



MINUTES OF THE SOUTH EAST AREA COMMITTEE MEETING

HELD ON MONDAY 13 FEBRUARY 2023

- 1 Presentation on Community Wealth Building
Order: Noted.
- 2 Presentation on River Dodder Rainscapes.
Order: Noted.
- 3 **Environment and Transportation Department Matters**
 - i. Minutes of the Traffic Advisory Group meeting held on the 31st January 2023.
Order: Noted.
- 4 Minutes of South East Area Committee meeting held on 9th January 2023
Order: Agreed.
- 5 **Culture, Recreation & Economic Services Department Matters**
 - i. Report on City Quay art installation.
Order: Noted.
 - ii. Report on art commission for Dartmouth Square.
Order: Noted.
- 6 **South East Area Matters**
 - i. Report of the Director of Services.
Order: Noted.
 - ii. Report on a proposal to name a development at York Road as Thomas Clarke House.
Order: Deferred.
 - iii. Report on a proposal to extinguish a public right of way at rear 32 – 33 Dolphin Road.
Order: Agreement to recommend to City Council.
 - iv. Halloween Fire Works.
Councillors would support supervised events.

Motions 13th February 2023**Motion 1 from Councillor Mary Freehill**

That this committee agrees to consider funding (discretionary fund) for the refurbishment of the boundary wall 23 yds long and 8 ft. high between Cathal Brugha Barracks and opposite 42 / 44 Mount Drummond Avenue, which is in a poor state of repair, dashing is falling off and a hazard for passing pedestrians. Members of the residents association would be prepared to take down falling dashing and leave the wall ready for repointing. They are asking the council to cover the cost of repointing the wall. The fact that residents are prepared to do this work would make it much less costly than if the council did the work themselves.

Order: Report to Councillor.

Motion 2 from Councillors Dermot Lacey and Mary Freehill

This committee requests the Chief Executive of Dublin City Council to seek a meeting with the Chief Executive of the City of Dublin Education & Training Board (CDET) with a view to securing the restoration of the former Concert Hall, the conservation of Town Hall Clock in the Rathmines Town Hall and the acquisition of the former TU Dublin premises in Rathmines for the necessary additional rooms for Rathmines College and following that meeting to report to the area committee.

Order: Report to Councillor.

Motion 3 from Councillor Mary Freehill

In the interest of facilitating residents, cyclists and survival of our small shops in in Harold's Cross Village, That the Traffic Dept. in consultation with the Traders of Harold's Cross Village find a way of allowing Loading at appropriate hours to receive deliveries and also parking between 10.00 - 12.00.

Order: Report to Councillor.

Motion 4 from Councillor Mary Freehill

That the executive investigate the possibility of using the roof of the council's crèche building in Williams Park to erect Solar Panels that could benefit the Swan Leisure Centre's energy consumption.

Order: Report to Councillor.

Motion 5 from Councillor Mary Freehill

That the Parks Department finds a solution to prevent scrambler bikes using Ceannt Park at night. This is causing a major problem for the surrounding residents.

Order: Report to Councillor.

Motion 6 from Councillor Claire Byrne

That this Area Committee calls on the Area Manager to design and implement a 'tarmac on footpaths reduction strategy' for the South East Inner City and to commit to better, safer, more aesthetic solutions to fixing footpaths in the area.

Order: Report to Councillor.

Motion 7 from Councillor Claire Byrne

That this Area Committee calls on the Area Manager to address the ongoing issue of litter on South Lotts Road'.

Order: Report to Councillor.

Motion 8 from Councillor Claire Byrne

That this Area Committee calls on the Area Manager to:

- Increase the street / footpath cleaning on Thorncastle Street Ringsend up to the cul de sac of Portview house and apartments and the green areas

surrounding St Patricks Rowing Club. The area is rife with rubbish, dog fouling, dead fallen leaves and glass.

- To ask the dog fouling inspectors to increase supervision of the area
- Remove posters for events that have since happened to be removed from the area.

Order: Report to Councillor.

Motion 9 from Councillors Tara Deacy and Pat Dunne

That this committee agree to the reinstatement of Public Domain Service in the Southeast Area. This service or Waste Management alternative should be reinstated with immediate effect.

Background:

In late 2022 the Community Clean-up service provided by the Public Domain Waste Management crews (north side & south side) was told to cease, so from November 2022 the Public Domain Crews would be reassigned to the Area Based Cleansing schedule.

The number of Days available for this deep clean was roughly 10/11 days per month for the south side and these days were split between south east and south central.

On a monthly basis a list was provided to the Public Domain Inspectors. The locations would usually be based on Inspections, Community group requests or upcoming events in an area.

The Public Domain Inspectors and Crews were very effective and thorough in their work without exception, and the service was very well received by local residents & Community groups. For the small amount of days involved per month it really made a difference in the communities and the removal of this service leaves a large gap in the service delivery options. This is a service that worked and to have it removed without an alternative being provided is counterproductive.

Order: Agreed.

Motion 10 from Councillors Tara Deacy

That this committee agree that we get update / feedback on the Dog Warden service on a bi-monthly basis. I submitted a motion late 2022 and made a request that the Dog Warden for our area roll out a pilot in both Bushy and Eamonn Ceannt Park around dogs being off the lead. Has this pilot started, if so can we get that feedback.

Order: Report to Councillor.

Motion 11 from Councillors James Geoghegan and Dermot Lacey

That the South East Area Committee agrees the following matters will be examined adjacent to the entrance of St Mary's National School Donnybrook on Mount Eden Road, along with the supporting photos attached;

- road resurfacing for Mount Eden Road which is in a state of disrepair and not supportive of active travel for school students on bicycles and scooters in circumstances where the road surface has been exacerbated by construction works for the new school which are now completed;
- re-installation of the road markings of the yellow box already in place, but where the paint work has been removed, again at the entrance to the school on Mount Eden Road;
- improvement works on the footpath immediately at the entrance to the school, and the road, and again the other side of the road which include works to make that road crossing accessible for persons in wheelchairs; and

- that St Mary's National School Donnybrook is formally place on a list of schools which would be considered for a School Zone initiative whenever the program re-commences and examines whether in the interim, road markings only, could be painted on the road surface in a similar manner to what is provided in the School Zones to promote safety and active travel;
- additional school safety warnings at the part of Mount Eden Road which twists around the corner onto the straight where the school entrance is located either through road markings on the part of Mount Eden Road perpendicular to Belmont Avenue or signage to warn vehicles of the school children at play and entering or exiting school.



Order: Report to Councillor.

Motion 12 from Councillor Hazel Chu

This council once again agrees to an audit of the various council owned playing fields and pitches, when they are in use and how often they are used and by what clubs, individuals or groups. That this audit will be completed within a six month period bearing in mind the last time this motion was agreed was over 12 months ago.

Order: Report to Councillor.

8 Questions to the Chief Executive 13.02.2023.

Order: Noted.

Councillor Dermot Lacey
Chairperson
Monday 13 February 2023

Attendance:

Members:

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

Members:

Claire O'Connor
Danny Byrne
Daniel Céitinn
Pat Dunne
Mary Freehill

Members:

James Geoghegan
Hazel Chu
Tara Deacy
Anne Feeney
Carolyn Moore

Officers

Mark Ginnetty
John MacEvilly
Neil O'Donoghue
Marie Kavanagh
Ruairí O'Cuív
Rory O'Connor
Paul McCann

Brian Hanney
Karl Mitchell
Sean Reid
Brian Kirk
Iva Geci
Sinead Dillon
Leah Johnston

Leah Johnston
Fiona O'Brien
John Stack
Leslie Moore
Seamus Brady
Kathy Quinn

Non-Members:

Cllr. Séamus McGrattan
John Heneghan, (CLES)

Q.1 Councillor James Geoghegan

To ask the Area Manager of Baggot Lane, Dublin 4, particularly outside 102 – 124 Baggot Lane, could be cleaned as a matter of urgency given the state it is currently in as evidenced by the attached photographs and if the frequency for the lane cleaning could be examined and increased if necessary.



Reply:

Waste Management Services had Baggot Lane cleaned on the 19th January 2023. We will monitor this location and arrange extra cleaning if and when necessary.

Q.2 Councillor Dermot Lacey

To ask the Manager if the following items could be dealt with:

- 1) Paint barriers / railings at entrance to Irishtown Nature Park opposite Marine Drive.
- 2) Clean graffiti from Notice board at same area.
- 3) Remove the large yellow Dump bag with weeds now growing from it at Car Park at Sandymount Strand.
- 4) Remove dirt now congealed at furthest Southern car Park along Sandymount / Merrion Strand.

Reply:

1. DCC Parks will arrange for the hand rails at this entrance to be repainted.
2. Graffiti has been removed.
3. The yellow sand bags were installed to stop vehicles from parking on the grass when the car parks were full. DCC Parks will look into placing other type of a barrier and removing the sand bags.

4. Waste Management Services had the dirt cleared from the above mentioned location on the 18th January 2023.

Q.3 Councillor Dermot Lacey

Further to previous replies to questions on the issue of road and footpath sweeping in Ranelagh (details below), I am told that there have been no improvements. To ask the Manager to respond positively to these repeated requests:

- A. Sweeping of Ranelagh. The sweeping of streets in Ranelagh seems to have disappeared completely. In the run-up to Christmas they were just in an appalling state but on Christmas Eve gutters were swept but of course not the cycle lanes.

Below is the reply of November 12th 2019.

Q.38 Councillor Dermot Lacey

To ask the Manager the following:

1. The frequency of sweeping the kerbside of the following roads in Ranelagh:
 - a) The main street of Ranelagh from Marlborough Road to the Luas station
 - b) Chelmsford Road
 - c) Oakley Road
 - d) Charleston Road
 - e) Any other road kerbsides leading into Ranelagh village
2. The designated day of the week or month for such sweeping of each of the above.
3. The frequency of sweeping the following footpaths:
 - a) Footpaths in Ranelagh village from Marlborough Road to the Luas bridge
 - b) Chelmsford Road footpaths
 - c) Charleston Road footpaths
 - d) Any other footpaths leading into Ranelagh village
4. The designated day of the week or month for such sweeping of each of the above.

Reply:

Waste Management Services have the kerbside and footpaths of the main street Ranelagh swept on a daily basis.

Waste Management Services have the kerbside and footpaths of Chelmsford Road and Charleston Road swept five days a week, Monday to Friday.

Waste Management Services have the kerbside and footpaths of Oakley Road swept once a week, usually on a day when the parking isn't too heavy.

Contact:

Mick Boyle, Senior Staff Officer, Waste Management Services, tel.: 222 4240, email: mick.boyle@dublincity.ie

So you might ask if this official rota still applies or what the current rota is?

- B. In relation to Ranelagh sweeping you also asked in 2020 about sweeping of cycle lanes in Ranelagh you received the following reply:
Meeting 12th October 2020

Q.12 Councillor Dermot Lacey

To ask the Manager if he will outline how it is intended to sweep the streets and roadside of Ranelagh in the locations where the new white bollards are now in place and if he will arrange for a clean sweep of the area.

Reply:

Waste Management Services sweep the streets and roadside of Ranelagh with one of our regular compact sweepers. We currently litter pick the new protected cycle lane there as our current compact sweeper is too big for these new cycle lanes.

We recently trialled two sub compact road sweeper to assist with the cleaning of the new protected cycle lanes such as the one in Ranelagh. Both sweepers are smaller than the current compact sweeper. We are in discussions with fleet management services as to how these can be procured so that we can sweep these new protected cycle lanes.

Contact:

Mick Boyle, Senior Staff Officer, Waste Management Services, tel.: 01 2224240, email: mick.boyle@dublincity.ie

Reply:

No changes have occurred to the previous scheduled cleaning of the Ranelagh area. This area is cleaned daily, with litter bins emptied and shop fronts cleaned. Prior to Christmas and into early January 2023, there were issues with mechanical sweepers been off the road for scheduled maintenance. All mechanical sweepers are now back operational. Training has commenced on an electric cycle lane sweeper for the South East area new protected cycle lanes.

Q.4 Councillor Dermot Lacey

To ask the Manager if he can respond positively to the requests previously submitted for improvements to road signage at the following locations

- a) Street sign for Mornington Road at entry from Ashfield - No sign at all at the moment.
- b) Street sign for Mornington at the upper end-junction. Current sign unreadable as lettering removed.
- c) Street sign for Chelmsford Lane at junction with Sallymount Avenue, current sign unreadable as above.
- d) Two street signs on Triangle (over Quillsenens estate agent).
- e) Saying Cullenswood Road - the official name for that short section and ii) Saying Charleston Road with arrow as Charleston Road starts after Luas bridge.
- f) There are no signs on Edenvale and Mountain View Road at the junctions with Albany Road. This means that if on Albany Road, there is no indication of what roads are being entered.
- g) There is no sign on Albany Road for it when entering from Edenvale or Mountainview.
- h) Replace disintegrated sign for Winton Road at junction with Appian Way.
- i) Ranelagh Road goes from the Luas Bridge to Charlemont Bridge. There is no sign for it at either end.

Reply:

The current Road Maintenance South City Nameplate Contract is substantially complete. A new contract will need to be arranged and the initial phase will involve an audit of our Asset Management Database to compile a list of missing signs and signs in need of refurbishment in the South Central and South East Areas. The above requests will be included in this list. At the moment we are prioritising completion of the 2023 Annual Works Programmes for Roads Resurfacing and Footpaths Reconstruction to be followed by preparation of tender documents. Thereafter, similar work can proceed for nameplates, subject to availability of resources.

Q.5 Councillor Kevin Donoghue

To ask the Director of Services what engagement, if any, Dublin City Council has had with the owners of Crumlin Shopping Centre regarding lapsed planning permissions for the site. While one retail unit remains operational, the vast majority of the site is underutilised and has

been a derelict eyesore for some time, including the former swimming pool building which has lay derelict for more than 10 years. Can the Director confirm what engagement DCC has had with the owner, whether DCC has considered CPOing the site and whether it has been partially entered onto the Derelict Sites Register?

Reply:

The Derelict Sites Section Unit will arrange to have the site inspected and will take action as appropriate following the assessment of its condition. A full report on the findings of the inspection will issue to the Councillor.

Under the new City Development Plan 2022-2028, Crumlin Shopping Centre is zoned Z4 – To provide for and improve mixed-services facilities, and is listed as a Key Urban Village (KUV 9). During the preparation of the Development Plan, the CE recommended that part of the site be zoned residential and that the retail component be reduced. However at the November 2021 Meeting the Council decided to retain the overall site for Z4 (Key Urban Village). Key Urban Villages typically have retail outlets of a greater size selling convenience and comparison goods or provide services of a higher order.

Under Reg. Ref. 3078/09/x1 an extension of duration of permission was granted for development on the site consisting of the existing Crumlin Shopping Centre and surrounding car park, situated to the north of Crumlin Road. The site had a stated area of 33,010m² (3.3 hectares). The original permission (3078/09) provided for the demolition and redevelopment of part of the shopping centre, with the total gross floor area to be increased from 10,805m² to 17,193m². The permitted development included redevelopment of the two anchor retail units, one having a gross floor area of 9,288m² and containing 3,500m² net convenience floor space, 3,424m² comparison floor space, café and ancillary areas and the other having a gross floor area of 3,751m², together with provision of a further four retail units in addition to three existing units to be retained (off licence, takeaway and retail unit), a café, new internal mall, new toilets, management suite and space for library or office accommodation (1,330m²). The extension of duration of permission was granted until 17th March 2020. This permission has now expired.

The Planning Department holds pre-planning meetings with owners of sites throughout the city. These meetings remain confidential until and if a planning application is lodged. The department can confirm that there is no current application lodged on this site.

Q.6 Councillor Kevin Donoghue

To ask the manager for an update on proposed works to take place in City Quay and a timeline for the same.

Reply:

We have been working proactively with the residents of City Quay and we have a design for a public realm improvement fronting onto City Quay where cars currently park up on the footpath. There are also further parking issues within Dowling's Court / Lombard Court itself with people parking their cars for the day whilst they may be conducting their business elsewhere.

To allow us to proceed with the public realm scheme we are in discussions with Traffic regarding a parking scheme that has been requested by residents in Dowling's Court / Lombard Court (on either side of Lombard Street.) A small portion of Dowling's Court / Lombard Court already has a parking scheme however the scope of this needs to be increased. I hope to have an information from Traffic shortly regarding the parking scheme for residents which will then allow us to progress the public realm works as mentioned above.

Q.7 Councillor Mary Freehill

Would the Development Department update us on present status and action derelict site on south corner of Le Vere Terrace Harold's Cross. I have taken this issue up several times in the past and wonder why it hasn't been designated a derelict site.

Reply:

This site was inspected on the 27th January 2023 and the site is considered to be a derelict site. A Section 8(2) (Notice of Intention to enter on the Derelict Site Register) will now be served on the owners.

Q.8 Councillor Mary Freehill

Would the Law Agent update us on the Council site in Dartry beside the Dodder and the request to acquire it by a local professional office?

Reply:

The council is not in discussions with any third party to dispose of this site.

The Law Agent has made an application to the Property Registration Authority to register ownership of the lands in question. An objection to the Council's application was made by an adjoining owner claiming that they had acquired possessory title to part of the Council's land by way of long occupation. The Council has rejected this claim and lodged a further affidavit with the PRA and its decision on the matter is awaited.

Q.9 Councillor Dermot Lacey

To ask the Manager in relation to the works at Beach Road / Strand Road, Sandymount:

1. To confirm the actual positions of the traffic counters and sound monitors during the course of the Irish Water main works, as traffic is diverted during the progression of the works.
2. To confirm that these monitors are in working order and that data has and is being logged.
3. To confirm that ongoing functionality will continue to be confirmed on a frequent basis.
4. To confirm that any additional monitors, as needed by works progression, as may be needed to supplement the data set, will be provided to facilitate the post works analysis, needed to underpin decisions around the impact of the cycle-route in particular.
5. To report this data and commit to full analysis of this data and reporting of that to Councillors and residents shortly after the diversionary works are complete.

Reply:

The Air Quality Monitoring and Noise Control Unit operates a citywide network of ambient noise monitoring stations. One of these stations is located on Strand Road (at the public carpark opposite the junction with Gifford Road). The monitoring data from these monitoring stations can be viewed in real time at <https://dublincityairandnoise.ie/>. The sound level meters deployed at these monitoring stations measure the totality of noise at each location and do not differentiate between the noise levels attributable to various noise sources. Monitors are adequate, monitored and analysed on a continuous basis.

Q.10 Councillor Kevin Donoghue

To ask the Litter Warden to increase the number of patrols around Erne Terrace. There is persistent issues with dumping and 'no dumping' signs are being ignored.

Reply:

The Litter Enforcement Manager has written to each household in Erne Terrace to detail their responsibilities around the presentation of waste. He will also detail the litter wardens to visit Erne Terrace on a regular basis to investigate any dumped waste for evidence and to seek evidence of household waste collection.

Q.11 Councillor Kevin Donoghue

To ask the Manager to arrange for cleaning of the lanes in South Lotts; residents have reported high levels of detritus and the presence of rodents in the lanes.

Reply:

Waste Management Services had the above mentioned lanes cleaned during the last week of January 2023.

Q.12 Councillor Dermot Lacey

In recognition of the legitimacy of the issues but also in acknowledging the huge commitment of the active volunteers of the Dodder Action Group, to ask the Manager if he will respond positively to the following issues raised by them:

"For the past five years Dodder Action has run monthly clean-ups of the Milltown area. We have repeatedly asked that the recycling bins in Milltown car park be moved from their position at the top of a slope which acts as a chute to the River Dodder. Further, as the bins act as cover, dumping goes on behind them on a daily basis. Each month two volunteers spend all of their time in the Dublin City Council-run car park cleaning up around and behind the recycling bins when they should really be working up and down the river. Each month DCC promptly collects our bags from beside the recycling bins. The bins are extremely badly located.

Between the bins and the river the slope is covered in weed mat which could not be worse for biodiversity and conducts the junk towards the river. We frequently find used nappies behind the bins as well as stacks of clothes dumped when the clothes bins are full. We also find furniture, paint and building materials. This week we found a candelabra and a mirror.

The whole area is a magnet for vermin and there are often notices announcing the application of rat poison.

It would be hard to provide a worse backdrop for the Dodder Greenway, a wildlife corridor from mountains to sea, a public amenity for the people of Dublin and a local beauty spot.

We request again that the recycling bins be moved away from the river, even to either side of the car park where dumping would not go on unobserved.

We also request that the clothing bins be REMOVED as they are not emptied often enough and their provision encourages people to think of the facility as a general dump.

Please respond to our request.

We will be monitoring the area regularly and plan if necessary to engage the public in a campaign for their removal.

We request your help in this matter,

Yours,

Dodder Action

(The pictures are from Saturday January 21st)."



Reply:

Dublin City Council is committed to recycling and providing the best recycling infrastructure possible in a busy urban environment to enable citizens to recycle responsibly. Despite regular cleaning by the service providers and Dublin City Council staff, our network of bring banks across city do unfortunately attract illegal dumping.

Waste Management Services will begin rolling out QR code reporting to our network of bring banks this year, and will continue to investigate the use of additional smart technologies where feasible.

Waste Management Services have attempted to find a suitable alternative location for the bring bank facility in Milltown Car Park on many, many occasions but unfortunately have not had any success. We have also explored the possibility of moving the banks to an alternative site within car park itself but this is not feasible due to the traffic concerns related to the car park entrance/exit and to accessibility requirements for service vehicles.

Waste Management Services do take on the concerns of Dodder Action Group and will explore the possibility of resurfacing the area on which the bring banks are situated and creating a barrier behind the banks to attempt to prevent litter sliding down the bank as reported, subject to agreement with Parks & Landscaping Services and Parking Enforcement sections.

In relation to the clothes banks, they are serviced regularly and monitored by Dublin City Council staff. Additional clothes banks were installed here in 2021 to address issues with overflowing banks. As there are no suitable alternative locations for textile banks in the area, Waste Management Services are not in a position to remove them at this time. A proposed new Bring Centre in Clonskeagh is currently at design stage, and will of course be subject to planning permission once designs are finalised. Should the Bring Centre be developed as planned, Waste Management Services will then review the situation with textile banks at Milltown Car Park.

Q.13 Councillor Daniel Ceitinn

To ask the Manager can he arrange for the maintenance issues at this property (details supplied) to be addressed as a matter of urgency.

Reply:

Housing Maintenance has no record of these job requests. However, we will log these now for the tenant and all necessary works will be carried out.

Q.14 Councillor Daniel Ceitinn

To ask the Manager can he arrange for the maintenance issues at this property (details supplied) to be addressed as a matter of urgency.

Reply:

Housing Maintenance will arrange for our engineers to examine the noise coming from the water tanks and take any necessary action.

The roofs on this complex and a number of others are due to be re-done under a programme of works, which will commence shortly.

The Housing Maintenance local area depot has already insulated around the rain water pipe and has re-insulated the boxing in the bedroom to address these issues. Furthermore, the new roof should also assist with any issues that have arisen, but we will also have this matter examined further too.

A plumber attended in relation to the smell from under the kitchen sink and found no issue here.

Q.15 Councillor Daniel Ceitinn

To ask the Manager can a cage be installed in Bishop Street Flats, Dublin 8 to store the bins away, which hopefully help with the rat infestation in the complex, and if he will arrange for the moss to be cleaned from the public areas of the complex.

Reply:

Housing Maintenance is currently in the process of assessing complexes for the installation of secure bin areas and we will also now assess Bishop Street housing complex.

Housing Maintenance Southside Mobile crew will call to the complex and treat the area as per normal practice for any rat infestation. The Caretaking Service Team Leader will also arrange for the moss to be removed in all shared spaces in the complex as a priority.

Q.16 Councillor Daniel Ceitinn

To ask the Manager to arrange for the repair of the banister at (details supplied) as a matter of urgency.

Reply:

We have consultant engineers appointed to advise on a solution to repair or replace the railings and also a contractor appointed to carry out the recommended repairs.

Investigatory works were necessary to determine the structural integrity of railing mountings and this has now been completed. The timbers were placed after these investigatory opening up works as a temporary stabilisation measure and will be removed when the permanent works are being completed.

A recommendation has been made by our consultant engineer and we are presently awaiting on method statements and a programme of works from the contractor.

We will advise when a date for commencement of works has been provided by our contractor.

Q.17 Councillor Daniel Ceitinn

To ask the Manager to ensure that the Montague Court, Montague Street, Dublin 8 complex is made accessible for fire and ambulance emergency services. A resident of Montague Court rang an ambulance for her mother on 31/12/2022 but the ambulance could not get access to the complex as bollards were blocking one entrance and the ambulance couldn't fit through the other entrance due to the adjoining new building.

Reply:

Dublin City Council will contact DBFL and Ambulance Emergency services to verify if they have issues accessing Montague Court.

Currently there is vehicular / pedestrian access to Montague Court Apartments from Cuffe Street and Montague Lane.

Q.18 Councillor Daniel Ceitinn

To ask the Manager for an update as to when this tenant's (details supplied) new windows will be installed.

Reply:

Housing Maintenance received this order for windows in June 2021. The windows have been measured and will be fabricated shortly. We do not have a date for installation at present, but we will highlight the request to the Joinery.

Q.19 Councillor Daniel Ceitinn

To ask the Manager to arrange for the repair of the foot path at the entrance to Glover's Court, Off York Street, Dublin 2 as a matter of urgency, as a resident recently fell over it and was seriously injured.

Reply:

Clarification on whether the defect is on the footpath within the Glovers Court housing complex or on the public footpath on York Street has been sought from the Councillor, upon receipt of which the matter will be investigated and a reply issued to him.

Q.20 Councillor Daniel Ceitinn

To ask the Manager to arrange for a new back door to be installed at this property (details supplied), as the current one is broken and is unable to be locked, which creates a major safety concern for this tenant.

Reply:

Housing Maintenance have fitted a new lock at this property for the tenant.

Q.21 Councillor Daniel Ceitinn

To ask the Manager to arrange for the lights to be repaired / replaced at the entrance to the balconies in Block S & J in Pearse House, as well as the lights in the car park of those blocks which have been broken for some time.

Reply:

Housing Maintenance had no record of these repairs. However, both jobs have been logged now for Electrical Services to carry out these repairs in Blocks S and J and in the carpark.

Q.22 Councillor Daniel Ceitinn

To ask the Manager to arrange for the front glass door of Block 1, Mercer House, Mercer Street, Dublin 2 to please be repaired as a matter of urgency after it has been vandalised on a number of occasions.

Reply:

Housing Maintenance will have the matter examined and repaired as soon as possible.

Q.23 Councillor Daniel Ceitinn

To ask the Manager if he will permit the installation of minor play equipment in Elizabeth O'Farrell Park which is keenly sought by the local residents and which could be funded through the local area discretionary fund, subject to agreement of the Parks manager and the Area Committee; if he will engage with the local area office to agree and advance this project; and if he will make a statement on the matter

Reply:

The Parks Service maintains 67 playgrounds throughout the City. Each is fully equipped for children of all ages. It is not understood what 'minor play equipment' would constitute and any such installation would not provide much play value in what is a small urban greenspace. However, if the residents who are seeking the equipment contact the Parks and Landscape Officer Iva Geci, the request can be considered in more detail.

Q.24 Councillor Daniel Ceitinn

To ask the Manager if he can arrange for a significant clean-up of Sean Moore Park, as requested in the detailed email submitted with this question. As we head into the spring and summer season the park will be more used by children and adults and the need for a clean and safe park will be more and more important.

"To call the situation in Sean Moore Park a litter situation is a vast understatement. I went for a walk there today, and not only did I fail to walk 3 metres without seeing a piece of litter, I saw burnt out sofas, abandoned pieces of luggage, areas clearly still being used as toilets, and so on.

Although I realise the council is not responsible for the rubbish being there - and I can't understand how people can treat a public amenity like this - I have seen no effort to add new bins, and the park is in need of a big clean up, both of litter, and undergrowth holding the litter in place.

I would encourage yourself and other councillors to visit the park and put some force behind this situation being resolved. If not, I will need to start collecting a photo diary, and making some noise about this, as this is where my family and I call home."

Reply:

Sean Moore Park is checked and litter-picked on a daily basis. Burnt sofa and other debris will be removed in following days. Vegetation clean-up along the railings beside the Sean Moore Road is scheduled to be carried out over the next week and a general clearance of undergrowth undertaken over the coming month in order to remove heavily weeded areas throughout the entire park.

Q.25 Councillor Paddy McCartan

To ask the manager to respond to the following email from a constituent.

She writes,

"As the traffic calming trial on Belmont Avenue comes to a close, I thought it appropriate to give you some feedback on the impact I have seen. Firstly, thank you for listening to the residents of Belmont Avenue and surrounding areas to come to some solution for the road.

I live in Vergemount Park, and have a daughter in St. Mary's. We cycle her to school on a cargo bike or standard bike with seat. Sometimes she cycles her own bike but until the Clonskeagh road is safer for cycling this is rare.

However, she can now cycle down Belmont Avenue to school. Once we turn onto Belmont it's like a country road. Children are so much happier and safer. There is no long aggressive driving, cars beeping, log jams of cars. The school crossing is clear.

Beyond the school drop of times, it is a lot calmer also. As a driver as well as a cyclist, it is much more reliable to drive up from Donnybrook than in the past.

The only challenge I have is with turning right by bike from Sandford Road. The current build out is designed to accommodate cyclists coming from Ranelagh but not from the Eglinton Road direction. It's fairly tricky to manoeuvre, especially with the cargo bike or if there is a vehicle blocking the yellow box.

I'm very supportive of the measures introduced and hope they can remain a permanent fixture."

Reply:

Thank you for your comments and support of the trial.

As this trial is now reaching the end of the trial period, Dublin City Council will be holding a Non-Statutory Public Consultation in late February 2023 / early March 2023 to gather the input / feedback of all relevant stakeholders from Belmont Avenue and the surrounding areas. This non-statutory public consultation will consist of an online survey along with the option to submit input and feedback on the trial to date.

After this two week Public Consultation, a report will be prepared taking into consideration all concerns from the stakeholders on Belmont Avenue and the surrounding streets and presented to the Councillors to determine what the next step will be.

Q.26 Councillor Paddy McCartan

To ask the manager to respond to the following email from a constituent.

He writes,

"The Park Avenue Action Group (PAAG) wish to log an official complaint concerning Uisce Éireann's traffic management arising from the closure of the Northbound Lane of the Strand Road.

We understand that the water works need to be completed as a matter of urgency, and due to the complexity of the traffic management, with Strand Road being an arterial road and an inner relief road of the city, the northbound lane onto Strand Road from Merrion Gates needs to be closed.

The traffic travelling northbound has thus been re-directed along the Merrion Road down Serpentine Avenue / Tritonville Road which are narrow residential roads. Since the introduction of this change in traffic layout, major traffic delays have been recorded on Tritonville Road.

In the last three days there have been two incidents of cars crashing at the Tritonville / Newbridge Avenue junction. We have also seen major backlogs of traffic at the junction of Merrion Road / Serpentine Avenue where vehicles are waiting to turn right down Serpentine Avenue.

These excessive traffic jams on Merrion Road are leading vehicles to turn left up Ailesbury Road and make U-turns to go down Sydney Parade. The same is happening on Simonscourt Road where frustrated drivers are doing u-turns to go down Sandymount Avenue. This is leading to rat running and excessive speeds on residential roads.

When we attended the consultation meeting with the bodies responsible for the works on Strand Road, we specifically asked about Merrion Gates and were told they would be closed for 6 weeks allowing work in that area.

We now ask for clarification on the stage of the works, the further plans for the works and the expected date for the return of Merrion Gates to two way traffic.

The excessive traffic on Merrion Road and surrounding area confirms that Strand Road is an arterial route, so we also ask that in the interim, a stop / go system be operated on Strand Road so motorists, cyclists, pedestrians and local residents no longer have to tolerate this poorly planned traffic management system."

Reply:

Dear Councillor McCartan,

Thank you for your email we received via Dublin City Council, regarding the Uisce Éireann works currently in progress at Beach Road and Strand Road, Sandymount.

The water-main replacement project along Beach Road and Strand Road is an essential infrastructure upgrade that is long overdue and will benefit 80,000 people in East Dublin, creating a more sustainable and secure water supply by reducing leakage, and ensuring a safer, more reliable supply for homes and businesses in the area.

Traffic management is required to ensure the safety of the workforce, road users and pedestrians. The construction works necessitate extensive, and on occasions complicated, Temporary Traffic Management Schemes. For these reasons special care is taken to ensure Traffic Management is constantly monitored and adjusted where necessary and safe to do so. To this end all Traffic Management Schemes are coordinated with input from consultees including An Garda Síochána and Dublin City Council and are accessed regularly.

We appreciate your constituent's feedback and will discuss with our partners Dublin City Council as we continue to access the new traffic management measures introduced to complete the remaining phases of the project.

We can confirm that Merrion Gates are expected to reopen between mid to late May 2023. The overall works are expected to be completed in summer 2023 and as with all complex civil engineering contracts of this scale, delivery and completion of certain elements of work are dependent on a variety of factors project wide and future Traffic Management plans and their sequencing may be subject to change as the project progresses.

Further information on the project is available at the dedicated project webpage www.water.ie/ECAMproject. We also have a stakeholder distribution list and upon your constituent's request we can add their e-mail address to receive future project updates.

Should **you** have any further queries please contact Uisce Éireann's dedicated Local Representative Support Desk by e-mail localreprsupport@water.ie or call us at 0818 178 178.

Should **your** constituent have any queries they can contact the project team by phone on 0818 462 200 during office hours or e-mail us at ecam@water.ie. Out of hours queries can be directed to the Uisce Éireann helpline on 1800 278 278.

We understand that delivery of a project such as the ECAM Project can be disruptive within the local community but based on previous experiences, we know that the short-term inconvenience will be overshadowed by the long-term benefits when the improvement project is complete.

Contact:

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

The following are the contact details for Irish Water:

Telephone: 1890 278 278 (Lo-Call)
Web: www.water.ie
Twitter: @IrishWater
Postal Address: Irish Water, PO Box 860, South City Delivery Office, Cork City.

Q.27 Councillor Paddy McCartan

To ask the manager to deal with the following issue.

“As a long term resident of Sandymount living on Sandymount Avenue close to the tee junction of Gilford Road and Sandymount Avenue, I want to log and report the unprecedented increase in traffic flow at that junction including severe traffic congestion and delays in all three directions, increased car speeding, a discovered new rat run to circumvent traffic congestion elsewhere. The significant increase in bus traffic (no’s 47, 18, C1, C2 and other empty buses leaving and entering service) is also compounding the problem.

I myself have on one occasion had a 12 minute wait to get out of my drive at number 84. I can also report that the safety of pedestrians crossing the road at this busy junction is increasingly challenged by irate drivers that do not give them road crossing precedence – it is only a matter of time before a serious accident occurs at this uncontrolled junction.

I am also concerned that the Strand / Beach Road water improvement project (and any other future traffic diversion project) has led to increased risk to public health on a number of fronts – namely; increased noise, increased pollution, increased traffic counts negotiating the narrow Sandymount residential road-network, wear and tear on many road surfaces producing large potholes and their associated dangers, vehicles mounting footpath, cars crashing, etc.

I ask DCC, have they installed vehicle counting monitors, pollution monitors (PM and NO2 etc.) and noise monitors along the routes that diverted traffic is travelling? Where are these monitors installed, how often are they read, and is the collected data available for to be inspected by Sandymounters?

Environmental protection is required, and its function is to protect and improve air quality in the GDA, and in particular when huge volumes of traffic are diverted through Sandymount Village and environ. The general health of Sandymount is been compromised by a down turn in air quality, by an increase in noise, and the safety of pedestrians is been challenged daily by huge increases in diverted traffic flow.”

Reply:

Dear Councillor McCartan,

Thank you for your email we received via Dublin City Council, regarding the Uisce Éireann works currently in progress at Beach Road and Strand Road, Sandymount.

The water-main replacement project along Beach Road and Strand Road is an essential infrastructure upgrade that is long overdue and will benefit 80,000 people in East Dublin, creating a more sustainable and secure water supply by reducing leakage, and ensuring a safer, more reliable supply for homes and businesses in the area.

Traffic management is required to ensure the safety of the workforce, road users and pedestrians. The construction works necessitate extensive, and on occasions complicated, Temporary Traffic Management Schemes. For these reasons special care is taken to ensure Traffic Management is constantly monitored and adjusted where necessary and safe to do so. To this end all Traffic Management Schemes are coordinated with input from consultees including An Garda Síochána and Dublin City Council and are accessed regularly.

We appreciate your constituent's feedback and will discuss with our partners Dublin City Council as we continue to access the new traffic management measures introduced to complete the remaining phases of the project.

Dublin City Council would be best placed to answer your constituents query in regards to vehicle counting and pollution monitors in the area.

The works are being completed using an engineering technique known as slip lining. Slip lining involves the insertion of a new pipe into an existing pipe and restores structural stability. It is advantageous compared to traditional open cut methods in that it reduces excavation noise with only entrance and exit pits required at several locations on the pipeline route. This construction method will also greatly reduce the project duration with reduced excavation and material removal lowering the overall project impact.

It is inevitable that some noise will be generated from construction activities however construction noise is temporary, and levels generated are regulated by guidelines, subject to local authority control.

The latest project sheet update and overall traffic diversion map is attached for reference. Project updates, including future changes to traffic management plans and diversion information, are regularly communicated out to stakeholders. Further information on the project including project updates, FAQs and traffic diversion information, is available at the dedicated project webpage www.water.ie/ECAMproject. We also have a stakeholder distribution list and upon your constituent's request we can add their e-mail address to receive future project updates.

Should **you** have any further queries please contact Uisce Éireann's dedicated Local Representative Support Desk by e-mail localrepsupport@water.ie or call us at 0818 178 178.

Should **your** constituent have any queries they can contact the project team by phone on 0818 462 200 during office hours or e-mail us at ecam@water.ie. Out of hours queries can be directed to the Uisce Éireann helpline on 1800 278 278.

We understand that delivery of a project such as the ECAM Project can be disruptive within the local community but based on previous experiences, we know that the short-term inconvenience will be overshadowed by the long-term benefits when the improvement project is complete.

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Twitter: @IrishWater
Postal Address: Irish Water, PO Box 860, South City Delivery Office, Cork City.

Q.28 Councillor Paddy McCartan

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

"Here is a random set of photographs that I took on Sunday in Sandymount. I could have taken hundreds more but this selection is typical of the total neglect of the basic maintenance of the Public Realm by Dublin City Council: sodden leaves that are not only unsightly but

dangerous where they make footpaths unsafe to walk, sodden leaves in the gutters even at pedestrian lights, park railings left unpainted, park notice boards left with graffiti, flood protection sandbags left for so long that the weeds growing out of them have become shrubs, kerbs overgrown with weeds. I could have taken photographs of the ridiculous sight of the derelict baths covered in graffiti on Merrion Strand.

It's not good enough for a European Capital City. It's not good enough for any civilised community.

Will any of you undertake to deal with this?

I don't mean a one-off blitz. I mean, pressurising Dublin City Council to initiate a proper everyday maintenance of the city.

There is obviously money available there just seems to be an absence of interest and / or proper management."

See pics below:



Reply:

Arrangements are been made sweep this area (Car Parks 2 & 3) with a mechanical sweeper to remove the build-up of silt and other debris from the area. When the Harris Fencing is removed from car park 1 this location will also be swept mechanically.

In relation to the issue of flood protection sandbags currently located on the grass adjacent to the promenade along Sandymount Strand: DCC Drainage Services will coordinate their removal in conjunction with the South East Area Office.

Arrangements for the hand rails at the ramped entrance to be repainted will be made. Graffiti has been removed. The yellow sand bags were installed to stop vehicles from parking on the grass when the car parks were full. DCC Parks will look into placing other type of a barrier and removing the sand bags.

Sodden leaves on footpaths and gutters are not a matter for Parks, Biodiversity and Landscape Services.

Q.29 Councillor Paddy McCartan

To ask the Manager to respond to the following issue.

"A Greyhound truck was collecting black bins at 5.40am this morning on Belgrave Square, Dublin 6. I know they do really essential and hard work. But this is very early and wakes hard working residents up. I would really appreciate if you could ask them to collect from 7am (there is no email address on their website). This avoids sleep deprivation and let's individuals and families have healthier lives.

I'm really disappointed that contract hours may have been changed recently without consultation with residents or customers (fait accompli text only received by Greyhound) and that they are now going further and operating outside contracted hours. Citybin trucks (green and brown buns) were also out this morning before 6am. Fair play to the hard workers out

early on a bank holiday Monday but please can you ask them to respect peoples' need to sleep."

Reply:

The Waste Management (Collection Permit) (Amendment) Regulations 2016.

(VI) Ensure that household kerbside waste only be collected on or after 1 July, 2016 -

(I) between the hours of 6am and 10pm in areas where a 60 kilometre per hour or lower speed limit applies, or an extended timeframe if agreed between the nominated authority and the local authority in which the collection activities will take place, or

(II) At any time, in areas where an 80 kilometre per hour or higher speed limit applies,

Where (I) and (II) are subject to the authorised collector making reasonable efforts to the satisfaction of the nominated authority and the relevant local authority to reduce noise and nuisance, where the consideration of such reasonable efforts may be informed by complaints received by the local authority from householders regarding noise or nuisance,

(vii) notwithstanding (vi), where glass is being collected as a separate fraction of household kerbside waste, ensure that such collection shall be between the hours of 7am and 10pm Monday to Friday inclusive but excluding public holidays, between the hours of 8am and 10pm on Saturdays and between the hours of 10am and 6pm on Sundays and public holidays, unless the permit holder can demonstrate to the satisfaction of the nominated authority and the relevant local authority that noise reduction measures for such collections are sufficient to allow such collections occur within the hours specified in (vi), where the consideration of such reasonable efforts may be informed by complaints received by the local authority from householders regarding noise or nuisance

If details are supplied the complaint for early collection will go to National Waste Collection Permit Office as they issue the permits for collection and enforce the times detailed above.

Q.30 Councillor Paddy McCartan

To ask the Manager to respond to concerns from Cairn developers over their contention that the councils DCS (development construction scheme) has not been correctly applied on former RTE lands at Donnybrook. As part of the permission DCC required Cairn homes to pay 9.97 million euro to the local authority in planning development contributions. Cairn homes say that the correct charge should be 4.1 million euro, less at 5.86 million euro. Please explain to Cllrs how such a large discrepancy occurs.

Reply:

The development contribution was calculated based on the information submitted on the planning application which was subsequently lodged with An Bord Pleanála on 27/05/20.

The development contribution is currently being reviewed as part of the response to an appeal lodged with An Bord Pleanála on 20/01/23.

Q.31 Councillor Dermot Lacey

To ask the Chief Executive if he will investigate (and initiate if possible) if the cabling for electric charging points could be installed in conjunction with the preparatory and installation works for the Clonskeagh to City Centre Cycle route along the route and in particular at Vergemount. (This is the stretch of Road from Ashtons Pub to Vergemount Park.

Reply:

It is the intention of Active Travel to ensure that the relevant services are provided for during the Installation works in co-operation with the relevant stakeholders and in accordance with the policies as set out in the current Dublin City Development Plan (See below).

Charging points on public roads are considered exempted development under the Planning and Development Regulations 2001, as amended, under Class 29A of Schedule 2, Part 1. Furthermore, these works can be de-exempted if they would impact a Record of Monument and Place (RMP), Conservation area or Protected Structure under Article 9 of said Regulations.

The following policies of the Dublin City Development Plan 2022-2028 support the provision of EV charging infrastructure:

1. SMT2 - Decarbonising Transport
To support the decarbonising of motorised transport and facilitate the rollout of alternative low emission fuel infrastructure, prioritising electric vehicle (EV) infrastructure.
2. Policy SMT29 - Expansion of the EV Charging Network
To support the expansion of the EV charging network by increasing the provision of designated charging facilities for Electric Vehicles on public land and private developments in partnership with the ESB and other relevant stakeholders; and to support the Dublin Regional EV Parking Strategy.

Q.32 Councillor Mannix Flynn

Can the manager issue a full report with regards the use of the Staircase building in Aungier Street to house asylum seekers? This building is a highly listed building and in recent years have been the subject of much controversy. The building is in private ownership and was refurbished some years back by Dublin Civic Trust as a Grade A listed building. No local people were informed of this move by anyone in the local authority or anyone in charge of providing services to would be asylum seekers. Why is this the case? That all local Councillors were not informed? Was Dublin City Council informed of this move? And if so, why were all local Councillors not informed? This lack of local information and consultation with local residents and businesses has a very negative impact and in certain cases allows unsavoury elements like the far right to exploit the situation and create hostile protests leaving very little room for the many local residents and businesses to raise their concerns of the impact of creating this service in an area that is already choc-o-block with similar facilities and equal disadvantage. All that is being asked for here by the many is to be included and informed and be part of the solution rather than be kept in the dark, disrespected and disregarded by the State and this in charge of providing provision to those in need. Everybody here should have equal rights to transparent and open information. This scenario unfortunately is being played out throughout the country creating a negative image of communities and residents who simply want information. Its time now that this kind of unacceptable behaviour by the State and local authority changes for the better.

Reply:

As previously advised Dublin City Council has no role in this building since the 31st Of December 2021. All enquiries with regard to use for the accommodation of people who are Beneficiaries of Temporary Protection or seeking International Protection should be directed to the Department of Children, Equality, Disability Integration and Youth.

Q.33 Councillor Mannix Flynn

Can the manager look at the possibility of extending the build out of the footpaths on the eastern side (left hand side) of Drury Street?

Reply:

This will be examined once construction works have been completed in that area.

Q.34 Councillor Mannix Flynn

Can the manager issue a full update with regards the intended works at resurfacing the dilapidated carriageway at Sir John Rogerson's Quay. This roadway has become very dangerous particularly during downpours as the surface has completely eroded.

Reply:

Sir John Rogerson's Quay (between Cardiff Lane and Benson Street) is scheduled to be resurfaced in the coming weeks.

Q.35 Councillor Mannix Flynn

Can the manager ensure that all residents of Smock Alley apartments are made fully aware and included in the process of any building out of the social housing site on Fishamble Street? Recent media reports would indicate that the Peter McVerry Trust are to develop this site with Dublin City Council. Local residents of Smock Alley are very concerned with the impact that this big development will have on their local resources and particularly the loss of light in their homes. They wish to be included in all stages of the design and development of this site.

Reply:

Dublin City Council in partnership with the Peter McVerry Trust (PMVT) intends to hold an information event for the residents of Smock Alley in the coming weeks to discuss proposals for housing on the derelict site on Fishamble Street.

A communication will issue in the coming week to invite residents to meet with DCC & PMVT discuss the development.

Q.36 Councillor Mannix Flynn

Can the manager look at the possibility of making the road carriage way safer for pedestrians at Stephens Green west beside the Royal College of Surgeons. This stretch of roadway gives entry to the carparks and also gives an exit point out on to lower Mercer Street. This can be a heavily congested area for pedestrians, cyclists and those using the Luas. Unfortunately it is appallingly laid out and very dark and difficult to read.

Reply:

An additional light will be installed here, although we cannot provide an exact timeframe at present but we anticipate it will be installed in the next couple of months.

The Area Traffic Engineer will assess the safety of Glover's Alley / Stephen's Green West for all traffic modes and cyclists and pedestrians.

Please note that the north side of Glover Alley footpath and vehicular entrance/exit is not in charge of Dublin City Council.

The Area Engineer will assess to see what measures can be improved.

Q.37 Councillor Mannix Flynn

Can the manager ensure that the street traders in Grafton Street are given full access to their stalls and work places during the rebuilding / refurbishment public improvement works, pedestrianisation of the Duke Street / Anne Street area of Grafton Street? Also, to ensure that once this build out is finished that the predominant nature of this area is pedestrian and that under no circumstances should this unique heritage area of Dublin be saturated by barrels and unsightly street furniture that are simply advertisements for alcohol beverages. A certain standard needs to be set now for all street furniture that would prohibit barrels and street furniture that is willy nilly strewn across the streets. And that all advertisement on street furniture and wind breakers be subject to advertisement license and permits except where the premises themselves are advertising their own name. Further, can these

observations be added to the public consultation process that took place regarding this project that closed on the 25th January 2023?

Reply:

Appropriate arrangements will be made in due course with the traders with regard the impact of the proposed construction works. The proposed design for this public realm scheme will protect the cultural heritage of the area, prioritising pedestrians and universal accessibility while still allowing local businesses to flourish.

The Street Furniture Licensing & Enforcement Unit will follow up on the issues raised with regard to inappropriate positioning of street furniture and inappropriate advertising.

Q.38 Councillor Mannix Flynn

Can the manager give an update regarding the intended reconfiguration and public safety works that are envisaged to take place on lower Mercer Street and Noel Purcell Way? This area is still an absolute nightmare for pedestrians and vulnerable road users. Children have to be extra careful because of the volumes of traffic in this particular location. It is extremely dangerous and confusing with the entrance and exit to the Stephens Green shopping centre car park and College of Surgeons Carpark. It has now become a rat run for many cars, motor cyclists and cyclists trying to exit and enter the city. Rush hour is a nightmare and there is simply no safety infrastructure for pedestrians.

Reply:

This question is currently with the Active Travel Programme Office for consideration in the context of the planned rollout of Dublin City Active Travel Network. A more detailed response will be issued to the Elected Member and the South East Area Committee in the coming weeks.

Q.39 Councillor Mannix Flynn

Can the manager initiate a process of CPO for the derelict dilapidated building No 24 Aungier Street? This building has been vacant and dilapidated for the past 20 odd years. Its rare heritage infrastructure was undermined and damaged by the owners which resulted in DCC placing enforcement notices on them. Since then this unique building has lain idle. This unique 18th century heritage street. Indeed, there has been many architectural reports relating to the unique heritage of Aungier Street in particular DCC's own report. Indeed, Dublin Civic Trust showed us the possibility of this street and its building gems when they successfully saved The Staircase No 21 from demolition and restored it to its former glory. The Swan Bar intends to refurbish its own premises. Equally the Marlin Hotel that owns the adjoining properties on Aungier Street are to be completely refurbished and brought back into use. The building in question which is dilapidated (No. 24) will seriously undermine these refurbishment works as it would appear the owner has no intention of fixing up his building. It is imperative that DCC initiate the CPO order on this property without further delay.

Reply:

There is ongoing liaison between the Derelict Sites and Conservation Sections in relation to derelict sites which are protected structures or are on the Buildings at Risk Register to determine the best course of action to address issues with the sites.

Derelict Sites legislation is concerned with external appearance only, but in some cases there are both external and internal works needed to be carried out to preserve the historic fabric of the property, which require the specialist intervention of the Conservation Section whose remit is the protection of the architectural heritage of the city through the exercise of powers contained in planning legislation. It is assumed from previous correspondence that the Councillor is referring to No. 25 Aungier Street. This is one such site that is under review by the two sections.

The Derelict Sites Section served a S.8(2) Notice of Intention to enter the site on the Derelict Sites Register on 17/11/2022. Representations were received from the owner's architect confirming that he has been appointed to submit a planning application and that he has sought a pre-application meeting with the Conservation Officer in relation to same. The case will now be reviewed in conjunction with Conservation in light of the owner's proposals for the property to consider the most appropriate course of action.

Q.40 Councillor Mannix Flynn

Can the manager give a full update with regards the request by me some time back to have coach parking facilities installed on Harcourt Street? This area is a hotel area and hospitality area that is in dire need of coach parking and stop off facilities. Many tourists and those visiting the city for conferences who are accommodated in this area have no way of getting to area in groups as there is no coach parking facilities. Coach parking was available in the area until recently but for some odd reason was removed.

Reply:

Coach parking is available on Hatch Street Upper. The reason this was removed temporarily was to facilitate the IPUT development which is due to be completed in April 2023 and coach parking will be reinstated. Also, parking is being reassessed on Harcourt Street for all modes of transport.

Q.41 Councillor Mannix Flynn

Can the manager give a full report with regards the policy of erecting advertising signs over public houses, restaurants etc.? Many listed buildings particularly in the Dame Street area are being subjected to new advertising signs outside their premises. Some of these signs are digital, very bright and scrolling screens or TV screens. They give off a very bright light and undermine the integrity of the facades of these buildings. I made a recent observation to the planning department of DCC and was informed that these were minor infringements and the case was closed. Can the manager furnish me with the policy regarding 'minor infringements' and any discretion DCC's planning enforcement have regarding these signs and their retention. It is obvious that these signs are in clear breach of the law and that planning needs to be obtained or retention sought bearing in mind the new generation of digital advertisement, small or large, at the negative impact that this new signage is creating in our environment.

Reply:

The control of erection of advertising signs outside public houses, restaurants etc. is informed by the policies set out in Section 15.17.5 of the Dublin City Development Plan and the exemptions set out in the Planning and Development Regulations 2001 (as amended).

Development Plan Policy

All planning applications submitted for new shopfronts and/or signage including any projecting and digital signs are assessed in accordance with development plan policy which recognises that shopfront design plays a key part in contribution to the quality of the public realm. In general, when signage is the subject of a planning application, it is restricted to fascia level and within the fascia board of the shopfront. Furthermore, it is general practise to require the lettering to consist of individually mounted solid letters mounted on the fascia. Any signage internal to the premises, including interior suspended advertising panels and which obscure views into the shop or business and create dead frontage onto the street is not normally permitted. It is also advised that any proposals for shopfront signage should have regard to the contents of the Retail Design Manual, 2012, Dublin City Council's Shopfront Design Guide, 2001 and the O'Connell Street Area Shopfront Design Guidelines, 2003, where appropriate. www.dublincity.ie

Planning Exemptions

It must also be acknowledged that there are exemptions for internal and external signage set out in the Planning and Development Regulations 2001 which businesses may avail of without triggering a requirement to apply for planning permission.

In this respect, there appears to have been a recent replacement “campaign” of existing projecting fascia signage at many licenced premises throughout the City, as well as the installation of screen advertising inside windows of licenced premises in lieu of previous static illuminated signs that had previously been in situ. There are a number of exemptions within the Planning and Development Regulations 2001 (as amended) that allow for the installation/replacement/upgrade of these advertising signage. At the time of the drafting of the existing exempted development regulations (late 1990’s) associated with signage on commercial buildings projecting LED illuminated signs and digital displays were not specifically de-exempted, as most likely there was no consideration of them at that time. Notwithstanding this there is nothing within the regulations that limits their use provided they are within a certain size in the case of the projecting signage, or they do not take up any more than 25% of the area of the window of the premises they are exhibited through.

If the Councillor wishes us to look at any particular sign or premises he can send in his complaint / enquiry to planning enforcement@dublincity.ie

Q.42 Councillor Mannix Flynn

Can the manager issue a full report with regards Googles engagement with the local community at Ringsend and the Pearse Street area? This report to include what initiatives Google have created in the area for the community? What contact, if any, Google and its officers have had with Dublin City Council with regards community projects. Many local people are concerned that Google is seeking to control the community engagement process while at the same time semi privatising the neighbourhoods. There is a potential issue here and conflict of overlap and DCC’s community section needs to indicate that it is the lead in this area regarding community development and that it is not being siphoned off to a Google outreach programme.

Reply:

Many events and projects in the community receive support and sponsorship from businesses and organisations. A business’ engagement with a community group is a matter for the group and the business involved. Our Community Team engage proactively with residents, groups and organisations in Ringsend, Pearse Street and all across the South East Area and will continue to work closely and to provide support to local communities.

Q.43 Councillor Deirdre Conroy

To ask the Local Area Manager to bring these details to the Parks Department and receive a response for the publication date of the Bushy Park Pavilion tender.

The co-founder of PADEL360 states that they are supportive in relation to all the communities in Dublin and beyond. However, the only Padel is in Terenure.

The co-founder stated on 31st January 2023:

Publication date of the Pavilion tender “was supposed to be released last year but there has been nothing published on e-tenders as of yet. We were hoping it would be released early this year in order to submit our application. We feel we have the right team to manage the pavilion and integrate the local community into our Padel360 vision.”

Reply:

The padel courts in Bushy Park were constructed by DCC and were the first publicly available courts in the country. They have been in operation for approximately 5 years, managed by the Padel Federation of Ireland under licence from DCC. The Bushy Park facility which includes re-surfaced synthetic and clay courts has been a great success and it is a model we would like to replicate in other parts of the City. Padel360 is a private company the principals

of which have expressed their interest to DCC a number of times to build and manage padel courts on public land. Each time they have been informed that the model operated successfully by DCC is for DCC to plan and construct the infrastructure which is subsequently licenced following public tender. Additional facilities are being considered in the context of ongoing capital improvement works within suitable parks in the City.

Q.44 Councillor Anne Feeney

To ask the Manager to address a parking anomaly on Castlewood Avenue which is causing access, exit and safety problems for residents. Castlewood Avenue is a very busy road connecting Rathmines and Ranelagh. On the south side of the street, there are double yellow lines and on the other, there are not. For some reason, people are able to park on the north side of the road on Sunday (and after 4 pm), causing significant traffic jams and disruption with parked cars blocking driveways. Even if there is enough space to exit, it is extremely dangerous reversing onto a busy road behind parked cars. At 7m wide, it is not a wide road, with ambulances, fire engines, and public transport regularly stuck behind parked cars. Towing trucks are regularly required. There is ample parking on Sunday in the area so there is no need for a parking derogation on the north side of the road on Sundays or after 4pm. Double yellow lines should also be considered on the north side of the road.

Reply:

The Parking Policy and Enforcement Inspector will investigate the reported issues at the above location and will report his findings to the Traffic Advisory Group.

Q.45 Councillor Anne Feeney

To ask the Manager to schedule repair of the traffic calming bumps / speed ramps on the Terenure end of Bushy Park Road. These are in a terrible state for car users and should be brought up to a safe standard like the others on the road.

Reply:

The speed cushions at 67 Bushy Park Road will be included in our 2023 Ramp Resurfacing Works.

Q.46 Councillor Anne Feeney

To ask the Manager to arrange for repainting of the yellow lines on Rathdown Avenue. In some cases they have disintegrated entirely which allows car owners to ignore them and this is not helping the ongoing traffic / parking problems on this road, particularly with increased usage of Bushy Park going into the spring and summer. While I appreciate that the lines were repainted around the entrances, they have not been repainted on other stretches of the road where previously yellow lines were clearly visible.

Reply:

These locations will be inspected in the coming days. Any requirement for re-painting will be carried out within 30 working days of the SEAC meeting of the 13th of February 2023.

Q.47 Councillor Anne Feeney

To ask the Manager to arrange to have the park on Neagh Road, a quiet residential area, locked at night and reopened in the morning as is the case on Corrib road. On a number of occasions anti-social behaviour has taken place in the park at night-time, including damage to the playground equipment.

Reply:

Neagh Road Park being small in size and surrounded by a road allow Gardaí to carry out surveillance when patrolling. Residents are advised to immediately report any anti-social behaviour to the local Garda station so prompt actions can be undertaken.

Please note that locking the gates might not prevent anti-social behaviour as the existing boundary railings given to its height wouldn't stop determined individuals from crossing over.

To facilitate this request it would require additional staffing resources at a time of constraint budgetary and staffing levels. Arrangements can be made for interested resident/s to open/close the gates, however, they would need to be committed and ensure that opening and closing is done at the same time as in other parks across the city, every day throughout the year. This type of operational system is currently in place at referenced Corrib Road Park.

Q.48 Councillor Anne Feeney

To ask the Manager to address the issue of an untaxed and uninsured storage unit parked on details supplied.

Reply:

Under Section 10(a) (iv) (i) of The Roads Act 1993 it is an offence to place this object on the public road. Road Maintenance Service (RMS) will carry out an inspection of Mount Argus Crescent and issue an enforcement notice on the owner of the storage unit. If the owner refuses to remove the storage unit, RMS can arrange for its removal at the owner's cost.

Q.49 Councillor Claire Byrne

To ask the Area Manager, in light of the launch of the national EV Charging Infrastructure Strategy, what are the plans for the provision of EV charging in the South East Area?

Reply:

DCC will focus our efforts on destination (e.g. shopping centres) and neighbourhood chargers (e.g. carparks) rather than on street chargers. This is based on extensive research and analysis.

Subsequent to the completion of an industry stakeholder engagement piece late last year, the Dublin Local Authority Electric Vehicle Charging Strategy is now complete. The Dublin Metropolitan Area (DMA) working group are now moving forward with the next steps of the project. This will include a procurement plan required for the roll out of the strategy in balance with the council's wider sustainable mobility policies and the use of suitable council facilities is under consideration. However this will be subject to resources & availability of funding from the Department of Transport. The Department published (31st March) its national strategy setting out potential new sources of funding and capacity building measures to enable the transition and an initial consultation period has just finished.

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

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

Dublin City Council has also been in close dialogue with the Department and the Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland (SEAI) regarding the available schemes of funding and a proposed new scheme of grant aid for Multiple Dwelling Units designed to facilitate EV charging infrastructure.

The preparation of the new City Development Plan 2022 - 2028 will provide an opportunity to review the implementation of the revised objectives from the previous plan and also incorporate the relevant outcomes of the above mentioned study, to deliver an EV charging solution for the Dublin Metropolitan Area.

Q.50 Councillor Claire Byrne

To ask the Area Manager can he please repaint and extend the yellow box outside the entrance to the Iveagh Trust on New Bride Street. It has become difficult to see due to the development across the road and is causing traffic safety issues.

Reply:

The Transport Advisory Engineer Area Engineer assessed the yellow box outside the entrance to the Iveagh Trust on New Bride Street and there is no current requirement to extend the existing yellow box. However the yellow box will be sent Road Marking Section to consider repainting.

These locations will be inspected in the coming days. Any requirement for re-painting will be carried out within 30 working days of the SEAC meeting of the 13th of February 2023.

Q.51 Councillor Claire Byrne

To ask the Area Manager can he please install '30km per hour' signs on New Bride Street as speeding is an issue here.

Reply:

The Road Safety Engineer will assess the area, and the councillor will be informed if the installation of 30 km/h is required.

Q.52 Councillor Claire Byrne

To ask the Area Manager can he please provide an update on the plans for this piece of vacant land on Little Ship Street (see photo attached)?



Reply:

The Council is pursuing the redevelopment of the historically important Werburgh Street, Ship Street area and has acquired this site and other sites in the area in order to facilitate same. A masterplan is being drawn up on how best to develop lands in the area that are in the ownership of the Council and the OPW. The masterplan will provide direction on the future development potential of available land and its uses in the context of this key historic area of the city. The lands which are the subject of this Masterplan are bounded by Castle Street to the north, Ship Street Little to the South, Werburgh Street to the west and the Castle steps to the East.

Q.53 Councillor Claire Byrne

To ask the Area Manager when will the damage done by a utility company on the recently resurfaced Long Lane be fixed? This road was only resurfaced a year ago and is now destroyed at the junction of New Bride Street by shoddy workmanship.

Reply:

Irish Water's contractor GMC installed a sewer connection to a new development on Long Lane at its junction with Bride Street in November 2022. The area of permanent reinstatement to be carried out was agreed between the contractor and the Superintendent in the DCC's

Infrastructure Management Unit in November 2022. The permanent reinstatement of the affected footpath are complete. However, a temporary road closure is required to carry out the permanent reinstatement of the carriageway. GMC are in the process of applying to DCC for this. The works are scheduled for completion by the end of March 2023.

Q.54 Councillor Claire Byrne

That this area committee calls on the Area Manager to install bike parking on Lennox Street. These are mostly terraced houses with no gardens so people are locking their bikes on lamp posts on narrow pathways. There is a clear demand for bike parking here.

Reply:

Dublin City Council has previously installed 8 no. cycle parking spaces on Lennox Street that have proven to be popular and are well used.

The installation of additional stands would require the removal of Pay & Display and Permit parking which has been introduced by Plebiscite.

Permission will be sought to rescind a parking space from the Parking Enforcement Section who have responsibility for all parking schemes in Dublin City.

Should permission be granted, cycle parking will be included in the next batch of the On-Street Cycle Parking Project.

Q.55 Councillor Claire Byrne

To ask the Area Manager can he install a pedestrian crossing at the junction of Lennox Street and Richmond Street South?

Reply:

Richmond Street South forms part of the Rathfarnham to City Centre Core Bus Corridor.

Currently, this scheme does not provide for a pedestrian crossing at Lennox Street. The NTA will shortly lodge this scheme with An Board Pleanála so it can undergo formal public consultation. A request for a pedestrian crossing at this location should then be made during the formal statutory public consultation process.

Q.56 Councillor Claire Byrne

To ask the Area Manager can he please fixed the footpaths at the junction of Trinity Street and St. Andrew's Lane as it is serious disrepair.

Reply:

Repairs to the footpath at these 2 no. locations will be scheduled for the coming weeks.

Q.57 Councillor Mary Freehill

Would the manager please state what steps are being taken to designate the site at the entrance on the south side Le Bas Terrace, Harold's Cross a derelict building? The building has been derelict for years and is the cause of rodents in the area from time to time. Furthermore this is a site that could provide a much needed home.

Reply:

The Derelict Sites Unit will arrange to have the site inspected and will take action as appropriate following the assessment of its condition. A full report on the findings of the inspection will issue to the Councillor.

Q.58 Councillor Mary Freehill

To ask the Manager to deal with the following issues from a Ballsbridge resident.

He writes:

1. When are the lamps that were removed from Ballsbridge some months ago due to be reinstated?
2. To arrange to have the potholes in the middle of the bridge repaired.
3. Who is responsible for the cleaning of Ballsbridge (cleaning / sweeping the streets with a brush, as a mechanical sweeping machine is ineffective where there are parked cars).

Please note I have been in contact with the Manager's office and the return email, dated the 24th of January stated Shelbourne Road is scheduled for daily cleaning and is mechanically swept daily. This is most certainly not the case. Shelbourne Road has not been cleaned since the very poor attempt after the Leinster v Racing rugby match. If there is a litter management plan in place please adhere to the schedule.

Reply:

The scroll brackets that carry the parapet lights have been removed and are currently in the process of being restored. In addition to this separate quotes are being sought by DCC to remove and repair the masonry plinths that will allow the restored scroll brackets and lights to be re-installed. It is anticipated that this work will be completed this year.

This section of Merrion Road carriageway is included in our Draft 2023 SEA Carriageway Resurfacing Programme.

Shelbourne Road is scheduled for daily cleaning by Waste Management Services and is mechanically swept and litter bins emptied daily. However, during the leaf-fall season, this cleaning schedule may be impacted as we respond to high volumes of fallen leaves across the South East Area. We have removed the majority of fallen leaves at this point and have returned to our normal scheduled service.

Currently the depot is focusing on Shelbourne Road, Anglesea Road, Pembroke Road and Lansdowne Road with a large Road Sweeper to bring these important locations to the high standard that is expected.

Q.59 Councillor Anne Feeney

To ask the Area Manager to provide an update in respect of the disabled parking bay application with reference number [7029538](#); if he can outline when the Area Engineer will be examining this application, and when it can be expected that the Applicant will be responded to concerning their application for a parking space.

Reply:

The Traffic Advisory Group at its meeting of 11/10/2022 did not recommend a Disabled Parking Bay at this location as there is off-street parking available at the address. Dublin City Council does not provide Disabled Parking Bays where there is off-street parking available.

Q.60 Councillor Tara Deacy

A local couple have been in touch highlighting they bought their house in Crumlin in 2021 and the mains water pressure is very poor - approx. 3 litres/min from the kitchen tap. They have been told this is common in the Crumlin area. Are DCC aware of any planned works to increase the water pressure?

Reply:

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

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

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

The following are the contact details for Irish Water:

Telephone: 1890 278 278 (Lo-Call)
Web: www.water.ie
Twitter: @IrishWater
Postal Address: Irish Water, PO Box 860, South City Delivery Office, Cork City.

Q.61 Councillor Tara Deacy

Prince Arthur Terrace, Rathmines

The appalling condition of Prince Arthur Terrace has been brought to my attention by the local residents. In the summer of 2022 DCC sent a road crew out and patch worked in some repairs, this is totally unsuitable solution as it just moves the water around to diffuse locations on the terrace. The full road needs to be re surfaced.

Reply:

Recent carriageway works have taken place at the cul-de-sac end of Prince Arthurs Terrace to address ponding water issues. Any other reports of local ponding will be examined by Road Maintenance Services. On recent inspection, the carriageway was found to be in a reasonable condition and not currently in need of resurfacing.

Q.62 Councillor Tara Deacy

Villiers Road

A number of residents have raised concerns about the speed of cars using Villiers Road and the danger this poses to local children, the Gardaí have a role here clearly but can DCC please visit this site and see if we can add any traffic calming measures, are there any speed ramps present etc.? What can we do as an organisation to assist?

Reply:

The Transport Advisory Group Engineer will assess and visit Villiers Road to see if further traffic calming measures are required. This short narrow road currently has 2 No. raised tables and 2 No. ramps and has 30 Kp/h slow zone signage as you enter from Highfield Road and as you enter from Frankfort Avenue / Rathmines Road Upper junction. There is also a 3.5 Tonne limit at both ends of Villiers Road.

Dublin City Council Transport Advisory Group will notify the issue of speeding with An Garda Síochána.

Q.63 Councillor Tara Deacy

The advertising board, located on Rathmines Road Lower has been brought to our attention again with some residents saying it is continuing to beam bright light into houses beside it. I know DCC responded to previous objections about the board by introducing a 'fade' transition, in order to prevent the bright flash emitted between adverts appearing on screen. Has this been monitored by DCC or have any conversations or feedback been given to DCC from local residents.

Reply:

A lighting level survey associated with this advertising sign was carried out by an independent consultant engaged by Dublin City Council. The results of this survey found the brightest spot measurement to be 123.3 candelas per m² which is well within the maximum limit of 250 candelas per m² permitted by way of condition of permission. Following further engagement with the operators of the sign with the Planning Enforcement Officer for the area, the owners of the digital advertising sign extended the time delay between each fade transition which following an inspection on the 9th November, was considered to be in compliance with condition 2 attached to the approved An Bord Pleanála planning decision order. A letter was

circulated to the complainants on file informing them of the findings of the Planning Enforcement Section and of our decision to hold the enforcement file in abeyance for a period of 3 months to ensure continued compliance with the permission granted. The Planning Enforcement Section have since carried out a number of inspections and found no apparent changes to either the light intensity or illuminating from the digital sign or to the fade transition between each advertisement. Our enforcement file remains open and further inspections will be carried out to ensure planning compliance.

Q.64 Councillor Carolyn Moore

Can the manager undertake to write to the providers of bin collection services in Dublin and remind them that they are only allowed to operate between the hours of 6am and 9pm and outline what measures are currently in place to ensure that collections are only taking place during these hours? This is on foot of reports to councillors of collections taking place from 5am, disturbing the sleep of residents.

Reply:

The Waste Management (Collection Permit) (Amendment) Regulations 2016.

(vi) ensure that household kerbside waste only be collected on or after 1 July, 2016—

(I) between the hours of 6am and 10pm in areas where a 60 kilometre per hour or lower speed limit applies, or an extended timeframe if agreed between the nominated authority and the local authority in which the collection activities will take place, or

(II) at any time, in areas where an 80 kilometre per hour or higher speed limit applies,

Where (I) and (II) are subject to the authorised collector making reasonable efforts to the satisfaction of the nominated authority and the relevant local authority to reduce noise and nuisance, where the consideration of such reasonable efforts may be informed by complaints received by the local authority from householders regarding noise or nuisance,

(vii) notwithstanding (vi), where glass is being collected as a separate fraction of household kerbside waste, ensure that such collection shall be between the hours of 7am and 10pm Monday to Friday inclusive but excluding public holidays, between the hours of 8am and 10pm on Saturdays and between the hours of 10am and 6pm on Sundays and public holidays, unless the permit holder can demonstrate to the satisfaction of the nominated authority and the relevant local authority that noise reduction measures for such collections are sufficient to allow such collections occur within the hours specified in (vi), where the consideration of such reasonable efforts may be informed by complaints received by the local authority from householders regarding noise or nuisance

If details are supplied, the complaint for early collection will go to the National Waste Collection Permit Office as they issue the permits for collection and enforce the times detailed above.

Q.65 Councillor Carolyn Moore

Can the manager provide an update as to when the resurfacing of Orwell Road (scheduled for Q4 of 2022) will take place?

Reply:

Resurfacing works on Orwell Road (between the Dodder River and Zion Road) are currently taking place.

Q.66 Councillor Carolyn Moore

Can the manager agree to assess and identify a suitable location to install at least two bins in the environs of Dolphin Road and Herberton Road? Bins are required for the disposal of general waste and dog waste, as footfall in the area has increased recently with football

teams, health enthusiasts and dog walkers using the area. With a significant pedestrian upgrade occurring here, more footfall is likely in the future, and dumping on the Dolphin Road green is already a huge problem. Tidy Drimnagh volunteers disposed of 53 bags of dog waste in a recent litter pick.

Reply:

Waste Management Services will have the above mentioned location assessed over the coming weeks for the suitability of having litter bins installed there.

Q.67 Councillor Carolyn Moore

Can the area manager provide an update on the plans to replace the laurel hedging in Palmerston Park? Can this hedging be replaced with native, traditional hedge which could enhance the biodiversity of the park?

Reply:

Replanting plan is currently in the process of being prepared alongside with the DCC Tree Officer and Biodiversity Officer. It will be implemented in phases and would suit parks history, site conditions and provide colour, interest, as well as, higher biodiversity value.

Q.68 Councillor Carolyn Moore

Can the area manager offer an explanation as to why the internet access in Rathmines library is so poor? Users complain of a 20 minute wait time trying to connect, frequently dropped connections, and areas of the library where the Wi-Fi isn't available. Internet access is one of the vital modern public services that people should be able to rely on their libraries to provide, and in 2023 it is not acceptable that this service is not reliable in one of the city's biggest and best libraries.

Reply:

In response to complaints, libraries commissioned a technical survey of the building. Two issues were highlighted, in that some equipment needs to be replaced, and the line into the building needs to be upgraded to fibre (from copper). New equipment is being ordered and we are in discussion with our telecoms providers about the installation of a fibre connection.

Q.69 Councillor Carolyn Moore

Can the traffic engineers for the area assess and propose a solution to the use of Villiers Rad as a through road connecting Rathmines Road Upper and Highfield Road? The current traffic management plan is causing Villiers Road to be used as a rat run, with vehicles travelling at an unreasonably high speed for such a narrow road. In recent weeks this has resulted in damage to two vehicles parked on the road.

Reply:

The Transport Advisory Group Engineer will assess and visit Villiers Road to see if further traffic calming measures are required. This short narrow road currently has 2 No. raised tables and 2 No. ramps and has 30 Kp/h slow zone signage as you enter from Highfield Road and as you enter from Frankfort Avenue / Rathmines Road Upper junction. There is also a 3.5 Tonne limit at both ends of Villiers Road.

Dublin City Council Transport Advisory Group will notify the issue of speeding with An Garda Síochána.

Q.70 Councillor Carolyn Moore

Can the area manager please instruct housing to deal with the mould problem at (address supplied)? The tenants have been complaining about this issue and the health implications for some time now.

Reply:

The above property is being leased by the Council under a long term lease agreement. By virtue of the lease DCC is responsible for internal repair and maintenance and the owner / lessor has obligation for all structural repairs. Túath Housing under a service level agreement manage DCC's leased units to include internal repair and maintenance. DCC is aware of issues at the unit which require structural remediation and are liaising with the owner in having the necessary works complete.

Q.71 Councillor Danny Byrne

To ask the manager if the following can be addressed,

Scaffolding and hoardings were recently erected on the Charlemont Square site, reducing the usable footpath space to less than an arm's width. This is well below the minimum footway width of 1.8m as specified by the Design Manual for Urban Roads and Streets (Section 4.3.1, May 2019 Version 1.1).

This is a high-traffic footpath which serves as a critical link between stops for the 9, 16, 68, 122, and 125 busses, the Luas, and the many employers, schools, and business nearby. Locals, as well as commuters from as far afield as Newbridge, Greenogue, Cabra, Balinteer, and the airport expect to be able to safely and quickly use this footpath to go about their day.

The hoardings are almost certainly necessary to progress the construction works on the site. But the footpath that they encroach on is adjacent to a carriageway which has 4 lanes of one-way traffic. Four lanes, in the city center!!!! I ask that just one of these 4 lanes is closed for so long as the hoardings are present. This 25% reduction in road space allocated to motor vehicles would more than double the space available to pedestrians, ensuring safer and more efficient movement for all along this busy block.

Reply:

John J. Duffy Construction Ltd were given a licence for a scaffold for Harcourt Road for the period 13th October 2022 to the 13 March 2023. An Inspector checked the location today and is satisfied that the developer has retained the minimum of 1.2m for pedestrian access on the public footpath as is required under the *Directions for Control and Management of Roadworks in Dublin city*. Where possible Inspectors will require 1.5m for pedestrian access to be available at all times and this was achieved in this particular case. The Inspector has also reported that the scaffold should be removed next week.

Q.72 Councillor Danny Byrne

To ask the manager for an update on the housing position of details supplied, who is on the housing list since 2008,

Reply:

The above applicant is on the Housing List with an application date of 04/09/2008, and the applicant holds the following positions on this list:

Area	Bed size	Position
Area M	1	40
Area N	1	47
Area P	1	30

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

The applicants should keep checking the Dublin City Council website for any Choice Based Lettings that may become available in their area of choice. They are advertised every Friday and remain advertised for a period of three weeks.

The applicants 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.

Applicants are able to check their position on the Housing List by logging onto www.dublincity.ie/housingonline with their reference number and Date of Birth.

Q.73 Councillor Danny Byrne

To ask the manager If monitored cameras could be placed on traffic lights at the junction of Haddington Road Grand Canal Street, South Lotts Road and Shelbourne Road. Residents report consistent breaking of red lights at this junction, with many near misses involving the elderly and children.

Reply:

The operation of the traffic signals at this junction have been reviewed and the signals are operating as specified, with sufficient amber and red signal timings to allow vehicles who pass at the end of the green light, sufficient time to clear the pedestrian crossing before the pedestrian signal operates.

We have contacted Roads Policing, An Garda Síochána and reported the incidence of red light breaking and asked that An Garda to monitor the junction.

We will also monitor traffic signal operation and edit timings and sequences, as required, where there is scope to do so.

Q.74 Councillor Danny Byrne

To ask the manager of a traffic island could be placed at the Haddington Road side of Shelbourne road. Residents report that as the road is quite wide at this section there is not enough time for many pedestrians to cross the road.

Reply:

There is no requirement to add a pedestrian island to the east arm of Shelbourne Road / Haddington road junction. The appropriate traffic signal times are available for pedestrians to cross.

TAG's current policy is not to install traffic island on roads where there is pedestrian crossing because there should be one clear movement for pedestrians to cross a junction.

The pedestrian timings at this junction have been checked and it has been found that the current time settings reflect the standard times used at pedestrian crossings and minimum safety times have been maintained. For your information, a steady green pedestrian signal is displayed to the pedestrians. The purpose of this signal is simply to indicate to pedestrians that they may start to cross the road, and the length of the signal is not related to the time required for pedestrians to cross. The current time-setting for this element is 6.0 seconds, which is typical of the vast majority of pedestrian crossings in the city.

After the 6.0 seconds green pedestrian signal then turns to amber. This is to indicate to pedestrians that they should not start to cross the road, but that there is sufficient time for people already on the crossing to finish crossing the road. The duration of the amber signal is based on the time required to cross the road at an average walking speed of 1 m/s.

Q.75 Councillor Danny Byrne

To ask the manager if the junction of Wexford Street and Kevin Street could be inspected, there appears to be water leak there.

Reply:

The leak was repaired by DCC Water Services on 5th February 2023.

Q.76 Councillor Mary Freehill

Could the manager find out what progress the Minister for Culture has made in re-establishing 1% for public art as part of Irish Water projects? She told us a long time ago that a working group was established to examine it. Irish water has reneged on their responsibilities and it is unacceptable that the Minister allows them get off the hook by not getting this group to complete its work.

Reply:

It is understood that Irish Water is engaging with the Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht and Media regarding implementation of the Per Cent for Art Scheme for its capital projects.

Q.77 Councillor Hazel Chu

To ask the manager with the success or Belmont Avenue traffic change that said changes be kept but that assessment be made on Marlborough Road and work for an overall traffic management plan for the three parallel roads running from Donnybrook Road to Ranelagh Road (Marlborough, Eglinton and Belmont).

Reply:

Dublin City Council (DCC) have worked with an external consultant on the Restricted Access scheme on Belmont Avenue which was installed in August 2022 for a 6 month trial period.

As part of this trial various transport related surveys have been conducted throughout the trial period on Belmont Avenue and indeed the surrounding areas. A report will be compiled and presented to Councillors at an upcoming South East Area Committee meeting. This report will contain the information from the transport related survey results and non-statutory public consultation period. The information obtained will decide the next steps for the trial and surrounding areas including roads running from Donnybrook Road to Ranelagh Road (Marlborough, Eglinton and Belmont).

Q.78 Councillor Hazel Chu

To ask the manager to review the possibilities of putting in a glass recycling facility in Donnybrook.

Reply:

Waste Management Services is committed to recycling and providing the best infrastructure possible in a busy, urban environment. We are always open to the possibility of adding new recycling facilities should suitable locations become available, and always happy to investigate any reasonable suggestions for new bring bank sites.

However, the reality is that finding sites for new bottle banks in the city is very problematic. Many are located on privately owned land e.g. supermarket car parks and sports grounds. Publicly owned land is at a premium. Statutory planning regulations restrict the locations where new bottle banks can be installed, and our service provider requires safe access to all sites. The area must be free of overhead cables and overhanging trees, must not conflict with bus or cycle lanes and must be directly accessible by HGV.

While there are no bring banks situated in Donnybrook at present, there are a number of recycling facilities in the surrounding area – bottle banks in Merrion, Sandymount and Clonskeagh, and bring centres in Rathmines and Rathgar. Waste Management Services will

however revisit Donnybrook in the coming weeks to attempt to find a suitable location for a bring bank.

Q.79 Councillor Hazel Chu

To ask the manager to repair or reseed the green area in Mountpleasant Square and investigate and put in more play facilities.

Reply:

The referenced green circled area in the Mountpleasant Square Park has been reinforced with the rubber matting to protect the grass roots from excess wear/tear and promote grass growth whilst still allowing natural drainage.

Unfortunately, due to the high volume of use, as the park is now almost exclusively used by dog walkers, this relatively small area cannot sustain the high traffic despite the protective matting installed. Repairing the ground condition and reseeding the grass would be only a short term solution.

DCC Parks management team is currently investigating various approaches as a possible solution to the problem that might hopefully improve the area for a long period of time.

In relation to the play facilities, this can be considered in the 2024 Parks Improvements Programme subject to funding being available. It is noteworthy to mention, that the scale and history of the site is posing a barrier to creating traditional fixed playground which would take too much space in an already small park and would be visually obtrusive. Discreetly sited play space focussing on providing few informal opportunities for play, in an outdoor natural setting, rather than relying on large appliances would be a more preferable idea.

Q.80 Councillor Hazel Chu

To ask the manager to work with the Swan Leisure to investigate and put in play facilities at the small green area off Williams Park. St Louis School and Safari Crèche children both use the park and it would be beneficial for them to have play facilities.

Reply:

The area in question is not currently in charge of DCC and is directly over the car park. The Area Manager has been in touch with the CEO of Swan Leisure and, funding permitted, will undertake a joint assessment of play facilities

Q.81 Councillor Hazel Chu

To ask the manager how many dog fines were issued in the South East Area and how many wardens do we have in those areas

Reply:

The total no. of fines issued is follows

Year	Off Lead	No muzzle
2022	2	2
2021	8	4

The optimum staffing structure for the Animal Welfare Unit to include management, operations and administrative support and current status of these posts is as set out below. The structure includes two new posts of Animal Welfare Inspector and Assistant Inspector sanctioned by Department of Housing, Local Government & Heritage in September 2022.

POST / GRADE	STATUS
Management	
1 No. Administrative Officer	Vacant due to long term CSL - To be filled with effect from mid-February 2023.
Operations	
1 Animal Welfare Inspector	Vacant - External Recruitment process currently underway.
1 Assistant Animal Welfare Inspector	Filled in Acting capacity pending completion of Internal Recruitment process – currently underway.
4 No. Animal Welfare Officers / Dog Wardens	1 post filled (Temp.), 3 posts vacant pending recruitment.
Administration	
1 Staff Officer (Administration)	Post filled.
1 Staff Officer (Education)	Vacant.
1 Clerical Officer	Post filled.

The City Council's Animal Welfare service is currently severely under staffed, however, arrangements are in train to fill posts and build the capacity of the service to meet statutory animal welfare obligations into the future.

It is envisaged that the future citywide service will include planned and co-ordinated area based patrols to proactively monitor compliance with Control of Dogs Act 1986 and Parks & Open Spaces Bye-Laws 2002(Sec.4.7) together with greater education and awareness of dog owner responsibility in this regard. Regular standard activity reporting will also form part of the enhanced service.

Q.82 Councillor James Geoghegan

To ask the Area Manager if the 94sq.m of footpath area identified by Area engineers which merits renewal on Cowper Gardens could be added to the programme for works.

Reply:

Cowper Gardens is included in our Draft 2023 South East Area Footpath Renewal Programme.

Q.83 Councillor James Geoghegan

To ask the Area Manager what can be done about dumping of clothes around the clothes bin located in the Milltown Car Park which is regularly overflowing with volunteers regularly cleaning up as per the photo attached and email below in details supplied:

Reply

Dublin City Council is committed to recycling and providing the best recycling infrastructure possible in a busy urban environment to enable citizens to recycle responsibly. Despite regular cleaning by the service providers and Dublin City Council staff, our network of bring banks across city do unfortunately attract illegal dumping.

Waste Management Services will begin rolling out QR code reporting to our network of bring banks this year, and will continue to investigate the use of additional smart technologies where feasible.

Waste Management Services have attempted to find a suitable alternative location for the bring bank facility in Milltown Car Park on many, many occasions but unfortunately have not had any success. We have also explored the possibility of moving the banks to an alternative site within car park itself but this is not feasible due to the traffic concerns related to the car park entrance/exit and to accessibility requirements for service vehicles.

Waste Management Services do take on the concerns of Dodder Action Group and will explore the possibility of resurfacing the area on which the bring banks are situated and creating a barrier behind the banks to attempt to prevent litter sliding down the bank as reported, subject to agreement with Parks & Landscaping Services and Parking Enforcement sections.

In relation to the clothes banks, they are serviced regularly and monitored by Dublin City Council staff. Additional clothes banks were installed here in 2021 to address issues with overflowing banks. As there are no suitable alternative locations for textile banks in the area, Waste Management Services are not in a position to remove them at this time. A proposed new Bring Centre in Clonskeagh is currently at design stage, and will of course be subject to planning permission once designs are finalised. Should the Bring Centre be developed as planned, Waste Management Services will then review the situation with textile banks at Milltown Car Park.

Q.84 Councillor James Geoghegan

To ask the Area Manager if he could address the issues raised in this email below (details supplied).

Reply:

Cars driving in the bus lane is an enforcement issue and a matter for the Gardaí.

The right turn movement from Merrion Road on to Strand Road has been temporarily removed due to Irish Water works. There are diversions in place on the route and the signage is checked and replaced as required on a regular basis.

The junctions along this route will continue to be monitored and additional time has also been allocated to the right turn movement from Merrion Road to Serpentine Ave to assist vehicles making that turn.

There is further information available on the Irish water works and the diversions in place at the following <https://www.water.ie/projects/local-projects/east-city-arterial-water/>

Q.85 Councillor James Geoghegan

To ask the Area Manager if he could address the specific question raised in the email below (details supplied).

Reply:

Dear Councillor Geoghegan,

Thank you for your email we received via Dublin City Council, regarding the Uisce Éireann works currently in progress at Beach Road and Strand Road, Sandymount.

The Merrion Gates are expected to reopen between mid to late May 2023. The overall works are expected to be completed in summer 2023 and as with all complex civil engineering contracts of this scale, delivery and completion of certain elements of work are dependent on

a variety of factors project wide and future Traffic Management plans and their sequencing may be subject to change.

The latest project sheet update and overall traffic diversion map is attached for reference. Project updates, including future changes to traffic management plans and diversion information, are regularly communicated out to stakeholders. Further information on the project including project updates, FAQs and traffic diversion information, is available at the dedicated project webpage www.water.ie/ECAMproject. We also have a stakeholder distribution list and upon your constituent's request we can add their e-mail address to receive future project updates.

Should **your** constituent have any queries they can contact the project team by phone on 0818 462 200 during office hours or e-mail us at ecam@water.ie. Out of hours queries can be directed to the Uisce Éireann helpline on 1800 278 278.

We understand that delivery of a project such as the ECAM Project can be disruptive within the local community but based on previous experiences, we know that the short-term inconvenience will be overshadowed by the long-term benefits when the improvement project is complete.

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

The following are the contact details for Irish Water:

Telephone: 1890 278 278 (Lo-Call)
Web: www.water.ie
Twitter: @IrishWater
Postal Address: Irish Water, PO Box 860, South City Delivery Office, Cork City.

Q.86 Councillor James Geoghegan

To ask the Area Manager if he can address the issues raised in the email below and photo attached (details supplied).

Reply:

The Transport Advisory Area engineer will visit the site and will contact the Traffic Warden to see if there was an enforcement issue caused by the Truck. The site will be monitored over a period of time. Extension of Double yellow lines will not prevent the truck parking as the regulations on double yellow line allows active loading / unloading for up to 30 minutes.

The Transport Advisory Area engineer will liaise with the Parking enforcement Team.

Q.87 Councillor James Geoghegan

To ask the Area Manager if the issues raised in the email and photo attached below could be addressed (details supplied).

Reply:

Lighting improvements are being considered as part of the Dodder Greenway (permanent scheme) between Clonskeagh Road and Dundrum Road on the south side of the River Dodder along the existing Dodder Trail. The delivery period for this project is in phase 3 of the Active Travel Network programme (i.e. post 2027).

Currently Dublin City Council are working in conjunction with Dun Laoghaire Rathdown Co. Co. and South Dublin Co. Co. on 5 sections of the route where interim interventions are achievable; these locations are Fitzwilliam Quay to Londonbridge Road, Beatty's Avenue to Herbert Park, Donnybrook Road to Clonskeagh Road, Clonskeagh Bridge to Patrick Doyle Road and Orwell Road to Dodder Road Lower.

Public consultation on the interim proposals for the Dodder Greenway is expected to commence in Q1 2023. The provision of additional public lighting is not currently included in the scope of the interim scheme as the addition of lighting would require detailed environmental assessment of the impacts, in particular the sensitivity of the native bat populations to the proposed lighting.

The section referred to by Mr. Quinn in his correspondence is on the north side of the river Dodder and therefore outside the scope of the interim and permanent schemes outlined above.

Dublin City Council Public Lighting Services have no plans to install lighting along the north side of the Dodder (i.e. the section within the Dublin City Council boundary) that is outside of the proposed Dodder Greenway scheme.

The provision of lighting along paths in park areas within the Dublin City Council boundary, is a matter for the Parks Department.

Dublin City Council Parks, Biodiversity and Landscape Services will investigate this and a report will issue directly to the Councillor.