined to mobility devices.

Reply

There is currently access into the park for wheelchairs, at the side of the leisure centre further down Blackditch Road and via the skatepark. Kissing gates are used in order to control access by scramblers/stolen cars which are still an issue in the area unfortunately.

Contact: Brid Brosnan, A/Snr. Exec Parks Superintendent
Email: parks@dublincity.ie

Q23 Councillor Vincent Jackson

To ask the Director of Services to please look at developing a shop front competition for the Ballyfermot Area similar to that which currently operates in the Liberties and Inchicore area. Supporting traders to make an investment in tidying up their premises is a win / win situation for all.

Reply

The area office has previously undertaken with the member to review any issues in relation to the retail sector particularly on the Ballyfermot Road and will involve any other relevant departments in that process. It is best to carry out this review with the member prior to the introduction of a shop front improvement scheme in order to ensure that any changes not only improve the shop front itself but also the general area and enhance Ballyfermot as a retail and town centre.

Contact: Alan Sherry, Local Area Manager, Ballyfermot Area Office
Email: alan.sherry@dublincity.ie

Q24 Councillor Vincent Jackson

To ask the Director of Services to please explain why some areas are destroyed with utility boxes? If you look at Staffords Funeral Home in Ballyfermot you have a large number of such utility boxes. I often wonder could they not be designed a little better to look like street furniture with flower boxes, seating facility.

Reply

In response to this question, an inspection of the footpath outside Stafford's Funeral home on Ballyfermot Road took place on 12th October. Seven Telecommunications cabinets are located at the back of the path. Six of these belong to EIR and the seventh is a Dublin City Council Controller for the adjacent signalised junction. Under Section 254 of The Planning and Development 2000, utilities are required to apply for a licence to place this type of Infrastructure on the public footpath. When assessing suitability of each application, planning criteria including visual amenity and pedestrian safety are taken into consideration. Five of the seven cabinets at this location predate this legislation. The remaining two were applied for by EIR under Section 254 and granted on the basis that grouping new cabinets alongside existing one is more appropriate where feasible.

Currently Telecommunications Companies are examining solutions that incorporate other types of street furniture, for example the 'Big Belly Deployment' on Westmoreland Street, where a big belly bin, cabinet and signal pole are incorporated into the one unit. The latter improves the impact on visual amenity.

Contact: Deri Flood, Senior Executive Engineer, Infrastructure Management Unit.

Email: deri.flood@dublincity.ie

Q25 Councillor Vincent Jackson

To ask the Director of Services to review the retail mix in Ballyfermot and bring forward a special scheme to limit the over proliferation of business that are destroying the heart of the retail area. I am watching footfall decrease all the time and I regret DCC failure to limit certain businesses is have a very negative impact.

Reply

The Dublin City Development Plan 2016-2022 (the Development Plan) is the key policy document that guides the future growth and development of the City. Chapter 7 sets out retail policy. Ballyfermot is one of the key shopping districts within the City. It is identified as a Key District Centre in the Development Plan. It is the objective of Dublin City Council (DCC) to strive to enhance the vitality and viability of Key District Centres such as Ballyfermot.

Special Schemes of Planning Control (SSPC) are introduced to manage land use in Architectural Conservation Areas (ACA) (e.g. O'Connell Street). ACA are designated for specific reasons which include protecting the special architectural, historical, archaeological, artistic, and cultural character of the area. An SSPC cannot be applied in the absence of the ACA designation. Ballyfermot does not have a designated ACA. Therefore, an SSPC cannot be applied.

Ballyfermot commercial areas are predominately zoned Z3 and Z4. The Development Plan contains robust policies in Chapter 7 (Retailing) Chapter 16 (Development Standards) to ensure that, through the development management process, an appropriate mix of uses is maintained in retail areas such as Ballyfermot.

Contact: Brian Keane, Senior Planner

Email: brian.keaney@dublincity.ie

Q26 Councillor Deirdre Cronin

To ask the Director of Services if noise checks have been conducted at the Marlet Development on Long Lane & the adjacent building depot and if there been any reported breaches of noise regulation and dust.

Reply

The Air Quality Monitoring and Noise Control Unit received no complaints about noise from this site.

The contractor will be required to carry out noise monitoring and comply with construction noise level limits under planning conditions. The monitoring will be carried out by an independent consultant and the results can be obtained on request.

The officer for the area will contact the site manager and investigate.

If the complainant's contact details are provided the officer for the area will make contact and the complaint and the investigation can be discussed.

Contact: Paul Rutherford, Acting Principal Environmental Health Officer, Air Quality Monitoring and Noise Control Unit.

Email: paul.rutherford@dublincity.ie

Q27 Councillor Sophie Nicoulaud

To ask the Director of Services when will the maisonettes on Huband Road in Bluebell (12 Huband Road up and down) be treated for rat infestation. When will the 2 empty units be finished and allocated again. The alleyway also needs regular clean-ups. To ask if there is a plan to refurbish them and or insulate them?

Reply

Housing Maintenance has not received any reports of a rat infestation in the maisonettes on Huband Road, the last report was in 2019. However, we will log this now for Pest Control in the HSE.

The alleyways in Huband Road are not under the remit of Housing Maintenance, the cleaning of these lanes would be looked after by the Area Office or Public Domain and we will report this issue to them.

We have 1 empty unit on Huband Road which will be complete in 4 weeks' time. If you could forward the address of the other unit we can investigate further.

We are happy to confirm that the maisonettes on Huband Road in Bluebell (20 No. Units) have already received both the attic and cavity wall insulation upgrade in 2014 under Phase 1 of the Energy Efficient Retrofit Programme (EERP), both of which would result in noticeable cost savings, comfort and improved living standard for the tenants going forward. These properties were upgraded from a typical E energy rating to a C energy rating, reducing their energy usage typically by over 40%. The EERP wall insulation upgrade on these properties is therefore complete.

The programme has proved hugely successful to date and will run for a number of years, subject to continued Departmental funding support, until it reaches its conclusion.

Contact: Clive Ahern, Senior Executive Officer, Housing Maintenance.
Email: clive.ahern@dublincity.ie

Public Domain will inspect the alleyway and report any issues for follow-up with Waste Management.

Contact: Anna McDermott, Public Domain Officer, South Central
Email: publcdomain@dublincity.ie

Q28 Councillor Sophie Nicoullaud

To ask the Director of Services if Rothe Abbey in Kilmainhaim is to get bicycle parking? Construction fencing was left there all summer and has been removed. A note was left early in the summer saying bicycle parking will be built there by the 3rd green.

Reply

Cycle parking was included at Rothe Abbey as part of the Batch 18 contract of the On-Street Cycle Parking Project. Unfortunately despite multiple attempts over a number of weeks, the Contractor was unable to secure access to the site due to persistent parking at the proposed location and unfortunately it has had to be abandoned for now. The resident who requested the cycle parking was notified of this.

Contact: Chris Adamson, Executive Engineer.
Email: chris.adamson@dublincity.ie

Q29 Councillor Sophie Nicoullaud

To ask the Director of Services why the pyracantha at Davitt House on Galtymore Road was cut back on the 4th of October while full of berries. Why was it not maintained up to a human height and why above human height was cut back? "Hedges are of exceptional importance in providing food and shelter and habitats and corridors for maintaining wildlife and diversity, particularly for birds, but also for other fauna and for wild plants. Wrens, dunnocks, robins, thrushes and willow warblers as well as many rarer species depend greatly on hedgerow habitats" (DHLGH) A balance act needs to be implemented in order to keep the public safe and to keep biodiversity at the same time.

Reply

Housing Maintenance Caretaking section cut back the hedges as complaints were received via the Local Area Office that the hedges were overgrowing onto the public footpath and into the green spaces in the housing complexes.

However, we acknowledge the importance of biodiversity as outlined above, we have spoken to our teams about trying as much as possible to make every effort to strike the balance between public safety and biodiversity, and we will take this on board for all future works that we undertake.

Contact: Clive Ahern, Senior Executive Officer, Housing Maintenance.
Email: clive.ahern@dublincity.ie

Q30 **Councillor Sophie Nicoullaud**

To ask the Director of Services when will the SCAC and Parks deliver composting education to members of local community garden, groups and allotments. A course was offered in St Anne's Park for the North Central Area. Dr Composter is coming for a workshop at the Walkinstown library and would be good to follow up from that with the allotments.

Reply

Composting education as outlined above would in Parks opinion be best given to targeted audiences like those operating within an allotment site/community garden. Parks can provide assistance in this regard but currently do not manage the allotments or community gardens operating in South Central district. The composting course that was held in St. Anne's was organised through the community section of the Local Area Office.

Contact: Brid Brosnan, A/Snr Exec Parks Superintendent
Email: parks@dublincity.ie

The Area Office will make further enquiries about the cost and the potential interest in setting up a Dr Composter workshop for the allotment growers from the SCAO sites to attend.

Contact: Hugh Considine, A/Assistant Staff Officer, South Central
Email: hugh.considine@dublincity.ie