

QUESTIONS LODGED PURSUANT TO STANDING ORDER NO.18 FOR REPLY AT THE MONTHLY MEETING OF DUBLIN CITY COUNCIL TO BE HELD ON MONDAY, 6TH OF MARCH 2023

Q.1 COUNCILLOR JOHN LYONS

To ask the Chief Executive for a detailed report on the money allocated for the proposed new community centre in Kilbarrack.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

No provision was made in the Capital Programme 2023-2025 for a new Community Centre in Kilbarrack.

Q.2 COUNCILLOR JOHN LYONS

To ask the Chief Executive to provide a report on the council's historic and present-day use of Post Occupancy Evaluation (POE) of the city council's residential buildings which aims to lower and eliminate the 'performance gap' between design assessment and in use assessments.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Dublin City Council are always evaluating our current stock and trying to come up with innovative ways in improving our units for tenants. As part of our Social and Affordable Housing Delivery Overview we have 26 projects at various stages which can be either a full regeneration or various tweaking within the building to improve its standards.

As part of our Energy Efficiency Programme we have:

- Phase I Complete – 8,057 Units Upgraded. (Phase 1 entails insulating the cavities with pumped bead insulation and attic insulation)
- Phase II – 1110 Units Upgraded up to the end of 2022 (Phase 2 entails wrapping houses and upgrading windows)
- Total of 9,076 Upgraded to date under Phase I and Phase II of the programme up to the end of 2022

In 2018 we carried out over 20,000 conditional surveys of our stock which looked at all facets of the building, following on from these surveys we have carried out a number of upgrades in our units and this work is still ongoing but not limited to:

- Mechanical Ventilation
- Upgrading of our Fire and Carbon Monoxide Alarms
- Upgrading of Windows
- Minor Repairs
- Upgrading of our public Steps.
- Water Pump Upgrades.

On a monthly basis our management teams meet with our Area Maintenance Officers to discuss formally issues with our units and we would informally speak at least on a weekly basis.

City Architects Division are currently working with Codema to commence a post occupancy study on the recently completed Sean Foster Place residential development which was designed as a pilot NZEB (Nearly Zero Energy Building) project for DCC.

Q.3 COUNCILLOR MICHAEL WATTERS

To ask the Chief Executive to make changes to Dublin City Council's Citizen Hub website, by adding a new tab under the Water Pollution section: Litter/Dumping in water.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The Councillor's suggestion has been adopted and the changes made to the Citizen Hub platform.

We continue to welcome all similar suggestions and feedback. We are deploying an iterative development process of building, refining, and improving the customer engagement platform. We will intentionally revise and refine our process regularly in accordance with customer feedback.

There are now more than 30 service requests types available on Citizen Hub, including illegal dumping, bulky waste collection and road maintenance requests. There are over 15,000 registered users and more than 25,000 requests have been processed.

The support of elected members is greatly appreciated as the Citizen Hub platform continues to develop.

Q.4 COUNCILLOR ALISON GILLILAND

To ask the Chief Executive the following: It has been indicated to me the North Central Area Engineer does not have sufficient funds to upgrade the junction between the Kilmore Rd and Ardmore Drive (Artane, D5) to a fully signalised junction - this request arises on foot of the traffic sensor being removed and vehicles now experiencing significant difficulty exiting from Ardmore Drive onto Kilmore Rd, particularly when turning right. Therefore, can the CEO indicate when funds will be made available to the North Central Area Engineer to allow for the scheduling of this junction upgrade?

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Dublin City Council policy does not permit pedestrian crossing signals to be used to control traffic movements. These type of signals are exclusively to ensure that pedestrians may cross roadways safely.

Previously there was a video detector at the pedestrian crossing signals on Kilmore Road adjacent to Ardmore Drive monitoring the exit from Ardmore. Upon detection of vehicles waiting to exit Ardmore, the detector triggered the pedestrian crossing to run, halting traffic on Kilmore Road and permitting vehicles to exit Ardmore.

However these pedestrian signals were upgraded in line with current DCC policy mentioned above, this detector was removed as it cannot be used to control traffic movements.

There is currently no funding for junction upgrade at Kilmore Rd and Ardmore Drive. The requested junction upgrade was added to the waiting list for future works programme along with other locations where crossings signalised / traffic lights have been requested. The locations (including the one raised above) will be reassessed at the end of each year with the aim of including them on the next Capital Works Programme, if funding is available.

Q.5 COUNCILLOR ALISON GILLILAND

To ask the Chief Executive to arrange for selected pruning of the trees that are reducing the effectiveness of the street lighting by blocking it with their leaves in Tolka park estate and neighbouring roads.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Parks Service have surveyed the above area and found these carpinus trees are in good health and condition with no evidence of the direct blocking of street lighting. If the councillor can provide specific locations, we will investigate further.

Q.6 COUNCILLOR TOM BRABAZON

To ask the Chief Executive to arrange to have the footpaths in **(details supplied)** examined for trip points and any such trip points remediated.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

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

Q.7 COUNCILLOR TOM BRABAZON

To ask the Chief Executive to arrange to inspect the footpaths in **(details supplied)** for trip points and any such trip points remediated.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Road Maintenance Services (RMS) currently have no plans in place to complete footpath repairs in **(details supplied)**. RMS will however note this location and for consideration if additional funding becomes available in 2023 or to be part of the 2024 programme of works.

Q.8 COUNCILLOR TOM BRABAZON

To ask the Chief Executive to arrange to inspect the footpaths in **(details supplied)** for trip points and any such trip points remediated.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Road Maintenance Services (RMS) currently have no plans in place to complete footpath repairs in **(details supplied)**. RMS will however note this location and for consideration if additional funding becomes available in 2023 or to be part of the 2024 programme of works.

Q.9 COUNCILLOR CHRISTY BURKE

To ask the Chief Executive if DCC would assist to have removed a disused phone box outside **(details supplied)**, the phone box has no glass in it all broken and it's abandoned.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The redundant payphones on Parnell Street have been identified for removal by EIR. The power has been disconnected to the payphones and the units are scheduled for removal within the next month.

Q.10 COUNCILLOR CHRISTY BURKE

To ask the Chief Executive when the 40 units at the **(details supplied)** development will be in housing stock to be offered to applicants.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Tuath Housing Association on behalf of Dublin City Council are acquiring 40 units at Northbank, Dublin 1. The homes will be delivered on a phased basis, with the first tenants being housed in March 2023. All tenants will be housed by Q2 2024.

Q.11 COUNCILLOR CHRISTY BURKE

To ask the Chief Executive if his office would request from Garda senior management extra Garda personal at **(details supplied)** as the anti-social and drug dealing is out of control.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

A letter has been forwarded to the Chief Superintendent, **(details supplied)** Garda Station and the Councillor will be informed when a reply is received.

Q.12 COUNCILLOR CHRISTY BURKE

To ask the Chief Executive when a new toilet system will be in place at **(details supplied)**.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The tenant will be contacted in the next few days and installation of the new toilet system will be arranged.

Q.13 COUNCILLOR PAT DUNNE

To ask the Chief Executive to report back on the current status of the three League of Ireland football grounds in DCC's area that are now considered under Objective G1051. In particular on the progress in talks between DCC and Shelbourne FC in relation to Tolka Park. Also on the total costs incurred by DCC on the Dalymount redevelopment project so far. And finally of any new proposals or plans for St. Patrick's Athletics' Richmond Park and how DCC will support these.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Since February 2022, Dublin City Council have been in correspondence with Shelbourne FC regarding their intention to step away from the Dalymount Park Project and Shelbourne's proposal to purchase Tolka Park so it could continue to be their home ground. Dublin City Council issued a letter on 8th July 2022, following a number of follow ups, Shelbourne issued a detailed reply to this letter on 19th January 2023 and a meeting will now take to discuss next steps between both parties.

The total costs on the Dalymount Development project are currently at €1.6million which includes a number of enabling works by way of the demolition of the unsafe Des Kelly Stand and the disused Connaught St Stand.

In relation to St. Patrick's Athletic, the City Council is acquiring properties along Emmett Road to facilitate the redevelopment and regeneration of Richmond Park into a modern stadium. The project was listed in the recent Capital Programme 2023-2025.

Q.14 COUNCILLOR JANE HORGAN-JONES

To ask the Chief Executive how many acquisitions have been made this year of properties by properties with a tenant threatened by eviction in SITU and what is the proposed budget for such acquisitions for the remainder of the year.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Dublin City Council has the delegated sanction to purchase properties from the second hand property market for specific categories of housing need, including where a landlord has issued a notice to quit with the intention of selling and the tenant is in receipt of HAP or in a RAS or long term leasing arrangement.

All tenant in situ acquisitions costs are fully recoupable and no annual budget limit has been set by the Department for DCC in this regard. DCC does apply the individual acquisitions cost ceiling limits in line with guidelines set by the Department by property type and bedroom sizes.

Status of TIS Acquisition	No of Properties
Tenant Checks Stage	65

Building Inspections Stage	12
City Valuers/Offer Stage	27
Legals & Closings	69
Total TIS in the pipeline as of February 2023	173
Total TIS Closed Jan & Feb 2023	7

Q.15 COUNCILLOR JAMES GEOGHEGAN

To ask the Chief Executive , if further to question 125 on the 1st of March 2020, and the precise format as set out in the reply to that question (appended to this), if he can set out in tabular form the average acquisition price per Part V unit for Dublin City Council by reference to (i) each specific and separate development site or if commercial sensitivity reasons apply, the Dublin postal code for each specific and separate development site, (ii) residential unit type, (iii) for 2021, 2022, up to date in 2023; if he can ensure that the information listed in this table also include any Part V units acquired by Approved Housing Bodies within the Dublin City Council area.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Address	No. of Units	Average Price	Unit Type
2021			
Dublin 8	1	€167,500	1 x 1 Bed Apt.
Dublin 15	16	€218,616 €293,616	8 x 1 Bed Apt. 8 x 2 Bed Apt.
Dublin 5	4	€294,159 €370,042	3x1 Bed Apt. 1 x 2 Bed Apt.
Dublin 4	4	€396,326	4 x 2 Bed Apt.
Dublin 11	3	€264,000 €387,000	2 x 1 Bed Apt. 1 x 2 Bed Apt.
Dublin 13	2	€299,000	2 x 3 Bed House
Dublin 6w	7	€246,578 €309,172	3 x 1 Bed Apt. 4 x 2 Bed Apt.
Dublin 4	7	€300,000 €350,000	3 x 1 Bed Apt. 4 x 2 Bed Apt.
Dublin 1	30	€395,000 €470,000 €565,000	6 x 1 Bed Apt. 18 x 2 Bed Apt. 6 x 3 Bed Apt.
Dublin 5	7	€232,050 €332,366	4 x 1 Bed Apt. 3 x 2 Bed Apt.
Dublin 9	14	€288,677	14 x 2 Bed Apt.

Address	No. of Units	Average Price	Unit Type
2022			
Dublin 5	1	€367,030	4 Bed House
Dublin 12	5	€225,000 €350,000	2 x 1 Bed Apt. 3 x 2 Bed Apt.

Dublin 6w	1	€35,000	1 X 3 Bed House
Dublin 8	39	€139,317	6 X 1 Bed Apt. 24 x 2 Bed Apt. 9 x 3 Bed Apt.
Dublin 6	19	€259,032 €418,163	11 x 1 Bed Apt. 8 x 2 Bed Apt.
Dublin 3	5	€211,871 €338,144	2 x 1 Bed Apt. 3 x 2 Bed Apt.
Address	No. of Units	Average Price	Unit Type
Dublin 2	6	€281,552 €354,047	2 x 1 Bed Apt. 4 x 2 Bed Apt.
Dublin 9	35	€220,000 €340,000	10 x 1 Bed Apt. 25 x 2 Bed Apt.
Dublin 4	2	€383,357	2 x 2 Bed Apt.
Dublin 2	15	€205,654 €320,654 €375,653	2 x 1 Bed Apt 4 x 2 Bed Apt. 9 x 3 Bed Apt.
Dublin 12	1	€285,801	2 Bed Apt.
Dublin 5	7	€199,849 €325,000	3 x 1 Bed Apt. 4 x 2 Bed Apt.

Address	No. of Units	Average Price	Unit Type
2023			
Dublin 11	1	€297,811	1 x 4 Bed House
Dublin 20	3	€239,758	3 x 1 Bed Apt.
Dublin 11	12	€330,000 €403,750	4 x 1 Bed Apt. 8 x 2 Bed Apt.
Dublin 2	1	€200,739	1 x 1 Bed Apt.
Dublin 13	6	€345,489 €394,068 €457,709	2 x 1 Bed Apt. 2 x 2 Bed Apt. 2 x 3 Bed Apt.
Dublin 1	6	€207,266 €280,000	3 x 1 Bed Apt. 3 x 2 Bed Apt.

Q.16 COUNCILLOR DARRAGH MORIARTY

To ask the Chief Executive for DCC/DRHE to provide a breakdown of the number of individuals who have presented to Central Placement Service to access emergency homeless accommodation, whose centre of interest was NOT any of Dublin, Cork, Limerick, Kilkenny or Waterford. Anecdotal evidence suggests that due to a lack of services locally, a number of individuals from rural communities present to the DRHE for homeless emergency accommodation and to get an indication of whether this is the case, and if so, what scale, can this information be provided:

- in tabular form, indicating the centre of interest;
- the number of people presented per centre of interest; and
- to get a pre-and post-Covid picture, can this be provided over the period of 2019-2022?

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The Central Placement Service is often contacted with queries or requests through the Freephone service from clients from other regions in regard to placement services. After reviewing the circumstances the household may be advised that most appropriate support available would be provided by another Local Authority. Central Placement do not keep records of all these over the phone contacts.

There are times where a client will need a temporary placement as they may be rough sleeping or are unable to return to the suggested region immediately. All clients that are placed are recorded as a new presentation and from the records we have available below are 2021 and 2022 that show the number of clients that were placed when their region may not have been Dublin at the time.

2022	
Region	Clients placed
South West	3
South East	11
North East	1
Mid East	12
Mid West	2
North West	2
West	4
Midlands	8

2021	
Region	Clients placed
South West	13
South East	6
North East	4
Mid East	10
Mid West	3
North West	
West	4
Midlands	3

Q.17 COUNCILLOR SÉAMAS MCGRATTAN

To ask the Chief Executive does DCC own (a) any part of the carpark beside the **(details supplied)** and (b) the two parking bays on the Avenue to the east of the carpark

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Dublin City Council owns part of the car park **(details supplied)** which comprises the site of Nos 54, 56 & 58 Blackhorse Ave as shown on the attached map. The properties were purchased in the 1960's for a roads project that did not go ahead. Sometime after this the owners of the **(details supplied)** took over the land to use as a car park. Due to the amount of time that has elapsed it is unlikely that the Council would be able to recover control of this site.

Q.18 COUNCILLOR SÉAMAS MCGRATTAN

To ask the Chief Executive does DCC have any admin or other role in the provision of school meals and does DCC have any scope in widening the criteria for what schools can apply?

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The School Meals Programme provides funding towards provision of food services for disadvantaged school children through two schemes:-

- The statutory Urban School Meals Scheme for primary schools is operated by local authorities and part-financed by the Department of Social Protection
- The non-statutory School Meals Local Projects Scheme provides funding directly from the Department of Social Protection to primary schools, secondary schools and local groups and voluntary organisations which operate their own school meals projects.

DCC have no role in the administration of the School Meals Local Projects Scheme and any questions regarding this aspect of the School Meals Programme can be directed to the Department of Social Protection.

Dublin City Council administer the funding for the Urban School Meals Scheme on behalf of the Department of Social Protection. The Department have certain criteria for which schools can apply being any national/primary school within Dublin City Council's administrative area which is recognised by the Department of Social Protection may make an application to be included in the Urban School Meals Scheme. The only qualifying condition is that pupils attending school must be in need of meals. The Social Welfare (Consolidation) Act, 1981 states that food will be provided only to those children who are "unable by reason of lack of food to take full advantage of the education provided for them". DCC does not have any scope for widening the criteria as this is under the remit of the Department of Social Protection.

Q.19 COUNCILLOR SÉAMAS MCGRATTAN

To ask the Chief Executive does DCC accept applications for apprenticeships to be held on file or are each role advertised separately.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Applications for apprenticeships are accepted in response to specific advertised apprenticeship opportunities. Apprenticeships may also be developed following successful job internships or placements that are facilitated through the Access to Apprenticeship programme in conjunction with TU Dublin.

Q.20 COUNCILLOR SÉAMAS MCGRATTAN

To ask the Chief Executive how do homeowners apply to the financial contribution scheme?

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Please see attached application form for the Financial Contribution scheme. This must be filled out and returned to Housing Allocations with the relevant documentation. Please note, there is a large number of applicants on the list at present.

Q.21 COUNCILLOR DERMOT LACEY

To ask the Chief Executive what action has been taken or will be taken and when to install a "Conversation Seat" in our Parks as agreed at the September 19th meeting of the Arts SPC.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The Councillor will be contacted to agree a location and style of a "Conversation Seat" which will then be installed.

Q.22 COUNCILLOR JOE COSTELLO

To ask the Chief Executive if he will seek an agreement with electricity providers to ensure that all electricity bills include a breakdown of the source of that electricity i.e. fossil, renewable, nuclear, waste to energy, etc. as a contribution to climate awareness.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

This is not under the remit of Dublin City Council. The matter should be referred to the utilities regulator.

Q.23 COUNCILLOR JOE COSTELLO

To ask the Chief Executive if he will give an update on progress with plans for the two national monuments - the GPO and 14 – 17 Moore Street, Dublin 1.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The development of the 1916 Commemorative Centre providing visitor facilities and exhibition space through structural and restoration works of the four houses at 14-17 Moore Street was included as part of the application for funding under Call 2 of the Urban Regeneration and Development Fund.

The Building Technical Team has been identified and terms of service have been set out. This team will review all of the designs and assessments that have been undertaken to date prior to the cessation of works in 2015, with the intention of confirming that they are still valid and in accordance with current building standards or whether they need any amendment before moving onto the commencement of Phase 1 i.e. substantive works/stabilisation of the houses. It is intended that the OPW will shortly advertise a public tender for the provision of interpretation design consultancy services to work in tandem with the Building Technical Team as the design progresses. It is anticipated that the project will be completed by the end of 2025.

We have contacted the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage for an update in relation to the GPO, and will convey the response to Councillor Costello.

Q.24 COUNCILLOR JOE COSTELLO

To ask the Chief Executive if he accepts the findings of the report by Sean O'Riordain and Associates Ltd and Professor Ronan Lyons that Dublin City Council pays 40% more for the construction of social housing than private developers; that this is the biggest single expenditure by the City Council; that it severely limits the ability of the City Council to deliver social housing and if he will seek a meeting urgently with the Minister for Housing to address the extraordinary extra costs imposed on the Council, particularly, in the area of procurement.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

In response to a motion passed by the Housing SPC, the Housing Department commissioned a review of construction costs associated with the building of housing units for Dublin City. This review, undertaken by Seán Ó Riordáin and Associates limited, and circulated to the members of the Housing SPC, analysed commercially sensitive information provided to the consultants for the purpose of preparing a report for the Housing SPC.

The report contains a number of findings and recommendations on which Housing Management will report to the SPC on. The report has been shared with the Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government and the Housing Delivery Coordination Office for their review and action where required.

Q.25 COUNCILLOR JOE COSTELLO

To ask the Chief Executive if he is aware that **(details supplied)** is sixteen years on the housing list and hasn't received an offer of accommodation.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The above applicant is on the Housing List with an application date of 17/4/2007, and the applicant holds the following positions on this list:

Area	Bedsize	Position
Area H	3	28
Area E	3	43
Area P	3	22

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 check 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 3 weeks.

Q.26 COUNCILLOR MAIRE DEVINE

To ask the Chief Executive, to ask the Chief Fire Officer for the breakdown of staff numbers at the various stations throughout the Dublin region? To include vacancies and the length of time these posts are unfulfilled.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Work Location	Staff Numbers by Work Location
HQ	157
Control Room	95
No. 1 Donnybrook	78
No. 2 Dolphin's Barn	90
No. 3 Phibsborough	88
No. 4 North Strand	109
No. 5 Finglas	46
No. 6 Kilbarrack	42
No. 7 Tallaght	62
No. 8 Rathfarnham	39
No. 9 Blanchardstown	44
No. 12 Dun Laoghaire	75
No. 13 Swords	49
	974

Currently there are no vacancies.

When a vacancy arises in Dublin Fire Brigade a critical vacancy form is submitted to DCC HR and competitions are arranged. At this time the competitions for Fire Fighter/Paramedic and Emergency services controllers are underway. Vacancies at officer ranks are filled by promotional competition as required.

At this time Dublin Fire Brigade management are negotiating our overall staffing number with the trade unions under the auspices of Kevin Duffy.

Q.27 COUNCILLOR MAIRE DEVINE

To ask the Chief Executive to reconsider the installation of a disabled parking space **(details supplied)** following a failed application by a trader with a blue badge. The individual is having major difficulties with access following the public realm works which saw reconfiguration and decrease in parking in what is a long established business quarter?

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Accessible parking bays have a "desirable width" of 3600mm. The section of **(details supplied)** adjacent to No. 89 is not wide enough to accommodate an accessible parking bay while maintaining suitable footpath widths on either side and an appropriate carriageway width. For this reason, this area was not considered for installation of accessible parking during detailed design for the **(details supplied)** **(details supplied)** Environmental Improvement Scheme as it is unsuitable.

No requests for an accessible parking bay at 89 **(details supplied)** were received during the Part 8 or detailed design process for the **(details supplied)** Scheme. The trader from 89 **(details supplied)** did not contact the construction team to request that an accessible parking until after the area in question had already been reconstructed. The unsuitability of this location for an accessible parking bay due site constraints was communicated to the trader at that time.

Two new accessible parking bays have been installed on **(details supplied)** as part of the ongoing public realm improvement works: one at the southern end of the street and one close to the Iveagh Market. There were previously no accessible parking bays on **(details supplied)** The accessible parking bay at the southern end of **(details supplied)** is approximately 70m from 89 **(details supplied)** and is available for use by the trader. A loading bay has also been provided outside 89 **(details supplied)** for use by that business.

Q.28 COUNCILLOR MAIRE DEVINE

To ask the Chief Executive for the lease of 30 "studios" at New Market Yard, D8 as opposed to the 1 beds that are available? Furthermore is this a shift in housing provision?

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Planning permission was granted for 413 units at Newmarket Square, of which 203 are studios (49%), 136 one-beds, 72 two-beds and 2 three-beds. Through Part V, the Housing Department secured 41 units of which 29 are studios and 11 are two-beds. This arrangement enabled DCC to negotiate four additional two-bed apartments for lease in the scheme.

The average area of the Part V studio is 39.4 sqm. The units are well designed with generous living accommodation and private bedroom space. As the scheme is Build to Rent there are a range of communal facilities that tenants will have access including a multi-function room with kitchen, an open roof garden and on site café facilities.

Dublin City Council's housing policy has not changed, however, due to the planning permission granted and the typical size and layout of a studio being achieved, the mix of studios and two-bedroom units here was considered appropriate.

There is a strong demand for one-bed units as supported by the combined waiting list and transfer list for this area (Area L) of 1,350 individuals.

Q.29 COUNCILLOR MAIRE DEVINE

To ask the Chief Executive to engage with the Department of Local Government to ensure that Councillors are not financially penalised and discouraged from partaking in the planning process by disallowing them to claim back the fees charged for submissions/observations to DCC or ABP?

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The Planning and Development (Amendment)(Fees) Regulations 2018 amended article 168 of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001 provide that the fee for making a submission or observation to a planning authority in respect of a planning application shall not be payable by a member of a local authority acting in his or her capacity as a member. This waiver does not extend to other public representatives. This added local authority elected members, to the list of persons/bodies that are not required to pay the €20 fee when making submissions / observations on planning applications. This list also includes local authorities, prescribed bodies specified under article 28 of the 2001 Regulations, State authorities and trans-boundary States.

The Secretariat have contacted the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage as to ask if Councillors can claim back costs associated with appeals to An Bórd Pleánála under the vouched expenses scheme, they have confirmed that there are no provisions under the Regulations and associated directions for the claiming of costs associated with appeals to An Bórd Pleánála. This is not covered by any of the 14 categories in the directions regarding expenses.

The Councillor may consider contacting her representative body AILG to also make representations on her behalf.

Q.30 COUNCILLOR DECLAN MEENAGH

To ask the Chief Executive what progress has been made with the housing and disability steering group? To further ask for a breakdown of accessible homes delivered by Dublin City Council in the past 5 years.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Four Housing Disability Steering Group Meetings were held in 2022 in February, May, October and December. In 2022 the Housing Disability Steering Group worked on developing and finalising Dublin City Council's second Housing Strategy for Disabled People, covering the period 2022-2027. Significant achievements were made in successfully advocating for a greater percentage of social housing to be universally designed. During 2022, two new members from Disabled People's Organisations were added to the membership of the Housing Delivery Steering Group: Voice of the Vision Impaired (VVI) and Independent Living Movement Ireland (ILMI).

With respect to Q.2, Dublin City Council is in the process of finalising its Housing Strategy for Disabled People (2022-2026). During the course of the last strategy, the Council has demonstrated a clear commitment and positive discrimination towards meeting the housing needs of those with a disability, where allocations averaged at 13% housing allocations and 12% of transfers. Additionally, we carried out 1,543 alterations, including stair lifts, ramps, level deck showers, to existing Council homes

and 47 extensions, to accommodate ground floor bedrooms and/or bathrooms, over a four year period, to support people to remain living comfortably in their homes.

The Council intends to specifically cater for the housing needs of disabled people through the inclusion of defined targets for provision of homes that meet the requirements of disabled people. Stage 1 of the Council's Draft Development Plan, Chapter 5 'Quality Housing and Sustainable Neighbourhoods' includes a specific objective (QHSNO10) '*to require that a minimum of 10% of dwellings in all schemes over 100 units are designed to accommodate people with disabilities and older people in accordance with Universal Design Guidelines for Homes in Ireland 2015*'. The final version of the Development Plan will determine with ultimate target for the % of homes to be built with Universal Design principles.

Q.31 COUNCILLOR DECLAN MEENAGH

To ask the Chief Executive if he will report on the City Council's powers in relation to privately-owned domestic dwellings in the city area that are vacant, but not yet derelict; If he will report on what powers of initiative he has, as city manager, if any, in relation to privately-owned domestic dwellings in the city area that are vacant, but not yet derelict; If he will report on the data available to the Dublin City Council on the prevalence of privately-owned domestic dwellings that are vacant, but not yet derelict and where the City Council pools data with the ESB, Bord Gáis and the Local Property Tax register in this regard; And finally, if he will report on Dublin City Council's strategy concerning privately-owned domestic dwellings in the city area that are known to be vacant but not yet derelict.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Under the Housing for All initiative, the Department of Housing Planning and Local Government introduced a number of new housing schemes to tackle the issue of long term vacancy and or dereliction rates in the rural and urban as built environments Subsequently and as a result of The Housing for All Government initiative the Department of Housing Planning and Local Government introduced the Rural and Urban Regeneration Development Fund which allowed for Local Authorities to make available financial funding for the regeneration of the built environment.

In Dublin, The City Council has implemented a number of schemes to reduce the level of vacancy rates in the residential and or commercial built environment.

Dublin City Council administers the following schemes pertaining to private residential and or commercial properties in the City:

The Repair and Lease Scheme (Original and Enhanced).
Buy and Renew Scheme.
Vacant Property Refurbishment Grant (Croi Conaithe).

The Council to date has recorded 1,090 potential long term vacant properties in the City.

53 number properties have been refurbished and returned to use, the City Council has acquired an additional 44 properties and plans are being prepared to have them refurbished and returned to housing stock.

The remaining properties on the register are under active investigation and the City Council is engaging with the owners of same to return these properties to use in a timely manner.

The City Council under the Housing Act 1966 as amended by the Planning and Development Act 2000 and the Urban Regeneration and Housing Act 2015 has the legislative power to CPO a property/site whereby the City Council can demonstrate that this property/site is being acquired as per the terms and conditions of said Acts.

Under the Derelict Sites Act 1990 & 2020 The City Council has powers to acquire a property/site by way of CPO by if that property it is deemed derelict under the terms and conditions of said Act.

The City Council uses published data as part of its processes in tackling vacancy rates in the City. It also uses data that is reported to it from members of the public via the many communication media it uses in its administration processes (Phone, email, twitter, facebook,etc).

Q.32 COUNCILLOR DECLAN MEENAGH

To ask the Chief Executive to consider a strategy to extend opening hours of parks in the winter and to provide lighting if needed. It seems to not make sense to have parks closed in the mornings when there is light from 7am. People who need to walk dogs before work may want to access the parks. For young families if parents are at work having a safe, well lit play area between 5 and 7 would seem like an important feature of our city. To further ask the manager if citizens would like to feed the above into our new parks strategy when will they be afforded this opportunity?

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Most parks are not locked and so are available for people to access during daylight hours. Some parks also have some lighting in the more urban part of the City Centre. If the Councillor would like to reference the particular park or parks he has in mind we will consider specific requests.

Q.33 COUNCILLOR DECLAN MEENAGH

To ask the Chief Executive if an analysis can be carried out to compare the level of staffing in our Parks Department and the Parks Department of other capital cities around the world and other local authorities in Ireland and to determine if the department has enough staff to carry out its duties.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

An analysis of staffing of Parks Services in other European and International cities would be a significant undertaking and in many cases it would not be possible to compare like with like. Similar to other departments in DCC, the Parks, Biodiversity and Landscape Services team has some vacancies at the moment in both indoor professional/technical staff and site based staff. These are being filled as part of the normal recruitment process.

Dublin City Council has 11 Green Flag Park awards in 2022. This is an independent acknowledgement that these parks have achieved an internationally recognised standard for best practice in park management. The staff of the various Parks Districts are very proud of their work in the care and maintenance of our parks and working with local communities to support their needs and to enhance biodiversity.

The Parks, Biodiversity and Landscape Services team is about to undertake a review of its 2019-2022 Parks Strategy which considers issues such as deficits in the quality and quantity of public open space as well as play and recreational facilities. There will be a public consultation process as part of that review and any issues which require additional resourcing can be considered in that process and referenced in the new Parks Strategy.

There is an agreed Workforce Plan for DCC's Parks Division. In addition the Human Resources Department has regular meetings with the City Parks Superintendent in relation to resource requirements. There are a number of recruitment campaigns in process to fill existing vacancies with further campaigns scheduled for 2023.

Q.34 COUNCILLOR KEITH CONNOLLY

To ask the Chief Executive to carry out a review of the reinstated ramps at **(details supplied)**

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

All ramps that require repair are reconstructed to the current specifications and dimensions for ramps. In some cases, existing ramps may have been slightly higher than the current specifications. The ramp height at **(details supplied)** will be checked to ensure that the correct height has been achieved.

Q.35 COUNCILLOR KEITH CONNOLLY

To ask the Chief Executive if he will consider a pedestrian crossing at **(details supplied)**

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The Area Engineer does not currently have the funding required to implement a pedestrian crossing at the aforementioned location. However, the request for a pedestrian at **(details supplied)** Nursing Home will be added to an existing list of pedestrian crossings to be assessed for Dublin North West.

Any recommendation for the implementation of a pedestrian crossing will be subject to future funding availability.

Q.36 COUNCILLOR KEITH CONNOLLY

To ask the Chief Executive if he will consider measures to stop through traffic at **(details supplied)**

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

While vehicles are permitted to access the car park in front of **(details supplied)**, it is illegal to drive across the footpath for reasons other than accessing the premises.

Bollards are not installed where such driver behaviour is prohibited under existing legislation. Under Road Traffic (Traffic and Parking) Regulations 1997 section 13:1 "...a vehicle shall not be driven along or across a footway." Instances of illegal or dangerous driving should be reported to An Garda Síochána for enforcement.

Q.37 COUNCILLOR MANNIX FLYNN

To ask the Chief Executive to issue a full report as to how many CCTV cameras Dublin City Council have installed along the canals in the entire DCC local authority region. Further, what arrangements, if any, with regards sharing of information with Waterways Ireland in relation to these cameras? Who pays for these cameras? And if it is deemed that there is enough coverage to ensure public safety both day and night along the Grand Canal and Royal Canal Stretches and walkways?

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

This matter was referred to Waterway's Ireland for direct response to the Councillor.

Q.38 COUNCILLOR MANNIX FLYNN

To ask the Chief Executive to issue a full report with regards the sub-letting of Taylors Hall for its usage as a full license public house? What planning laws or applications

were made by An Taisce for a change of use? Who made the decision within DCC not to investigate complaints and proper procedures? Tailors Hall is a Grade A listed building, its status is now undermined by the operation of a beer garden and a full public house without any due process to the public or indeed the local community. Can DCC provide any exemption on this premises with regards change of use or planning? Further can the CEO make available all documentations in relation to this matter and perhaps call on the planning department enforcement section and indeed DCC conservation officers to investigate this listed building immediately.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The Planning Enforcement Section is currently actively investigating an alleged unauthorised change of use at the property concerned as well as alleged unauthorised works at the protected structure. Investigations and engagement with the sub-lessee and their agents is ongoing at this time.

Planning permission was granted under Reg. Ref. 3642/09 for the retention of the use of the lower ground floor for dancing at private events and permission to use the basement and ground floors for small theatrical events and concerts.

Condition no.2 related to hours of opening and states:

The uses and events hereby permitted shall cease at or before 0030 hours, Monday to Friday (that is, Sunday night to Thursday night) and 0230 hours on Saturdays and Sundays (that is, Friday and Saturday nights).

Reason: To protect the residential amenities of the area.

Tailors' Hall situated at Back Lane, Dublin 8, is a Protected Structure, Ref. No. 332 of the City Council's Record of Protected Structures (RPS) Volume 4 of the Dublin City Development Plan 2022-2028.

This area of Dublin has been surveyed by the National Inventory of Architectural Heritage (NIAH) which has allocated Tailors' Hall an architectural heritage rating of National significance on the basis of Archaeological, Architectural, Artistic, Historic and Social special interest: see <https://www.buildingsofireland.ie/buildings-search/building/50080535/an-taisce-back-lane-high-street-dublin-8-dublin>

The Conservation Section can confirm that it has received no application for a Section 5 Declaration in relation to any proposed works nor has any planning application been referred for same.

The Council consented to a sub-lease by An Taisce to Liberties Renaissance Ltd of part of Tailor's Hall for café/restaurant use in 2021. The consent does not imply approval for change of use or development for which permission under the Planning Acts or Building regulations would be required.

As has been outlined above this matter is currently the subject of an active planning enforcement investigation. The outcome of this investigation will inform any subsequent action to be taken by Dublin City Council and a full report on the matter will issue to the councillor in due course.

Q.39 COUNCILLOR MANNIX FLYNN

To ask the Chief Executive to give clarity with regards any documentation around the pending court case regarding the rezoning of St Pauls and DCC's decision to defend that challenge? What law is stopping any councillor from receiving a full copy of the documentation and indeed to take the documentation away for study if a councillor

wishes to do so? Or does a councillor have to resort to a court process to obtain such documents without having to visit the law agent to read the copy in the office?

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The Law Agent has been requested by the Chair of the Protocol Committee to attend the Protocol Meeting on 23rd March 2023 to address this item.

Q.40 COUNCILLOR MANNIX FLYNN

To ask the Chief Executive to give a full account of how many licences and franchises we have given the Tram Cafe company? Further, can the CEO supply all present application of planning and retention that this same company has presently before DCC's planning department?

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Parks Service has arrangements with this company in four parks.

Wolfe Tone Park - licence agreement

St Patricks Park - licence agreement

Albert College Park – management of public conveniences & trading.

Griffith Park - management of public conveniences & trading.

In April 2021, Dublin City Council sought proposals via an Open Tender Process for the installation, in Dublin City Council's administrative area, of retail café units incorporating public toilets for a period of 3 years with the option to renew for a further 2 years. As is the standard procedure for public procurement of this type, the tender was advertised on e-tenders and it was open to all persons to submit proposals. A number of proposals were received for various locations in Dublin City.

3 successful proposals were submitted by the Tram Café Company for each of the following locations:

- Albert College Park, Dublin 11
- Griffith Park, Dublin 9
- Clonmel Street, Dublin 2

The retail café arrangements have been installed in the 3 locations in question and are operating well. The appropriate licence arrangements are in place between Dublin City Council and the Tram Café Company.

An application for a Declaration under Section 5 of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended) was submitted, by a third party, on 16th January 2023, asking whether the installation of the retail café unit at Clonmel Street, Dublin 2 was or was not exempted development within the meaning of the Act. On 10th February 2023, Dublin City Council issued a Declaration that the development in question is exempt from the requirement to obtain planning permission under Section 32 of the Planning & Development Acts 2000 (as amended).

Q.41 COUNCILLOR NIAL RING

To ask the Chief Executive to detail Dublin City Council's position vis a vis citizen engagement and education as envisaged in the city council's Climate Change Action Plan 2019-2024.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Citizen Engagement activities by the City Council are detailed in the CCAP Annual Report. A short summary is provided here:

- Climate Newsletter- provides information on climate action activities of Dublin City Council, such as the roll of active travel network, SoCircular,

- CAMPAIGNERS- EU project focused on empower citizens to take climate action
 - DCAW22 – shares climate action initiatives being undertaken by the four Dublin Local Authorities, CARO and Codema.
 - Eat the Streets Festival – education and engagement on climate change and the food system, a platform for knowledge exchange between residents, food businesses, experts and creatives.
 - Climate Action Open Data Challenge – organized by Smart Dublin teams were asked to demonstrate how data can be used to address climate change.
 - MODOS, Micro for Green, Profit for Purpose are initiatives for SMEs that enable them to reduce their carbon footprint
- The revision of the climate action plan will provide opportunities for further engagement. The community climate action fund will provide supports for citizen led climate action projects.

Q.42 COUNCILLOR NIAL RING

To ask the Chief Executive to confirm that the Grangegorman Bring Centre will not be downgraded or closed unless and until a suitable, agreed and nearby location is identified, acquired and fitted out to up to date and modern standards.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Grangegorman Bring Centre is situated on land owned by the Grangegorman Development Agency (GDA), a state body tasked with the development of the Grangegorman site. Waste Management Services met with the GDA in January to discuss the timeline for the closure of the centre and were advised that it is likely to be in the latter half of 2023.

At the meeting, Waste Management Services enquired if there was any potential to delay the closure of the bring centre until a suitable alternative location could be identified and developed. The comment below reflects the GDA position.

“It was always intended that facilities by DCC Grangegorman Bring Centre would eventually be relocated elsewhere. Due to a number of factors including scale, access and future site development, it is not possible to accommodate the existing Grangegorman Bring Centre at its current scale elsewhere on the Grangegorman site. It is necessary to relocate the Bring Centre soon in order to carry out stabilisation works and future development of the protected Clock Tower Building. The GDA is currently undertaking a feasibility study to keep and relocate as many of the existing facilities as possible.”

In the meantime, Waste Management Services will continue to seek an alternative location that can accommodate all waste streams that are currently being provided at the GDA site. However, it will be challenging to provide a fully operational new facility by the end of 2023 should the existing bring centre have to close.

Waste Management Services is committed to identifying an appropriate location to relocate the bring centre currently located at Grangegorman and will endeavour to keep the facility operating until a satisfactory alternative local site is secured and the existing facilities can be relocated. DCC will continue to liaise with GDA in relation to this facility.

Q.43 COUNCILLOR NIAL RING

To ask the Chief Executive to detail the number of insurance claims by category taken against DCC per annum for the past five years and also to detail the amounts paid out and number of claims and estimated liability currently outstanding.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The Law department are currently collating the statistics required to answer this question. We will provide a detailed answer prior to the April meeting.

Q.44 COUNCILLOR ALISON GILLILAND

To ask the Chief Executive the following: as Lord Mayor last year I met with Smart Dublin and Transport/Traffic and requested that, given the reduction of parking spaces in the city and the moving of some of our disabled parking spaces that we make it easier for disabled vehicle users to find a parking space using an app that would identify an available space from a sensor embedded in that space. Therefore, I am asking the CEO to provide an update on the development of this sensor and app system to identify our disabled parking spaces and their availability.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

A pilot project has commenced, as of the 27th Feb 2023, installing 50 occupancy sensors in disabled bays around the city. These sensors will link with the Parking Tag app to provide information on the location and availability of the spaces. It is expected to have the service fully operational by March 17th 2023 and more information will be made available as the "Go Live" date approaches.

Q.45 COUNCILLOR ALISON GILLILAND

To ask the Chief Executive to arrange for the fencing along Glasnevin Downs to be replaced by a wall as per a local commitment to prevent the build-up of rubbish - see attached photo

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The Public Domain Unit in conjunction with Parks Services recently secured funding to carry out remedial work at this location.

Q.46 COUNCILLOR DEIRDRE CONROY

To ask the Chief Executive to request the Active Travel Office, Roads Dept. and Arts SPC to include the actual artists of Merrion Square in the consultation process. The area is a Georgian heritage period, majority of RPS.

Regarding the Dublin City Council proposal to remove their parking on a Sunday when they have their art on north Merrion Square, an exceptional system in Dublin has gone on for 40 years and it is a living cultural and tourist attraction, unique to Dublin City.

Artists place their art around north, west and east of Merrion Square, it is also noted that Merrion Square south is full of buses parked all week, next to the Square, including Sunday. Artists cannot place their art on that side.

Though, notified that a full Public Consultation is planned to be carried out in the coming months before any works on the Walking & Cycling Scheme proceed, my meeting with artists on Merrion Square, advised me that there is major concern for this proposed parking removal on a Sunday.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The designs for the proposed cycle lane along Merrion Square North scheme are at a preliminary stage and consultation with stakeholders is currently underway. One of the key stakeholders are the artists association and as such a meeting has been scheduled with representatives of the artists in early March.

It is hoped that this discussion will reach a solution that will work for the artists whilst also providing the much needed walking & cycling infrastructure from Trinity to Ballsbridge.

Q.47 COUNCILLOR DARCY LONERGAN

To ask the Chief Executive to provide me with figures for a breakdown of rent arrears on residential properties let by the City Council, with a figure for the amount overdue by 1 month, 2 months or 3 months or more, as well as the numbers of tenancies involved in each instance, at the end of each of the last five years for which figures are available?

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The specific rent arrears data requested is set out on the table below followed by a short summary of the overall position on rent arrears recovery at the end of 2022.

2018	No. of Accounts	Amount of Arrears Owed
1 Month (4 Weeks)	40	€22,766.07
2 Month (8 Weeks)	169	€128,419.13
3 Months + (12 Weeks+)	6459	€26,628,092.91

2019	No. of Accounts	Amount of Arrears Owed
1 Month (4 Weeks)	45	€25,886.95
2 Months (8 Weeks)	201	€158,028.15
3 Months + (12 Weeks+)	6902	€30,733,046.75

2020	No. of Accounts	Amount of Arrears Owed
1 Month (4 Weeks)	5	€2,751.65
2 Months (8 Weeks)	175	€131,516.75
3 Months + (12 Weeks +)	7500	€34,732,701.96

2021	No. Of Accounts	Amount of Arrears Owed
1 Month (4 Weeks)	52	€30,161.21
2 Months (8 Weeks)	202	€164,856.80
3 Months + (12 Weeks+)	7020	€35,470,854.09

2022	No. of Accounts	Amount of Arrears Owed
1 Month (4 Weeks)	70	€40,803.50
2 Months (8 Weeks)	189	€151,345.23
3 Months + (12 Weeks +)	6828	€35,185,703.18

Dublin City Council collected €94.9 million in rent receipts 2022. Receipts exceeded the debit by €1.9 million. Receipts have risen by €1.6 million in the past year and €19 million since 2016. Approx. 70% of tenants are either in credit/have a clear rent account or owe small arrears. The remaining 30% of accounts are monitored by arrears management staff, with the ultimate aim of getting tenants into good rent payment habits through fair and sustainable rescheduling agreements.

In accordance with the rent arrears recovery process 189 Tenancy warnings were issued in 2022, 98 tenants entered in rescheduling agreements on foot of the warnings

while the remaining 91 tenants were referred to the Legal Department to commence proceedings for the repossession of the properties.

17 Orders for Possession were granted by the District Court in 2022. Of these, 7 cases were settled pre-eviction for lump sum payments totalling €65,000 and 4 properties were repossessed. The remaining 6 Orders for Possession remain live into 2023.

Q.48 COUNCILLOR RACHEAL BATTEN

To ask the Chief Executive to provide the breakdown of tenants off the social housing list into council properties and AHB in the last 5 years.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	Grand Total
Dublin City Council	1030	1360	971	967	973	5301
Social Leasing	17	84	177	293	384	955
AHB Tenancies	414	687	587	767	680	3135
Grand Total	1461	2131	1735	2027	2037	9391

Q.49 COUNCILLOR RACHEAL BATTEN

To ask the Chief Executive to provide the breakdown of tenants that have applied for transfer of the above properties with a breakdown of Council properties and that of AHB.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

A Reply will be issued to the Councillor within two weeks of the Council Meeting.

Q.50 COUNCILLOR RACHEAL BATTEN

To ask the Chief Executive for the breakdown of tenant complaints received from council tenants in the last 5 years listed by category.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

	Drug related	Non Drug related	other complaints
"nuisance"			
2021 =	302	657	1598
2020 =	503	1623	1751
2019 =	449	1082	1644
2018 =	267	688	1732
2017 =	302	657	1598

The above statistics are for Anti-social Behaviour and are compiled from the eleven local area housing offices. 2022 is not available at present as they are currently being compiled.

The total cumulative number of housing related complaints recorded between 1st January 2018 and 22nd February 2023 is 1,083.

The breakdown per section is below as a combination from both systems:

- 505 Housing Maintenance
- 325 Housing Allocations
- 90 Housing Management Services
- 43 Housing Other
- 38 Housing Options Section
- 26 Homeless Services
- 11 Housing Welfare/Social Work Section
- 10 Rent Assessment/Accounts
- 8 Loan Accounts and Shared Ownership
- 7 Traveller Accommodation Unit
- 6 Central Estate Management
- 6 Ground Rents
- 4 Housing Environmental Health
- 3 Mortgage Accounts
- 1 Housing Community & Enterprise

The process of tenants making complaints has been facilitated recently by the new Citizen Hub platform. These complaints are monitored and used by the Corporate Services and Transformation Department to advocate for improved service delivery.

The Corporate Services and Transformation Department and the Housing Maintenance Section have been collaborating on plans to provide tenants with a much enhanced customer experience and service. The Housing Maintenance Section is currently trialling a new re-designed customer centred service with a view to making this available to all tenants in the coming months.

Q.51 COUNCILLOR RACHEAL BATTEN

To ask the Chief Executive to provide a list of medical priority applicants on the transfer list that are their due to need of housing adaptations needs, and the break downs of those waiting in council properties and those that are waiting in AHBs, of those how many adaptations have been completed and the breakdown of the council properties.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Transfer List with Medical Priority	
Special Requirements	Total
Adapted Property	8
Ground Floor Property	96
Wheelchair Liveable	34
Grand Total	138

There were 138 applicants on the transfer list due to housing adaptation needs. 103 of these did not apply for adaptations, 19 did apply and adaptations were completed, 16 applied but the works were not feasible. There were no applications from AHBs.

Q.52 COUNCILLOR ANTHONY CONNAGHAN

To ask the Chief Executive to arrange for a yellow box at the junction of Belclare Park and Balbutcher Lane. Since the installation of the new junction at Hamptonwood/Balbutcher Lane residents have found it difficult to exit their estate due to traffic tail backs from the new junction.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Following an on-site assessment by the area engineer at the junction of Balbutcher Lane and Belclare Park traffic flow was unimpeded at AM and PM peaks.

Ingress/egress traffic volumes at Bellaire Park were with low with acceptable wait times for drivers.

Side road traffic flows should be significant, blockages should be regular and at least at peak times. With additional maintenance costs associated with maintaining these road markings. As no significant blocking of the aforementioned junction was identified, a yellow box is not recommended at this location.

Q.53 COUNCILLOR ANTHONY CONNAGHAN

To ask the Chief Executive to arrange for the trees to the rear of **(details supplied 1)** to be cut back. The area where the trees are is on **(details supplied 2)** and is railed off so not sure if it is a Parks issue. The resident here had tended to the encroaching trees himself but he has become too old to look after the issue now.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Parks services are currently checking our records, should the area be in Parks charge we will arrange for the area to be included for future maintenance.

Q.54 COUNCILLOR ANTHONY CONNAGHAN

To ask the Chief Executive to arrange for appropriate pedestrian refuges between Glenties Estate and the far side of Cardiffsbridge Road. Can this junction be looked at to provide safe crossing for school going children and encourage more active travel.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Cardiffsbridge Road is a 50kph road with a wide carriageway it would compromise pedestrian safety to recommend an uncontrolled crossing at this location.

The recommendation would be a fully signalised pedestrian crossing. As such, an uncontrolled pedestrian crossing with refuges is not recommended.

2 No. school wardens have already been provided at the junction of Cardiffsbridge Road and Glenties Park to assist schoolchildren to cross the junction safely.

Q.55 COUNCILLOR ANTHONY CONNAGHAN

To ask the Chief Executive to arrange for a housing maintenance inspection at **(details supplied)**. The tenant reports a green mould on windows and a broken handle amongst other things.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Housing Maintenance inspected this property last week. The seals and hinges in the living room, bedroom and porch windows are to be replaced and this order has gone to the contractor.

The Foreperson has recommended that a vent be installed in the bedroom and in conjunction with the usual measures to avoid condensation, this should prevent any occurrences of mould in the room.

Q.56 COUNCILLOR EIMER MCCORMACK

To ask the Chief Executive to report on any plans to repair the large potholes on Home Farm Road, Dublin 9 in particular from the junction of Mobhi Road down to Bantry

Road. The road is in particularly poor condition with the added traffic volume adding to the problems.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The inbound side of Homefarm Road from the junction of St. Mobhi Road to the junction of Walsh will be resurfaced in 2023 as part of the annual works programme – the outbound side was resurfaced in 2022 as part of a utility reinstatement.

An enquiry (**Ref: 11133399**) has been created for local defects between Walsh Road & Bantry Road forwarded directly to the area inspector for attention who will assess this location and carry out temporary repairs to any potholes.

Phase two of Homefarm Road carriageway resurfacing will include the section at Bantry Road in 2024.

Q.57 COUNCILLOR EIMER MCCORMACK

To ask the Chief Executive to update me please on the status of the enforcement order EO8450/20 (Attachment EO845-20_1, EO845-20_2 & EO845-20_3) on Dash Container Cafe with respect to the Items that have not yet been resolved:

- Removal of Benches (Item 5)
- Removal of Planters (Item 4)
- Cessation of hot food (Item 2).

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Following the service of enforcement notices in respect of these matters a recent inspection by the planning enforcement officer for the area revealed that a number of these issues had not been resolved/complied with to date. Further action is currently being considered relating to the outstanding matters. As these planning enforcement matters may end up before the Courts in due course it is not possible to comment further at this time.

Q.58 COUNCILLOR EIMER MCCORMACK

To ask the Chief Executive to report on when the hanging baskets and planters will be restored at the triangle of Griffith Avenue, Ballymun Road and Mobhi Road now that works there have been completed.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Following a redesign of the road layout at the triangle of Griffith Avenue, Ballymun Road and Mobhi Road the subject hanging basket poles were removed and not replaced. Should these be reinstated, Parks Service are happy to provide plants at this location.

The triangular island where these hanging baskets were located was considerably reduced in size during the upgrading of the junction. The Traffic Section will liaise with Parks to determine if these baskets can be restored in the area.

Q.59 COUNCILLOR EIMER MCCORMACK

To ask the Chief Executive to provide an update on the upgrade works at Ventry Park. Specifically, when will all works be fully completed and what maintenance plans are in Place for waste management in the park thereafter.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

It is hoped that the works will be fully complete in early Q2 of this year following the installation of play area and allowing some time for the soft landscape to establish. The exact time will be dependent on weather and establishment. The park will be maintained at first by contractor during the defects liability period and then subsequently by the parks staff.

Q.60 COUNCILLOR CLAIRE BYRNE

To ask the Chief Executive to update me on what plans he has, if any, to secure and build a modern swimming pool and gym to replace the Markiewicz Pool in advance of its closure and demolition to facilitate the building of the Dublin Metro Project. In his answer could he cover the following issues: site selection, available lands, estimated costs, proposed funding, delivery dates etc.?

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

CRES will present a detailed report to the South East Area Committee in April which will include the issues highlighted above.

Q.61 COUNCILLOR CLAIRE BYRNE

To ask the Chief Executive can he please provide an update on the following:

- Shared bin trials
- The roll out of secure bin storage for DCC housing complexes

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The model of a shared or a communal bin system works in other municipal areas across Europe, as waste charges are paid at source and a single operator exists, either contracted by the municipal authority or where the municipal authority is the waste collector.

Dublin City is different in this regard as multiple waste collectors/operators exist and each has different payment and collection arrangements with the customer, whether that is residential or commercial. These key differences must be taken into account when considering the merits of a shared or communal bin system.

Notwithstanding, Waste Management Services and the Beta team are keen to test this system in Dublin but must consider many aspects prior to understanding the concept for Dublin. These include fire and safety issues, handling different waste streams, permanent infrastructure on the city's streets, servicing of infrastructure, ownership, multiple operator adaptability, competition aspects, payment options and risks of illegal dumping from outside areas.

The viability and scope of a future trial will be decided in the coming months after full consideration of the issues and risks involved.

All new complexes coming into the City Council's ownership are being supplied with a mix of residual (black), recycling and compost bins. All existing bins that are being replaced as required will also be a mix of residual, recycling and compost bins. A targeted roll out of residual, recycling and compost bins will commence in Q2 this year.

Housing Maintenance is continuing the roll out of secure bin areas in our housing complexes. We have found the introduction of these secure bin areas to be very beneficial for tenants, they can lead to reduced volumes of waste and they assist in the overall upkeep of the complex. We currently have two teams working on this project. Each complex has its own individual requirements and the teams will continue the rollout across the city.

Q.62 COUNCILLOR CLAIRE BYRNE

To ask the Chief Executive can he please provide a detailed breakdown of the projects in the South East Area listed under the NTA Active Travel Fund allocations announced in February.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

There are 37 Active Travel Projects passing through the South East Area that have been allocated funding in 2023. These are listed in the table below. A map showing the relevant roads and streets can be viewed on an interactive map on the link below;

<https://mapzone.dublincity.ie/MapzoneATN/MapZone.aspx?map=ATN&Search=Description>

Project/Code	Project Name	Allocation 2023
DCC/12/0008	Liffey Cycle Route - South Quays	€1,800,000
DCC/12/0024	Grand Canal Greenway - Blackhorse Bridge to Portobello	€100,000
DCC/12/0035	Dodder Greenway	€200,000
DCC/14/0001	Clonskeagh to City Centre	€200,000
DCC/16/0006	College Green Plaza	€200,000
DCC/17/0008	Fitzwilliam Street Cycle Route	€700,000
DCC/18/0001	Dodder Greenway - Herbert Park to Donnybrook	€3,700,000
DCC/18/0002	Point Pedestrian and Cycle Bridge	€250,000
DCC/18/0003	Blood Stoney Bridge	€50,000
DCC/18/0005	South William Street	€5,000
DCC/18/0009	Grand Canal On-Road Scheme	€2,500,000
DCC/19/0001	Suffolk Street Improvement Scheme	€5,000
DCC/19/0003	East Coast Trail - Sean Moore Park to Merrion Gates	€800,000
DCC/19/0008	Grangegorman to Portobello	€5,000
DCC/21/0003	Bolton Street to Parliament Street	€50,000
DCC/21/0004	Amiens Street to George's Quay City Quay - Extension	€50,000
DCC/21/0008	The Coombe to College Green	€5,000
DCC/21/0013	Harcourt Street to South William Street	€5,000
DCC/21/0015	Grand Canal to the Liffey	€50,000
DCC/21/0016	Grand Canal to Lincoln Place	€50,000
DCC/21/0017	Ringsend to College Green	€5,000
DCC/21/0018	Stephen's Green to Thomas Street	€5,000
DCC/21/0022	Rathmines to Milltown	€20,000

DCC/21/0024	Wicklow Street to College Green	€5,000
DCC/21/0027	Harold's Cross to Ballymount	€5,000
DCC/22/0020	Terenure to Crumlin Active Travel Scheme	€5,000
DCC/22/0021	Rathgar to Ranelagh Active Travel Scheme	€5,000
DCC/22/0022	Kilmainham to Ballsbridge - South City Loop Active Travel Scheme	€5,000
DCC/22/0023	Donnybrook to UCD Active Travel Scheme	€5,000
DCC/22/0024	City Quay to Harcourt Street Active Travel Scheme	€50,000
DCC/22/0025	Trinity to Ballsbridge Active Travel Scheme	€400,000
DCC/22/0026	Mercer Street to Fitzwilliam Street Active Travel Scheme	€5,000
DCC/22/0027	Christchurch to George's Street Active Travel Scheme	€5,000
DCC/22/0028	Parnell Square to College Green Active Travel Scheme	€400,000
DCC/22/0029	Stephen's Green to Patrick Street Active Travel Scheme	€5,000
DCC/23/00XX	Sir John Rogerson's Quay Cycle Track	€50,000
DCC/23/00XX	Sean Moore Road	€200,000
Total		€11,900,000

Q.63 COUNCILLOR CLAIRE BYRNE

To ask the Chief Executive can he please provide an update on the Pearse House regeneration and retrofit project.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Pearse House is a Protected Structure. Stage 1 approval has been issued by the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage.

Stage 1 approval is for a deep retrofit to the flat blocks L, M, N & P –referred to as the small flats.

Due the size of the housing complex it is envisaged that work will be carried out on a phased bases over a number of years.

The procurement of an integrated design team is processing to develop & finalise design of the designated blocks. The integrated design team is expected to be in situ mid - 2023.

The integrated design team will include a conservation architect.

Q.64 COUNCILLOR KEITH CONNOLLY

To ask the Chief Executive what is the protocol in relation to Irish Water giving notice to customers of planned water outages in their area.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

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

Please call the telephone number on 0818 178 178 / 0818 578 578 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.

Q.65 COUNCILLOR DECLAN FLANAGAN

To ask the Chief Executive for an update regarding the plans for DCC to work with Shelbourne F.C. to save Tolka Park.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Since February 2022, Dublin City Council have been in correspondence with Shelbourne FC regarding their intention to step away from the Dalymount Park Project and Shelbourne's proposal to purchase Tolka Park so it could continue to be their home ground.

Dublin City Council issued a letter on 8th July 2022, following a number of follow ups, Shelbourne issued a detailed reply to this letter on 19th January 2023 and a meeting took place between both parties on Thursday 23rd February to discuss next steps. Dublin City Council are awaiting further details form Shelbourne FC before further discussions can take place.

Q.66 COUNCILLOR DECLAN FLANAGAN

To ask the Chief Executive to have the gullies steam cleaned/pressure washed in the following estates (**details supplied**). Is it possible to be added to the monthly schedule issued?

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The gullies on the following roads were cleaned on 24/02/2023:

Moatfield Road	35 of 35 gullies cleaned.
Moatfield Avenue	22 of 22 gullies cleaned.
St Brendan's Ave	2 of 2 gullies cleaned.
St Brendan's Park	30 of 32 gullies cleaned.
St Brendan's Drive	12 of 13 gullies cleaned.

Any defects encountered during this cleaning were reported to *Drainage Services* for repair. The gullies in Dunree Park and Estate will be cleaned the week commencing 27/02/2023. It is not possible to provide monthly schedules, however monthly updates of completed gully cleaning are provided to the Area Office on the first week of each month.

Q.67 COUNCILLOR DECLAN FLANAGAN

To ask the Chief Executive to respond to the following: I have received complaints from residents living close to (**details supplied**), re: rats seen out the back garden and that there is a terrible smell in the house. Can a) a health Inspector visit this house and deal with the serious issues here. Possible rubbish being stockpiled in the house and back garden. b) the HSE – can they lay rat poison out the back garden to deal with the extremely dangerous vermin situation. A neighbour has seen a rat going down their back wall.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

An inspection will be arranged of the property at **Details supplied** to check for compliance with the provisions of the Housing (Standards for Rented Houses) Regulations 2019. The Environmental Health section in Dublin City Council has no

statutory powers in relation to pest control. The Rats and Mice (Destruction) Act 1919 is enforced by the Health Service Executive, Environmental Health, Pest Control Section, Unit 13F, Blanchardstown Corporate Park, Blanchardstown, Dublin 15. Tel: 01 809 8300.

Q.68 COUNCILLOR DECLAN FLANAGAN

To ask the Chief Executive for an up to date report on all monies owing by the HSE to DFB for services provided, to ask if a plan has been put in place to recoup all monies owing to the city council and to report on the remit of a taskforce to be set up and the membership of same.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Following a previous direction by both Minister Donnelly and Minister O'Brien, a task and finish group was established to address the governance arrangements, call taking and dispatch and the funding model for Dublin Fire Brigade. The first meeting took place on the 21st of February with representation from Dublin City Council, Dublin Fire Brigade, Department of Housing, Local Government & Heritage, Department of Health and the National Ambulance Service.

All matters of funding will form part of the remit of the group. The next meeting is scheduled for the 29th of March 2023 and the group have been given 6 months within which to address the issues outlined.

Q.69 COUNCILLOR LARRY O'TOOLE

To ask the Chief Executive to make provision for **(details supplied)**.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Road Maintenance Services (RMS) currently have no plans in place to complete carriageway repairs at **(details supplied)**. RMS will however note this location for consideration if additional funding becomes available in 2023 or part of the 2024 programme of works.

Q.70 COUNCILLOR RAY MCADAM

To ask the Chief Executive to ensure that the sewage and effluent 'running' out of the drains outside and around **(details supplied)** is tackled immediately and that all drainage clearing and street scrubbing completed before he responds to this question; the cause of the situation and if he will make a statement on the matter?

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

DCC Drainage Maintenance have investigated the matter and found the public sewers to be in good working order. Any issues associated with private drains/connections are outside the remit of DCC Drainage Maintenance.

Q.71 COUNCILLOR RAY MCADAM

To ask the Chief Executive what steps the Parks Department is taking in partnership with the An Garda Síochána to tackle and help eliminate the scourge of scrambler bikes in **(details supplied)** and if he will make a statement on the matter?

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

This reckless and possibly criminal anti-social behaviour is a matter for the Gardaí. The Parks Service has been liaising the local Gardaí on an ongoing basis on this matter and will continue to do so.

Q.72 COUNCILLOR RAY MCADAM

To ask the Chief Executive to outline in detail the specific works planned for **(details supplied)** the current status of each individual aspect of the work programme; the total

cost of the works; the likely timeframe for the opening of the refurbished park; to provide drawings / images of what the completed refurbishment should look like and if he will make a statement on the matter?

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

(details supplied), following extensive public engagement was granted a Part-8 planning permission in early 2022. Following a tender process Cairn Construction were appointed as the project contractor to implement the refurbishment works, and they commenced work in Quarter 4 2022.

Key milestones completed and or commenced so far as part of the **(details supplied)** refurbishment works.

- Site Clearance
- Archaeology (On-going)
- Tree protection and Tree surgeon works to existing trees
- De-compaction and soil conditioning of all new planting areas
- Preparation of all site levels
- Installation of all foundations
- Installation of all new in-situ feature concrete kerbing
- Installation of new ESB connections (mini-pillars and power units)
- Installation of new IW and sewer connections
- Installation of tree planting and constructed tree pits.
- Installation of new in-situ feature concrete seating with feature lighting
- Installation of the new toddler playground
- Commencement of Playground and feature play opportunities
- Commencement of new feature boundary
- Commencement of new footpaths
- Commencement of new multi-use sports area and lighting

The current project program expects the current works to be complete in Quarter 2 2023. The budget for the project is €2.3m of which approximately 50% is from the North Inner City Taskforce, the balance is DCC Capital funding.

Q.73 COUNCILLOR RAY MCADAM

To ask the Chief Executive to provide a copy of **(details supplied)** which was issued on February 13th last; to explain why the Dilapidation Survey has yet to be commissioned, never mind being completed; the details of the works the selected contractor is supposed to carry out as part of the Enabling Works contract and the likely timeframe for each aspect of same; and if he will make a statement on the matter:

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

CMP and CEMP documents were submitted to DCC Planning in compliance with the Contractors pre-commencement conditions with respect to the Enabling works. These were approved by the Authority and are available for viewing on the Authority's Planning portal.

A condition survey of the site boundaries was undertaken by an independent surveyor in advance of commencement of the enabling works.

Future surveys which will include property surveys will be undertaken at more pertinent time and in advance of commencement of the main construction contract.

Q.74 COUNCILLOR TERENCE FLANAGAN

To ask the Chief Executive to have the following places swept and cleaned **(details supplied)**? Can the bags dumped please be gone through and hopefully identification of the culprits can be found and they be prosecuted in the courts?

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Waste Management Services had the above mentioned laneway inspected on the 23rd February 2023 and it was found to be litter free.

Our Litter Enforcement Manager will get a litter warden to investigate any fly tipping at these locations. There is building work being carried out at numbers 10, 12 and 14 Ferguson Road.

Q.75 COUNCILLOR TERENCE FLANAGAN

To ask the Chief Executive the following regarding libraries: a) what investment is expected to be given to the following libraries this year?

b) When do you expect to roll out My open Libraries facility? **(details supplied)**

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

a) Investment in libraries:

With the exception of **(details supplied 1)**, where new windows will be installed, there are no major works planned for these branches in 2023. Provision has been made for normal repairs, maintenance, landscaping, etc.

b) My Open Library is in operation in **(details supplied 2)** Libraries, providing additional unstaffed access (outside of normal staffed library hours) from 8 a.m. to 10 p.m. on 365 days a year. There are no plans to extend this to other library branches, though this will be continuously kept under review.

Q.76 COUNCILLOR TERENCE FLANAGAN

To ask the Chief Executive to have an official from the noise pollution unit visit the following **(details supplied)**

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The Air Quality Monitoring and Noise Control Unit has contacted the above named to ascertain the details of the complaint and a site visit has been arranged with them during the week commencing 27 February 2023. It should be noted that the Air Quality Monitoring and Noise Control Unit has received and resolved a variety of noise complaints relating to **(details supplied)** over a period of several years. This most recent complaint does not appear, at this point, to be a continuance of the previous complaints received.

Q.77 COUNCILLOR TERENCE FLANAGAN

To ask the Chief Executive to deal with the following re: bins and sweeping. Can more bins please be installed in the **(details supplied)**.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Waste Management Services will monitor litter levels in these residential streets to see if there is any significant litter generators there to warrant litter bins.

We cleaned the road and footpath between St Donagh's Estate and Holywell on the 23rd February 2023.

Q.78 COUNCILLOR DEIRDRE HENEY

To ask the Chief Executive to please refer to pitches at **(details supplied)** and say if he can please, at this stage, repair the large holds that are preventing use of these pitches now which are currently unplayable as the holes continue to get bigger.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Repairs will be affected as soon as weather and local schedules allow.

Q.79 COUNCILLOR DEIRDRE HENEY

To ask the Chief Executive to refer to overgrown hedging at **(details supplied)** and say if he can deal with/cut back same which is extremely dangerous growing out across a very busy footpath and it is impossible for drivers to see what is coming from town and also impossible to see the lights at the pedestrian crossing.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Road Maintenance Services will carry out an inspection and arrange for a notice to be issued to the property owner/landowner to request that the hedge be trimmed back.

Q.80 COUNCILLOR DEIRDRE HENEY

To ask the Chief Executive to please refer to **(details supplied)** and say if he can arrange to have the space repaired as soon as possible as its current state is extremely dangerous, prevents cyclists cycling and causing damage to motor vehicles.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

This section of road at **(details supplied)** is not in charge of Road Maintenance Services.

Q.81 COUNCILLOR DEIRDRE HENEY

To ask the Chief Executive to agree to introduce a comprehensive tree maintenance plan for Griffith Avenue, to include timelines for the replacement of the trees felled in August 2021 (see question and reply attached) and the replacement of the additional 40 + trees removed over past years and can the CE make a statement be made on the matter, to include

(a) An explanation as to why local residents were advised in August 2021 that the trees would be replaced at the end of the next planting season, which is November 2021 to March 2022.

(b) Comment on the AHAA (All Hallows Area Association) report which carried out an examination of trees on Griffith Avenue – in the section from Malahide Road to Drumcondra Road - which found that over 60 have been lost to that section of Griffith Avenue over the years (the report was sent to City Council and can be viewed on the their website link Update on Griffith Avenue Trees - February 2022 (ahaa.ie))

(c) The promised reseeded on damaged grass verges and when same will be completed

(d) The means by which grass verges on the Avenue will be protected from constant vehicular parking

(e) A commitment that outstanding works be prioritised by the City Council so that the beautiful and unique double-tree lined Avenue, which is enjoyed by residents, walkers, cyclists and all who travel on it may be conserved and enhanced for future generations.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Over 1,000 trees on Griffith Avenue were surveyed and a multi-annual prioritised body of tree works was recommended. This is the tree maintenance plan for Griffith Avenue. The Parks Service recently met with the AHRA on site and walked the area in question and reasserted the commitment to protect the boulevard for future generations. The Parks Service has committed to replanting at suitable locations in the coming weeks. It has been explained to the AHRA that it is not possible to replant at many of the locations that had identified as 'gaps' as the surrounding trees completely shade out these locations and young trees will not establish and thrive here. Repair and protection of verges from parking is not a matter for parks.

Q.82 COUNCILLOR MICHAEL WATTERS

To ask the Chief Executive to refer to footpath at **(details supplied)** and say if he can carry out necessary repairs as the current condition of this broken is extremely hazardous, particularly for vulnerable pedestrians.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

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

Q.83 COUNCILLOR MICHAEL WATTERS

To ask the Chief Executive to refer to **(details supplied)** and say

- (1) What action he can take to prevent all illegal parking on this stretch of road and
- (2) If he can consider installing some form of medium to long-term planting along this stretch to discourage illegal parking.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Dublin Street Parking Services will be asked to patrol this location on Saturdays and Sundays and take enforcement action where there are illegally parked vehicles.

The Area Office do not use planters as a parking enforcement measure however there may be other planting options available that could be discussed within the Parks and Traffic department.

As there are currently double yellow lines in this location it would be up to DSPS and An Garda Síochána to patrol this area to enforce action with any vehicles illegally parked.

Q.84 COUNCILLOR VINCENT JACKSON

To ask the Chief Executive to look into the following: that Dublin City Council look upon the disgraceful allocation of a previously used garden shed for human habitation despite the owners been told not to allocate such a property at **(details supplied)**. Over the past few years adjoining residents have had to contend with disgraceful behaviour because of the huge level of residents living in the various sections of the main home, the owner then tried to say the shed was always lived in and the property owner tried to get neighbours to sign an affidavit to that effect something none would do as it was a lie and they have photo's to prove it was a disused garden shed. I am now told 2 to 3 persons have now moved into the garden shed the neighbours are furious that the property owner is giving them and DCC the two fingers with their lack of respect for any of the authorities. Can I ask what DCC will do to remedy this situation once and for all?

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

An inspection will be arranged of the property to check for compliance with the provisions of the Housing (Standards for Rented Houses) Regulations 2019.

The Environmental Health Section will liaise with our colleagues in the Planning Enforcement Section regarding this matter as required.

Q.85 COUNCILLOR VINCENT JACKSON

To ask the Chief Executive to look at the following: allotment holders in **(details supplied)** who are very concerned that there may be questions over their future use/ allocation due to a proposal under the planning and development bill 2022 which if passed will remove the requirement of local authorities to reserve land for allotments, and potentially removes the obligation of local authorities to manage and allocate land for this purpose I would like to know the following.

1. Who initially made this proposal.
2. What is the purpose and motivation of this proposal.
3. How do community groups, allotments holders voice their concerns.

It is essential that DCC keeps some land for such purposes as future generation will ask why we don't provide such opportunities.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The preparation of the Planning and Development Bill is an action of Government. Local authorities are not involved in the drafting of legislation. The City Council has no knowledge as to who initially made the proposal to amend the requirement on local authorities to reserve land for allotments, or the motivation behind the proposals.

As the making of legislation is a function of the Dáil, community groups are advised to contact their local T.D. to make their issues known. (point 3).

It should be noted that Development Plans contain many objectives and policies above and beyond the mandatory list contained with the Act. The current City Development Plan contains a number of objectives that support the provision of allotments within the city; including QHSNO2 (allotments at Alfie Byrne Road); GIO28 (commitment to increase provision) and within Chapter 13 for a number of SDRAs.

Q.86 COUNCILLOR VINCENT JACKSON

To ask the Chief Executive to look into the concerns of Ballyfermot Resource Centre / Candle Community Trust Lynch's Lane Ballyfermot Road Dublin 10. The owners of the adjoining property known as the De La Salle Lands are going to build 900 plus apartments on the old School site that capacity to service the site from this narrow road is totally impractical and will result in serious damage to the operation of the above two projects. Can I ask DCC ensure that entry / exit happens from different parts of the site as it would be unacceptable to ask the local community to have this huge site serviced from a small access road? In addition can I please have clarification if these new Apartments will have a Ballyfermot Postal Address i.e. Ballyfermot Road Ballyfermot Dublin 10.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

An Board Pleanála (ABP) Direction for the site includes Condition 30 which requires submission of a Construction Management Plan (CMP). All construction activities will be governed by a Construction Traffic Management Plan (CTMP), the final details of which will be agreed with Dublin City Council prior to the commencement of construction activities on site. The preliminary CTMP states "the principal objective of the CTMP is to ensure that the impacts of all building activities generated during the construction phase upon the public (off-site), visitors to the subject site (on-site) and internal (on-site) workers environments, are fully considered and proactively managed/programmed thereby ensuring that safety is maintained at all times, disruption is minimised and undertaken within a controlled hazard free/minimised environment." However, there are currently no planning compliance submissions for the development. Therefore, Traffic Section and Roadworks Control Unit will engage with the project when the proposed CMP (including CTMP) is submitted.

Q.87 COUNCILLOR VINCENT JACKSON

To ask the Chief Executive to look into the following in relation to the Public Lighting along the lower section of **(details supplied)**.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Public Lighting Services will carry out a lighting assessment to determine what upgrades to the lighting may be required. If upgrades are required, they will be carried out during summer 2023.

Q.88 COUNCILLOR DANIEL CÉITINN

To ask the Chief Executive can a new door be installed at the property (**details supplied**). There is a gap in the door that the wind and cold keeps coming in through. This morning the council were out in the flats at the shore and the dirty water leaked straight into the house because of the gap.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

A new wooden replacement door has been ordered and will be installed without delay.

Q.89 COUNCILLOR DANIEL CÉITINN

To ask the Chief Executive can he arrange for Autism friendly parking spaces to be installed in Ringsend and Irishtown, similar to the one that was installed as a pilot scheme in Sandymount in the car park beside Tesco.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The Parking policy and Enforcement section will support the proposal, however the installation of the bay or any infrastructure required will not fall under the remit of this section.

If the Councillor would suggest a specific site(s) for Autism friendly parking spaces the South East Area Engineer will investigate and report to the Transport Advisory Group, the Councillor will be notified of their recommendation.

However, it should be noted that all parking must be in line with legislation and the currently adopted parking bye-laws. Currently there is no specific provision for autism friendly parking spaces on the public road, nor is there provision for same in the current Dublin City Council Parking Bye-Laws.

Q.90 COUNCILLOR DANIEL CÉITINN

To ask the Chief Executive can he arrange for the ceiling in the hallway of (**details supplied**) be re-plastered, as the tenant was previously given a commitment by the council that this would be done.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Housing Maintenance has inspected this ceiling and it does not require re-plastering. However, it does require re-painting and this has been offered to the tenant.

Q.91 COUNCILLOR DANIEL CÉITINN

To ask the Chief Executive can he arrange for the trees at (**details supplied**) to be cut back. The lower branches of these trees in question are covering the public lighting and the darkness caused by this is facilitating anti-social behaviour and drug dealing within the complex.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The Team Leader of the Southside Mobile Specialist Crew has advised that tree pruning works were completed here approximately four weeks ago. The team Leader will call to the complex early next week to re-assess.

Q.92 COUNCILLOR DAMIAN O'FARRELL

To ask the Chief Executive to ensure that a full meeting of the Clontarf Flood Defence and Promenade Joint Working Group is held in the next six weeks. The JWG last met in December 2020 and needs to be reconvened as a matter of urgency.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

A meeting of the Clontarf Flood Defence and Promenade Joint Working Group will be organised within six weeks as the Councillor requests.

Q.93 COUNCILLOR DAMIAN O'FARRELL

To ask the Chief Executive for a report on the Copper Beech Court Guest House, 16 Hollybrook Park please. I understand the building is to be used by the DRHE to accommodate homeless families and I'm looking for further details please. The report to include which agency will be managing the facility and what facilities will be available etc.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

An Bord Pleanála confirmed in March 2022, 16 Hollybrook is a Guesthouse and this guesthouse can be used to provide emergency accommodation. IPAS began using this property last year to accommodate Ukrainian families. The owner of this property made a formal submission in the e-tender process, DCC, placed on e-tenders (March 2022), seeking suitable properties to provide emergency accommodation. The City Valuers office subsequently agreed HOTs for a contract with the owner, to provide emergency accommodation for approximately 9 families. This guesthouse owner will manage this property and provide accommodation on a bed and breakfast basis. There are no AHBs or NGOs based in this facility or involved in the management of this guesthouse

The owner is directly managing this guesthouse and providing emergency accommodation, in compliance with the property's established planning use, as a guesthouse.

Q.94 COUNCILLOR DAMIAN O'FARRELL

To ask the Chief Executive to support **(details supplied)** with her housing application and to provide details etc.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The above applicant is on the Transfer List with an application date of 22/7/2004, and the applicant holds the following positions on this list:

Area	Bedsize	Position
Area B	2	88

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 check 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 3 weeks.

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.95 COUNCILLOR DAMIAN O'FARRELL

To ask the Chief Executive to report on the following please: In response to applications for different pedestrian crossings, NCA Councillors have been informed there is only 1 traffic engineer on the Northside, multiple traffic engineering vacancies to be filled and a 'minor' works budget of only €250,000.00. There is an extreme logjam as regards providing much needed / requested pedestrian crossings.

On the contrary there seems to be an abundance of engineers in the Active Travel area along with a large budget that is difficult to exhaust. My understanding is that walking / pedestrians etc. are part of Active Travel and I'd appreciate a comprehensive report explaining and rationalising the above please including why pedestrian crossings are not being prioritised while at the same time DCC & NTA are encouraging people to leave their cars behind and use public transport (pedestrians) etc.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

To clarify regarding staffing in the traffic department.

- There are at present vacancies at various different levels across the Traffic Department which we are awaiting filling and which does impact on the quantity of work which the Traffic department can undertake. Sixteen Traffic engineering staff were transferred to the Active Travel Programme office and we are awaiting replacements for these staff.
- There is one Neighbourhood engineer assigned to the Northside and one to the Southside, these are separate to the Tag engineers and at present there are four engineers assigned to the Northside of the city and the various area committees.
- The € 250,000 referred to is the funding allocated from DCC own resources and is the same as in previous years.
- Separate to this funding there is NTA funding for nineteen Pedestrian crossings across the city which the Traffic department are undertaking at present including three in the North Central area.
- As requests are received for Pedestrian crossings they will go through the normal TAG process and if approved are then added to the list so that funding can be applied for.

Q.96 COUNCILLOR BRIEGE MACOSCAR

To ask the Chief Executive to review the pavements and locations of the dips for access for prams and wheelchairs at **(details supplied)**

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Previous paving works were completed in the **(details supplied)** area as part of the Road Maintenance Services annual works program along with other footpath repairs. The budget for the 2023 Major Works Program has been allocated. **(details supplied)** is not on the works program for 2023 and as such, no repairs are planned here. The request to inspect the path within the green area should be directed to the Parks department.

Q.97 COUNCILLOR BRIEGE MACOSCAR

To ask the Chief Executive to consider traffic calming on **(details supplied)** given the recent serious incident involving a vehicle and front gate, photo provided.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

(Details supplied) is traffic calmed with No. 3 speed ramps. These speed ramps have been provided at the appropriate distance so as to prevent harsh braking and acceleration.

(details supplied) is narrow, lined with trees with free parking along both sides the carriageway. These features act as passive forms of traffic calming as such, no further measures are recommended for **(details supplied)**.

Q.98 COUNCILLOR BRIEGE MACOSCAR

To ask the Chief Executive to repair the dishing at **(details supplied)** as it is crumbling and falling away.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Road Maintenance Services has carried out an inspection at this location. A repair has been scheduled when a works crew is available in the area. There is currently a large backlog of repairs outstanding so no date can be given when the repair will be completed.

Q.99 COUNCILLOR NOELEEN REILLY

To ask the Chief Executive for details of derelict sites in Ballymun/Finglas.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The Derelict Sites Section (the Section) has active files on twenty three sites in Dublin 11 which are subject to ongoing investigation and review and currently there is one site entered on the Derelict Sites Register (the Register).

In the case of active files, the Section will always actively engage with owners with a view to agreeing with them what works are required to prevent the property becoming or remaining derelict and will work with owners and afford every opportunity to them to resolve matters. This will often produce the required outcomes without the need for the property to go on the Derelict Sites Register and files can be closed.

Sites entered on the Register are removed when they are rendered non-derelict.

The Section has implemented an ongoing strategy since 2017 to acquire derelict sites in its endeavour to eradicate underutilised lands and buildings in the City. The Section has acquired eight derelict sites compulsorily / by agreement in Dublin 11, five of which were entered on the Register and three of which were active cases. All sites have been retained by the Council under the control of Housing and Community Services to be used for social housing purposes. Seven of the properties have been completely refurbished and rendered non-derelict and are now occupied and another is currently undergoing refurbishment.

The Section also engages with the Area offices to identify further sites for consideration under the Derelict Sites legislation.

Q.100 COUNCILLOR NOELEEN REILLY

To ask the Chief Executive for details of outstanding derelict levies and the period they are outstanding.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Outstanding Derelict Sites Levies at 24th February, 2023.

The Derelict Site Levy is 7% of market value. Outstanding levies attract interest at the rate of 1.25% per month. Outstanding levies including interest automatically become a charge on the land and will remain a charge on the land until all outstanding levies

have been paid. In almost all cases the levies have been outstanding since entry on the Derelict Sites Register.

D.S. No.	Location	Entered on Register	Currently Outstanding
914	Amiens Street, 49-51, D1	12.02.2016	€170,068.75
816	*Annamoe Terrace, 11, D7	11.04.2019	€67,080.00
1006	Blessington Street, 23, D7	29.09.2017	€126,850.00
698	Bow Lane West, 1, D1	01.06.2018	€76,225.00
981	Buckingham Street Upper, 2, D1	05.04.2018	€68,670.00
1019	Cabra Park, 73, D7	28.11.2018	€93,345.00
887	Chapelizod Road, 2 a, b, c, D8	04.06.2015	€163,837.50
921	Clonliffe Road, 198, D3	12.07.2016	€85,128.75
704	*Connaught Street, 19, D7	23.03.2018	€68,267.26
705	*Connaught Street, 21 D7	23.03.2018	€68,267.26
1277	Cork Street, 118, D8	19.03.2019	€336,000.00
937	*Creighton Street, 6, D2	16.11.2016	€10,023.75
1292	Dolphins Barn Street, 23, D8	03.04.2019	€151,593.75
1518	Dolphins Barn Street, 43, D8	25.05.2021	€29,575.00
1122	Dolphins Barn Street, 44, D8	25.05.2021	€44,362.50
1123	Dolphins Barn Street, 45, D8	25.05.2021	€38,447.50
1124	Dolphins Barn Street, 46, D8	25.05.2021	€45,841.25
1125	Dolphins Barn Street, 47, D8	25.05.2021	€57,671.25
1126	Dolphins Barn Street, 48/48a	25.05.2021	€51,756.25
1127	Dolphins Barn Street, 49, D8	25.05.2021	€38,447.50
1128	Dolphins Barn Street, 50, D8	25.05.2021	€47,320.00
940	Fairlawn Park, 9, D11	10.11.2016	€36,271.26
934	*Ferguson Road, 10, D9	28.09.2017	€3,181.88
884	Greenmount Industrial Estate, Unit 4, D12	29.04.2015	€43,189.27

980	Hanover Lane, Adj. No. 34, D8	17.05.2017	€114,730.00
1033	Harold's Cross Road, 146, D6	02.08.2018	€14,875.00
871	James's Street, 33, D8	28.01.2015	€50,277.50
1368	162-165 James's Street, D8	17.06.2019	€125,424.66
536	Killeen Road, 48, D6	03.10.2017	€279,575.00
936	Malahide Road/Grove Lane, Junction at, D17	15.11.2016	€70,000.00
898	*Mulberry Cottages, 1, D20	26.06.2015	€64,466.88
899	*Mulberry Cottages, 2, D20	26.06.2015	€64,466.88
953	*Mulberry Cottages, 5, D20	10.04.2019	€47,775.00
954	*Mulberry Cottages, 6, D20	10.04.2019	€50,163.75
900	*Mulberry Cottages, 7, D20	26.06.2015	€59,332.51
901	*Mulberry Cottages, 10, D20	26.06.2015	€63,008.75
902	*Mulberry Cottages, 11, D20	26.06.2015	€64,466.88
905	Naas Road Old, Coolfan House, D12	04.09.2015	€47,805.63
974	North Circular Road, 74, D7	21.08.2019	€84,218.75
580	North King Street, 86, D7	14.07.2020	€47,075.00
1263	Park Avenue, 40, D4	18.08.2020	€129,675.00
1294	Portobello Road, 22, D8	08.07.2019	€121,187.50
871a	Ranelagh, 2, D6	12.11.2021	€66,937.50
1012	Rathmore Park, 49, D5	19.10.2017	€174,500.00
784	*Richmond Avenue, 21, 27 – 29 Richmond Avenue and Rear of 21 – 29 Richmond Avenue, D3	13.12.2012	€89,973.78
868	Rowserstown Lane, 6 (aka High Road), D8	10.09.2014	€81,600.00
928	South Circular Road, 355-361, D8	06.01.2021	€520,625.00
795	*St. Brendan's Park, 68b, D5	02.06.2016	€122,008.69
514a	*Terrace Place, 6, Rear 23 Rutland St., D1	20.10.2008	€50,475.64

1371	*Terrace Place, 7 & 8, D1	14.06.2019	€33,197.50
1121a	Thomas Court, 1-3, D8	28.11.2018	€88,725.00
911	*Thomas Court, 37, D8	18.02.2016	€13,171.88
851	Wharton Hall, Wharton Terrace, D6	01.04.2014	€106,785.00

* These sites were acquired compulsorily by the Council and are awaiting refurbishment, and will remain on the Derelict Sites Register until rendered non-derelict. As the sites are now owned by a local authority they are no longer subject to an annual Derelict Sites Levy and any outstanding levies will be deducted from any compensation claim from previous owners.

Q.101 COUNCILLOR NOELEEN REILLY

To ask the Chief Executive the current status of tenants requesting extensions to council properties and how many are on a waiting list.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

In 2022 we approved 15 extensions on medical grounds and works are currently ongoing with 24 extensions. Out of this total of 39 extensions, 34 were approved on medical grounds, four for overcrowding and nine are a combination of overcrowding and medical grounds.

There are currently 27 applications for extensions awaiting assessment on medical grounds. There are currently 238 extensions on the wait list for overcrowding. To date in 2023 we have approved 3 extensions on medical grounds.

Q.102 COUNCILLOR NOELEEN REILLY

To ask the Chief Executive the cost of illegal dumping in 2022 and to give a breakdown per area.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

It is not possible to breakdown illegal dumping costs on an area-by-area basis as vehicles, manpower and other equipment are used across all areas and not specific to any area. The directly attributable costs of illegal dumping in 2022 are in the table below.

Month	Number of tonnes of illegally dumped household waste removed by the City Council in the period	Cost of removal for the period including labour, fleet and disposal
January	226.66	€77,060.65
February	369.28	€86,447.02
March	359.26	€89,808.95
April	122.3	€69,703.27
May	237.7	€89,805.53
June	199.32	€75,133.18
July	330.14	€96,322.55
August	343.38	€97,255.97
September	265.46	€79,355.05
October	253.36	€78,928.90

November	298.9	€82,153.57
December	208.94	€75,809.98
Totals	3,214.70	€997,784.62