

QUESTIONS LODGED PURSUANT TO STANDING ORDER NO.18 FOR REPLY AT THE MONTHLY MEETING OF DUBLIN CITY COUNCIL TO BE HELD ON MONDAY, 3rd APRIL 2023.

Q.1 COUNCILLOR JOHN LYONS

To ask the Chief Executive to provide a report on the name and number of land owners applying to the city council for an exemption to the Residential Zoned Land Tax and the reasons provided for such applications.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The Residential Zoned Land Tax was introduced in the Finance Act 2021. Dublin City Council published a draft map of lands in scope for the tax on 1st November 2022. A total of 140 submissions were made by landowners on the Dublin City Council RZLT draft map which challenged the inclusion of particular lands on the draft map on the basis that the lands did not meet the criteria for inclusion on the map. The reasons varied and some examples of which are as follows;

- The Land does not contain necessary infrastructure or facilities including utilities and transport facilities necessary for dwellings to be developed
 - The Land includes a rateable premises used by a business which provides services to the local residents
 - The Land is occupied by social, community facilities including facilities used for the purposes of the provision of education or healthcare
- All landowner submissions are currently under consideration and Dublin City Council will notify each owner of its determination by 1st April 2023.

Q.2 COUNCILLOR JOHN LYONS

To ask the Chief Executive for a report on the housing file of **Details Supplied**

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The above applicant is on the Transfer HAP List with an application date of 07/06/2018, and the applicant holds the following positions on this list:

Area	Bedsizes	Position
Area B	2	527

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

The applicants should keep checking the Dublin City Council website for any Choice Based Lettings that may become available in their area of choice. They are advertised every Friday and remain advertised for a period of 3 weeks.

Q.3 COUNCILLOR JANE HORGAN-JONES

To ask the Chief Executive, if footpath repair can be undertaken in **(details supplied)**. The road was left out of recent repair works, even though the paths are in a dreadful state, with many trip hazards along the way.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Parks Service have contacted the councillor regarding the exact location(s) of **(details supplied)**. On receipt of this information a reply can issue directly to the councillor.

Q.4 COUNCILLOR JANE HORGAN-JONES

To ask the Chief Executive if he will invest in refurbishment upgrade and management of Rectory Park and All Saints Park in Raheny and consider the following upgrades.

- Replacement refurbishment of gates
- Replacement of railings with a low wall improving access
- Improved paths within parks
- Provision of Benches
- Provision of bins

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Rectory Park and All Saint's Park are small local parks in a residential area that once formed part of St Anne's Demesne and contain a beautiful and historic tree line which once defined the route from St. Anne's House to All Saints Church. When the residential area was laid this historic tree line was preserved within these residential open spaces. There are no proposals to refurbish or replace gates here nor is it clear to which gates this refers. Nor is it clear how the described upgrade of replacing over 1km of with a low wall might improve access. It would simply be unaffordable to replace this distance of railings surrounding 2 residential greens. If members of the community are experiencing access difficulties they might contact parks@dublincity.ie and it may be possible to provide a local solution to the local need. Path connections could certainly be improved within these spaces. If further detail is provided as to where it is felt new paths are required consideration can be given to including same in future improvement programmes. The Parks Service can give consideration to the installation of benches however this will require a level of community buy-in as a number of complaints have been received in recent years of these spaces becoming foci for congregation after dark and anti-social behaviour. The siting of such benches would require careful consideration to ensure this reported issue is not exacerbated. Parks do not provide bins in local residential greens or open space. There are existing bins at the nearby schools, shops and certain bus stops.

Q.5 COUNCILLOR DERMOT LACEY

To ask the Chief Executive when the lights will be restored to the bridge at Ballsbridge as promised in July 2019.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The work associated with the restored lights has a number of elements to it. These include the removal & refurbishment of the parapet lights / decorative scroll brackets and the repair of the masonry plinths that support them. The scroll brackets that carry the parapet lights have been removed (along with the parapet lights) and are currently in the process of being restored. Separate quotes are currently being sought by DCC to repair the masonry plinths that will allow the restored scroll brackets and parapet lights to be re-installed. It is anticipated that this work will be completed this year.

Q.6 COUNCILLOR CHRISTY BURKE

To ask the Chief Executive how many Homes the City Council are seeking to purchase from landlords in the central area due to the eviction ban being removed in June 2023

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The Acquisitions Section are at various stages of negotiation on forty eight properties in the Central Area where landlords have issued notices of termination to tenants and there has been a request for DCC to acquire and the tenant to remain in situ.

Q.7 COUNCILLOR CHRISTY BURKE

To ask the Chief Executive how many family's reported to homeless services in February 2023.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The numbers for February are currently being processed and will be available when the monthly report is released on Friday 31st March 2023. As soon as the report is available it will be circulated to the councillors.

Q.8 COUNCILLOR CHRISTY BURKE

To ask the Chief Executive if the city council would consider solar panels for **details supplied**

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

A follow up reply will be issued within two weeks of the April City Council meeting.

Q.9 COUNCILLOR CHRISTY BURKE

To ask the Chief Executive for an update on the opening date to the pool at **details supplied.**

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The upgrading works to **(Details Supplied)** Pool are scheduled for completion by the end of May 2023. The building will then undergo a deep clean and recommissioning of plant, filling of pool etc which will take approx. 2 weeks to complete. The programme for completion is of course dependent on avoiding delays caused by having to undertake any additional works, supply chain issues etc.

Q.10 COUNCILLOR DAMIAN O'FARRELL

To ask the Chief Executive for a report detailing the monies spent and / or actions taken by DCC in 2022 and 2021 on carbon offsetting. The report to include details of any DCC specific policy on carbon offsetting both in regard to the DCC organisation itself and in regard to companies DCC purchases services and / or products from please ?

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

At present no monies have been spent on offsetting in 2021 and 2022.

Prior to COVID DCC worked with Vita Ireland to offset carbon emissions from international flights. However, this is currently under review and will be considered as part of our revised climate action plan. There are challenges with carbon offsetting, and we must consider the potential harms caused and unintended consequences, namely carbon leakage. As an organisation we need to focus on reducing our emissions.

Q.11 COUNCILLOR DAMIAN O'FARRELL

To ask the Chief Executive to organise the inspection (and repair / reinstatement if necessary) as a matter of urgency the street light pole opposite Spar Shop 44, Philipsburgh Ave, Fairview please. There may not be a number yet on light pole as it was recently installed (previous one knocked over by truck). There are reports of an accident adjacent and the street pole is being reported to be in a dangerous condition.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Pole 8 Philipsburgh Avenue was struck on 13th March 2023 after being recently replaced. This column has been inspected and the shaft was repaired. The bracket was also damaged. A replacement bracket is currently being painted. It is anticipated the replacement bracket and light will be re-installed on this column in the next week (i.e. by the end of March 2023).

Q.12 COUNCILLOR LARRY O'TOOLE

To ask the Chief Executive to make a provision for road signs to be assigned in **Details supplied.**

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

A previous investigation was made and it was observed that the entire area is currently covered by the 30 km/h Slow Zone signage, Children Crossing Signs, School Ahead Sign and SLOW road markings indicating the lower speed limit and the area is a Home Zone/Slow Zone, which warns motorists they are driving in residential areas and to expect children. The signage are provided on the following locations:

30 km/h Slow Zone signage:

- at the entrance on Glin Road from Clonshaugh Avenue;
- at the entrance on Glin Road from Greencastle Road;
- at the entrance on Macroom Avenue from Greencastle Road;
- at the entrance on Greencastle Park from Greencastle Road;
- at the entrance on Greencastle Drive from Greencastle Road;
- at the entrance on Greencastle Avenue from Greencastle Road.
- at entrance on Ferrycarrig Drive from Glin Road
-

School Ahead Sign:

- at the entrance on Macroom Road from Glin Road;
- at the entrance on Greencastle Park from Greencastle Road.
- Children Crossing Sign:
- at the entrance on Greencastle Drive from Greencastle Road;
- at the entrance on Ferrycarrig Park from Ferrycarrig Drive;
- at the entrance on Ferrycarrig Drive from Glin Road.
-

SLOW road markings:

- one sign on Ferrycarrig Avenue;
- two signs on Macroom Road;
- one sign on Ferrycarrig Road;
- one sign on Ferrycarrig Park;
- one sign on Ferrycarrig Drive.
-

To avoid the proliferation of extra signage, it is not recommended to add additional signage at this location.

Q.13 COUNCILLOR DARCY LONERGAN

To ask the Chief Executive for an update and timeline on the rollout of city-wide water foundations and a list of the future locations on the North side. To further ask if any will be placed in the Cabra/Glasnevin area

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Three water bottle filling stations were procured as part of a pilot scheme to encourage a move away from single use plastics. The filling station on Clarendon Row has been in place for over a year and has proven very popular. Two further stations will be installed in Temple Bar and Adelaide Road as part of larger public realm schemes, both commencing on site this year.

The feedback and learning from these pilot schemes will inform any wider roll out.

Q.14 COUNCILLOR JANE HORGAN-JONES

To ask the Chief Executive to inspect issues on Ribh Road and McAuley Park. Footpaths in the area are in extremely poor condition, **(Details Supplied)** can repairs for this area be scheduled?

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 these two locations for consideration if additional funding becomes available in 2023 or to be part of the 2024 programme of works.

Q.15 COUNCILLOR JANE HORGAN-JONES

To ask the Chief Executive to look into an issue with illegal parking for the DART at Harmonstown Road. Can parking enforcement be asked to monitor this area as wheelchair users and elderly people are impeded by people parking on footpaths.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Dublin Street Parking Services will be asked to patrol the location and carry out enforcement on vehicles that are obstructing the footpaths.

Q.16 COUNCILLOR LARRY O'TOOLE

To ask the Chief Executive to make provision for door and window replacement for this tenant **Details Supplied**

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Housing Maintenance has not received any requests in relation to the doors and windows at this property. However, we will log this now for an inspection to take place and all necessary works will be carried out.

The Adaptations section in Housing Maintenance has no application for a level access shower from this property, however, we will send the application form out to the tenant in the post today and process it once we receive it back.

Q.17 COUNCILLOR JOHN LYONS

To ask the Chief Executive for a comprehensive up-to-date report on the plans to remove the illegal dump located in Belcamp Gardens, Dublin 17.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The plan to remove the waste and build a boundary wall to the Park remains as before. It is planned to initiate the Part 8 for the wall at the April North Central Area Committee. While the Part 8 process is progressing, we will undertake the procurement process to engage a contractor to build the wall and remove the waste.

A Tier 1 and Tier 2 Environmental Assessment was carried out on lands adjacent to the R139 in the ownership of Dublin City Council by Fehily Timoney & Co. and O'Connor Sutton Cronin respectively over the period 2019 and 2020.

Due to the length of time elapsed and the fact that material on site had been re-located within the curtilage of the site, an updated assessment was required. Following a procurement process RPS Group was employed to carry out an updated assessment. Following a site walk over and gap analysis it was determined that an updated Tier 2 Assessment should be carried out. The update to the Tier 2 report has now been completed and the final report submitted to Dublin City Council.

Tested results showed that all of this material can be disposed of in an environmentally sound manner and in accordance with EPA guidelines. An AA screening report was also carried out that showed there would be no adverse effects on European sites by removal of this waste.

Q.18 COUNCILLOR JOHN LYONS

To ask the Chief Executive to provide an update on the status of the social housing application made by (details supplied.)

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The applicant applied on the 12th January 2023. We are currently processing applications received in late November 2022. The applicant will be contacted directly when it is processed.

Q.19 COUNCILLOR MANNIX FLYNN

To ask the Chief Executive issue a full report regarding the acquisitions of houses and other buildings used for accommodation that DCC acquired or were involved in acquiring for approved housing bodies, homeless charities and Dublin city council's housing department. This report to include what criteria was applied in assessing these premises for acquisition, the cost of each premises/house acquired, all dilapidation and survey reports on such properties prior to acquisitions. Also, what value for money methods were used in acquisitions? And how did the properties come to the notice of DCC and the homeless executive? Further, what criteria is used by DCC to determine Part V planning on certain properties that Dublin City Council and the homeless executive had a hand in acquiring by way of financial commitment.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The DRHE acquires property that it deems suitable in terms of a building's condition and its location. If the DRHE is interested in acquiring a building it will refer the proposal to the City Valuers Office to ensure value for money is sought and that it is professionally represented in negotiations to agree terms.

Approved Housing Bodies can acquire properties directly from the second hand market property market, they require DCC support for these acquisitions.

DCC makes assessments on these acquisitions based on the costs associated with the acquisition including refurbishment costs, where required, and the housing needs in the area as identified on the DCC Housing Waiting Lists. Acquisition cost limits are set out by the DHLGH.

Multi-unit acquisition and refurbishment costs are assessed by DCC Quantity Surveyors, and DCC Architects. AHB's are required to submit a capital appraisal for all such projects where funding is requested under the Capital Assistance Scheme he appraisal must include information on the following;

- Design Brief
- Sustainable Community Proofing
- Site Constraints/Abnormal and Optimisation
- Programme

- Project Management Arrangements
 - Cost and Value for Money report.

Once the DCC technical assessments are made, the application is then sent to the DHLGH in house technical team who will also make a further assessment on the proposal.

Part V applies in circumstances as detailed in the Affordable Housing 2021 and the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended).

Under the Affordable Housing Act 2021, an applicant for planning permission for developments of 4 properties or fewer or where the site is less than .1 hectare, is exempt from Part V. All other permissions must abide by Section 96 (3) of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended), which sets out the 6 types of Part V agreement that can be made, as follows:

- Transfer of land
- Acquisition of units on site
- Acquisition of units off-site
- Lease of units on site
- A combination of the transfer of land and one or more of the other options.
- A combination of 2 or more of the options from Nos. 2 -4

Up to 1st September 2015, financial contributions could be made by developers under Section 96 of the Act, in lieu of the provision of social housing units. This provision was removed following the introduction of the Urban Regeneration and Housing Act 2015 (Section 33).

Part V applies to planning permissions of new builds however exemptions are possible if planning applications do not meet the criteria detailed above or the planning permission identifies the entire use of the development for social housing.

Where Part V applies on a scheme that is acquired for social housing, negotiation to agree Part V is undertaken between the City Council and the developer. The net monetary gain is then passed on to an AHB that may be acquiring or leasing the Part V units.

Q.20 COUNCILLOR MANNIX FLYNN

To ask the Chief Executive indicate when the position of CEO will be advertised on jobs.ie .It is imperative given that the present CEO Mr Owen Keegan, will be retiring in September. The process of acquiring a new CEO should commence forthwith bearing in mind the upcoming local elections in 2024. It is no longer appropriate that public representatives, the staff of Dublin city council and indeed the general public be kept in the dark regarding this most important position for the city and its future.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The recruitment process for the position of Chief Executive will be managed by the Public Appointments Service. It will be a matter for the PAS to decide when to advertise the position.

Q.21 COUNCILLOR MANNIX FLYNN

To ask the Chief Executive to issue a full and comprehensive report with regards deaths in emergency homeless accommodation and other such services that are supported by DCC. These also to include deaths of individual tenants who have a lease in our main housing stock, flats, houses and apartments. With many deaths occurring in homeless settings it would appear that there is no set criteria in the manner

in which these sensitive issues are dealt with. Recently a tragic death occurred in the DePaul run homeless hostel at Peters Place Whitefriar Street. It would appear that this matter and this tragedy was dealt with in a most insensitive manner. Further, how many deaths have occurred in homeless services due to drug overdoses? Also, how many deaths have occurred in homeless services through natural causes? And how many deaths have occurred by those individuals who through tragic circumstances, took their own lives? Finally, what services are in place to prevent suicide among the population of homeless individuals and indeed individuals who are suffering from addiction who are service users of our facilities or facilities associated with DCC services. How many people are qualified within homeless services to deal with such issues?

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

In 2021, 59 service users who were availing of Emergency Accommodation died. 14 of these deaths occurred in hospital.

Service Type	Number of Deaths
STA	23
Shielding	13
PEA	23
Total	59

5 Rough Sleepers died in 2021, of which one occurred in hospital

In 2022, 45 deaths were reported of users who were accessing Emergency Accommodation or known to Outreach services. 15 of these deaths occurred in Hospital

Service Type	Number of Deaths
STA	23
Shielding	5
PEA	15
Outreach	2
Total	45

The DRHE collates reports of every death of a person experiencing homelessness and shares these with the HSE. The reports detail the time, date and known circumstances of the death. It was agreed following the **Interim report on Mortality in Single Homeless population 2020** that the *Health Research Board* was the appropriate body to collect, review and analyse deaths among homeless service users and make recommendations on the prevention of deaths among the Homeless population at a national level. The HSE has appointed a drugs death Coordinator in a HSE funded project to work alongside Dr Austin O'Carroll to implement the recommendations from the report. Please find a link to this report below:

<https://www.homelessdublin.ie/content/files/Interim-Report-on-Mortality-in-Single-Homeless-Population-2020-Dr-Austin-OCarroll.pdf>

Since January 2022, the DRHE Development Officer in collaboration with the HSE Homeless Services Training Coordinator have rolled out a client-centred training programme to staff in PEAs. In 2022, 154 staff received naloxone & overdose training, 124 staff received START – Suicide Awareness training and 257 staff received first aid training. The PEA Assertive Case Management Team (PACT) provides integrated case management and in-reach supports, including:

- Personalised addiction care plans
- Referrals to community based services
- Nursing team

1. Providing addiction and general health clinical interventions
2. Physical and mental health screening
3. Nursing interventions and GP provision
 - Dual Diagnosis
1. Prioritisation of complex cases
2. Care plans on both addiction and mental health
3. Referral and accompaniment to community based services
 - Assessment and support plans for each individual, shared care with other relevant agencies
 - Support to complete Housing application & identify exit pathway
 - Access medical cards, appropriate social welfare and education/training
 - Specialised support for migrant homeless

Where a client is identified as having higher support needs, either at assessment stage or while staying in PEA, they are moved to STA as soon as possible where on-site supports are available.

Q.22 COUNCILLOR MANNIX FLYNN

To ask the Chief Executive initiate a full audit of the cycle lanes, temporary and permanent and the build outs that took place in the local authority area over the past three years. This audit to include objections raised to such infrastructure, health and safety audits of such infrastructure, reported accidents on such infrastructure. Also including accidents regarding pedestrians and cyclists, cyclists on their own, and motor vehicles. What criteria is used to deem these new infrastructures successful. Also, how many legal claims are before the courts as a result of such accidents regarding this new infrastructure?

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Dublin City Council is currently dealing with 15 claims in which legal proceedings have been instituted”.

As per the City Development Plan 2022 to 2028 SMT07

To review the temporary pedestrian and cycling improvements undertaken as part of Covid 19 mobility measures in 2020/ 2021 with a view to upgrading and implementing the successful routes through the Roads Act, Part 8 or other mechanism.

A review of the measure will commence in 2023 subject to staff resources.

Transport Advisory Group Reply:

Buildouts that were constructed using the Transport Advisory Group, Area Engineer's budget have been designed by consultants. Road Safety Audits would have been carried out at the design stage.

Road Safety Section Reply in relation to the accident data:

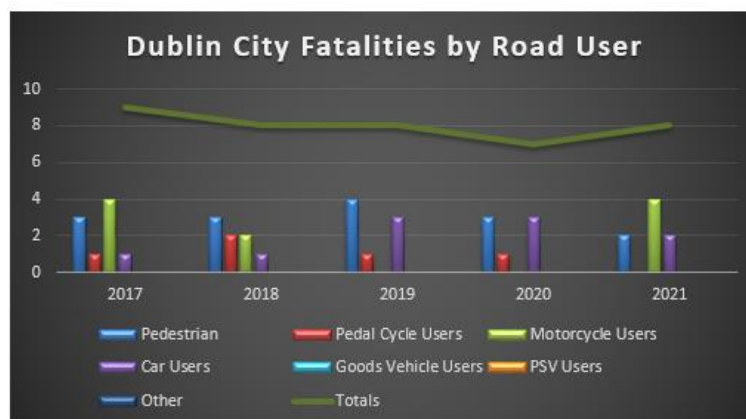
The following data is from the Road Safety Authority Research Department.

Table 1 and Graphic 1 shows the fatal casualty trends for various road users categories over the period 2017 to 2021.

Table 1. Dublin City Fatalities by Road User

Dublin City	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Pedestrian	3	3	4	3	2
Pedal Cycle Users	1	2	1	1	0
Motorcycle Users	4	2	0	0	4

Car Users	1	1	3	3	2
Goods Vehicle Users	0	0	0	0	0
PSV Users	0	0	0	0	0
Other	0	0	0	0	0
Totals Road Deaths	9	8	8	7	8

Graphic 1: Dublin City Fatalities by Road User

We are aware of 11 incidents within Dublin City Parks since August 2015. Given the millions of park visits over this time, this is a relatively small number of reported incidents. Anecdotally, however there is no doubt that with increased cycling and the sale of scooters the conflict between pedestrians and cyclists/scooters will become a greater problem. There is no legislation or regulation in relation to the sale or use of scooters or indeed scrambler bikes.

It is the policy of Dublin City Council to promote cycling and the Parks Service has launched a 'Share with Care' concept for greenways (shared cycling/walking) in parks. It is hoped that the Active Travel Unit will in due course be able to up-grade such routes with sufficiently wide pavements and signage. Equally essential however is the need for education and awareness raising programmes to promote responsible cycling. I understand these are being scheduled by the Active Travel Unit.

Q.23 LORD MAYOR CAROLINE CONROY

To ask the Chief Executive can the historic Water Fountain at the junction of Dawson Street and Stephen's Green, the Lady Grattan Drinking Fountain be brought back into service as a water refill station? This would show we are serious about reducing plastic waste and litter by offering a refill station to our locals and visitors.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

A detailed assessment of the structure and infrastructure will be required before any decision can be made to consider restoring the structure as a water fountain. E&T Department will discuss and revert to the Councillor with a response in the next two months.

Q.24 COUNCILLOR ANTHONY CONNAGHAN

To ask the Chief Executive to arrange for **(details supplied)** new windows and doors for tenant. Can you explain why there has been no action on this so far despite numerous requests please?

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The Local Area Depot will send a carpenter out to this property on Monday (27 March 2023) to inspect the windows. If they are in need of repair, all necessary works will be carried out and if they are deemed to be in need of replacement, an order will be sent to the Joinery Workshop for them to be made.

Q.25 COUNCILLOR ANTHONY CONNAGHAN

To ask the Chief Executive to arrange an inspection of the footpaths in Griffith Downs where there are several parts which have lifted, possibly due to tree roots. There is a particularly bad one at 46/47 Griffith Downs beside the streetlight which has caused several people to trip at this location

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Road Maintenance Services (RMS) currently have no plans in place to complete footpath repairs in **(details supplied)**. RMS will however inspect the footpath at No. 46/47 and log this for repair if any defects are present. We will also note this estate for consideration if additional funding becomes available in 2023 or to be part of the 2024 programme of works.

Q.26 COUNCILLOR ANTHONY CONNAGHAN

To ask the Chief Executive for an update on the upgrade proposals for the Jamestown Roundabout in Finglas East.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The Active Travel Programme Office proposes to replace the Jamestown Road Roundabout with a signalised junction. The new arrangement will include pedestrian crossings on all sides to improve safety for pedestrians and other users. The work will also include protected cycle lanes through the junction.

The preliminary design for this junction has been completed. The environmental screening reports, detailed design and agreements with Fingal County Council are expected to be completed this year. Construction is expected to begin in 2024 subject to funding approval.

Q.27 COUNCILLOR ANTHONY CONNAGHAN

To ask the Chief Executive if contact can be made with the Minister for Housing in order to facilitate Tenant in Situ purchases for DCC housing applicants who are residing in other Local Authorities areas and are currently subject to Eviction Notices.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The four Dublin Local Authorities have agreed a reciprocal arrangement to progress applications under the Tenant in Situ scheme, where a household is at risk of homeless and is in receipt of a valid Notice of Termination for their rented property. A similar process is underway at a national level facilitated by the CCMA.

Q.28 COUNCILLOR NIAL RING

To ask the Chief Executive to detail the rent collection and arrears recovery position at year end 2022, to include details of rent receipts and collection tare based on 2022 total rent charge. Also, to ask the Chief Executive to indicate the key targets for 2023, the monitoring process and details of the proactive management of rent collection and arrears recovery processes in place.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

An analysis of all rent accounts in arrears demonstrated that 62% are in a performing agreement - these accounts are actively monitored to ensure that agreements are upheld. Of the balance that are not yet in an agreement, the majority are making some irregular payments. The Executive Housing Officers in the Rents Section work with those tenants on an ongoing basis to encourage and assist them to progress to regular rent payments initially and then advance towards a payment plan to address the arrears. Tenants who can pay and won't pay, and those who fail to engage constructively, are subject to legal action in accordance with the Arrears Recovery Process. [The Housing \(Miscellaneous Provisions\) Act 2014](#) provides the legislative framework for pursuing tenants who are in breach of their rent obligations.

Legal action taken including Orders for Possession granted in the District Court.

Legal Action taken 2022:	Number
Number of Tenancy Warnings issued	189
Number of cases listed	91
Number of Orders for Possession granted	17
Cases resolved following grant of Orders - lump sum payments and/or agreements (total lump sum payments: €65,000)	7
No. of Evictions	3
2023 Year to date:	
Number of Tenancy Warnings Issued	56
Number of files with Law Department	151
Number of cases with Court dates	90
Number of cases heard	77
Number of Orders for Possession granted	5

Key Targets for 2023:

- Increase rent collection by 3%
- Reduce rent arrears by €1.5m

Monitoring:

- Weekly and monthly status reports reviewed by senior management
- Monthly progress reports on arrears per geographical 'patch' are generated
- Random sampling of accounts in arrears is carried out in order to ensure that appropriate action is being taken.
- The 51 accounts with the highest arrears balance are monitored closely – all are either in an agreement or in the arrears recovery process.

Proactive management of rent collection and arrears recovery:

- A new self-service online rent account balance enquiry facility will be available via Citizen Hub in the coming weeks (this will replace the current system whereby a password must be requested from Dublin City Council). A user friendly access guide will be available
- online and a letter advising tenants of the availability of this service, along with instructions on how to register, will issue with rent account statements.
- Online payment facility extended to RAS tenants
- Dublin City Council has a strong working relationship with MABs and routinely encourages tenants to engage with MABS for budgetary advice. All

correspondence contains contact details for MABS regardless of the balance on the rent account.

- Rent section engages directly with MABs on referral cases, ensuring that the payment of rent is prioritised in the tenants' weekly outgoings.
- Where it is known that a tenant is experiencing welfare difficulties and genuine hardship they are encouraged to engage with the DCC Social Work Unit.
- Additional resources have been allocated to early intervention actions as a preventative measure.
- Additional resources assigned to rent assessment to deliver more timely routine assessment of accounts.
- Staff member assigned to methodically review selected accounts with a view to identifying the cause of arrears in order to inform how each case is progressed.
- Upgrade of Housing IT System to increase functionality and reporting capability is ongoing (OHMS to NEC Housing Project).
- Tenants signing for new lettings must pay two weeks rent in advance and sign up to household budget/direct debit
- Transfer applications from tenants in arrears are cancelled and no offers made to those on the transfer list who are in arrears.
- Only emergency maintenance will be carried out where an account is in arrears.

Q.29 COUNCILLOR MICHAEL WATTERS

To ask the Chief Executive to make changes to Dublin City Council's Citizen Hub website, by adding a new tab that would allow for the reporting of Invasive Species, such as Winter Heliotrope and Japanese Knotwood, with the option of map location, nearby landmark and uploading photo.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The Citizen Hub team have consulted with the Parks Department and the Biodiversity Officer and have started the process of building a solution on Citizen Hub. This will allow for the reporting of all invasive species on lands or property in the charge of Dublin City Council and will also include information for people who may find invasive species on private land or property. This solution should be in place in the coming weeks.

Q.30 COUNCILLOR MICHAEL WATTERS

To ask the Chief Executive to consider a pilot scheme for Street Art walls in South West Inner City, similar to the scheme introduced by Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council - the Anseo street art project that allows for the painting of street art on walls in commercial areas

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The *Anseo* Street Art Project runs a call out to Property Owners to offer up walls in the commercial areas of the urban villages only. The resultant locations are then assessed in relation to Planning legislation, appropriateness of location, protected structures, building fabric, impact on residential amenity etc. by Dun Laoghaire Rathdown. The locations are then tendered to a single entity to propose content and deliver the project over approximately six months at full cost to the Local Authority. Installations are permissioned for 12 months in the first instance.

Dublin City Council approach is to work with owners, artists, community groups, schools and state agencies in the delivery of street art in appropriate locations. Proposers are asked to provide the written consent of the building owner, a draft of the content proposed and detail of any consultations undertaken locally. Funding can

come from a variety of sources, private entities, funding applications, Arts Council or Local Authority funding streams.

Unlike the locations in Dun laoghaire Rathdown, the city core, and in particular the South West Area has a volume of protected structures and brick or stone buildings which are not appropriate to use for such installations due to the impact on the built fabric. In addition, there are residential units in all the core villages in the Dublin City administrative area. While residents may welcome street art as a mechanism to combat graffiti the impact of a largescale mural in proximity to a home is a matter for careful consideration and consultation with those directly impacted. There are approximately 15 permissioned installations in the South Central Area currently as well as the ongoing Dublin Canvas project, which is taking submissions currently. As the process in use by Dublin City Council allows for proposals and installations at any time from multiple funding streams and proposers, it is not considered the Anseo approach would benefit the city core at this time.

Q.31 COUNCILLOR NAIL RING

To ask the Chief Executive to detail the number of applications for ESG and Medical priorities received in 2020, 2021 and 2022. Also, to indicate the number and percentage of priorities which were awarded under each category and to also indicate what percentage of overall applicants are in each of the two categories.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Please see table below showing the number of ESG applications received in the years 2020 - 2022

Year	Applications Received
2020	596
2021	674
2022	847

I regret that it is not possible to extract from our current records how many ESG applications were recommended for priority or what percentage of total applications to the ESG Scheme were recommended for priority.

Below is a breakdown of Exceptional Medical Grounds applications and Priorities awarded in the requested years. Please note 2020 figure was likely impacted by COVID.

Year	Applications Made	Total Medical Priority	%
2020	582	174	29.9
2021	1440	246	21.58
2022	1161	240	23.44

Q.32 COUNCILLOR NIAL RING

To ask the Chief Executive to comment on the main findings of the National Oversight and Audit Commission, Local Authority Performance Indicator Report 2022 under its main performance indicators where such indicators related to Climate Change and to further ask the Chief Executive to confirm whether, or not, the report specifically classifies Climate Change as a separate performance indicator.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The Local Authority Performance indicator Report 2021 included indicators related to climate change under the waste and environment performance indicators. Specifically E7 was concerned with climate action. Data was collected by the Local Government Management Agency (LGMA) in relation to local authorities having a climate action officer/coordinator and a climate action team. Climate Change is not a separate performance indicator.

The National Oversight and Audit Commission included two additional 'test indicators' in 2022 for the Local Authority Performance Indicator reporting period 2021 as follows:

- Does the local authority have a designated (FTE) {Full-time Equivalent} climate action officer?
- Does the local authority have a climate action team?
-

The response sought was 'Yes/No' and Dublin City Council returned 'Yes' for both indicators. The data for this indicator was collected and reviewed but not published as part of the NOAC Local Authority Performance Indicators Report 2021. This was to ensure the quality of the data and identify any potential issues with the indicators. Following review, a change has been made for the Climate Change indicator for the 2022 Report to:

Does the local authority have designated FTE climate action resources under the following headings?

- Climate Action Coordinator (Yes/No/WIP)
- Climate Action Officer (Yes/No/WIP)

Does the local authority have a climate action team?

Following submission of the data by Local Authorities and the data validation reviews by the NOAC, it is expected that the final NOAC Report 2022 will be published in September 2023.

Q.33 COUNCILLOR NIAL RING

To ask the Chief Executive that in noting the housing delivery targets set by D.H.L.G.H. along with DCC's projected delivery targets also indicates that a further 4,000 Affordable Purchase and Cost Rental are targeted, can the Chief Executive detail what qualification criteria will be required for each of the models and to further ask how the purchase price and rental amounts will be determined for each scheme.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

An affordable purchase home is a dwelling made available by a local authority at a reduced price when compared with the property's market value. The affordable home must deliver an affordability gain of at least 15%.

In relation to eligibility, as a general rule, purchasers must be first time buyers or qualify under the 'Fresh Start Principal'. This means they no longer have an interest in a property they previously had an interest in due to reasons including the dissolution of a marriage or partnership. Applicants must also have a right to reside in the State.

Income eligibility requirements will differ because of the price individual homes are made available at. Dublin City Council will produce, in accordance with the relevant legislation, an 'Affordable Purchase Housing Income Policy' to determine this.

Cost Rental homes are aimed at those who are above the threshold for social housing but have difficulty affording private rental accommodation. They are cost rental because the amount paid is determined by the costs of building, managing and maintaining a property. The rent must be below 25% of market rents in the area.

Eligibility criteria include a net household income threshold of €53,000, not being in receipt of social housing supports including HAP, and the applicant's household size matching the property in question. Full eligibility criteria are set out in Statutory Instrument No. 755/2021.

Q.34 COUNCILLOR DECLAN MEENAGH

To ask the Chief Executive for a breakdown of all steps from initial enquiry to final purchase of a tenant in situ scheme, what DCC departments are involved and how has this changed over the past few years. Has the government issued new guidelines in the last six months that have impacted the scheme and if he will make a statement on the matter.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

DCC introduced a Pilot Tenant in-Situ Tenancy Policy in 2018 initially for a period of twelve months. Due to the continued need to put in place preventive measures to avoid homelessness this policy has been extended. The DHLGH have recently issued a Circular 08/2023 setting out arrangements for the Acquisition of Housing units in circumstances where Notices of Termination have been issued to tenants in receipt of social housing support.

From the point of first contact from either landlord or tenant, to inspection and then valuation and offer can take up to four weeks. Following this, the conveyancing stage can take three to four months to complete as due diligence is undertaken.

The procedures set out below have been in place since DCC commenced Tenant in Situ Acquisitions in 2018. The Tenant in Situ Acquisition process is as follows;

	Stage	Requirements	DCC Sections
1	Initial enquiry & Tenant check stage	Initial contact from either landlord or tenant, file opened. This process includes a verification of the household need, confirmation tenant wants to remain and landlord has issued a Notice intending to sell	Acquisitions, Allocations HAP teams.
2	Property inspection stage	Property inspected by DCC Clerk of Works for suitability to acquire and an assessment of what if any works maybe needed	Clerk of Works
3	Valuation and offer	Engagement with the vendor on price	City Valuers
4	Conveyancing	Legals, title checks etc.	Law Dept & Contracted Solicitors
5	Closed	Property added to DCC stock, tenant signed up to DCC tenancy agreement	Allocations & Rents.

All efforts are made to progress the process in as timely a manner as possible.

Q.35 COUNCILLOR NOELEEN REILLY

To ask the Chief Executive if the Choice Based lettings applications can be changed to an online application as a lot of people do not have access to a printer

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

At present the CBL application process is paper based but we are developing an online application. As DCC's Housing IT system is redeveloped over the coming months, it will allow for a significant increase in the use of CBLs and will ease the burden of applying, as applicants will be able to save details and access more information online. If any applicant has difficulty filling a CBL form they should contact Housing Allocations or any of the Local Area Offices to make an appointment to fill and submit the application. In addition to this, All Public Libraries have facilities to use a PC and print out any applications should they not have access to a printer/PC.

Q.36 COUNCILLOR MAIRE DEVINE

To ask the Chief Executive that in relation to Members of the Inchicore Regeneration Consultative Forum who have worked collaboratively and positively with the integrated design team to deliver the exciting Emmet Rd Development project. Can the Chief Executive explain the process ahead given his recent decision to terminate the contract with that design team?

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Dublin City Council are in the process of procuring a new design team for Emmet Road. The project continues to progress and will not be negatively impacted by the recent decision.

Q.37 COUNCILLOR MAIRE DEVINE

The greening strategy for our city is crucial to the quality of life for citizens. To ask the Chief Executive if the NTA/BusConnects are blocking the council's greening projects at Cork St and elsewhere throughout the city and why these crucial wellbeing projects cannot go ahead on time and as planned?

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Regarding Cork Street Greening Strategy, information received from the South Central Area office has been sent over to the NTA BusConnects Design office. Cork Street in part of the CBC route Greenhills to City Centre and after three rounds of public consultation, this project is planned to be submitted to the An Bord Pleanála by the NTA over the next few months.

Q.38 COUNCILLOR MAIRE DEVINE

To ask the Chief Executive what is now planned by the Council following a serious breach of contract and fine imposed for **(details supplied)**

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Dublin City Council did not extend the contract for Dog Pound & Warden Services with **(Details Supplied)** with effect from June 2021. Alternative arrangements were put in place with Hollygrove Kennels who have operated satisfactorily as the Dublin City Council Dog Shelter since that time providing 24 large Kennels at its facility in Newcastle, Co. Dublin. In response to the increasing demand for the service the Council is preparing to engage in a procurement process to identify and contract with a facility or facilities in the greater Dublin Area to operate in conjunction with Hollygrove.

The Council are also preparing to recruit at least 5 Dog Wardens to replace the warden service provided by Ashton Dog Pound.

Q.39 COUNCILLOR MAIRE DEVINE

To ask the Chief Executive that a comprehensive assessment and expert advice be sought in order to ensure the entrance door at **Details supplied** be rendered robustly secure and prevent the ongoing use of the interior public spaces being abused by non-residents?

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The South Central Area Office engaged a specialist door company to assess the front door of this complex. The Area Office are awaiting a report which will outline recommendations, including possibly replacement of the door. This door has also been logged for repair with our current provider in the interim.

Q.40 COUNCILLOR NOELEEN REILLY

To ask the Chief Executive if homeless Hap can be extended to those with eviction notices 3 months prior to their eviction date as opposed to 1 month now as recipients on Normal Hap are finding it very difficult to find a property within their price range

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Households in private rented accommodation that have received a Notice of Termination that expires within 12 weeks are eligible for consideration for Homeless HAP support. This time period was introduced in November 2022 in an effort to assist households to source suitable alternative accommodation.

Households are required to have Notices of Termination validated by Threshold.

Q.41 COUNCILLOR NOELEEN REILLY

To ask the Chief Executive if an arrangement can be made with Finglas County Council regarding Tenant-in-Situ so that people on the DCC housing list living in Finglas can avail of this scheme so they are not made homeless

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The four Dublin Local Authorities have agreed a reciprocal arrangement to progress applications under the Tenant in Situ scheme, where a household is at risk of homeless and is in receipt of a valid Notice of Termination for their rented property. A similar process is underway at a national level facilitated by the CCMA.

Q.42 COUNCILLOR NOELEEN REILLY

To ask the Chief Executive how many horses were seized and euthanized from 2013-2022.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The breakdown of figures for each year below. Please note the formation of the Animal Welfare Unit in 2021 which is now responsible for the seizure of Horses in Dublin City Council.

Year	Number of Horses Seized	Number of Horses Euthanized
2013	332	320
2014	328	300
2015	145	118
2016	190	170
2017	123	(10) Full year records not complete

2018	187	145
2019	92	80
2020	42	27
2021	71	11
2022	43	0

Q.43 COUNCILLOR JOE COSTELLO

To ask the Chief Executive if he will list the sports centres that Dublin City Council has made available to the Government to accommodate Ukrainian and other refugees and if he has identified alternative facilities for those community groups who were using them.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Aughrim Street Sports and Recreation Centre

- Used multiple times. Where possible access for groups continued due to the layout of the building. Other groups were offered space in Cabra Parkside.

St Catherines Sports Centre

- Used for short term. No requests made to provide other space by groups impacted

Clogher Road

- Used short term. No impact on any user group

Cabra Parkside

- Users were facilitated in other centres where possible and memberships could be used in other DCC Leisure Centres

Q.44 COUNCILLOR JOE COSTELLO

To ask the Chief Executive if he has made representation to the Government recently regarding the inequitable application of the Local Property Tax to Dublin City Council and, if so, has he received any indication of a Government change of heart for the future application of the Tax.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Dublin City Council completed a report on the 'Provision of services for the Review of Local Government Funding as applies to Dublin City Council' in the 1st quarter 2022. Following consideration of the report by the Finance SPC at its meeting dated 24th March 2022, the report was issued to the Department of Housing Local Government and Heritage on the 7th April 2022 to consider as part of its review of 'Local Authority Baseline Funding'.

Subsequent to the Finance SPC meeting, the Local Government Funding Sub-Committee was set up in Q3 2022 and has engaged with local and national Elected Representatives and the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage in efforts to strengthen the funding of Dublin City Council.

The Department of Housing Local Government and Heritage have on the 15th March 2023 notified the Lord Mayors/Cathaoirleigh/Chief Executives of all Local Authorities of the baseline review with submissions and completion of an online survey to be returned by the 6th April 2023.

The Finance SPC at its meeting on the 16th March 2023 has approved a revised report to issue to the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage. The Dublin City Council report and completion of the survey will be issued week commencing 3rd April in compliance with the submission date.

Q.45 COUNCILLOR JOE COSTELLO

To ask the Chief Executive if he will write to the Taoiseach asking him to expedite the enactment of the legislation that will enable Dublin City Council to use CCTV in Court proceedings to prosecute those charged with littering and dumping on the city's streets and the public realm.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The relevant legislation is the Circular Economy & Miscellaneous Provisions Act 2022, which was enacted in July 2022. Codes of Practice in respect of the use of CCTV cameras for the purpose of prosecutions are now required pursuant to the legislation. These are being agreed on behalf of the local authority sector under the auspices of the LGMA.

Q.46 COUNCILLOR JOE COSTELLO

To ask the Chief Executive if any discussions have taken place between the City Council and the National Transport Authority (NTA) with a view to introducing Congestion Charges in the City centre similar to those operating in London.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

No discussions have taken place between DCC and the NTA regarding congestion charges.

Q.47 COUNCILLOR DAITHÍ DOOLAN

To ask the Chief Executive the following: acknowledging that the tenant in situ scheme is useful in protecting families from homelessness, does DCC have any plans to increase the number of purchases under the tenant in situ scheme?

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY

Dublin City Council will continue to acquire properties proposed to us under the tenant in situ acquisition programme once all the relevant criteria are satisfied.

The DHLGH has recently issued a Circular 08/2023 setting out arrangements for the Acquisition of Housing units in circumstances where Notices of Termination have been issued to tenants in receipt of social housing support, within that Circular there is provision for Dublin City Council to acquire up to 400 units.

Q.48 COUNCILLOR DAITHÍ DOOLAN

To ask the Chief Executive to outline in tabular how many people were directly employed by DCC in the years 2008 through to 2023 in each department and how many job vacancies are there within DCC?

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The table below sets out the number of people employed in Dublin City Council (Full Time Equivalents) for the years 2016 – 2022:

Department	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Area Offices	224	228	231	225	224	231	226
Chief Executives	47	39	41	47	46	36	26

Corporate Serv.+ Transformation	136	138	137	145	148	181	189
Culture Rec. + Economic Services	828	844	836	871	857	834	854
Dublin Fire Brigade	1,034	1,055	1,054	1,055	1,064	1,053	1,088
Environment + Transportation	1,487	1,523	1,575	1,632	1,620	1,585	1,604
Finance	241	235	227	215	203	197	207
Housing + Community Services	977	998	1,045	1,041	1,040	1,005	971
Human Resources	63	74	74	85	89	95	89
Information Systems	59	64	73	71	72	73	69
Law	63	66	57	60	60	56	62
Planning + Prop. Development	202	203	224	234	227	234	254
Total	5,359	5,467	5,574	5,680	5,650	5,579	5,638

Following the financial crisis in 2008, the City Council undertook a significant restructuring programme. The subsequent moratorium on recruitment saw employee numbers drop significantly until 2015 when restrictions were lifted. The table above reflects the increases in employee numbers across the various Department with effect from 2016 when recruitment returned to normal levels.

A workforce planning exercise is currently being carried out by the Human Resources Department, reviewing current employee numbers across the City Council. The number of vacancies will be available when this exercise has been completed and approved by senior management.

Q.49 COUNCILLOR DAITHÍ DOOLAN

To ask the Chief Executive what is the average length of time to process the following housing applications; application to go on DCC housing list, application for ESG & application for medical priority?

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The current processing time is 17 weeks for Social Housing Support Applications and 12-14 weeks for Exceptional Medical Grounds Scheme application. The usual processing time for housing application is 12 weeks or less but there is a delay due to other factors. There is a large increase in incomplete application or incorrect documentation submitted. For every incomplete application we must request additional documentation, then when it is submitted, the application must be assessed for a second time. This means a large number of applications are being assessed twice or more. This also has knock on delays in increased correspondence by phone call and on the Citizen Hub. Applicants should ensure they are submitting the correct documentation as listed on the checklist of the Social Housing Support application form to avoid delays in processing. Our housing staff are working hard to clear the backlog and hope to have it restored to 12 weeks at the earliest possible date.

There is an increase in the number of Exceptional Medical Grounds Scheme applications submitted to the Housing Allocations office. There is a 106% increase in EMG applications in 2023 so far compared to January to March 2022. This is contributing to delays in processing applications on this scheme. The average length of time for processing ESG applications is approximately twelve weeks. However, due to an increase in the volume of applications the average wait time increased in recent months. This increase is now being managed and I anticipate a return to the average processing time of approximately twelve weeks by the end of April.

There will be occasions when some applications may take longer than expected to process, for example, in instances when an applicant advises the Social Work Section that they are awaiting further supporting documentation which they wish to add to their ESG application or when the Senior Social Worker assessing the application has to request additional information before a decision can be made.

Q.50 COUNCILLOR DAITHÍ DOOLAN

To ask the Chief Executive to supply the Councillor with the most recent quarterly breakdown of how many applicants are waiting on social housing, on the transfer list, length of time on list, family size, bedroom need etc. for each area?

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The most recent quarterly report was the End of Year report sent in January (see attached). The next report will be circulated in Mid-April as normal.

Q.51 COUNCILLOR DEIRDRE HENEY

To ask the Chief Executive in reference to constant parking on the recently resurfaced footpath at location as per **(details supplied)** and say what measures, if any, he is considering putting in place to discourage same.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

It is not recommended to install bollards to prevent cars parking on the pavement where it is already restricted under the law, as bollards create street clutter for pedestrians.

The Transport Advisory Group reports, *"It is not current DCC policy to install bollards where restrictions are already covered under existing legislation. Under Road Traffic (Traffic and Parking) Regulations 1997 section 36.2; i 'A vehicle shall not be parked – on a footway grass margin or a median strip.'"*

Instances of illegal parking should be reported to Dublin Street Parking Services, the City Council's parking enforcement contractor (Tel: 01-602 2500 or Email parkingenforcement@dublincity.ie), or to the local Gardaí, as it is a matter for enforcement under the Road Traffic Regulations. The Parking Enforcement contractor has been instructed to keep the area under observation and to enforce illegally parked vehicles.

Q.52 COUNCILLOR DEIRDRE HENEY

To ask the Chief Executive refer to footpath at **(details supplied)** which is a danger to vulnerable pedestrians, one of whom recently nearly fell down on his face; this matter has been reported by me on previous occasions.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Road Maintenance Services (RMS) can confirm that this defect has already been inspected and recorded (job no 41165476) at **(details supplied)**. The inspector over our crews, has also been asked to consider completing this repair sooner if possible.

Q.53 COUNCILLOR DEIRDRE HENEY

To ask the Chief Executive to refer to the request from (**details supplied**) and respond to the issues raised.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

In reference to the issues raised by (**details supplied**) please see the attached response.

Q.54 COUNCILLOR DANIEL CEITINN

To ask the Chief Executive if he has considered public realm improvements for Aston Quay; the details of any such considerations and related projects; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

There are no proposals for Aston Quay by the Public Realm Team currently as significant improvements were made with the delivery of the Rosie Hackett Bridge.

The Active Travel Programme Office are currently progressing designs for the interim Liffey cycle route scheme along the southern quays. This scheme will provide a safe and continuous cycle route from George's Quay to Crampton Quay. (Approximately 1km in length). A 'river side' two way cycle path is proposed on Georges Quay and Burgh Quay with a one way (westbound) cycle path along Aston Quay also located on 'river side'. There will also be improvements to the road surface, infrastructure, traffic signals and road markings as part of the scheme implementation. When the detailed designs are complete they will be reported to the Central Area Committee. It is proposed to implement this scheme in 2023.

Q.55 COUNCILLOR DANIEL CEITINN

To ask the Chief Executive, further to Question 107 answered on 7 November 2022, for an update on an alternative location to replace Markievicz Leisure Centre; when a presentation will be made to the South East Area Committee; and if he will make a statement on the matter

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

A detailed report has been included on the agenda for the next South East Area Committee Meeting in April.

Q.56 COUNCILLOR DANIEL CEITINN

To ask the Chief Executive to identify the playgrounds which will be upgraded under the 3 Year Playground Upgrading Programme in each year of the programme by district

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Local engagement with key stakeholders, including children and young people has informed the Parks playground up-grading programme. This involves eleven playgrounds listed below which includes installation of additional play units, increased accessible and inclusive play opportunities and improved access to nature play experiences.

1. Balcurris Park: North West Area
2. John Paul Park: Central Area
3. Eamonn Ceannt: South East Area
4. Ceannt Fort Play Area: South Central Area
5. Le Fanu Play Park: South Central Area

6. Ringsend Park Junior Play Area: South East Area
7. Hertzog Park: South East Area
8. McAuley Park: North Central Area
9. Kilmore Park: North Central Area
10. Blessington Basin: Central Area
11. Ormond Square Park: Central Area

A new playground was completed at Montpelier Linear Park in 2022 and there are new playgrounds due to be opened in 2023 in Diamond Park (Central), Ventry Park (Central) and St James Linear Park. The Play Development Officer will continue to carry out local engagements with children and young people to inform design briefs for the above and for the following social housing play facilities:

- Dolphin House Regeneration Play Area and Play Proposal – now completed
- York St Upper Play Area – process ongoing
- Leo FitzGerald Play Area – process ongoing/design briefs completed

Q.57 COUNCILLOR DANIEL CEITINN

To ask the Chief Executive to arrange for LED Public Lighting to be installed in the following locations: Gloucester Street, City Quay, Dowling's Court, Peter's Court and Lombard Court.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The existing public lighting on Gloucester Street, City Quay, Dowling's Court, Peter's Court and Lombard Court, will be upgraded to LED under the upcoming Public Lighting Upgrade Project, although an exact timeframe for these future improvements cannot be provided at this time, other than to say it will be upgraded in the next five years or so. Until such time as the existing lights on these streets are replaced with the LED lights, we will continue to carry out routine maintenance works on the existing lights and will replace existing lamps as required.

Q.58 COUNCILLOR DECLAN MEENAGH

To ask the Chief Executive undertake a review of the paid parking permit policy for Whitworth, Claude, Wigan and David Roads;

- re-consider the number of permits per household and the allocation of Whitworth Road permits to some roads and not others;
- investigate the non-enforcement of illegal parking on these roads and if he will make a statement on the matter

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The Parking Policy and Enforcement section will carry out a review of residential parking permit issued for streets listed above.

Dublin Street Parking Services will be advised to patrol these locations and enforce any illegal parking and non-payment of parking.

Q.59 COUNCILLOR DECLAN MEENAGH

To ask the Chief Executive to have a pedestrian crossing installed between the junction of Drumcondra Road and Botanic Avenue, outside Fagan's pub.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

A contractor has been appointed to install a pedestrian crossing on Botanic Avenue at the junction with Drumcondra road. Works are due to commence in April.

Q.60 COUNCILLOR KEITH CONNOLLY

To ask the Chief Executive to carry out a full review of the pyrite situation at **(details supplied)**

- Can an inspector call out to see the damage to the property
- Can an independent report be carried out and published as to the status of the pyrite and structural damage of the dwelling.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Dublin City Council will arrange for the Area Maintenance Officer to call and inspect damage. An independent report was already done on 7 properties in the Wellmount Area in 2020. A synopsis of the chain of events is outlined below.

On 20 December 2019 Downes Associates were appointed by Dublin City Council to design remedial solutions to **(details supplied)** which appeared to have potential pyrite issues following a report by Ground Investigation Ireland in May 2018 which tested stone samples taken from the property.

On inspection of the property in February 2020 Downes Associates found no noticeable signs of pyrite heave to the property structure. We also reviewed the stone testing report by GII, which concluded in summary that the stone “has the potential for heave”. However further into the report the conclusions of the Sandberg laboratory test notes “The pyrite crystals in the majority of these particles are enclosed within calcite crystals with a negligible porosity and rates of pyrite alteration in the limestone particles would therefore be expected to be very low”.

As we had found no visible signs of heave and the report appeared to us to be indicating very low risks of heave, we therefore consulted with GII prior to recommending any remedial works to the property. GII then suggested a second testing of stone samples which the results of found a total sulphate sulphur of less than 0.1% which is within acceptable limits for Annex E SR21 materials. GII's second report Nov 2020 therefore concludes “the material tested has negligible potential for future heave”.

The conclusion of the above was that no remedial works were required to the property.

Q.61 COUNCILLOR KEITH CONNOLLY

To ask the Chief Executive to arrange for the cleaning up of the shrubbery at **(details supplied)**

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Park services have added this area of shrubbery to our Autumn/Winter shrubbery maintenance program (outside bird nesting season 1st March – 31st August). In the interim, the area will be litter picked and cleared of any dumped material.

Q.62 COUNCILLOR KEITH CONNOLLY

To ask the Chief Executive to provide an update on the allocation of the site at **(details supplied)**

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The City Valuer's Office is in negotiations with Ballymun Kickhams in respect of the southern part of site No. 31 in the Ballymun LAP. However, terms have not issued as yet as the boundary of the site is to be agreed with TII as the northern part of this site will be required as a compound for Metrolink.

Q.63 COUNCILLOR KEITH CONNOLLY

To ask the Chief Executive to arrange for a engineers report on the sunken carriageway at **(details supplied)** This pavement has sunk and has been repaired on several occasions over the past 3 years.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

This location was inspected and the damaged section of carriageway was identified. As there appeared water seeping from the damaged road, Road Maintenance Services are currently liaising with Irish Water to determine if there is a water leak at this location.

Following the outcome of these investigations, a suitable repair will be arranged to at this location.

Q.64 COUNCILLOR SOPHIE NICOULLAUD

To ask the Chief Executive to confirm with Parks department that the Bluebell Park will not be used by sports clubs for practice or matches.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

It is understood that a club wish to use the space in question for training juvenile teams. Given the many benefits of exercise from a mental health point of view as well as physical and social, we do not intend refusing the use of Bluebell Park for this purpose. If the concern of residents is that this activity will create a nuisance for them we can monitor this situation with the club in question if the residents report any issues that arise.

Q.65 COUNCILLOR SOPHIE NICOULLAUD

To ask the Chief Executive to see with the traffic department to provide a self-service bike rental system for Chapelizod Village.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The expansion of the NOW Dublin bikes bicycle sharing scheme would require a contractual change and currently there are no plans to amend the contract or expand the scheme. The current scheme is in contract until 2027.

The stationless bike operators will be requested to examine the feasibility of operating a bike hire hub in the Chapelizod area which is currently outside their operational area.

Q.66 COUNCILLOR SOPHIE NICOULLAUD

To ask the Chief Executive to review the decision of the Parks Department concerning installing bicycle parking at Benbulbin Green in Drimnagh. I have asked traffic department to explore a location there but traffic was told Parks would not give their go ahead on the green.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Parks have set aside budget for the installation of bike stands on Benmadigan O/S. If the councillor can contact the undersigned to clarify that this is the location being referred to as Benbulbin Road runs along Brickfield Park but does not have a green/open space on it. Benmadigan is the closest open space to Benbulbin Road.

Q.67 COUNCILLOR DARCY LONERGAN

To ask the Chief Executive how many water fountains are planned for North Dublin and the locations of those in the Cabra/Glasnevin area, along with a timeline for installation?

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Three water bottle filling stations were procured as part of a pilot scheme to encourage a move away from single use plastics. The filling station on Clarendon Row has been in place for over a year and has proven very popular. Two further stations will be installed in Temple Bar and Adelaide Road as part of larger public realm schemes, both commencing on site this year.

The feedback and learning from these pilot schemes will inform any wider roll out.

Q.68 COUNCILLOR DARCY LONERGAN

To ask the Chief Executive for a breakdown of the spend of the 50k which was provided as part of the 'Safe Cities for women and girls UN programme'? DCC was allocated 50k a few years ago, 10k was spent on a report, how was the rest of the 40k used to implement the program?

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Dublin City Council signed up for the Safe Cities for Women and Girls UN Programme in 2013. A report was commissioned and launched in 2015. Since then many elements of the recommendations of the report have been integrated into the mainstream policies of Dublin City Council via the LECP, Community Development, public realm projects, public lighting, JPC, City Recovery and many other programmes.

In saying all this, it is acknowledged that there remains work to do in this area with good work done very recently in the area of street safety audits. The Assistant Chief Executive with responsibility for Area Offices is committed to continuing to work with Councillors to make the City a safer place for women and girls.

Q.69 COUNCILLOR DARCY LONERGAN

To ask the Chief Executive what steps have been taken to implement the 'HER city' goals? DCC is listed as a partner for this UN-program to involve teenage girls in Urban Design.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

As referenced on [Her Cities – #HerCity \(unhabitat.org\)](https://www.unhabitat.org/her-cities) website, the HER City programme is being led by TUD. Contact will be made with TUD to determine how this initiative is being implemented and progressed. A response will then be forwarded directly to the Councillor.

Q.70 COUNCILLOR EIMER MCCORMACK

To ask the Chief Executive confirm when will Henrietta House be retrofitted and insulated to remove damp from the homes there?

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

All complexes are currently being examined as part of a housing regeneration programme review with the aim of recommending a strategic regeneration plan for the next 30 years. Henrietta House is under consideration as part of this review.

Upon completion of this review, the findings will be discussed and shared with the local elected representatives.

Q.71 COUNCILLOR EIMER MCCORMACK

To ask the Chief Executive confirm when will construction commence of affordable housing on Bannow Road, Cabra, Dublin 7 and how many affordable homes will be built?

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The Housing Department appointed Cluid Housing on the 24th of February to proceed to feasibility and design stage for a housing development of mixed tenure social and cost rental housing on the Bannow Road site. Early indications are that this site will may deliver approximately 145 to 150 units of social and cost rental. The actual mix has not yet been decided however it will be informed by a number of factors including construction costs and funding supports. Subject to planning construction is due to commence Q2 2024.

Q.72 COUNCILLOR EIMER MCCORMACK

To ask the Chief Executive provide an update on plans to address the problems on Richmond Road. There is no cycle path, and cars frequently mount the footpath. There is barely enough room for 2 cars.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The Transport Advisory Group at its meeting in January 2023 and following a ballot of residents recommended the provision of a Pay & Display/Permit Parking (P&D/PP) scheme on Richmond Road (Drumcondra Road. Upper to Grace Park Road) to address ongoing, road traffic & safety problems.

The statutory consultation process with An Garda Síochána with regard to regulatory signs and road markings is now complete. Parking Policy and Enforcement section will introduce the scheme in due course

Q.73 COUNCILLOR EIMER MCCORMACK

To ask the Chief Executive confirm when will the heating be fixed, the hall and front door be replaced at (details supplied)

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The Joinery Workshop will arrange to have these doors measured in the coming weeks. We have no record of any issue with the heating, but we will log this now for the tenant and all necessary works will be carried out.

Q.74 COUNCILLOR SOPHIE NICOULLAUD

To ask the Chief Executive to investigate and reach a solution for an alternative method of waste bulk item collection at Davitt House. The dumping of large items outside Davitt House is a regular occurrence. Residents of the two complexes pay Dublin City Council for removal of large bulk items. However, the current arrangement is that these must be left outside of Davitt House for collection by DCC. This then attracts illegal fly tipping by others which has become unsightly in the past. The Drimnagh Residents Community Group and Tidy Drimnagh are working together to maintain cleaner streetscapes. The residents of Davitt House pay for this Bulk Disposal service and the onus should be on Dublin City Council to provide an alternative method of collection.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Housing Maintenance Caretaking Service collects bulky items left out by tenants of the complex where this is required. Where items are left out by tenants, these items should only be placed in a secure area within the complex until the truck is on-site to collect the bulky items. We will confirm this with the Team Leader of the Caretaking Service at this complex and if it's needed, we will clarify the matter with tenants in conjunction with the Area Office. Illegal dumping can occur outside of our complexes, but we will examine our collection process to ensure that this doesn't not contribute to an illegal dumping point. Furthermore, we will engage with Waste Management Services should they have a bulk waste collection near to this complex, so that we can resolve the matter from all angles.

Q.75 COUNCILLOR NAOISE O MUIRI

To ask the Chief Executive if the local athletics club can use the sports changing facilities in Fairview Park; can the CEO please confirm if they are available and who the club should contact in relation to access?

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The club in question are welcome to contact our staff at parkpitches@dublincity.ie . We will be happy to discuss their specific requirements, availability, terms & conditions etc. with them.

Q.76 COUNCILLOR NAOISE O MUIRI

To ask the Chief Executive confirm if bike storage boxes are permitted in residential front gardens located within (a) Z1 zoned areas and (b) Z2 zoned areas? If not, will the CEO commit to bringing forward a Variation to correct this anomaly?

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Class 3 of the exempted development regulations allow for the placing of sheds and stores etc within the grounds of a house, however, one of the relevant conditions is that they must not be located to the front of a house. Therefore, Class 3 does not apply to the provision of bike storage boxes to the front of a house.

A case could be made that a bike storage box to the front of a property is exempt development under Section 4(1)(h) of the Planning and Development Act 'works which affect only the interior of the structure or which do not materially affect the external appearance of the structure so as to render the appearance inconsistent with the character of the structure or of neighbouring structures'. A section 5 declaration would be warranted in each case and there is a risk that the outcome of the process will be that a proposal is not exempt development and requires planning permission.

Therefore, planning permission can be sought for bike storage boxes located to the front of a house. Planning permission may be granted subject to the proposal complying with the provisions of the city development plan. In this regard, the storage box should be of an appropriate design to integrate with the house, garden and wider streetscape. As with all proposed developments each case would be assessed on its merits having regard to the policies and objectives of the City Development Plan, Ministerial guidelines and relevant legislation.

The Planning Department will seek to raise the matter with the Department of Housing in the context of the review of the Planning and Development legislation as there are no specific provisions to exempt bike storage boxes to the front of houses at present.

Q.77 COUNCILLOR NAOISE O MUIRI

To ask the Chief Executive organise for the installation of double-yellow lines on Kincora Road at the junction with Vernon Avenue (west side of the junction, southern side of the road) to ease congestion & visibility issues at this location; note there are already double-yellow lines on the northern side

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The double yellow lines on Kincora Road at the junction with Vernon Avenue (west side of the junction, southern side of the road) where originally provided for a distance of a 20 metres. This is considered to be an adequate length allowing for visibility at and around the junction. On-street parking acts as a form of traffic calming and the unnecessary removal of parking could serve to increase speeds in this residential area. It appears the double yellow lines were not reinstated at a correct length following Kincora Road being resurfaced.

The Transport Advisory Group will request the Traffic Officer to reinstate the markings at this location.

Road Maintenance Services (RMS) have forwarded on the details of this enquiry to our contractor who completed the works to investigate and directed them to have the Road Markings reinstated to the original length.

Q.78 COUNCILLOR NAOISE O MUIRI

To ask the Chief Executive organise for the litter prevention officer to pay a visit to **(Details supplied 1)** to remind them of their litter disposal responsibilities. I am told that staff at this location have been instructed that they cannot smoke on campus - as a result, they are smoking at the entrance to **(Details supplied 2)** and leaving cigarette butts on the ground afterwards

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The Litter Enforcement Manager will instruct litter wardens to speak with the **(details supplied)** to remind their staff of their responsibilities regarding depositing of their litter in an appropriate way. The wardens will be asked to visit the area more often to make sure staff are disposing of their cigarette butts properly or fines will be issued.

Q.79 COUNCILLOR ALISON GILLILAND

To ask the Chief Executive for an update on progress being made to more effectively manage on-street commercial waste in the city centre in particular 1) address torn waste food bags and 2) reduce the time on street of other waste.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Dublin City Council are currently considering viable alternative options to address the presentation of bagged waste in designated commercial bagged areas of the city along with reviewing collection times.

All proposed solutions will take cognisance of the Waste Storage and Presentation Bye Laws and NWCPO guidelines currently in place. Considerations will also be given to forthcoming legislative changes, usability, storage, safety, mobility, operator engagement, and costs.

All options pertaining to any of the above will be presented to the Climate SPC.

Q.80 COUNCILLOR ALISON GILLILAND

To ask the Chief Executive for an update on collaboration and progress being made to install traffic violations (driving in bus lane and breaking red light offenders in particular) detection cameras on our traffic light system? This smart technology led approach has the capacity to make our streets and roads safer and free up Gardai time and resources.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

There is no update on this item at present. Discussions are ongoing with NTA regarding these items.

Q.81 COUNCILLOR ALISON GILLILAND

To ask the Chief Executive to outline the rationale for selecting the road route out of the Clonshaugh Industrial Estate on to the Clonshaugh Road as now included in the current Dublin City Development Plan?

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

As part of the preparation for the 2022 City Development Plan all transport objectives were reviewed to consider their appropriateness. In relation to the lands in question the positioning of the road connection was re-considered on foot of significant concerns raised by the Parks Department and the Conservation Section of the impact on

Woodlands House and the surrounding curtilage. Woodlands House (dated circa 1735) is rated by the NIAH as being of national significance; and the ornamental canal and gardens all form part of the curtilage of the RPS designation in the City Development Plan and the NIAH designation.

In addition, the former route also was identified as a concern in relation to the viability of connecting to the roundabout to the north and obtaining agreement from TII, due to the likely impact such a connection would have on the M1/M50 national routes. It is for the above reasons that the location of the connection was moved to connect eastwards onto Clonshaugh Road; which provided an indicatively located objective for a connection that avoids the concerns outlined above.

It is considered that if a future options study concludes that an alternative connection is appropriate, that address both issues above; and taking account of the traffic modelling for the area; that such a conclusion could inform any future variation of the Plan.

Q.82 COUNCILLOR ALISON GILLILAND

To ask the Chief Executive to indicate the number and location of all 4 and 5 bed housing units currently in our housing pipeline?

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The number and location of 4 and 5 bedroom dwellings which will ultimately be delivered has yet to be determined for a number of our projects. This is because that while an indicative number of dwellings that a site can deliver is identified at feasibility stage the precise schedule of accommodation may not be identified until a scheme goes through design.

Local Housing need informs the schedule of accommodation in all Dublin City Council projects.

The following four-bed houses have been identified in our current pipeline:

Location	No of four-bed houses	Indicative delivery
Oscar Traynor Road, Dublin 17	14	2025
Clanbrassil Street, Dublin 8	1	2024
Montpelier Park, Dublin 7	1	2024
Hazelwood Court, Dublin 5	1	2025

The Acquisitions Section is in active negotiations with vendors on 16 four bedroom houses.

8 are sale agreed, the remaining are at inspection stage.

Q.83 COUNCILLOR RAY MCADAM

To ask the Chief Executive to confirm that he is examining the potential for a precinct improvement scheme for **(Details Attached)** and what such a programme would entail and the timeframe for undertaking such an initiative; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

A reply will be forwarded to the Councillor in the next 2 weeks.

Q.84 COUNCILLOR RAY MCADAM

To ask the Chief Executive whether a review of the initial plans drawn up by the City Architect's Department for the possible redevelopment of **(Details Attached)** has been completed; what are the findings of said review, how many homes are being proposed for construction; the likely breakdown of one, two and three bedroom units; the indicative timeframe for the preparation and initiation of a Part 8 planning application; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The PPP Project Team are in the process of carrying out a review of the feasibility study undertaken by City Architects in the context of the newly adopted City Development Plan and outcome from a series of site surveys that are ongoing. The typology & total number of homes is not yet finalised. The breakdown of unit types will consider the feasibility report, planning density conditions and the requirements from Housing Allocations based on the housing need for Area P.

The current programme for the PPP Bundle 4 sets out the initiation of planning in Q3 & Q4 2023. The said site remains on programme. The PPP Project Team will be in contact with the Area Office & Councillors, in advance of initiating planning to present the preferred design proposal for the site.

Q.85 COUNCILLOR RAY MCADAM

To ask the Chief Executive to provide a report on the recent workshop to consider **(Details Attached)**; the actions arising from such a workshop; the indicative timeframe for the scheme to be brought before the full Council for approval; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Housing and Community Services organised a workshop on the Draft Scheme of Priority for Affordable Dwelling Purchase Arrangements for all Elected Members on 15th March 2023. The making of this scheme is provided for under legislation (Affordable Housing Act 2020 and Affordable Housing Regulations 2021). The making of the scheme is a reserved function of the Elected Members but it must be reviewed by the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage for compliance with the relevant legislation before it can come into effect. Local Authority Affordable Purchase Schemes (LAAPS) cannot be allocated in the absence of such a scheme.

The scheme must set out

- (i) how affordable purchase dwellings will be advertised and made available and
- (ii) how the local authority will prioritise applicants in cases where the number of available affordable homes exceeds the number of eligible applicants.

A number of queries were raised by Elected Members on the day and it was agreed with the Chair that the questions raised would feed into an information session to the Housing SPC which will give an overview of how the eligibility criteria for affordable purchase dwellings will be applied. Work has commenced on this information session and it is intended to present it at May's Housing SPC meeting.

Q.86 COUNCILLOR RAY MCADAM

To ask the Chief Executive to provide a report into the need for traffic calming measures being installed along **(Details Attached)**, following yet another road traffic accident along the street last Saturday, with two other accidents occurring in the two previous weeks; the situation is getting worse and householders want the Council to come up with traffic calming measures to alleviate the risk of future accidents as the

existing situation is posing a huge danger to the local residents and pedestrians using the street; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

A Pay & Display/Permit Parking (P&D/PP) Scheme was recommended for (**details supplied**) at Transport Advisory Group Meeting of 31st January, 2023, subject to a ballot of residents, which will take place over the next months. Following the introduction of the scheme, the area engineer will then recommend a speed survey. Based on the results, the Area Engineer will assess the need for traffic calming. No other action will be taken until the P&D/PP is in place, the parked cars will act as traffic calming, and any speed surveys done before the scheme is in place will not be of value.

Q.87 COUNCILLOR CAROLYN MOORE

To ask the Chief Executive does the planning department actively monitor or keep a record of gardens which have been replaced with concrete, tarmac or other hard surface driveways and ascertain if permission has been sought and approved for it?

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Complaints relating to the alteration of front boundary access/creation of driveways and the associated replacement of permeable garden surfaces with hard surfaces in front gardens are investigated and acted upon by the Planning Enforcement Section of Dublin City Council. The Planning Enforcement Section investigates up to 50 such complaints annually. There is a record kept of all complaints on the Planning Enforcement System and the locations concerned.

Q.88 COUNCILLOR CAROLYN MOORE

To ask the Chief Executive the following: the DCC Biodiversity Plan refers to a number of resources, maps and databases that have been completed, including:

- a database and map of the feeding and roosting sites of Light-bellied Brent Geese within Dublin City to inform development
- hedgerow surveys
- A contribution to the national Hedgehog Survey and the DCC habitat map in 2020

Can links be provided to these resources, so that residents and community groups can review and use them to inform their activities around biodiversity protection and enhancement?

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The DCC habitat map is contained in chapter 2 of the Dublin City Biodiversity Action Plan 2021-2025 https://www.dublincity.ie/sites/default/files/2022-07/dcc-bioap-2021-2025-webv_21.07.22.pdf which in addition contains links to a wide range of biodiversity resources (see bibliography).

Contributions to the national Hedgehog Survey can be made via the National Biodiversity Data Centre at <https://records.biodiversityireland.ie/record/hedgehog-survey#7/53.468/-8.015>

Q.89 COUNCILLOR CAROLYN MOORE

To ask the Chief Executive to state how many parking enforcement personnel empowered to issue fixed penalty notices for parking on footpaths or in bus / bicycle lanes and carrying out enforcement on foot / on bicycles are currently employed or operating in the Dublin City Council area; can the manager list the areas these on foot

/ bicycle enforcement officers are operating in; and can the manager state in tabulated form the number of fixed penalty notices that have been issued by enforcement officers on foot / on bicycle, vs the number of fixed penalty notices that have been issued by enforcement officers in vehicles, with a monthly breakdown over the last 12 months (February 2022 to February 2023).

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Currently all Dublin Street Parking Services Personnel are deployed in vehicles, both Electric and Diesel. At the different beat patrols the Fixed Penalty Notice (FPN) team leave the vehicles and patrol on foot, across a number of locations in a given area. As the FPN service is only getting to be established and the patrol routes better identified there will be scope to look at bike patrols. Bike patrols are also better suited to periods of the year where longer days are in occurrence combined with better weather conditions.

Data is not collected in relation to if the enforcement carried out was by personnel leaving the vehicle or how far on foot they had been. However, data on fixed penalty can be compared for 2022 and 2023. For example in week 11 in 2022 there were 76 fixed penalty notices issued and in 2023 there were 341 notices issued.

Q.90 COUNCILLOR PATRICIA ROE

To ask the Chief Executive if he could investigate what a resident has identified as a 'trip hazard' at **(details supplied)**

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Road Maintenance Services will notify Irish Water to ensure the defect at the address specified is repaired.

Q.91 COUNCILLOR PATRICIA ROE

To ask the Chief Executive if there are any plans to extend any of the bike schemes as far as **(details supplied)?**

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The expansion of the NOW Dublinbikes bicycle sharing scheme would require a contractual change and currently there are no plans to amend the contract or expand the scheme. The current scheme is in contract until 2027.

Bleeperbike, one of the stationless bike hire operators, will shortly be launching a number of bike hire hubs in the Northside suburbs. The findings from the operation of these hubs will inform future expansion plans for areas such as **(details supplied)**

Q.92 COUNCILLOR PATRICIA ROE

To ask the Chief Executive in light of the Planning Office response to my question No. 67 last month, attached, if he would direct the Environment & Transportation Dept. to conduct a future options study on Oscar Traynor Road traffic and the feasibility of creating a new vehicular exit from Clonshaugh Industrial Estate, onto Clonshaugh Road, or the R139, in order to alleviate current and proposed, future, traffic congestion on Oscar Traynor Road.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The new City Development Plan includes an objective to create a new exit from the Clonshaugh Industrial Estate to Clonshaugh Road rather than to the R139. It is not anticipated that this new access will have a significant impact on traffic on Oscar Traynor Road. A number of sustainable transport initiatives are proposed to improve access to the Oscar Traynor Road area.

In the short term, TII, in conjunction with Dublin City Council and Fingal County Council are developing a proposal to upgrade and signalise the Coolock Interchange. This will improve traffic flows and provide safe pedestrian facilities between Santry and Coolock. These works are planned to take place in 2023.

In the medium term, the BusConnects Swords to City Centre CBC project will deliver premium public transport and cycling facilities to the area, providing a more sustainable solution to the traffic congestion problems in the area.

Q.93 COUNCILLOR PATRICIA ROE

To ask the Chief Executive to request Roads Maintenance Department, to install a gully at **(details supplied)**

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Road Maintenance Services (RMS) are aware of this issue at **(details supplied)** which resulted in someone slipping and that this issue was in court recently.

As the issue originates from inside the private boundary this is a matter for the owner of this property/Management Company to resolve. A drainage solution is required to take place inside the private boundary to prevent water seeping out into the public domain. The design and construction of any works inside the private boundary is not the responsibility of Road Maintenance.

Road Maintenance are willing to engage with the property owner/management company on above basis.

Q.94 COUNCILLOR VINCENT JACKSON

To ask the Chief Executive to look into the following housing matter **(details supplied)**

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

(details supplied) should contact his lender and discuss if he is eligible for the Mortgage to Rent Scheme. This is initiated by the lender and not The Council. The mortgage must be deemed unsustainable and Mortgage to Rent must be offered as a resolution. After this he should then make an application to Dublin City Council to determine eligibility for Social Housing Support.

Q.95 COUNCILLOR VINCENT JACKSON

To ask the Chief Executive to look at the following housing request **(details supplied)**

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The above applicant is on the Transfer List with an application date of 22/04/2010, and the applicant holds the following positions on this list:

Area	Bedsizes	Position
Area J	1	93
Area L	1	188
Area N	1	118

Dublin City Council allocates properties based on time on the list and currently there are applicants of longer standing who have to be considered as suitable vacancies arise. It is not possible to indicate accurately the prospect of an offer for any applicant.

The number of vacancies arising will be a determining factor in the length of time applicants could expect to be on the waiting list.

The applicant's interest in properties above has been noted but he should keep checking the Dublin City Council website for any Choice Based Lettings that may become available in the area of choice. They are advertised every Friday and remain advertised for a period of 3 weeks. The applicant may wish to contact our Homeless HAP section for advice on any additional level of HAP that they may be eligible to receive which may provide them with financial assistance towards the cost of renting another property.

Q.96 COUNCILLOR VINCENT JACKSON

To ask the Chief Executive to ensure that weed removal be part of their service around the bases of Trees along Ballyfermot Road particularly along the commercial districts.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The tender process for the weed control programme has yet to conclude. It should be completed shortly with the programme expected to commence in Q2 2023. Tree pit weed treatment is included for consideration in the current tender request.

Q.97 COUNCILLOR VINCENT JACKSON

To ask the Chief Executive to call up along Ballyfermot Road Commercial district and have a look at the huge amount of take-aways which have destroyed the commercial hearth of the Community for years I have asked that certain businesses activity be restricted without success, the area is I feel dying with the loss of footfall and we need to acknowledge we have not helped the situation, I am asking for a retail strategy be drawn up and a shop improvement scheme we now have lots of take-aways who are shuttered all day only raising the shutters in the evenings. We are due to get a village improvement scheme as part of the Bus Connects?

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The City Development Plan contains robust policies to control the number of fast food take-aways across the city. In particular, it is the objective of Dublin City Council to prevent an excessive concentration of take-aways and to ensure that the intensity of any proposed take-away is in keeping with both the scale of the building and the pattern of development in the area. In assessing any planning application for a take-away, the Planning authority will have regard to the detailed list of issues in Section 15.14.7.3, which includes the effect on amenities, the need to safeguard the vitality and viability of the shopping area and to maintain a suitable mix of uses. In particular, the number/frequency of such outlets within 1km of school sites is examined, as is the context and character of the existing street, where the aim is to maintain and improve its vitality by encouraging a range of convenience and/or comparison retail shops.

It is noted that there is a current planning application for the change of use of the existing ground floor café unit at no.296 Ballyfermot Road to a ground floor Chinese restaurant for the preparation of hot and cold foods for consumption both on and off the premises (Reg. Ref.WEB1141/23). This is the first such application in a number of years at this Key Urban Village. As with all such planning applications it will be assessed against the policies and objectives of the Development Plan, including the Retail Strategy and Development Standards.

There are 18 Local Area Plan/ Village Improvement Plans listed alongside a further 23 Local Environmental Improvement Plans in the new City Development Plan. Such plans could incorporate retail strategies and shop improvement schemes as appropriate. Work has commenced so far on two of the three priority plans identified

in the Plan. The Chief Executive will work closely with the Elected Members to agree other priority forward plan projects for the coming years- including VIPs; taking into account key issues of regeneration, housing delivery and physical and social renewal and resources. It is proposed that a paper prepared by the Planning Section in partnership with the Area Offices will be brought to the Planning SPC later this year to outline a proposed programme of forward planning for the following years.

Q.98 COUNCILLOR CAT O'DRISCOLL

To ask the Chief Executive if he is aware of the poor living conditions at **Details Supplied** and to and to address them urgently.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Housing Maintenance will contact the tenant and all necessary work will be carried out.

Q.99 COUNCILLOR CAT O'DRISCOLL

To ask the Chief Executive what is the intended use for the former Fás training building on Sheriff Street and if the after school services in the area can be facilitated in any plans.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The Former St Laurence O'Toole Community Training Centre ceased operating in February 2020 and the premises reverted back to Dublin City Council. The building was visually assessed by Consulting Engineers at this time to establish its general condition post occupancy by the Community Training Centre. On initial inspection it was considered that this building would require substantial works to make it fit for use. Issues were identified at roof level as well as structural cracking in precast floor slabs. The building would also not comply with modern standards in terms of disability access, lift services fire safety etc.

Dublin City Council subsequently engaged specialists to carry a more thorough investigation and provide estimated costings. The order of magnitude costings that were provided in July 2020 were of the order of three million euro to bring the building back to general usage, this would not factor in costs for any specific requirements to cater for specialised uses or inflation and fit out etc.

With the current issues in the construction industry and the severe inflationary landscape at present the overall costs to bring this building back into basic use would have increased immensely at this stage, from previous experience the additional costs associated with transforming any standard building into a crèche facility that meets modern childcare standards and the approval of Tulsa would add on another significant cost loading.

Dublin City Council is not in a position to provide the scale of funding required to develop this type of dilapidated building. We have however asked that a full review of the childcare needs in this part of the North Inner City be undertaken by the Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth.

Q.100 COUNCILLOR CAT O'DRISCOLL

To ask the Chief Executive what regulations are in place for LED lighting in residential areas and how the needs of people prone to migraine and other light triggered conditions are catered for.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

There are no regulations pertaining to the installation of LED streetlights by a local authority in any area (residential, main road, park, etc.).

Dublin City Council ensures all LED street lights installed within the council's remit are chosen to meet the required lighting levels for the area in question in accordance with the relevant European and British standards.

Dublin City Council Public Lighting Services follows best practice when upgrading any existing streetlights to LED or the installation of a new LED lighting scheme. This includes carrying out a lighting design on a street-by-street basis and ensuring only the areas that require to be lit, that is, the public footpaths and roadways, are lit, through minimising light spill and light pollution to surrounding areas such as front gardens and house fronts.

All LED streetlights within the Dublin City Council area, must also comply with the requirements of the European Standard EN 62471 for the Photobiological Safety of Lamps and Lamp Systems.

Q.101 COUNCILLOR JANET HORNER

To ask the Chief Executive for an update on the status of the following DCC owned Properties:

8 & 10 Ferguson Road
19 & 21 Connaught Street
414 North Circular Road
6 Nelson Street

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

These properties are being refurbished and returned to use under the Buy and Renew Scheme by the City Council as part of its plans to reduce the level of long term vacancy in the City.

The as built condition of these properties when acquired by the City Council has had a direct impact on the plans and scheduling for their refurbishment and return to use.

The current status of above properties is:

No. 8 &10 Ferguson Road is currently at the design stage and plans are being prepared for its refurbishment and return to use.

No. 19 & 21 Connaught is currently at the design stage with plans being prepared for its refurbishment and return to use. Part 8 approval has been granted for works onsite.

No.414 North Circular Road is currently undergoing refurbishment works and due for completion in quarter 1 2024.

No. 6 Nelson Street has been refurbished, is tenanted and returned to use.

Q.102 COUNCILLOR JANET HORNER

To ask the Chief Executive for an update on the College Green plaza project including an updated timeline and progress in appointing design team etc.?

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

In Q4 2022, Dublin City Council published stage one of an international competition to procure a Multi-disciplinary Design Team for the College Green Dame Street Project. The closing date for stage one submissions was January 24th 2023.

Stage one submissions are currently being evaluated, after which, successful applicants will be advanced to stage two of the competition.

Definitive project timelines will be established once the Design Team has been appointed.

Q.103 COUNCILLOR JANET HORNER

To ask the Chief Executive for a breakdown of the amount spent on parks and greening initiatives by each LEA?

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Expenditure on Parks management and maintenance services including the Tree Care Programme, playgrounds and park improvements are accounted for by Parks District. There is no breakdown of expenditure by Local Electoral Area (LEA).

There are greening initiatives in the Liberties, NEIC and Stoneybatter. These are funded from capital expenditure.

A report will issue to the Councillor providing this information by Parks District later this week.

Q.104 COUNCILLOR JANET HORNER

To ask the Chief Executive what the current number of staff car parking places are, Whether there are any plans and targets in place to reduce that number and what strategies are being implemented to support and encourage staff to choose alternatives to private cars for commuting?

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

There are currently 290 spaces in the car park, 47 of which are reserved for fleet, disabled access parking, Elected Members, Senior Management and Smart Mobility Vehicles.

Dublin City Council is committed to the ongoing development of sustainable transport options. This includes car parking demand management to promote a modal shift away from car journeys in favour of sustainable transport modes.

Secure and sheltered cycle parking is provided in the Civic Offices Car Park which caters for 128 bicycles. Facilities Management has invested in lockable bicycle cages for additional security. There are plans to expand these existing facilities to increase capacity for 32 additional bicycles.

The number of motorcycle parking spaces have recently increased from 12 to 20.

A smart mobility hub pilot was completed last year which provided multi-modal mobility options for offsite work trips, such as push-bikes, e-bikes and e-cars. This is currently being reviewed with a view to reintroduce as part of the Smart Mobility Hub Initiative.

A new car park management system will be introduced in coming months. This will provide Dublin City Council data on actual patterns of use of the car park and will inform future sustainability options for staff within the Civic Offices.

The Finglas Civic Centre is a shared complex. The rear car park is used by staff which is shared with The Youth Centre, Mellow Spring Crèche and the Leisure Centre. There are 35 spaces available on a first come first served basis. At present there are no plans to reduce the numbers.

There are no dedicated parking spaces for staff working in the Crumlin Area Office. Staff currently commute to work through a mixture of walking, cycling and car usage.

Q.105 COUNCILLOR DARRAGH MORIARTY

To ask the Chief Executive for an update on the City Council's plans to upgrade the playing pitch in Marrowbone Lane flat complex.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The commencement of the upgrade to the pitch is provisionally set for 24th April. The laying of the surface is subject to favourable weather conditions. It is envisaged that the installation will take approximately four to five weeks.

Q.106 COUNCILLOR DARRAGH MORIARTY

To ask the Chief Executive to confirm the total number of sites/developments where developers are engaging with the City Council to fulfil their obligations of delivering a minimum of 5% cultural or arts space. Can the number of sites where engagement is ongoing be broken down by Administrative Area?

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The Development Plan came into effect on the 14 of December 2022. The 5% requirement only applies to large scale developments within the City area. For all pre-planning meeting held since the Plan came into effect; the proposed applicants have been informed of their need to comply with this objective. It is unknown how many such pre-planning meetings will result in a future planning application; and details of such meetings cannot, as yet, be circulated.

A small number of large projects (approx. 8) have so far engaged at a very preliminary level with Planning and the Arts Office to examine possibilities on the provision; however as outlined above, this forms part of the formal pre-planning discussions and cannot be disclosed by the Council at this stage.

Q.107 COUNCILLOR DARRAGH MORIARTY

To ask the Chief Executive to confirm what support, if any, Dublin City Council or the DRHE has offered to the more than 600 asylum seekers who IPAS cannot accommodate and who have been left on the street. 600+ is the total number since January who have been left un-accommodated, as of 22 March at the time of submitting question, it stands at 329 people – is DCC/DRHE providing any assistance, if so, what?

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

It is the role of IPAS to accommodate Asylum Seekers. Dublin City Council and the DRHE have no role at present in housing asylum seekers until they have residency status.

Q.108 COUNCILLOR DAMIAN O'FARRELL

To ask the Chief Executive to give a comprehensive report on our Active Travel Programme Section to include an explanation of the type of work they do, what they are responsible for and what transport areas they are not responsible for. The report to include / list all the projects that are being worked on at the moment in our city, the number of staff in Active Travel broken down into roles / responsibilities and the annual budget (2022 and 2023) please.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The Active Travel Programme Office (AcTPrO) was set up on 14th February 2022 and initially comprised 15 staff who were transferred from Traffic. The team continues to grow and is staffed by engineers, planners, architects, site staff, walking and cycling officers, administrators and landscape architects.

AcTPrO published the Dublin City Active Travel Network on 14th October 2022, a network that will ensure that 95% of us will be within 400m of a connected 310km network. AcTPrO is responsible for the delivery of 210km of this network, through an agreed portfolio of projects funded by the National Transport Authority (NTA).

Every quarter, AcTPrO prepares a comprehensive report on the recent activities of the office. The latest report, Report No. 88/2023, covering the first quarter of 2023 was submitted to the Lord Mayor and Elected Members for the April Full Council Meeting.

The Active Travel Programme Office submitted claims to the NTA in 2022 for expenditure on Active Travel Projects of €34,288,362.44 in total and was allocated funding of €50,990,000 for the current year.

A complete list of expenditure for 2022 and funding allocations for 2023, broken down project by project, has been included to accompany this response.

AcTPrO Active Travel Investment Grants: 2023 Allocations

Project Code:	Project Name	2023 Allocation
DCC/12/0005	Royal Canal Premium Cycle Route Phase 2 (Sheriff Street To North Strand)	€50,000
DCC/12/0006	Newcomen Bridge Footbridge	€150,000
DCC/12/0007	Royal Canal Cycle Route Phase 3 (North Strand Road to Phibsborough Road)	€5,000,000
DCC/12/0008	Liffey Cycle Route	€1,800,000
DCC/12/0016	Finglas Village Improvements	€100,000
DCC/12/0018	The Point Junction Improvement Scheme	€500,000
DCC/12/0024	Grand Canal Cycle Route	€100,000
DCC/12/0025	Heuston to Chapelizod Greenway	€5,000
DCC/12/0033	Fairview to Amiens Street Cycle Route	€27,000,000
DCC/12/0035	Dodder Cycle Route	€200,000
DCC/13/0014	Royal Canal Cycle Route Phase 4 (Phibsborough to Ashtown)	€300,000
DCC/14/0001	Clonskeagh to City Centre Cycle route	€200,000
DCC/17/0008	Fitzwilliam Cycle route	€700,000
DCC/18/0001	Dodder Greenway Herbert Park	€3,700,000
DCC/18/0002	Point Pedestrian and Cycling Bridge	€250,000
DCC/18/0003	Blood Stoney Bridge	€50,000
DCC/18/0005	South William Street Walking And Cycling Scheme	€5,000
DCC/18/0009	South Grand Canal Cycle Lane Improvement Scheme	€2,500,000
DCC/19/0001	Suffolk St Pedestrian and Cyclist Improvement Scheme	€5,000
DCC/19/0003	S2S East Coast Trail - Sean Moore Road (South)	€800,000

Appendix A – Questions & Replies April City Council Meeting

DCC/19/0004	Belmayne Main Street and Belmayne Avenue Bus and Cycle Scheme	€5,000
DCC/19/0006	Finglas Pedestrian Improvements	€50,000
DCC/19/0008	Grangegorman to Kevin Street pedestrian and cycle scheme	€5,000
DCC/21/0002	Parnell St to Prussia St (via Grangegorman) Cycle Scheme	€5,000
DCC/21/0003	Bolton St to Parliament St Cycle Scheme	€50,000
DCC/21/0004	Amiens St to Georges / City Quay Cycle Scheme	€50,000
DCC/21/0006	Chapelizod Rd to Chapelizod Bypass Cycle Scheme	€5,000
DCC/21/0007	Kilmainham to Thomas St Cycle Scheme	€400,000
DCC/21/0008	The Coombe to College Green Cycle Scheme	€5,000
DCC/21/0009	Coolock to Clontarf Cycle Scheme	€50,000
DCC/21/0011	Santry River Greenway	€50,000
DCC/21/0012	Naas Rd to Inchicore Cycle Scheme	€5,000
DCC/21/0013	Harcourt St to South William St Cycle Scheme	€5,000
DCC/21/0014	Grangegorman to Thomas St (via Queen Street) Cycle Scheme	€5,000
DCC/21/0015	Grand Canal to the Liffey (Grand Canal Greenway upgrade)	€50,000
DCC/21/0016	Grand Canal to Lincoln Place Cycle Scheme	€50,000
DCC/21/0017	Ringsend to College Green Cycle Scheme	€5,000
DCC/21/0018	Stephens Green to Thomas Street Cycle Scheme	€5,000
DCC/21/0019	Raheny to Kilbarrack Cycle Scheme	€300,000
DCC/21/0020	North Circular Road Cycle Scheme	€400,000
DCC/21/0021	Drumcondra to Parnell St Cycle Scheme	€5,000
DCC/21/0022	Rathmines to Milltown Cycle Scheme	€20,000
DCC/21/0023	Howth Road - Baldoyle to Fairview Cycle Scheme	€5,000
DCC/21/0024	Wicklow St to College Green Cycle Scheme	€5,000
DCC/21/0025	Camac Greenway (Inchicore to Kilmainham)	€5,000
DCC/21/0026	Tolka Greenway (Fairview to Mobhi Rd)	€5,000
DCC/21/0027	Harold's Cross to Ballymount Cycle Scheme	€5,000
DCC/21/0028	Cabra to Blanchardstown	€440,000

Appendix A – Questions & Replies April City Council Meeting

DCC/21/0029	Chesterfield Avenue to Farmleigh (OPW - Phoenix Park) Cycle Scheme	€5,000
DCC/21/0030	Chesterfield Avenue (OPW - Phoenix Park) Cycle Scheme	€100,000
DCC/21/0031	Bayside to Donaghmede Cycle Scheme	€100,000
DCC/21/0032	Walking and Cycling Plan (5 year) - Surveying works	€150,000
DCC 22/0001	Access Improvement Measures for Public Parks	€5,000
DCC 22/0002	Walking and Cycling Measures in Public Parks	€5,000
DCC/22/0003	Sir John Rogersons Quay Active Travel Scheme	€50,000
DCC/23/00XX	Clontarf Baths	€25,000
DCC/22/0006	Active Travel Office – Staff Costs	€3,000,000
DCC/22/0008	End of Life Footpath and Pavement Asset Renewal	€950,000
DCC/22/0010	Active Travel Programme Cost Monitoring and Reporting	€50,000
DCC/22/0011	Donahies to Clonshaugh Cycling and Walking Scheme	€5,000
DCC/22/0012	Clarehall to Belmayne Cycling and Walking Scheme	€5,000
DCC/22/0013	Dollymount to Kilbarrack Cycling and Walking Scheme	€5,000
DCC/22/0014	Whitehall to Artane Cycling and Walking Scheme	€5,000
DCC/22/0015	Beaumont Hospital Link Cycling and Walking Scheme	€5,000
DCC/22/0016	Dalymount to Cabra Cross Cycling and Walking Scheme	€5,000
DCC/22/0017	Eden Quay to Dorset Street Cycling and Walking Scheme	€5,000
DCC/22/0018	East Wall to North Wall Cycling and Walking Scheme	€5,000
DCC/22/0019	Chapelizod to Walkinstown Cycling and Walking Scheme	€5,000
DCC/22/0020	Terenure to Kimmage Cycling and Walking Scheme	€5,000
DCC/22/0021	Rathgar to Ranelagh Cycling and Walking Scheme	€5,000
DCC/22/0022	Kilmainham to Ballsbridge (South City Loop) Cycling and Walking Scheme	€5,000
DCC/22/0023	Donnybrook to UCD Cycling and Walking Scheme	€5,000
DCC/22/0024	City Quay to Harcourt Street Cycling and Walking Scheme	€50,000
DCC/22/0025	Trinity to Ballsbridge Cycling and Walking Scheme	€400,000
DCC/22/0026	Mercer Street to Fitzwilliam Street Cycling and Walking Scheme	€5,000

Appendix A – Questions & Replies April City Council Meeting

DCC/22/0027	Christchurch to George's Street Cycling and Walking Scheme	€5,000
DCC/22/0028	Parnell Square to College Green Cycling and Walking Scheme	€400,000
DCC/22/0029	Stephen's Green to Patrick Street Cycling and Walking Scheme	€5,000
DCC/22/0030	Royal Canal Bank to Dorset Street Cycling and Walking Scheme	€5,000
DCC/22/0031	Finglas Road to Finglas Village Cycling and Walking Scheme	€5,000
DCC/22/0032	Santry to Poppintree Cycling and Walking Scheme	€5,000
DCC/23/00XX	Sean Moore Rd	€200,000
Total		€50,990,000

AcTPrO expenditure claims to NTA 2022:

NTA Code	Project Name	2022 Claim
DCC/12/0005	Royal Canal Cycle Scheme (Phase 2) - Sherriff St to Newcomen Bridge	€ 68,152.44
DCC/12/0006	Newcomen Bridge	€200.00
DCC/12/0007	Royal Canal Cycle Scheme (Phase 3) - Newcomen Bridge to Phibsborough	€120,250.22
DCC/12/0008	Liffey Cycle Route (Including Interim / Covid Mobility Measures)	€532,390.29
DCC/12/0009	S2S Pedestrian / Cycle Scheme (Clontarf)	€88,877.10
DCC/12/0016	Finglas Village Improvement Scheme (Bus and Cycle Priority)	€61,490.97
DCC/12/0018	Point Jct Improvement Scheme	€86,686.58
DCC/12/0024	Grand Canal Cycle Scheme (2-Way Cycle Scheme)"	€153,102.69
DCC/12/0033	Clontarf to City Centre Cycle Scheme	€11,903,820.60
DCC/12/0035	Dodder Cycle Route	€261.54
DCC/13/0001	St. Stephen's Green Traffic Management	€35,967.64
DCC/13/0002	Lincoln Place, Merrion Street and Westland Row Area Traffic Mgt	€31,577.56
DCC/13/0004	Camden Street, Wexford Street and Aungier Street Area Traffic Mgt	€16,721.36
DCC/13/0014	Royal Canal Scheme Phase 4	€124,557.82
DCC/13/0023	Chapelizod By Pass Bus Lane Scheme	€2,240.12
DCC/13/0029	Rialto Area Improvement Scheme	€21,935.62

Appendix A – Questions & Replies April City Council Meeting

DCC/13/0030	Custom House Quay Contra Flow Bus Lane	€13,714.00
DCC/14/0001	Clonskeagh to City Centre Cycle Route	€3,566.86
DCC/15/0003	Fibre Optic Connection to Garda Control Centre	€159,746.77
DCC/15/0006	Lombard Street Contraflow Cycle Scheme	€243,224.58
DCC/17/0001	Bus Lanes North and City Quays	€107,679.09
DCC/17/0006	Park Lane/ North Wall Quay Junction Improvements	€1,543.12
DCC/17/0008	Fitzwilliam Street Cycle Route	€209,876.74
DCC/18/0001	Dodder Greenway (Herbert Park to Donnybrook)	€659,673.60
DCC/18/0002	Point Pedestrian and Cycle Bridge	€464,665.70
DCC/18/0003	Blood Stoney Pedestrian and Cycle Bridge	€1,218.29
DCC/18/0009	Grand Canal – On Road Cycle Improvement Scheme	€1,459,055.37
DCC/19/0001	Suffolk Street Public Realm Improvement Scheme	€10,848.56
DCC/19/0003	East Coast Trail S2S (Liffey to DLRCC boundary)	€430,934.93
DCC/19/0004	Belmayne Main Street – Bus and Cycle Scheme	€8,707,961.29
DCC/19/0006	Finglas Area Roundabouts	€29,973.93
DCC/19/0007	Grangegorman Toucan Crossings	€407,976.05
DCC/19/0008	Grangegorman to Kevin Street Pedestrian and Cycle Scheme	€142,101.85
DCC/20/0005	Balbutcher Lane Junction Reconfiguration	€124,579.16
DCC/21/0005	Prospect Way Cycle Scheme	€7,121.70
DCC/21/0007	Kilmainham to Thomas Street Scheme	€176,227.44
DCC/21/0018	Stephens Green to Thomas Street Cycle Scheme	€16,544.45
DCC/21/0020	North Circular Road Scheme	€45,002.01
DCC/21/0022	Rathmines to Milltown	€36,266.55
DCC/21/0027	Harolds Cross to Ballymount	€11,061.14
DCC 21/0028	Cabra to Blanchardstown	€29,547.66
DCC 21/0031	Bayside to Donaghmede Scheme	€24,151.05

DCC 21/0032	NTA Walking and Cycling Plan (5 Year) – Surveying Works	€765,167.29
DCC 22/0006	Active Travel Staff Costs	€1,556,528. 35
DCC 22/0007	Rapid Deployment ACT	€63,018.09
DCC 22/0008	End of Life Pavement Footpath and Asset Renewal	€5,110,910. 27
DCC 22/0010	Cost Monitoring	€20,244.00
Total		€34,288,362 .44

Q.109 COUNCILLOR DAMIAN O'FARRELL

To ask the Chief Executive to clarify what member's discretionary budget can be spent on assuming approval by members Council. Referring to the Area Committee discretionary budget and for the answer to be Council Specific and applicable to any area, not necessarily my area.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**Background to Area Discretionary Funding**

Area Discretionary Funding was first provided in the 2014 Budget process. The quantum of funding allocated to the Area Committees for discretionary allocation has increased considerably over the period 2014-2023. Funds available for local service priorities have grown from €1m in 2014, to €4.5m in 2023. In total €37.9m of funds have been allocated for local prioritisation.

Purpose

The purpose of Area Discretionary Funding is to provide a mechanism to Area Committees to prioritise Dublin City Council local services or projects that otherwise might not have sufficient funding, such as parks improvements, CCTV upgrades, lighting improvements in housing complexes, public domain improvements, LEIP related enhancements, laneway improvements.

Capacity of Area Committees relating to Reserved Functions

Section 66 of the Local Government Act 2001 specifies that the making of a grant is a Reserved Function. The full City Council as against an Area Committee is empowered to execute Reserved Functions. Area Committees should not apply Area Discretionary Funding for grants purposes.

With effect from Budget 2020 and onwards, Area Committees should consider the allocation of Area Discretionary Funding in the context of:

- Area Discretionary Funding should fund Dublin City Council services locally
- No Area Committee can award a grant

The above forms part of Report 347/2019 which was agreed at the meeting of the City Council held in December 2019.

Q.110 COUNCILLOR DECLAN FLANAGAN

To ask the Chief Executive to respond to the following regarding a building (**Details supplied**)

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Dublin City Council leased the above site to **(details supplied)** Limited for a term of 35 years from the 17th February 1993. This lease is not due to expire until 2028. The current Lessees have given no indication or notice to DCC that they intend to vacate the property or surrender their lease.

The Council has been approached by a number of sports clubs in the area for use of the building but until such time as the lease is surrendered or expires, the Council is not in a position to consider future uses for the premises.

Q.111 COUNCILLOR DECLAN FLANAGAN

To ask the Chief Executive to respond to the following regarding Road repairs **(Details supplied)**

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Road Maintenance Services (RMS) currently have the 2023 resurfacing contract out for tender, which has this location **(details supplied b)** included as part of the works requirements. It will take a number of weeks to assess the returned tenders and to appoint the winning contractor to complete these works. Once appointed Road Maintenance Service will request the contractor to programme this location for repair as soon as possible. In the meantime temporary repairs will be completed.

The inbound side of **(details supplied)** 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 **(details supplied)** forwarded directly to the area inspector for attention who will assess this location and carry out temporary repairs to any potholes.

Phase two of **(details supplied)** carriageway resurfacing will include the section at **(details supplied)** in 2024. An enquiry (Ref: 11135196) has been created for pothole repairs at the ramp at **(details supplied)** forwarded directly to the area inspector for attention who will assess this location and carry out temporary repairs to any potholes.

Q.112 COUNCILLOR DECLAN FLANAGAN

To ask the Chief Executive to respond to the following regarding a roundabout **(Details supplied)**

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

This matter is being examined and a full reply will issue to the Councillor in advance of the May meeting of the City Council.

Q.113 COUNCILLOR DECLAN FLANAGAN

To ask the Chief Executive to respond to the following regarding a scheme **(Details supplied)**

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Currently a scheme review of the Bike Bunker Project is underway by ARUP Consultants. The scheme review will produce a comprehensive report on the Bike Bunker Scheme from its initial trial, including the existing scheme, providing strategic recommendations and possible future proposals. The expansion of the scheme is a consideration and will be aligned with the strategic recommendations of the report. The report once finalised will be presented to the Transport SPC.

Q.114 COUNCILLOR KARL STANLEY

To ask the Chief Executive to provide a report on parking enforcement actions taken in the last 12 months, including number of fixed penalty notices issued, number of vehicles clamped, number of vehicles towed, plus a tabulation of the rationale behind each enforcement action (obstructed carriageway, parked in clearway, obstructed footpath, non-payment of parking fee *etc.*).

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The clamping statistics for the years 2020, 2021 and 2022 are published yearly and can be located at <https://www.dublincity.ie/residential/parking-dublin-city-centre/clamping-and-tow-away/clamping-statistics>.

A report detailing the other information requested is attached.

Q.115 COUNCILLOR KARL STANLEY

E&T To ask the Chief Executive to outline the plans the council has in respect of winterisation of active transport infrastructure, i.e. what capacity is there to grit footpaths and cycle paths in the winter months. Which routes will be prioritised, and more specifically what plans are in place to keep the flagship C2CC cycle path free of ice and leaf mulch in the winter months?

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

In accordance with Dublin City Council's 'Winter Maintenance Plan', Road Maintenance Services' priority is to focus on the treatment of 300km of the City's main roads. This length is equivalent to approximately twenty-five percent of the overall road network within the City Council's administrative area. This section of the road network includes the main public transport corridors, the main routes to the City's principal hospitals, access to Dublin Port, the main route from the City to the airport, access to the main bus, Luas and train stations, access to the City Council's operations depots and salt storage facilities and access to Dublin City's fire stations.

These routes are prioritised, in order to ensure that public transport services are maintained across the City to the greatest extent possible, that there is continued access to the City's main hospitals; that emergency services can safely traverse the City's main roads; that essential supply chains continue uninterrupted, such as the supply of food and medicines, can continue, insofar as possible, to supermarkets, shops, pharmacies and businesses.

In terms of the required fleet, plant and equipment, this work typically involves nine Lorries, nine gritters, two JCBs and two 4x4 trucks. During periods of heavy snow it may also involve the use of up to five snowploughs. In terms of staff, rosters are in place for the Engineers, Inspectors, Drivers, General Operatives and Fitters to carry out winter maintenance activities during the night. There are over fifty staff on these rosters. The 'Driver and General Operative' rosters operate on a one week on one week off basis.

There are approximately 2,500km of footpaths in the City Council's administrative area. For both safety and operational reasons, salt cannot be spread on footpaths using gritting Lorries. The spreading of salt on footpaths is therefore, both a slow and a labour intensive activity. In accordance with the 'Winter Maintenance Plan', the clearing of footways/ pedestrian areas can be initiated using a variety of resources from various departments within Dublin City Council during severe snow and ice.

During the severe cold and ice event that occurred during December 2022, approximately 135 waste management staff were dedicated to spreading salt at priority foot path locations. On a typical day, Waste Management Services treat approximately

30km of footpaths, which equates to circa 1.2% of the entire footpath network. These staff were withdrawn from their core functions to carry out these gritting operations.

It is clear from the above that if Dublin City Council is to expand the length of roads, footpaths and cycle lanes that are treated during these events, it would require significant additional investment. For example, to treat all of the City's roads could potentially necessitate the quadrupling of Road Maintenance Services' resources, including staff, Lorries, depots, salt and salt storage facilities. Similarly, any proposals to expand the treatment of footpaths would require a significant increase in Waste Management Services' resources.

If the footpaths and cycle lanes are to be prioritised for treatment ahead of the City's main roads, in such a scenario, based on the current level of resources available to Dublin City Council to respond to severe snow and ice events; there will be insufficient resources available to treat the City's main roads. This impact would in all likelihood lead to these roads becoming more dangerous and / or impassable for the likes of public transport, emergency services and the delivery of essential food and medical supplies. It is therefore recommended that the hierarchy of the prioritisation system for the treatment of roads, footpaths and cycle lanes remains the same. The C2CC carriageway is on the current winter maintenance Services gritting route and will be continued to be treated with road grit when required.

Q.116 COUNCILLOR KARL STANLEY

To ask the Chief Executive to outline the options that are available to the council to allocate active travel funding and resources to the accelerated provision of pedestrian crossings (signalled and pelican)? Pedestrian crossings are a key component of active travel infrastructure but are not funded from the active travel budget as far as I am aware – is that understanding correct?

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The Traffic Advisory Group (TAG) accepts all requests for all signalised pedestrian crossings and pelican crossings. The TAG Area Engineers will make a pedestrian crossing assessment. If it is deemed suitable for a pedestrian crossing, it will be added to the pedestrian crossing approval list. The pedestrian crossings will be considered for installation subject to funding being made available.

Traffic Section is currently exploring potential options for funding new signalised pedestrian crossings. Active Travel Projects will include a budget for new pedestrian crossings where the installation is recommended as part of the cycle network design.

Q.117 COUNCILLOR TERENCE FLANAGAN

To ask the Chief Executive to respond to the following regarding a public sewer **(Details supplied)**

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

DCC Drainage Maintenance investigated the matter and found both the surface-water and foul public sewers to be in good working order. It appears that blockages are occurring in two private outfall manholes causing flows to back up the private drainage. Any issues associated with private drains/connections are outside the remit of DCC Drainage Maintenance. However, DCC cleaned the private manholes ex-gratia during their visit and informed residents of their investigations.

All 6 gullies at this address **(Details Supplied)** were cleaned by the Gully Cleaning Crew on 27/03/2023. No defects were found. These works in regards to the new lighting **(Details Supplied)** are expected to be completed by the end of 2023.

Q.118 COUNCILLOR TERENCE FLANAGAN

To ask the Chief Executive to respond to the following regarding a Green **(Details supplied)**

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

- a) Most likely, the developer or local residents group painted this in the past however given work priorities we would not have the resources to allocate to painting walls.
- b) This will be arranged.
- c) This will be arranged.
- d) If the local residents association make contact with the undersigned we can consider the scale of the work proposed and see if funding is available from the Local Area Office who generally support such community initiatives.
- e) I will arrange for an inspection of the green to see how it can be made more presentable.

Q.119 COUNCILLOR TERENCE FLANAGAN

To ask the Chief Executive to respond to the following regarding Road sweeping **(Details supplied)**

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Waste Management Services have **(details supplied)** cleaned on a weekly basis by a road sweeping machine. The R139 requires temporary road closure and traffic management plan to arrange safe cleaning. We are currently looking at arranging such a cleaning as soon as possible. Building sites are required to have a road sweeping machine to regularly clean any dirt or gravel emanating from their sites and litter wardens ensure that they adhere to this. This section of road is looked after by Transport Infrastructure Ireland.

The **(details supplied)** is swept by a road sweeping machine and between the above mentioned bollards is manually swept.

Q.120 COUNCILLOR TERENCE FLANAGAN

To ask the Chief Executive to respond to the following regarding Housing **(Details supplied)**

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

(Details supplied) – This scheme is expected to be complete in Q3 of this year. With tenants moving in shortly thereafter.

(Details supplied) is one of four housing construction contracts being delivered by John Sisk & Son (Sisk) for DCC. The others are Bonham Street, Cork Street and Springvale Chapelizod. DCC tendered the four projects as a bundle to be delivered by one contractor using 'volumetric system build' construction under four separate Design and Build contracts (Public Works Contract Form PW CF 2).

The development has 78 Dwellings, which are as follows:

- 14 X 3 Bedroom homes
- 64 Apartments in the complex, providing a mix of 1,2&3 bedroom homes
- Due to the nature of the ongoing contract, further details cannot be provided at this time, however, the contractor is currently reporting an anticipated completion in late Q2, early Q3. 2023

- **(Details supplied)** - Fold Housing have completed their tender and have a preferred contractor selected. Demolition and will commence in the coming weeks.

Q.121 COUNCILLOR DEIRDRE HENEY

To ask the Chief Executive to deal with a road traffic sign issue **(Details Supplied)** email from my constituent.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The matters raised in the constituent's correspondence are enforcement issues under Roads & Traffic legislation and should be reported directly to An Garda Síochána for appropriate action.

In the course of completing the Clontarf to City Centre Scheme the DCC Active Travel Programme Office has been made aware of instances where traffic has turned right from Malahide Road onto Brian Road. The Project Team has highlighted this matter and continues to work with An Garda Síochána in relation their policing and enforcement.

If drivers are ignoring the NO RIGHT TURN and/or driving dangerously onto Brian Road, this should be reported to the local Gardaí as this is a matter of enforcement.