

**QUESTIONS LODGED PURSUANT TO STANDING ORDER NO.18 FOR REPLY AT THE MONTHLY MEETING OF DUBLIN CITY COUNCIL TO BE HELD ON MONDAY, 12<sup>th</sup> OF JUNE 2023.**

**Q.1 COUNCILLOR MANNIX FLYNN**

To ask the Chief Executive initiate a full review of the terms of reference and remit of the commemorations and naming committee to ensure that there is inclusion, equality and a welcome for all applicants who meet the criteria to be commemorated in an appropriate manner irrespective of the historical stances. As we move into a future and as we move out of the decade of commemorations it is important to acknowledge those other Irish men and women who died so to speak on the other side of the fence. It is also important that there is a gender balance and equality to include the many tens of thousands of women who made unique and outstanding contributions to this country, this nation, this State.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The terms of reference and remit of the Commemorations & Naming Committee are set down in the Council's Policy for Commemorative Naming of Infrastructure and the Provision of Monuments, Memorials and Plaques.

Section 20.14 of the policy states 'This policy will be reviewed every five years by the Commemorative Naming Committee. This committee may make proposals in such a review.'

The policy was most recently adopted at the City Council meeting of 12 June 2017. The matter will be placed on the agenda for the next meeting of the Committee, scheduled for 27 July 2023.

**Q.2 COUNCILLOR DECLAN MEENAGH**

To ask the Chief Executive if the landscape maintenance work which was provided by DCC staff from the depot in Blessington Street Basin and in Ormond Square depot has now been contracted out to private contractors .If it is true, what is the duration, scope and cost of the contract and to account for why these services have been contracted out and if he will comment on the matter.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Parks Service will be in direct contact with the councillor in relation to this question.

**Q.3 COUNCILLOR MAÍRE DEVINE**

To ask the Chief Executive, in light of the under resourced Road Maintenance Department can I be provided with the number of all claims and costs against DCC its Agents over the past 10 years and a plan to directly employ further G/O's?"

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Road Maintenance Services' Annual Works Programme for 2023 for major carriageway resurfacing and footpath renewal works, will be delivered by contractors appointed by the Division, following a competitive tender process. These works will be supplemented by the repair and making safe of discrete defects and hazards on the road network, by approximately one hundred and thirty Road Maintenance Services' outdoor staff, who make up the Division's direct labour crews. This includes Inspectors, General Operatives, Drivers, Bricklayers, Stonecutters and Fitters. As vacancies arise, due to retirement and career progression etc., Road Maintenance Services works closely with Human Resources on appointing suitable replacement staff. Furthermore, the Division presently has an apprentice programme in place for the crafts of 'Stonecutting' and 'Brick Laying'.

**Q.4 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.5 COUNCILLOR JOHN LYONS**

To ask the Chief Executive to provide a report on what funds are available to bring the toilet facilities in St. Luke's Youth Club in Kilmore West up to standard and fully accessible.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The Community & Social Development Office are not aware of a suitable funding stream for toilet refurbishment at this time. All Dublin City focussed funding is advertised on Funding point.

Funding Point is available to download on <https://www.dublincity.ie/residential/improving-my-community/community-grants-and-funding>. It provides up to date detailed information and links to viable alternative sources of local, national and EU funding to which local community groups could apply.

If we are notified of a suitable grant for the refurbishment of the toilets in St. Lukes we will let the group know.

**Q.6 COUNCILLOR JOHN LYONS**

To ask the Chief Executive to request an upgrade of the playground facilities in Ellenfield Park, Whitehall Dublin 9.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

It is not proposed to carry out an upgrade on the playground here in the short term as there are other playgrounds in the area which require more urgent attention and are considered of greater priority for the available budgets.

**Q.7 COUNCILLOR CHRISTY BURKE**

To ask the Chief Executive to carry out removal of weeds at **(Details Supplied)**

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The Public Domain Team will look to include this area in the forthcoming second weed spray for the area.

**Q.8 COUNCILLOR CHRISTY BURKE**

To ask the Chief Executive if he would agree, if requested, to close off some streets in Dublin in the future to make the streets safe for children to play safe areas.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

A recent pilot project run by the Dublin City Council Play Development Officer in collaboration with the Transformation Unit involved prototyping a temporary road closure for 'Street Play'. This resulted in a highly successful play event at Raphoe Road, Crumlin that took place in November 2022.

A key constraint identified as part of this process was legislation that supports temporary street closure for 'play'.

The legal requirements in Ireland present a major challenge for Dublin City Council to develop a framework for implementing a Playing Out initiative across the city.

This constraint is being considered across the relevant departments and it is hoped that a solution can be found to enable local communities to facilitate and promote every day street play experiences. An update will be provided to Councilors following a cross departmental discussion.

**Q.9 COUNCILLOR CHRISTY BURKE**

To ask the Chief Executive what plans if any there is at a flat complex **(Details Supplied)**.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Dublin City Council are continuing to carry out surveys of the flat complex at **(Details Supplied)** to find the most cost effective and environmentally sustainable way to regenerate the complex.

The initial results suggest that a deep retrofit program would be of the most benefit and cost effectiveness in order to bring the complex up to modern standards and bring these homes back into Dublin City's housing stock.

The project is at an early stage in the feasibility study but to give indicative time lines, Dublin City Council intends to apply for Stage 1 Approval for the project in Summer 2023.

The initial phases on **(Details Supplied)** will be to secure the blocks and the car parking area once vacated and to start an investigative program to assess the quality of the existing structure to enable progression of designs to retrofit the blocks.

**Q.10 COUNCILLOR CHRISTY BURKE**

To ask the Chief Executive how many voids will be in place this coming year in Dublin City and if the council would identify the areas that the voids will be ready for letting **(Details Supplied)**

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The voids listed below are currently been refurbished by framework contractors or via direct labour. There are a number of voids whereby we are still awaiting vacant possession, once this has been secured they will be issued to contractors. It is envisaged that all of the units listed below will be completed by the end of 2023.

**Current Refurbishment of Voids underway**

Status	Central	North Central	North West	South Central	South East	Total
Awaiting vacant possession	51	14	11	32	28	136
With Contractors	69	41	83	59	24	276
Direct Labour	20	12	19	35	22	108
<b>Total</b>	<b>140</b>	<b>67</b>	<b>113</b>	<b>126</b>	<b>74</b>	<b>520</b>

**Q.11 COUNCILLOR ALISON GILLILAND**

To ask the Chief Executive to outline all improvements and enhancements made to Ellenfield Park, Whitehall over the last 5 years and to indicate plans for future enhancements/improvements, particularly with regard to the playground which is extensively used by local children and is in need for an upgrade

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Provision has been made in the Parks Improvement budget 2023 and the Discretionary fund 2023 to carry out certain improvements in Ellenfield. The main improvement envisaged is the provision of a teen area to the south of the park. Other improvements include the installation of a water bottle filling station and additional planting with a view to introducing more colour into the park. The exact makeup of the teen area will only become clear after going to the market to establish what is possible with the available budgets.

The main investments and improvements in the park over the last few years was primarily clearing out of old shrubberies around the perimeter of the park, both sides of the main path across the park and surrounding the all-weather facility and the football pitches. The aim of this work was to open up views across the park to remove cover and improve perceptions of safety. It is not possible to easily put a precise cost of these works as they were carried out through a combination of direct labour and by contract. The disposal of arisings and excess landscape materials to a licenced facility was a significant cost element in this work.

Other recent investments include replacement of the fencing within the playground with a fun trail, the rejuvenation of the all-weather surface at the tennis courts and the

planting of butterfly attractive planting in the north west corner and a bespoke mix of shade tolerant bulbs to brighten up the recently cleared dense and overgrown shrubberies surrounding the all-weather pitch and tennis courts.

**Q.12 COUNCILLOR DECLAN MEENAGH**

To ask the Chief Executive for a list of all state buildings in Dublin City that the DCC Housing Delivery Adaptive Reuse Unit have considered or are considering and a reason why if the building was not deemed suitable for housing use.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

**State-owned properties considered for potential Adaptive Reuse since October 2022:**

**Property owned by Dublin City Council:**

- 1) **Arran House, Arran Street East, Dublin 7:** This building is currently leased for use as a temporary site office. It has been included on the Adaptive Reuse programme. It is proposed to adapt this to 2-3 social housing apartments and retain the ground floor for commercial use or office use related to the Smithfield Markets project.
- 2) **[288 Merrion Road, Dublin 4](#):** This property was acquired by DCC to facilitate road improvement works. Due to fire damage to the property and the proximity to the railway, this building is not considered to be suitable for refurbishment as housing and is not included in the programme.
- 3) **30/31 Liffey Street Lower, Dublin 1:** This property is not currently on the Adaptive Reuse Programme. The property is on a busy commercial street and is considered to be more suitable for commercial use. A refurbishment project converting the upper floors of the building to 1 or 2 units is not considered appropriate at this time.
- 4) **Former school on School Street, Dublin 8:** This property is not on the Adaptive Reuse Programme. The Land Development Agency is developing this property. It is proposed to dispose of this property to the LDA.
- 5) **38/39 Bolton Street, Dublin 1:** This property is on the Adaptive Reuse Programme. A feasibility study has been completed and a proposal prepared for the creation of 6 No. 1-bed apartments in the property. An application to the DHLGH in relation to the proposals is due to be submitted shortly.
- 6) **Former Married Quarters Building, Infirmary Road, Dublin 7:** This property is currently on the Adaptive Reuse Programme. A feasibility study has been procured to assess the feasibility of refurbishing this property to create 4 to 6 No. apartments. Discussions are in progress in relation to a proposal to assign this building along with the adjacent site to an Approved Housing Body for development in parallel with a project to construct a new-build 20-30 unit residential block.
- 7) **Community Training Centre Building, St. Laurence Place East, North Dock, Dublin 1:** This building is being investigated by the Adaptive Reuse Unit for its suitability for refurbishment as social housing and inclusion on the programme.

Parallel investigations are underway by the Area Office in relation to alternative uses.

**Property Owned by Other State Bodies**

- 8) **Former Baggot Street Hospital, Dublin 4:** This property is included in the Adaptive Reuse Programme. The Adaptive Reuse Unit in Dublin City Council has been in discussion with the HSE in relation to the property for a number of months, with the intention that the Adaptive Reuse Unit could potentially manage the delivery of a conversion project, or that DCC could support the HSE in a potential redevelopment project for residential use of the building.

At the last meeting held between DCC Housing Delivery and the HSE in March of this year, the HSE agreed to update DCC once a feasibility assessment of the site had been completed and decisions made regarding the portion of the site that may be used for a primary care centre. At present there is no update in this regard.

- 9) **St. Mary's Hospital Phoenix Park, Dublin 9:** This property is owned by the Department of Health. A query has been lodged with the HSE in relation to this property. At present there is no update in this regard. The property has been included in the Adaptive Reuse Programme pending a response from the HSE.
- 10) **Weir Home, 103-104 Cork Street, Dublin 8:** This property is not on DCC's Adaptive Reuse Programme. It is owned by the Department of Health. An Approved Housing Body is developing proposals for refurbishment of the building for use as social housing.
- 11) **Adelphi House, 153 North Circular Road, Dublin 7:** This property is owned by the Department of Health. A query was lodged with the HSE in relation to this property. No response was received. However, based on observations that a tender was published on etenders in February of 2023, it appears that the HSE are proposing to refurbish the property for use as a community dwelling. Therefore, the property is not included on the Adaptive Reuse Programme.
- 12) **6&7 Smithfield Square, Dublin 3:** This property is owned by the Courts Service. DCC Adaptive Reuse Unit engaged with the Courts Service in November 2022 to investigate the potential for development of the property as social housing. The Courts Service advised that the property is being refurbished for use as offices and so it has not been included in the Adaptive Reuse Programme.
- 13) **Debtor's Prison, Green Street, Dublin 7:** This property is owned by the Office of Public Works (OPW). The Adaptive Reuse Unit have contacted the OPW in relation to this property and await a response.

The Adaptive Reuse Unit in Dublin City Council Housing and Community Services Department was established in October 2022. Its aim is to deliver social housing by adapting and refurbishing vacant office and commercial buildings, delivering along two of the four pathways to a sustainable housing system identified under Housing for All – to increase new housing supply, and to address vacancy and efficient use of existing stock. The delivery of new housing by repurposing vacant and unused commercial

property will play an important role in meeting Climate Action targets for 2030 and 2050, allowing for significantly reduced embodied carbon emissions when compared with that of new build development. Adaptive Reuse will also deliver on urban regeneration objectives as set out in the Dublin City Development Plan 2022 to 2028. The Adaptive Reuse Unit assess properties for sale on the market, vacant properties referred by other DCC Departments and by the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage, and also properties considered to be vacant based on walkabout inspections. Additional suggestions regarding commercial property that is potentially vacant and that may be suitable for adaptive reuse are welcome from all sources.

**Q.13 COUNCILLOR LARRY O'TOOLE**

To ask the Chief Executive to have this housing maintenance issue resolved - to have the front door of this property replaced or repaired. **(details supplied).**

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Housing Maintenance have attended the address and replaced the glass in the door.

**Q.14 COUNCILLOR DECLAN MEENAGH**

To ask the Chief Executive what specific actions are the Parks Department taking under the Pollinator Plan? Are DCC Parks now buying and planting only native/pollinator-friendly plants from the suggested list supplied? Is there communication with grass cutting contractors and teams on the ground of more sustainable practices and shifting away from high-emissions machinery? Can a plan be drawn up to educate and promote No Mow May next year?

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

As per the recent update provided to Council, I confirm that Dublin City Council is a Local Authority Partner to the All-Ireland Pollinator Plan (AIPP), and was one of the first authorities to sign up to the plan nationally. Over the past several years' we have agreed to, and completed range of actions as part of our commitment to the plan, including:

Pollinator friendly planting in Parks – Herbaceous planting schemes are now comprised of over 80% of pollinator-friendly plants and higher in some parks. Not all species are native but ones selected provide value to pollinators and other wildlife, particularly at different times of the year. An additional 600,000 plus bulbs and numerous fruiting trees has also been planted for pollinators. The remaining 10-20% is comprised of evergreen species or other plants that provide essential cover for wildlife.

Wilding - We have increased areas of habitat and food for pollinators, including allowing the gradual 'wilding' of parks, graveyards and other areas to allow native plants, such as dandelion and clover to grow. There have been changes made to mowing regimes along the city's major arterial routes, riparian zones, and riverbanks as well as in park areas where possible. Cuts comprise one cut and lift per year, and two cuts and lifts per year, as well as 'No Mow' in specific areas.

In areas that are Light-bellied Brent geese feeding sites, we cannot have reduced mowing as we have statutory obligations to maintain the population, which favours short, sweet grass. If we allow the grass to grow, this weakens the grass and reduces forage for the birds.

No glyphosate - In 2018, we instigated a Herbicide Policy, and glyphosate use is prohibited in grassland management, except where we need to use it for the control of Japanese knotweed.

Promotion of the All-Ireland Pollinator Plan – the DCC Biodiversity Officer promoted the All-Ireland Pollinator Plan and initiatives people could undertake for pollinators with over 20 community groups in 2022 and at large outreach events, such as Bloom in the Phoenix Park, St Anne’s Park Rose Festival, and Buzzfest in Phibsborough. We also hosted a workshop with the AIPP for community groups in Harold’s Cross in April of 2023. We will continue this promotion and can include more activities, such as No Mow for 2024.

Local Biodiversity Action Plans – the DCC Biodiversity Officer has met with several groups re Local Area Biodiversity Action Plans, which include specific measures for pollinators and other wildlife.

Emissions – I don’t have the details on this but can enquire and forward on.

**Q.15 COUNCILLOR DECLAN MEENAGH**

To ask the Chief Executive, in light of the Minister’s decision to wave the fees for having furniture outside this summer, will he confirm if the Minister is compensating DCC for this lost income and for the work we are doing in regulating this furniture so people can enjoy eating out in the nice weather but disabled people can also safely navigate our streets?

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE’S REPLY:**

Dublin City Council manage the Street Furniture Licensing System for Dublin City in order to facilitate outdoor dining, which helps to animate the city streets and support the economic life of the city. In assessing applications for outdoor furniture licences, all relevant matters are considered, including the needs of people with disabilities. The costs of administering the scheme are met by Dublin City Council. The financial implication of the recently introduced Planning and Development (Street Furniture Fees) Regulations 2023, have not yet been determined.

**Q.16 COUNCILLOR ALISON GILLILAND**

To ask the Chief Executive to outline any changes made in our requests for tender/public procurement to ensure we award contracts the most climate friendly/low life cycle carbon and circular economy focused companies and practices?

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE’S REPLY:**

Dublin City Council is aware of its obligations under Department of Public Expenditure and Reforms Circular 20/2019, Environmental and Social Considerations in Public Procurement and the Office of Government Procurement’s (OGP), Information Notice, incorporating social considerations into public procurement and is committed to incorporating the Government’s ambitious reform programme designed to modernise the public sector and improve public service delivery.

The Central Procurement Unit (CPU) has communicated the requirements to green all procurements where possible to purchasing departments and this will be captured on the CPU review checklist that must be completed before publishing tenders on the eTenders platform. These green criteria/clauses will also be recorded on the corporate contracts register.

It is worth noting that a variety of social considerations are already included in public

Procurement processes and contracts as a result of statutory requirements. These include areas such as health and safety, equality and employment law

The appropriateness of including social considerations needs to be examined on a contract by contract basis and there needs to be sufficient flexibility to allow each section/department to decide what, how, and when social considerations can be used. EU law allows member states the option to take social considerations into account provided the fundamental EU Treaty principles are respected.

Dublin City Council has engaged with social enterprises and sheltered workshops through a Prior Information Notice and is progressing this engagement to meetings with the sector and a proposed “Meet the Buyer” event exclusively for social enterprises, sheltered workshops and similar companies and practices.

In this context Dublin City Council will continue to promote the use of social considerations as appropriate within the various stages of the public procurement cycle when existing contracts are being renewed or when new contracts are being implemented, including reserving contracts under Articles 20 and 74 of the Public Procurement Directives 2014/24/EU.

**Q.17 COUNCILLOR ALISON GILLILAND**

To ask the Chief Executive to outline the measures being taken to resolve the decades of inaction by the developer/s of Belmayne to bring the area up to appropriate standard to allow for a successful taking-in-charge of the area by Dublin City Council?

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE’S REPLY:**

The North Central Area Office are co-ordinating efforts to regularise the taking in charge of some of the main streets in Belmayne: Belmayne Main Street, Belmayne Avenue, Parkside Boulevard and two sections of Greenway.

Belmayne has had a number of landowners including Shannon Homes, Stanley and Nama. Many of the main roads were left unfinished during the economic crash in 2008 and were never taken in charge. The current main landowner is Cairn Homes who in 2015 bought various portfolios in Belmayne, however, as other landowners are also involved, it makes the situation even more complex.

If financially viable a taking in charge process may be progressed by declaring the roads to be public roads under Section 11 of the Roads Act 1993, which is a reserved function rather than the regular taking in charge process, whereby the Developer applies to the Local Authority, Planning and Development Taking in Charge Section. As this process, Section 11 of the Roads Act 1993, only applies to declaring roads to be public roads it will not be applicable to taking the playground in Belmayne in charge.

In order to establish the financial implications of the proposed declaration, the Area Office has been co-ordinating meetings with the various operational departments impacted by this proposal. .

Following an extensive survey of the Belmayne area, a map of the roads there that are proposed to be declared public has now finalised. The next step is to conduct a public consultation stating that objections or representations may be made in writing to the road authority in relation to the proposed declaration. A report will then be prepared on the public consultation, considering any objections and representations made, before a recommendation is made to the Council on whether the proposal should proceed. This process will take approximately three months. It is expected that the map will be finalised this month and that the public consultation process can then begin next month.

**Q.18 COUNCILLOR ANTHONY CONNAGHAN**

To ask the Chief Executive if there has been any further investigations into attempting to use DNA to combat the scourge of dog excrement in the city.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Members of the Animal Welfare Unit and Waste Management Section attended a seminar on this topic organised by Leitrim County Council and the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine. Although this National initiative proposed many interesting ideas, the practicalities of operating the program were deemed too complicated at this point.

**Q.19 COUNCILLOR ANTHONY CONNAGHAN**

To ask the Chief Executive if there can be a general information campaign to inform people of what should and shouldn't be put down toilets to try and deter blockages across the City.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

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

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

The following are the contact details for Irish Water:

Telephone: 1890 278 278 (Lo-Call)

Web: [www.water.ie](http://www.water.ie)

Twitter: @IrishWater

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

**Q.20 COUNCILLOR ANTHONY CONNAGHAN**

To ask the Chief Executive to arrange for an inspection of the back garden at **(Details Supplied)** where the surface is very uneven and is dangerous for children to be in. Can the surface be re-instated please?

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

As per the Tenant's booklet, gardens are tenants' responsibility:

Am I responsible for the garden?

*'You are responsible for maintaining/cutting the grass in your garden and for maintaining the walls, gates, fences, railings, hedges and other garden boundaries. You must make sure that you and others living in the house with you, including children, and any visitors to the home, look after your house and garden. The tenant is responsible for any accidents which occur in the garden area due to a failure to maintain it.'*

**Q.21 COUNCILLOR ANTHONY CONNAGHAN**

To ask the Chief Executive to arrange for a housing maintenance inspection of **(Details Supplied)**. The house has heating issues and one rad is off the wall. The tenant has

also reported that an O/T report was submitted which recommends a ramp and handrail at the address.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Housing Maintenance has no record of any issues with the heating at this property. However, we will log this now for the tenant and an inspection will be carried out. Adaptations Section have not received any OT Report or application from tenant to carry out these works. However, we will send out the application form now so that the tenant can apply for these works.

We are pleased to confirm that this property (details supplied) is eligible for upgrade works under our Energy Efficiency Retrofitting programme however due to the volume of properties involved, which is 12,000 houses approximately, it is a roll out programme. The programme has proved hugely successful to date and will run for a number of years, subject to continued Departmental funding support, until it reaches its conclusion. The timeframe for this will be dependent on the annual allocation of funding received. Consequently, it is not feasible to target individual properties in any area/estate citywide or confirm an accurate timeframe for upgrade works to commence on any individual property. We endeavour to spread the works across all areas in an equal and fair manner where possible. Your continued support with the programme is appreciated.

**Q.22 COUNCILLOR MÁIRE DEVINE**

To ask the Chief Executive given the amendment to increase the subvention per unit in the Affordable Housing Fund (AHF) has DCC submitted a revised application for the higher subsidy level with regards to the Emmet Road Development?

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

An application for the increased subsidy of €150,000 per unit is currently being processed.

**Q.23 COUNCILLOR DERMOT LACEY**

To ask the Chief Executive if he will have the contents of the two articles submitted with this Question regarding the prevalence of the Grey Squirrel reviewed and report on what measures may be necessary in Dublin to date with relevant and related issues. **(Details Supplied)**

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Actions for control of Invasive Alien Species (IAS) are dealt with under the Dublin City Invasive Species Action Plan, which is under review. The contents of this article will be reviewed in detail. The article references peer reviewed scientific studies that show a reduction in grey squirrel populations nationally, which is linked to pine marten increase. This is correct and has been known for some time. However, the article also references non-scientific sources that appear to be based on opinion, and therefore, will need to be evaluated for accuracy.

**Q.24 COUNCILLOR JOHN LYONS**

To ask the Chief Executive for an update on the High Court judicial review of the city council's decision to add a number of buildings in the Moore Street area to the Record of Protected Structures list in November 2022.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The High Court granted the applicants in judicial review proceedings 2023/3 JR Dublin Central GP Limited v Dublin City Council, leave to apply for Judicial Review on 23rd May 2023. A return date of the 4th July 2023 was indicated on that date. The Council

is waiting for official notification of the return date and will be considering the papers in due course.

**Q.25 COUNCILLOR DERMOT LACEY**

To ask the Chief Executive if he will contact the Minister for the Environment to explore the potential for reducing the sale of the vaping devices, containing a battery of sorts, that as they are disposed/littered across the City create a serious danger to our drainage systems and rivers and to further ask the Chief Executive if this has been previously raised and if he wishes to make any more general statement on the matter.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The Chief Executive will write to the Minister on the matter.

**Q.26 COUNCILLOR RACHEAL BATTEN**

To ask the Chief Executive investigate the Gracepark Road/Beaumont Road and Collins Avenue Junction. There was no filter put on the lights. Can he clarify when this is going in?

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Please note that the recent improvements and changes to layout at this junction provided for two additional pedestrian crossings and the junction now operates an all pedestrian wrap around phase. The traffic signals for general traffic and public transport have not changed from what they were prior to this upgrade.

**Q.27 COUNCILLOR RACHEAL BATTEN**

To ask the Chief Executive to investigate putting speed bumps at the Corner of Albert College coming off Collins Avenue as traffic is travelling at high speed here. Can he also look at repairing the corners of the curbs at this location which are cracked? The corners seem to be too large and are causing an obstruction.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Road Maintenance Services will complete an inspection of the kerbs at **(details supplied)**. If any defects are found these will be recorded for repair when a crew is working in the area.

**Q.28 COUNCILLOR RACHEAL BATTEN**

To ask the Chief Executive can the grass along the road coming up at **(Details Supplied)** be arranged to be cut. The grass is 4ft in height and has not been cut in 2023 never mind May. It is very over grown.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

This area has been brought to the attention of the Landscape Maintenance Contractor and will be cut as part of the current contract.

**Q.29 COUNCILLOR SÉAMAS MCGRATTAN**

To ask the Chief Executive what was the total amounts of housing adaptation grants given in 2021, 2022 and so far in 2023?

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The Housing Grant Section administers three Housing Grants Schemes designed to provide assistance to people making adaptations to their privately owned homes to meet their medical needs and to older people in poor housing conditions carrying out essential repairs to their owner occupied homes. These measures enable people to stay in their own communities and prevent or delay their placement in residential care thereby reducing social segregation, assisting their carer's and strengthening families.

The figures below are the amounts paid out each year for 2021, 2022 and 2023 for the respective grants:

Housing Adaptation Grant for People with a Disability			Mobility Aids Grant		
Year	No of Grants paid	Total amount expended	Year	No of Grants paid	Total amount expended
2021	799	€7,164,267.80	2021	100	€331,288.79
2022	859	€8,746,095.31	2022	117	€471,045.45
2023 (Up to the end of May)	406	€3,598,692.67	2023 (Up to the end of May)	67	€193,342.59

Housing Aid for Older People Grant			Combined total expenditure for the three grants	
Year	No of Grants paid	Total amount expended	Year	Total amount expended
2021	259	€975,991.66	2021	€8,471,548.25
2022	327	€1,363,722.25	2022	€10,580,863.01
2023 (Up to the end of May)	247	€867,706.89	2023 (Up to the end of May)	€4,659,742.15

The Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage allocates the budget for the Housing Adaptation Grants for Older People and People with a Disability scheme each year. 80% of the allocation comes from Exchequer funding and 20% of the funding comes from the local authority's own resources.

The Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage is currently reviewing the Housing Adaptation Grants for Older People and People with a Disability Scheme.

Full details on the Housing Adaptation Grants for older people and people with a disability (Private Houses) can be accessed via <https://www.gov.ie/en/service/6636c-housing-adaptation-grants-for-older-people-and-people-with-a-disability/>

**Q.30 COUNCILLOR SÉAMAS MCGRATTAN**

To ask the Chief Executive what financial impact will the recent decision to waive the street furniture license fee have on Dublin City Council?

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The financial implication of the recently introduced Planning and Development (Street Furniture Fees) Regulations 2023, have not yet been determined.

**Q.31 COUNCILLOR SÉAMAS MCGRATTAN**

To ask the Chief Executive to arrange for the tree outside (**Details Supplied**) to be pruned.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

An inspection of the tree at (**details supplied**) will be arranged in the coming weeks as local schedules allow and any works deemed necessary will be listed for inclusion in the prioritised tree care programme for the area.

**Q.32 COUNCILLOR SÉAMAS MCGRATTAN**

To ask the Chief Executive to arrange for the area in front of the old Matts pub site to be cleared following the closure of a market there.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Waste Management Services had the above mentioned area cleaned on the 6th June 2023.

**Q.33 COUNCILLOR DARRAGH MORIARTY**

To ask the Chief Executive to provide additional Dublin Bikes services in the Dublin 8 area, which is severely lacking provision of Dublin Bikes. As you can see from the attached image and Dublin Bikes map, parts of the South West Inner in cycling distance of the city centre where we should be targeting active travel measures, are without any or have very little provision of Dublin Bikes. Can the Chief Executive confirm if Dublin City Council is minded to provide additional Dublin Bikes in these locations and make a statement on wider roll out of Dublin Bikes city-wide?

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The expansion of the NOW dublinbike 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.

**Q.34 COUNCILLOR DARRAGH MORIARTY**

To ask the Chief Executive to instruct Parking Enforcement not to continually and systematically dump clamped vehicles at (**details supplied**), a quiet residential street where children play on the road. Local residents have contacted Parking Enforcement and were advised on 10 March that this practice would cease, but by 23 March it has resumed. Residents were then informed it would "be reduced" rather than cease, however, it is not good enough that one road continually be a dumping spot for Parking Enforcement when there are tens of other locations across the area that could also be used. Can the Chief Executive confirm the practice will stop and make a comment on the matter?

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Dublin Street Parking Services take removed vehicles to the closest safe parking space, it will be requested that this area not be used continually and that a reduced relocation is practiced here, however each relocation will be assessed individually.

**Q.35 COUNCILLOR DARRAGH MORIARTY**

To ask the Chief Executive to confirm when the City Council's plans for permanent pedestrianisation or at the minimum, one lane of traffic and footpath widening, will be

unveiled for Parliament Street, Dublin 2. Attached my same Council Question on this matter from a year ago, June 2022, when I asked the same following two years of hugely successful summer trials. I was assured it was going to the South East Area Committee and then plans would be brought for public consultation. A year on and nothing, it seems, has been advanced. Can the Chief Executive detail what happened between last year's response and now, and can he confirm what the plans are for, not just for this summer, but for on a permanent basis?

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The practicability of pedestrianising or making Parliament Street Traffic Free in the short term is being explored as it would require changes to public transport and it needs to tie in with other transport plans and policies including the City Centre Transport Study which is to be completed later this summer, the Bus Connects network and the Active Travel network.

It is still an aim to progress this and initial details will be available later this summer. For this summer it may be more suitable to hold a number of Traffic Free weekends. Previous Traffic Free measures on this street were evenings only so creating a Traffic Free street on Saturday and Sunday would allow families and others to experience the Traffic Free street.

**Q.36 COUNCILLOR MANNIX FLYNN**

To ask the Chief Executive to issue a report detailing the legal basis, or any legislation that prohibits the Law Agent of Dublin City Council from giving me a hard copy of the legal proceedings relating to the lands at Saint Annes, which is now before the courts regarding a zoning challenge.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The requirement to provide information to the elected members as a body has been met by;

- Providing for a legal briefing on the legal proceedings from Senior Counsel at the Council meeting on 13th February 2023 date
- Securing the express authorisation of the elected members as a body to defend the legal proceedings pursuant to Section 153(2) of the Local Governments Act 2001.
- Arranging for any members wishing to view the legal papers to attend at the office of the Law Agent by appointment to view.
- Arranging to give updates as appropriate.
- These measures were accepted by the elected members as a body at the Council meeting. They were further discussed at the Protocol meeting of the 23rd March 2023 date at which the Law Agent attended and reported and accepted by the Chair of the Protocol Committee.

**Q.37 COUNCILLOR MANNIX FLYNN**

To ask the Chief Executive to give a full report, explaining in detail, the failure of Dublin City Councils staff recruitment policies and procedures. This report also to include how many staff have we lost in the past three years. Either by redundancy, voluntary retirement, or secondment to the lakes of Irish water et cetera.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE’S REPLY:**

The City Council completed 104 recruitment campaigns in 2022 with 48 competitions advertised to date in 2023.

Notwithstanding the significant level of recruitment, the City Council is operating in a very competitive labour market. We are competing with private sector organisations and with other public sector employers in an environment where there is near full-employment, skills shortages in key areas, high rates of employee turnover and cost of living pressures on pay.

There are ongoing difficulties in recruiting for all positions. These difficulties are especially acute in respect of positions in certain skill areas, in particular construction related professions, finance and IT.

Successful candidates often have a number of employment offers under consideration at any one time. There is evidence that staff, particularly at entry-level grades, are leaving for similar but higher paid jobs in the private sector.

The application of uniform pay and conditions across the local authority sector, which do not take account of variations in the cost of living (e.g. housing, and travel costs), makes recruitment and retention of staff more difficult for the City Council, relative to other local authorities.

There is significant recruitment activity across the public sector - a continuing issue since the lifting of the recruitment moratorium. This is resulting in movement at all grades between public sector organisations as opportunities arise and in particular, where there may be higher rates of pay for similar positions (e.g. in the civil service).

The number of exits from the City Council over the last three years is set out below:

<b>Reason</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>2021</b>	<b>2022</b>	<b>2023 YTD</b>
Retirement	122	174	174	70
Resignation	81	98	166	70
Other	65	72	75	25
<b>Total</b>	<b>268</b>	<b>344</b>	<b>415</b>	<b>165</b>

**Q.38 COUNCILLOR MANNIX FLYNN**

To ask the Chief Executive to give a full explanation and report as to why planning applications for street furniture licenses which are covered under the Planning Acts are not included in the planning list that is published on a weekly basis. There does not appear to be an exemption for such applications and it is imperative that the public and indeed residents are properly informed about these planning matters so they can make appropriate observations and if necessary, appeal a decision. This information needs to be transparent and open and included on the public planning list for all to see.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE’S REPLY:**

Under Article 27 (1) of the Planning and Development Regulations (as amended) requires the Planning Authority to issue the Weekly Planning List:

Article 27(1): A planning authority shall, not later than the fifth working day following a particular week, make available, and display for inspection on its website, in

accordance with sub-article (2) a list of the planning applications received by the authority during that week.

There is no legislative requirement for inclusion of Street Furniture licences on the weekly planning list.

**Q.39 COUNCILLOR ALISON GILLILAND**

To ask the Chief Executive to outline the legislative details and regulatory frameworks currently outstanding and required to allow for full speed ahead with regard to the development of the Dublin District Heating Scheme.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

I will provide a complete reply in two weeks in respect of the legislative and regulatory framework required to facilitate the delivery of the Dublin District Heating scheme following consultation with the Project Legal advisors.

**Q.40 COUNCILLOR JANET HORNER**

To ask the Chief Executive whether Dublin City has made any progress to joining the Rainbow Cities Initiative and whether a report can be brought to the relevant SPC to consider progressing it.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

To date, there has been no engagement with the City Council and Rainbow Cities. However, if the Councillor would provide more details, the City Council can consider what action should be taken.

**Q.41 COUNCILLOR JANET HORNER**

To ask the Chief Executive What engagement there has been between DCC and Irish Rail on biodiversity protection on Irish Rail owned sites in the local area?

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Dublin City Council Biodiversity Officer met with Irish Rail when formulating the Dublin City Biodiversity Action Plan 2021-2025 (BAP). The City BAP includes working in partnership with agencies and gathering evidence-based data with the ultimate aim to develop a wildlife corridors strategy for Dublin. Data collected under other actions of the City BAP can also feed into this strategy.

We also met and worked with Irish Rail on the 'Window into the Biosphere' collaborative project for the Dublin Bay Biosphere Partnership to promote the Biosphere to rail passengers across Dublin. See: [Window into the Biosphere DART Campaign | Dublin Bay Biosphere](#)

**Q.42 COUNCILLOR JANET HORNER**

To ask the Chief Executive how many fixed charged penalty notices have been served for illegal parking on a monthly basis since they were introduced, broken down by offence and month and what the next steps are for ensuring greater enforcement and awareness given the ongoing issues with illegal parking, particularly in the context of preparing the tender for the award of future parking enforcement services?

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Attached is a report of fixed penalty notices issued from 01/06/2021 as requested.

The staff in The Parking Policy and Enforcement Section work closely with Dublin Street Parking Services to address illegal parking and identify areas where greater enforcement is required. There are regular communications to ensure ongoing issues

and areas of concern are focused on. All areas of enforcement will be considered when the tender is due for renewal.

**Q.43 COUNCILLOR DEIRDRE CONROY**

To ask the Chief Executive and Parks Department re enquiry from Grosvenor Park residents requesting the need for 'Bike Bunkers'. **(Details Supplied)**

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Please be advised that a scheme review of the Bike Bunker Pilot Project is currently underway. The scheme review will produce a comprehensive report on the Bike Bunker Pilot Scheme from its initial trial, including the existing pilot scheme, providing strategic recommendations, review alternative cycle parking options and possible future proposals. The report once finalised will be presented to Dublin City Council's Transport SPC, as per normal procedure, prior to being published.

**Q.44 COUNCILLOR DEIRDRE CONROY**

To ask the Chief Executive and other departments in regard to enquiry from Harold's Cross business owner. I can only take this enquiry on if it suits the local residents in the area as well. A business and property owner in Harold's Cross, based in Greenmount Industrial Estate. Notified that the estate is long overdue a refresh of some sort and in its current state and zoning - it cannot be done. Enquirer is requesting Dublin City Council about what can be done to deal with Greenmount Ind. Est. **(Details Supplied)**

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

In relation to the query on zoning, the site is zoned Z6 in the 2022 – 2028 Dublin City Development Plan, which is employment and enterprise. The objective is: 'to provide for the creation and protection of enterprise and facilitate opportunities for employment creation'.

The lands in question were the subject of change of zoning consideration as an outcome of the Z6 Study (an objective of the 2016 Plan) which recommended a change in zoning to Z10 through a variation process. This change was not supported by the Elected Members, and the site remained Z6. As part of the preparation of the Development Plan the lands were placed on public display in the Draft Plan as Z6 and no change by motion or CE recommendation was made to this zoning.

The Z6 zoning permits a wide range of commercial uses and allows for substantial redevelopment of the lands if sought; subject to any site specific constraints.

Greenmount is a privately owned area of land, and it is the responsibility of the landowner(s) to prepare, seek planning permission and fund any proposal for regeneration or redevelopment of the lands.

The Planning Authority is available to discuss with an applicant any proposals which they may have. Any discussions with the Planning Authority, regarding specific proposals regarding a site can only take place with the consent of the owners.

**Q.45 COUNCILLOR DAITHI DOOLAN**

To ask the Chief Executive to entail traffic calming signs in and around Orchard Lawns.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The Transport Advisory Group Engineer will assess the Cul de Sac of Orchard Lawns. This road is within the 30 Kph slow zone and is within a residential area. After the assessment is done a report will be issued to the public representative.

**Q.46 COUNCILLOR DAITHI DOOLAN**

To ask the Chief Executive to organise for illegal dumping in the grass verges along Kylemore Road to be regularly removed. The uncut grass has unfortunately attracted illegal dumping

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Waste Management Services remove dumped bags from this grass verge on a regular basis. Sometimes with the longer grass it can be difficult to spot some bags there. We will endeavour to ensure all dumped rubbish is removed from there in a timely fashion.

**Q.47 COUNCILLOR JOHN LYONS**

To ask the Chief Executive when community consultation and construction of the new playgrounds for Kilmore West and Harmonstown will commence.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Local consultations have taken place which fed into the spec within tender documents. When tenders are returned and a preferred contractor/design realised, follow up consultations will take place

**Q.48 COUNCILLOR JOES COSTELLO**

To ask the Chief Executive if he will take steps to ensure that a suitable monument is installed to honour the playwright Sean O'Casey in Dublin where he wrote his famous trilogy of plays Shadow of a Gunman, The Plough and the Stars and Juno and the Paycock.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

This matter will be considered by the Commemorations & Naming Committee at its meeting of 27 July 2023.

**Q.49 COUNCILLOR JOE COSTELLO**

To ask the Chief Executive to ask the Area Manager if there any supports DCC can give towards the provision of **(Details Supplied)**

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The Area Office will contact the School directly to discuss this issue

**Q.50 COUNCILLOR JOE COSTELLO**

To ask the Chief Executive if DCC will devise a plan for designating certain streets play streets in parts of the City where there are few safe play areas for children.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

A recent pilot project run by the Dublin City Council Play Development Officer in collaboration with the Transformation Unit involved prototyping a temporary road closure for 'Street Play'. This resulted in a highly successful play event at Raphoe Road, Crumlin that took place in November 2022.

A key constraint identified as part of this process was legislation that supports temporary street closure for 'play'.

The legal requirements in Ireland present a major challenge for Dublin City Council to develop a framework for implementing a Playing Out initiative across the city.

This constraint is being considered across the relevant departments and it is hoped that a solution can be found to enable local communities to facilitate and promote every

day street play experiences. An update will be provided to Councilors following a cross departmental discussion.

**Q.51 COUNCILLOR JOE COSTELLO**

To ask the Chief Executive why the pilot flat refurbishment scheme introduced in Ballybough House and which met with universal approval has been discontinued and if there are any proposals to continue it.

**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. Ballybough House is under consideration as part of this review.

An overview of the regeneration plan was presented at a workshop with the Housing Strategic Policy Committee on Friday 19th May 2023. Following on from this meeting, a commitment was made to follow with proposal in due course. This will be discussed and shared with the local elected representatives.

**Q.52 COUNCILLOR NOELEEN REILLY**

To ask the Chief Executive the number of tenancy warnings given since 2020 and to give a breakdown of reason and area.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

A total of 77 Tenancy Warnings were issued from 2020 to date. Of the 77 Tenancy Warnings issued, 67 of those Tenancy Warnings were issued under Section 7 of the Housing Miscellaneous Act 2014, which is for Serious Anti-Social Behaviour. A further 10 Tenancy Warnings were issued under Section 9 of the Housing Miscellaneous Act 2014, which is for Breach of Tenancy.

The Tenancy Warnings issued were in the following areas; 12 in the Finglas area, 4 in the North East Inner City, 13 in the Crumlin area, 2 in the Ballyfermot area, 25 in the Ballymun area, 7 in the South East Area and 14 were issued in the South Central Area. Thus amounting to a total of 77 Tenancy Warnings from 2020 to date.

A further 468 Tenancy Warnings were issued to tenants from 2020 to date under Section 8 of the Housing (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 2014 for non- payment of rents, as indicated in the charts below:

Year	Total Number of Tenancy Warnings Served	Area	Number of Tenancy Warnings Served
2020	55	North West	14
		North Central	18
		Central	1
		South Central	15
		South East	7

Year	Total Number of Tenancy Warnings Served	Area	Number of Tenancy Warnings Served
2021	115	North West	57
		North Central	5

		Central	22
		South Central	2
		South East	29

Year	Total Number of Tenancy Warnings Served	Area	Number of Tenancy Warnings Served
2022	194	North West	87
		North Central	21
		Central	30
		South Central	48
		South East	8
Year	Total Number of Tenancy Warnings Served	Area	Number of Tenancy Warnings Served
2023	104	North West	48
		North Central	16
		Central	16
		South Central	22
		South East	2

**Q.53 COUNCILLOR NOELEEN REILLY**

To ask the Chief Executive where the decision was made not to assist residents in the collection of green waste. Residents do an excellent job in assisting DCC in keeping areas maintained. This new decision will only decrease that work.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

With regard to the green waste, Parks & Landscape Services have advised the following:-

*“In accordance with a more sustainable policy with regard to amenity grass maintenance to support the establishment of wildflower rich swards, DCC will only be maintaining open spaces/greens and will not be cutting grass margins in residential estates.*

*Residents who wish to maintain a more manicured margin can do so. This policy is in keeping with the policy of every other local authority in the country. Support for Tidy Towns and environmental groups who wish to contribute to the appearance of their neighbourhood streets will be available by contacting their local public domain officer.”*

Should Resident Committee's/Environmental Groups wish to cut the grass margin, it is DCC's preference that the cut grass should be left in place to allow for return of valuable nutrients like nitrogen back into the soil in accordance with best practice and as outlined in the document attached.

See url link below

[Ghttps://www.dublincity.ie/sites/default/files/2023-01/DCC%20GrassCycling](https://www.dublincity.ie/sites/default/files/2023-01/DCC%20GrassCycling)

Where Residents Committee's/Environmental Groups wish to maintain a more manicured margin, and wish this grass to be collected then they should only use “Compostable bags”. These bags will be collected, when resources are available at times agreed between the Resident Committee's and Waste Management Staff. We would like to reiterate that collection of cut grass and presentation for collection should only be carried out on rare occasions.

Green waste from private gardens should not be presented for collection and should be disposed of within the brown bin. Green waste presented by private residents will be regarded as illegal dumping and could be subject to a fine of €150.00.

**Q.54 COUNCILLOR NOELEEN REILLY**

To ask the Chief Executive how many sports inclusion officers are there, what is their role and if there has been any recent changes.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

There are two Sport Inclusion and Integration Officer posts (both vacant at present), I have requested Human Resources to advertise these posts as soon as is possible.

**Q.55 COUNCILLOR NOELEEN REILLY**

To ask the Chief Executive as previously requested but now that the New North Depot is nearly open, if a dedicated Apprenticeship Scheme can be operated out of the Depot for young people in the local area of Ballymun/Finglas.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Appropriate apprenticeship and traineeship schemes will continue to be considered and developed in line with the capacity and requirement of the City Council.

In the context of the North City Operations Depot the Human Resources Department will engage with the management of the Depot facility once operational to assess what the capacity and requirement is within the facility to support and develop these opportunities and where possible this can be focused on disadvantaged young people.

**Q.56 COUNCILLOR DEIRDRE HENEY**

To ask the Chief Executive to refer to **(details supplied)** and examine request from resident to extend double lines to discourage inconsiderate parking and say if he can accede to same

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Removing this on-street parking would not only remove parking amenity for local residents, but also contribute to an increase in speed on the road. As such, extension double yellow lines are not recommended for **(details supplied)** If any instances of illegal parking, should be reported to the Gardaí or Dublin Street Parking Services (tel no. 01 6022500) or Email: info@dspd.ie, for enforcement under the law. Under The Road Traffic (Traffic & Parking) Regulations, Section 36 paragraph (2); a vehicle shall not be parked:

(c) Within 5 metres of a road junction;

(g) In any place, position or manner that will result in the vehicle obstructing an entrance or an exit for vehicles to or from a premises, save with the consent of the occupier of such premises;

(i) On a footway, a grass margin or a median strip;

(k) in a manner in which it will interfere with the normal flow of traffic or which obstructs or endangers other traffic;

**Q.57 COUNCILLOR DEIRDRE HENEY**

To ask the Chief Executive to refer to my previous requests for a pedestrian crossing at **(details supplied)** where many residents are requesting same for the protection of vulnerable pedestrians and other road users,

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

There is a high demand for pedestrian crossings at locations across the Dublin City North a final decision on provision of future pedestrian crossings will be made within the constraints of the budget allocated to the Area Engineer. The aforementioned location was added to the list of pedestrian crossings requested throughout Dublin North Central.

Funding for Capital Works for 2023 has been fully allocated. Each qualifying location (including Mount Prospect Avenue) will be re-assessed with a view to inclusion on the 2024 Capital Works Programme if funding is available.

**Q.58 COUNCILLOR DEIRDRE HENEY**

To ask the Chief Executive in relation to road at **(details supplied)** and say if he will please agree to resurface it with the same material that is being used to resurface a major road in South Dublin County Council's area i.e. with Stone Mastic Asphalt, as road at details attached is, in the view of local residents, the busiest road in the city for vehicular traffic; residents also believe that the ambience of details attached has been neglected by the City Council over decades and due to its relative narrowness, (when compared to the Stillorgan Dual Carriageway) traffic noise does not get dispersed well. Noise is a pollution and therefore a health hazard. Over previous requests have been made to City Council to resurface this road with low noise surfacing material but unfortunately these requests have not been acceded to.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The condition of the carriageway at **(details supplied)** is in good condition. There are currently no plans to complete resurfacing works at this location given the limited budget allocated for all of the North Central Area.

**Q.59 COUNCILLOR DEIRDRE HENEY**

To ask the Chief Executive in relation to footpath at **(details supplied)**, if he can arrange repair of same as footpath repair works are currently ongoing in the locality.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Road Maintenance Services will complete an inspection of the footpath at **(details supplied)**. If any defects are found these will be recorded and forwarded onto the crew for consideration if they are still working in the area.

**Q.60 COUNCILLOR VINCENT JACKSON**

To ask the Chief Executive to have the road engineers and Traffic Dept look at the excessive speed limits currently happening at the Spiddel Road, Oranmore Road and Claddagh Roads in Ballyfermot Dublin 10 the current situation is a major accident waiting to happen with excessive speed limits, residents have asked that Caution Children at Play signs and 30 KM signs be erected as a matter of urgency in addition An Garda Siochana could be asked to do some check-points along these three very long busy Roads.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The installation of "slow zone" signs is carried out at the entrances of housing estates where a 30 km/h speed limit is being implemented to create a designated "Slow Zone". These signs are specifically placed at the points where the speed limit changes. In the

case of Spiddel Road, Oranmore Road, and Claddagh Roads in Ballyfermot, Dublin 10, they fall within the 30 km/h speed zone. The appropriate signage has been installed at the entrance of the estate.

During the site inspection, no visibility issues were observed with the existing signage. Therefore, it is not recommended to add additional signage in this location to avoid an excessive number of signs. If residents or road users witness instances of speeding, it is advisable to report them to An Garda Síochána for appropriate action.

Contact: Rossana Camargo, Executive Engineer, Transportation. Road Safety. Policy, Strategy and Innovation Section

There are traffic calming measures already on the roads and there are 30kph Slow Zone signs erected at the junctions with Ballyfermot Road informing motorists that they are entering residential area with a 30kph speed limit. It is a matter for An Garda Síochána to enforce penalties on any speeds in excess of 30kph. The Transport Advisory Group will inform An Garda Síochána of the speeding problem in the area.

There are traffic calming measures already provided on the roads as follows;

Oranmore Road – speed ramps and speed cushions, mini-roundabouts, children crossing signs.

Spiddal Road – speed ramps, mini-roundabouts, children crossing signs.

Claddagh Road – speed ramps.

The Transport Advisory Group will recommend installing children crossing signs on Claddagh Road.

The Transport Advisory Group will assess on site to see if further traffic calming measures can be put in place.

**Q.61 COUNCILLOR VINCENT JACKSON**

To ask the Chief Executive for an update on the following housing transfer application: that serious consideration be given to the transfer application of **(details supplied)**.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The applicants Transfer & Exceptional Medical Grounds applications were received recently.

The Transfer Application will be processed in the coming days and correspondence sent to the applicant once this has been completed.

Separately, The Exceptional Medical Grounds application will be processed and a decision will be communicated to the applicant within 3 months.

**Q.62 COUNCILLOR VINCENT JACKSON**

To ask the Chief Executive that the following be expedited as a matter of urgency **(details supplied)**.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Dublin City Council is in the process of acquiring this property once the purchase has completed the tenant will be advised to sign up to a DCC rent account. The conveyancing is at final stage and should complete in the coming weeks,

**Q.63 COUNCILLOR VINCENT JACKSON**

To ask the Chief Executive for an update on the housing transfer application of **(details supplied)**.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The above applicant is on the Older Persons Transfer Welfare Priority List with an application date of 22/05/2019, and the applicant holds the following positions on this list:

Area	Bedsizes	Position
Area J	1	6

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.

I have noted the applicant's interest in properties above.

**Q.64 COUNCILLOR NIAL RING**

To ask the Chief Executive In relation to the extension of the ban on private cars/vans etc. from College Green to 24 hours a day, seven days a week, can the Chief Executive clarify the following:

- a. Can the Chief Executive detail the reasoning behind the decision to extend the ban from 7am and 7pm Monday to Friday to twenty four hours a day, seven days a week?
- b. Is there any logic to banning cars from using College Green at off peak times?
- c. Please list the pros and cons of this decision which were considered.
- d. Has any consideration been given to the impact on alternative routes which would have to be used, such as added congestion on other routes as happened after the Capel Street closure, added pollution due to increased journey times and driver mental health?
- e. It is reported that there has been no engagement about the ban with businesses in the area and issues pertaining to deliveries, waste collection and access for maintenance and repairs have not been considered. Is this true and if not, what engagement has taken place? This is an important question requiring a full answer given the issues which arose on Capel Street as a result of lack of consultation. There, waste collectors suspended services, barriers are preventing bins from being collected from some businesses, which means those businesses have to place their bins illegally outside other premises. There are also incidents where tradesmen are unable to access premises and then advising businesses they won't be able to service them going forward. Finally, a big issue was small businesses who have the audacity to use their private vehicles for deliveries. While delivering to their shops within the allocated time, they found themselves being clamped. The clampers wouldn't accept that they were delivering to their shops. What measures are in place to ensure the foregoing problems will not be replicated in College Green and surrounding streets.
- f. It was also reported that Dublin City Council staff were redirecting cars which attempted to enter the bus gate. Is this true and if so, why would DCC staff be doing the job of an Garda Síochána? What legal power had these staff members to carry out this redirection and was Pearse Street Garda station advised of this? Was any consideration given to the safety of staff in carrying out these duties?
- g. DCC said that the plan will help improve travel times for the two million public transport users who pass the front entrance of Trinity College every week. This can only be true for those travelling outside the previous ban times as, logically, those travelling from 7am to 7pm Monday to Friday cannot see an improvement in their travel time. What is the weekly figure for public transport users outside the previous banned times?

- h. Can the Chief Executive acknowledge that there is a cohort of citizens of our City who are dependent on private motor cars whether because of work, accessibility, mobility or other reasons and that some consideration is or will be given to them as further schemes are contemplated?
- i. Has the Chief Executive still in mind a plan for the total ban of all traffic from College Green and, if so, can he commit to full consultation with all stakeholders, especially the two million public transport users who pass the front entrance of Trinity College every week who DCC say are now benefitting from the ban on private vehicles but who may have increased travel times if pedestrianisation goes ahead?

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

- a) The College Green Pathfinder Project will help alleviate public transport congestion in the city core, prioritising public transport at all times. Each week over half a million pedestrians and 2 million passengers on public transport go through the College Green bus gate. This compares with just 27,000 private vehicles. However, this small number of private vehicles causes significant delays to public transport journey times in the area, particularly in the evenings and at weekends when there are no restrictions. These new traffic management measures will reallocate the road space exclusively to sustainable modes of transport which account for 97% of current journeys through College Green.
- b) There is no typical off peak time for public transport at College Green. There are now 24 hour bus routes and the Luas runs for approximately 20 hours a day through the area.
- c) This decision will assist the vast majority of users in the area (97%)
- d) It is not envisaged that alternative routes will be adversely impacted. When Capel Street was introduced vehicle volumes dropped on adjacent routes.
- e) Local businesses in Foster Place were consulted. There is no major impact to businesses as all businesses are still accessible. Any business that had a query was responded to and assisted. We have no reports that bins are not being collected or trades people cannot access premises. In terms of Capel street there are no issues for deliveries and any initial misunderstandings were quickly rectified.
- f) DCC staff were not redirecting cars. A traffic management company was in place to assist and remind vehicles of the changes but they were not enforcing the changes. Pearse Street gardaí and the Roads Policy division based in Dublin Castle were informed of the measures prior to implementation.
- g) Approximately 8,500 private vehicles a week were using the bus gate during the hours they were prohibited to do so and 19,300 outside the bus gate operational hours.
- h) It is acknowledged that there are a number of users that are dependant on the private vehicle for various reasons and particularly disabled badge drivers are a key consideration in any traffic management changes.
- i) 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 have been evaluated and successful applicants have been notified of their advancement to stage two of the ongoing competition. College Green Dame Street Project Team recognise the important input that a wide and diverse network of stakeholders will provide in the development of this project, and will arrange consultation activities upon the appointment of the Design Team. This will be in advance of the development of any new design.

**Q.65 COUNCILLOR NIAL RING**

To ask the Chief Executive to provide an up to date list of all DCC owned or controlled properties which are subject to a lease or licence to community groups (e.g. crèche,

community rooms, enterprise units, dance studio, sports club etc.). The list should provide the following:

Property details (address, size, type of tenure etc.)  
Current (or most recent) valuation of property.  
Commercial rent or licence fee which could be charged.  
Rent or licence fee being charged.(i.e. abated/reduced abated

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The Development Department is currently working on compiling the information that is available to them in relation to this request. The report will be circulated to the Members once it is finalised.

**Q.66 COUNCILLOR NIAL RING**

To ask the Chief Executive to detail the funding awarded to projects in the East Wall area under the recently announced Community Recognition Fund and to further detail who will administer the drawdown and selection of specific works/programmes to be funded. In relation to the funding for the East Wall Greening Strategy can the Chief Executive further confirm that this amount will be in addition to and not in replacement of the amount put forward by me and agreed under our discretionary fund (€40,000).

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

This matter is currently under consideration.  
When we are in a position to reply, we will issue same directly to the Councillor.

**Q.67 COUNCILLOR NIAL RING**

To ask the Chief Executive if he is aware of the letter sent on behalf of residents of the Lighthouse Apartments, East Wall Road and the wider East Wall community to the Chief Fire Officer and furthermore has he been in contact with the Chief Fire Officer to discuss the serious issues raised therein? I have reproduced the letter sent in full given the myriad of issues addressed.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Dublin Fire Brigade received this letter on 17th of April and we promptly replied. An application for a Fire Safety Certificate was made through the BCMS for the material change of use from office to residential use of this building. DFB are assessed and granted this application, DFB continuously engaged with the technical advisor during the assessment period.

A building is considered to be in compliance with the Building Regulations Part B if it is built in accordance with the granted Fire Safety Certificate and any associated conditions, in this case this would apply to all works necessary to convert the building to residential use.

Additionally the Fire Services Act 1981 & 2003 places responsibility on those in control of a premises for the fire safety in the premises.

In this regard, DFB has written to outline the responsibilities to those in control of this building and to request a fire safety management plan is prepared and submitted to DFB outlining how they will meet their responsibilities.

Officers for DFB carried out an inspection of this building and we investigated the points raised in the letter received. We also met with all the stakeholders and we received commitments from them in terms of addressing any fire safety deficiencies within the building and in relation to fire safety management and training.

We have since had bi-weekly updates regarding the progress of any works and commitments in relation to fire safety management and fire safety training. We have

subsequently inspected again and continue to engage with the stakeholders of this building.

We will continue to monitor this building to ensure these commitments are fulfilled and to ensure that the operation and fire Safety management continue to operate efficiently.

**Q.68 COUNCILLOR DANIEL CEITINN**

To ask the Chief Executive to address the recurring rat infestation in O'Carroll Villas, Cuffe Street, Dublin 2 and arrange to have it treated, as was done successfully on previous occasions

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The Southside Mobile Crew will call to the complex and assess the infestation and treat in accordance with best practice. The Team Leader of the Mobile Squad will liaise with the Area Housing Manager should there be any mitigating factors that require their input.

**Q.69 COUNCILLOR DANIEL CEITINN**

To ask the Chief Executive to install a sensor light at the entrance to Crampton Buildings, Temple Bar, Dublin 2, as this building opens onto a street which is well known for anti-social behaviour and a sensor light would help the residents, especially older residents, to feel safer.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

A lighting assessment of the public lighting on Asdill's Row in the vicinity of the entrance to Crampton Buildings, will be carried out, in order to determine existing light levels on the street. The results of that assessment will inform on the need for any future improvements, if any, that may be required.

It should be noted that, under the Public Lighting Upgrade Project, any existing lights that are not already LED lights, will be upgraded to LED although an exact timeframe for these future improvements cannot be provided at this time.

**Q.70 COUNCILLOR DANIEL CEITINN**

To ask the Chief Executive if he can arrange for residents in Gallery Quay, Grand Canal, Dublin 2 to be eligible for permit or visitor parking passes.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Gallery Quay is a purpose built apartment complex and as such in accordance with The Dublin City Council Parking Control Bye-Laws, 2020 residents of this complex are not eligible for parking permits. The Parking Control Bye-Laws, 2020 govern the issue of residents' parking permits and set out the limits and eligibility and entitlement to residents parking permits. Part III, Section 16 (e) states that:

Except as provided in Bye-Law 22, where the building consists of more than 4 housing units and is located on a heavy demand road, residents shall not be eligible for residents' parking permits.

Bye Law 22 refers to converted houses and so is not relevant in this situation. The Parking Control Bye-Laws do not allow for any exceptions to the bye-laws for special circumstances.

**Q.71 COUNCILLOR DANIEL CEITINN**

To ask the Chief Executive Manager to arrange for a yellow box to be installed on the main road, at the entrance to McDonagh House on Whitefriar Street, Dublin 8.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

A request for a yellow box on the main road at the entrance to McDonagh House on Whitefriar Street, (Enquiry Ref: 7030254) is listed for examination and report by the Transport Advisory Group.

The Councillor will be informed of the recommendation in due course.

**Q.72 COUNCILLOR COLM O ROURKE**

To ask the Chief Executive if staff have indicated to residents of **(details supplied)** that green waste, including green waste from communal areas, will now no longer be collected by DCC and that DCC propose using the brown bins. Is this correct?

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

With regard to the green waste, Parks & Landscape Services have advised the following:-

*"In accordance with a more sustainable policy with regard to amenity grass maintenance to support the establishment of wildflower rich swards, DCC will only be maintaining open spaces/greens and will not be cutting grass margins in residential estates.*

*Residents who wish to maintain a more manicured margin can do so. This policy is in keeping with the policy of every other local authority in the country. Support for Tidy Towns and environmental groups who wish to contribute to the appearance of their neighbourhood streets will be available by contacting their local public domain officer."*

Should Resident Committee's/Environmental Groups wish to cut the grass margin, it is DCC's preference that the cut grass should be left in place to allow for return of valuable nutrients like nitrogen back into the soil in accordance with best practice and as outlined in the document attached.

See url link below

G<https://www.dublincity.ie/sites/default/files/2023-01/DCC%20GrassCycling>

Where Residents Committee's/Environmental Groups wish to maintain a more manicured margin, and wish this grass to be collected then they should only use "Compostable bags". These bags will be collected, when resources are available at times agreed between the Resident Committee's and Waste Management Staff. We would like to reiterate that collection of cut grass and presentation for collection should only be carried out on rare occasions.

Green waste from private gardens should not be presented for collection and should be disposed of within the brown bin. Green waste presented by private residents will be regarded as illegal dumping and could be subject to a fine of €150.00

**Q.73 COUNCILLOR COLM O ROURKE**

To ask the Chief Executive is it the case that clear bags now being issued on request, and not blue bags, for litter only?. Will DCC collect the full bags of litter only with no green waste in them?

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

With regard to the green waste, Parks & Landscape Services have advised the following:-

*“In accordance with a more sustainable policy with regard to amenity grass maintenance to support the establishment of wildflower rich swards, DCC will only be maintaining open spaces/greens and will not be cutting grass margins in residential estates.*

*Residents who wish to maintain a more manicured margin can do so. This policy is in keeping with the policy of every other local authority in the country. Support for Tidy Towns and environmental groups who wish to contribute to the appearance of their neighbourhood streets will be available by contacting their local public domain officer.”*

Should Resident Committee’s/Environmental Groups wish to cut the grass margin, it is DCC’s preference that the cut grass should be left in place to allow for return of valuable nutrients like nitrogen back into the soil in accordance with best practice and as outlined in the document attached.

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Green waste from private gardens should not be presented for collection and should be disposed of within the brown bin. Green waste presented by private residents will be regarded as illegal dumping and could be subject to a fine of €150.00

**Q.74 COUNCILLOR COLM O ROURKE**

To ask the Chief Executive will clear bags be provided in the winter for leaves?

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE’S REPLY:**

Dublin City Council will provide compostable bags for the autumn leaf collection with the words “Community Leaf Collection” clearly marked on the them.

**Q.75 COUNCILLOR COLM O ROURKE**

To ask the Chief Executive does Dublin City Council intend to have a leaf mulch cage system at this location?

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE’S REPLY:**

Dublin City Council have no plans to place a leaf mulch cage system at this location.  
**(Details supplied)**

**Q.76 COUNCILLOR CIERAN PERRY**

To ask the Chief Executive to comment on the effect the new legislation to waive street furniture fees contained in the Planning and Development (Street Furniture Fees) Regulations 2023 will have on Dublin City Council revenue?

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE’S REPLY:**

The financial implication of the recently introduced Planning and Development (Street Furniture Fees) Regulations 2023, have not yet been determined.

**Q.77 COUNCILLOR CIERAN PERRY**

To ask the Chief Executive confirm the increase in cost per unit for the social and affordable purchase homes in O’Devaney Gardens agreed with Bartra?

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE’S REPLY:**

The period between tender (December 2019) and final grant of planning (16th May 2022) corresponded with a time of unprecedented inflation in the Construction Industry. This was owing to exceptional events globally including Covid and the Ukrainian Conflict and more locally, the unfolding of Brexit. By June 2022 the O’Devaney Gardens development as tendered was no longer viable. In an effort to ensure the delivery of the scheme, DCC appointed a number of advisors (Legal, Procurement, Financial and Cost Consultancy services) to carry out a review of costs and the impact of delays. An analysis led by QS firm Mitchel McDermot focused on a value for money review of costs based on comparable current tender prices for projects of a similar scale nature and complexity. In addition, these were measured against SCS tender price and MMD forecast (2023) indices in the period since the tender. Construction Cost Inflation over this period equated to 25.93%. Within the context of the OGP’s Framework Agreement on burden sharing, an uplift of 17.51% on the original tender was negotiated and finally agreed with the Developer enabling construction to commence in February last.

The sales prices of the affordable purchase units must adhere to the criteria defined under the regulations set out in the Affordable Housing Act 2021. Unit prices must be a minimum of 15% below market values. Sale price of individual units is dependent on the aspect, size, location etc. As such a range of the affordable unit prices is set out as follows:

Affordable housing dwelling unit cost:	
SIZE	PROPOSED PRICE RANGE
1 Bed unit	210,000 – 263,000
2 Bed unit	270,000 – 335,000
3 Bed unit	290,000 – 380,000

**Q.78 COUNCILLOR MÁIRE DEVINE**

To ask the Chief Executive to engage further with The Family Resource Centre, St. Michaels Estate, D8 regarding the operation of the “industrial plant room” at Childcare Centre in Thornton Heights. This is an essential child care service for the area with excellent staff, providing a positive experience for the kids, including those most disadvantaged. They require the City Council to reach an amicable agreement for the maintenance of the plant room and regular water tank inspection. This is not a task for the staff. it requires the expertise of the relevant Department at Dublin City Council.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE’S REPLY:**

In general, the lessees of a building are responsible for the internal maintenance and repairs of the building. In this instance, the Development Department will contact the group to discuss the options available to them e.g. assisting in setting up a service agreement with a contractor to service the tank.

**Q.79 COUNCILLOR MÁIRE DEVINE**

To ask the Chief Executive to provide an update on complaints received from residents and member(s) regarding works at the Old Fodhla Printing Factory, Brookfield Rd. Dublin 8?”

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

This matter is currently under investigation by the Planning Enforcement Section. Warning letters have issued re alleged breaches of working hours.

The matter has also been referred to our Road Works Control Section and the Health & Safety Authority (HSA) for investigation.

The Councillor will be advised as to the outcome of our investigation.

**Q.80 COUNCILLOR TERENCE FLANAGAN**

To ask the Chief Executive to respond to the following regarding estate **(details supplied)**.

a) Can the gullies be cleaned on these roads?

b) Are there any plans to replace the old lighting with new LED lighting etc.?

c) Also, can all the footpaths on these roads be repaired and the trees pruned similar to what was done at Lindsay Road.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The existing public lighting on Iona Road, Iona Drive, Iona Park, Iona Villas and Iona Crescent, will be upgraded to LED under the Public Lighting Infrastructure Upgrade Project, although an exact timeframe for these future improvements cannot be provided at this time.

Until such time as the existing lights on Iona Road, Iona Drive, Iona Park, Iona Villas and Iona Crescent, 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.

An Enquiry (ref.11138866) has been created for the footpath defects at Iona Road/Iona Drive/Iona Park/Iona Villas/Iona Crescent and forwarded to the Area Inspector who will carry out an inspection and assign the works to a crew for repair.

Can the gullies be cleaned on these roads?

Iona Road 25 of 26 gullies cleaned on 09/05/2023, one parked car. No defects found.

Iona Drive 7 of 8 gullies cleaned on 09/05/2023, one parked car. No defects found.

Iona Park 10 of 13 gullies cleaned on 15/05/2023, three parked cars. No defects found.

Iona Villas 29 of 29 gullies cleaned on 26/05/2023. No defects found.

Iona Crescent 9 of 10 gullies cleaned on 15/05/2023, one parked car. No defects found.

The gullies on these roads are cleaned three times a year as part of the regular gully cleaning programme.

**Q.81 COUNCILLOR TERENCE FLANAGAN**

To ask the Chief Executive to respond to the following regarding tree cutting, Can trees please be cut outside the following houses **(details supplied?)**

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Trees will be inspected in the coming weeks and any works deemed necessary will be listed for inclusion in the prioritised tree care programme for the area 2023-24.

**Q.82 COUNCILLOR TERENCE FLANAGAN**

To ask the Chief Executive to respond to the following regarding a broken footpath at **(details supplied)**.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

An Enquiry (ref.11138877) has been created for the footpath defect at no.4 Iona Park and forwarded to the Area Inspector who will carry out an inspection and assign the works to a crew for repair as a matter of urgency.

**Q.83 COUNCILLOR TERENCE FLANAGAN**

To ask the Chief Executive to respond to the following: Can the large road signage outside **(details supplied)** be replaced as it worn out and too large for the area.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

This request (Enquiry Ref: 11132706) will be referred to the Area Engineer for assessment and report to the Transport Advisory Group for their consideration.

The Councillor will then be informed of the final recommendations of the Transport Advisory Group.

**Q.84 COUNCILLOR EIMER MCCORMACK**

To ask the Chief Executive, with the continuing disquiet among both individuals and Residents Associations, does the City Council have any plans to run an awareness campaign highlighting the work they will no longer be doing in their neighbourhoods? Referring to the ceasing of grass verge cutting and weeding activity in particular.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

This is the second year that Dublin City Council has allowed grass verges to grow naturally, a decision that is in line with the Councils endorsement of the All-Ireland pollinator plan which has widespread support.

Over this time Parks Service has engaged widely with the Area Offices with a view to disseminate this message among communities. In addition Park Staff have dealt with large numbers of enquiries from individuals, in person, by telephone and email. Senior management in Parks have been responding to queries by City Councillors & Dail deputies on this issue also.

**Q.85 COUNCILLOR EIMER MCCORMACK**

To ask the Chief Executive to investigate the possibility of having a traffic survey conducted in the Ashington Park area of Dublin 7. To include both speed and volume counts, with a view to installing traffic calming measures in the future.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Ashington Park area is a mainly residential state, with only one entrance/exit at Kinvara Avenue. The area is traffic calmed with a number of speed ramps across the main roads. The majority of drivers accessing the area would be residents.

However, the area engineer will request a speed survey to on Ashington Avenue, so the speeds and volumes can be assessed.

**Q.86 COUNCILLOR EIMER MCCORMACK**

To ask the Chief Executive to report on the possibility of City Council Engineers bringing forward a proposal, with costings, for a water and electricity connection for the cottage at the 6th lock on the Royal canal to facilitate community and youth activities.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

A reply will be sent to the Councillors within 2 weeks of the June City Council Meeting.

**Q.87 COUNCILLOR EIMER MCCORMACK**

To ask the Chief Executive to report on when the footpath at Villa Park gardens around the green in the central area will be repaired. A resident has tripped and fallen as a result of the uneven surface, which needs urgent attention.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

An Enquiry (ref.11138868) has been created for the footpath defects at Villa Park Gardens and forwarded to the Area Inspector who will carry out an inspection and assign the works to a crew for repair.

**Q.88 COUNCILLOR RAY MCADAM**

To ask the Chief Executive to outline what steps he has taken through the CCMA to secure agreement on a protocol, required under the Circular Economy and Miscellaneous Provisions Act 2022 for Local Authorities to be able to use CCTV in a pro-active way to target and identify those responsible for illegally dump rubbish and other materials on our city streets; I urge the Chief Executive to do more on this issue, given the problem occurring on **(Details Supplied)** where virtually every morning significant volumes of rubbish are dumped outside the front door of a Montessori Primary School and where within minutes of DCC staff clearing those materials and power-washing the path, further materials are dumped; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The Circular Economy & Miscellaneous Provisions Act 2022, provides for Codes of Practice in respect of the use of CCTV cameras and MRD devices for the purpose of prosecutions to be agreed with the relevant government departments before an CCTV cameras are installed. These are being agreed on behalf of the local authority sector under the auspices of the LGMA.

When the above is agreed, the Chief Executive must then approve a CCTV scheme for the City Council. CCTV cameras or MRD cannot be used until such time as the above is in place.

The Litter Wardens are removing illegally dumped waste on a daily basis from **(details supplied)**. Door to door enquires requesting residents provide proof of their waste arrangements were also conducted but not many people answered their doors. The Litter Enforcement Manager has organised for litter wardens to patrol **(details supplied)** around the times detailed in the complaints to try and be present for when the dumped bags are being discarded. There are a number of premises identified on the street as allegedly being responsible for this illegal dumping. The Litter Enforcement Manager has requested title searches for these properties. Once the information is received, the landlords will be contacted to make them aware of the complaints and ask them to provide proof of their responsibilities under section 2.9 of the Bye-Laws for the Storage, Presentation and Segregation of Household and Commercial Waste 2018.

**Q.89 COUNCILLOR RAY MCADAM**

To ask the Chief Executive the steps being taken by the Parks Department to prepare an updated **(Details Supplied)**; the work that has been undertaken to date; when a draft Strategy will be shared with Councillors and a consultation held to seek the views and feedback of Dubliners; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Parks, Biodiversity and Landscape Services are working on an updated Dublin City (**Details Supplied**) Internal consultations are ongoing and it is planned to present the new document to Dublin City Councillors in Quarter 3 of 2023.

**Q.90 COUNCILLOR RAY MCADAM**

To ask the Chief Executive to specify and detail the options currently being considered by the Transportation Department with regards improving road, pedestrian and cyclist safety along (**Details Supplied**), as referenced during a briefing with Councillors recently regarding upcoming works associated with the East Coast Trail; when the Transportation Department intends seeking the views and feedback of local residents the local school community; and if he will make a statement on the matter

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The Traffic Section is currently considering options available for improving walking and cycling along (**details supplied**). It is intended that a report will be brought to July's Central Area Committee prior to publishing it on our Public Consultation Hub and inviting comments from the general public including local residents and the local school community.

**Q.91 COUNCILLOR NAOISE O MUIRI**

To ask the Chief Executive in relation to the footpath running on the city-side of Collins Avenue between Grace Park Road and the Swords:

- Organise for the weeds growing at the edges of this footpath to be removed
- Organise for the removal of the abandoned metal frame that has been left near the bus-stop
- Install a public litter bin at the best location on this stretch – perhaps near the main entrance to the Whitehall-Colmcille GAA grounds

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Waste Management Services will arrange to have the metal frame removed.

Waste Management Services will monitor this stretch of footpath regarding suitability or necessity of having a litter bin there.

**Q.92 COUNCILLOR NAOISE O MUIRI**

To ask the Chief Executive organise for the tree on the green area at Grace Park Heights closest to (**details supplied**) to be pruned back as it is overbearing, causing loss of light and also sheds a lot of leaves directly into the above property in the autumn which the occupant has to clear

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Trees will be inspected in the coming weeks and any works deemed necessary will be listed for inclusion in the prioritised tree care programme for the area 2023-24

**Q.93 COUNCILLOR NAOISE O MUIRI**

To ask the Chief Executive In relation to speeding and parking congestion on Belton Park Road:

- Assess for the installation of a 2nd ramp as 1 only isn't effective from a traffic calming perspective

- Request that DSPS take enforcement action against regular illegal parking at the bend where Belton Park Road becomes Donnycarney Road – there is a single white line here which is regularly ignored

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE’S REPLY:**

There is 1 No. speed ramp on Belton Park Road (boundary No.93/95 Belton Park Road). There is a speed ramp (boundary 25/27 Belton Park Road). There is another speed ramp 20m south west from junction with Collins Avenue. There is a 30km/h residential SLOW ZONE sign warning drivers of the existing residential speed limit. There is a “Children at Play” sign at the same location alerting drivers. There is another 30km/h residential SLOW ZONE sign warning drivers of the residential speed limit. On Donnycarney Road junction with Malahide Road.

If residents observe illegal parking they should alert the local Gardaí in future. The Area Engineer will arrange for a DSPS van to carry out enforcement at the aforementioned road.

The Parking Enforcement Inspector will investigate reports of illegal parking at this location and will report back his findings and request enforcement action where appropriate.

**Q.94 COUNCILLOR NAOISE O MUIRI**

To ask the Chief Executive organise for the well-used but “unofficial” footpath on the sea-side of the James Larkin road coming from the Howth side which turns down towards Bull Island at the Causeway Road to be cleared and encroaching vegetation cut back as it is very popular with walkers.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE’S REPLY:**

The area in question has been listed for inspection. Following on from this we will issue a full reply directly to the Councillor.

**Q.95 COUNCILLOR KEITH CONNOLLY**

To ask the Chief Executive to provide an update on the council policy to no longer cut grass verges outside people’s home and to outline:

- What happens in the scenario where the person cannot cut the grass verge, can it be done on request by a Parks Contractor and how does this process work.
- Where a large grass verge isn’t outside someone’s home but is no longer being cut can it be added to the contract.
- What happens in the scenario whereby waste management are no longer collecting the blue bags from residents cutting the grass on public grass margins. What are they to do in this situation.
- When will there be an updated communications strategy for the residents of Dublin.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE’S REPLY:**

With regard to the green waste, Parks & Landscape Services have advised the following:-

*“In accordance with a more sustainable policy with regard to amenity grass maintenance to support the establishment of wildflower rich swards, DCC will only be maintaining open spaces/greens and will not be cutting grass margins in residential estates.*

*Residents who wish to maintain a more manicured margin can do so. This policy is in keeping with the policy of every other local authority in the country. Support for Tidy Towns and environmental groups who wish to contribute to the appearance of their neighbourhood streets will be available by contacting their local public domain officer.”*

Should Resident Committee’s/Environmental Groups wish to cut the grass margin, it is DCC’s preference that the cut grass should be left in place to allow for return of valuable nutrients like nitrogen back into the soil in accordance with best practice and as outlined in the document attached.

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[Ghttps://www.dublincity.ie/sites/default/files/2023-01/DCC%20GrassCycling](https://www.dublincity.ie/sites/default/files/2023-01/DCC%20GrassCycling)

Where Residents Committee’s/Environmental Groups wish to maintain a more manicured margin, and wish this grass to be collected then they should only use “Compostable bags”. These bags will be collected, when resources are available at times agreed between the Resident Committee’s and Waste Management Staff. We would like to reiterate that collection of cut grass and presentation for collection should only be carried out on rare occasions.

Green waste from private gardens should not be presented for collection and should be disposed of within the brown bin. Green waste presented by private residents will be regarded as illegal dumping and could be subject to a fine of €150.00

A detailed reply is in preparation and will issue directly to the Councillor.

**Q.96 COUNCILLOR KEITH CONNOLLY**

To ask the Chief Executive to come up with a solution to collecting green waste in DCC blue bags when it has come from residents cutting the public grass verges outside their homes or if Dublin City Council Parks/Contractors can return to cutting the grass verges outside residents homes.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE’S REPLY:**

With regard to the green waste, Parks & Landscape Services have advised the following:-

*“In accordance with a more sustainable policy with regard to amenity grass maintenance to support the establishment of wildflower rich swards, DCC will only be maintaining open spaces/greens and will not be cutting grass margins in residential estates.*

*Residents who wish to maintain a more manicured margin can do so. This policy is in keeping with the policy of every other local authority in the country. Support for Tidy Towns and environmental groups who wish to contribute to the appearance of their neighbourhood streets will be available by contacting their local public domain officer.”*

Should Resident Committee’s/Environmental Groups wish to cut the grass margin, it is DCC’s preference that the cut grass should be left in place to allow for return of valuable nutrients like nitrogen back into the soil in accordance with best practice and as outlined in the document attached.

See url link below

[Ghttps://www.dublincity.ie/sites/default/files/2023-01/DCC%20GrassCycling](https://www.dublincity.ie/sites/default/files/2023-01/DCC%20GrassCycling)

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Green waste from private gardens should not be presented for collection and should be disposed of within the brown bin. Green waste presented by private residents will be regarded as illegal dumping and could be subject to a fine of €150.00

**Q.97 COUNCILLOR KEITH CONNOLLY**

To ask the Chief Executive to provide an update on the traffic calming/reduced speeding measure on **(Details Supplied)**

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

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

**(Details Supplied)** is currently traffic calmed with two No. speed ramps. Dublin City Council has a limited budget for installation of traffic calming measures for 2023. Generally when considering the installation of traffic calming measures, those roads without any vertical deflection are considered priority over roads, which are currently traffic calmed.

However, the provision of additional traffic calming in the form of road signage (Enquiry Ref: 7033401) will be referred to the Area Engineer for assessment and report to the Transport Advisory Group for their consideration.

The Councillor will then be informed of the final recommendations of the Transport Advisory Group.

**Q.98 COUNCILLOR KEITH CONNOLLY**

To ask the Chief Executive for a review of the junction at **(details supplied)**

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

A request for review of junction on **(details supplied)** (Enquiry Ref: 7033264) is listed for examination and report by the Transport Advisory Group.

The Councillor will be informed of the recommendation in due course.

**Q.99 COUNCILLOR DECLAN FLANAGAN**

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

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The Local Area Manager will contact Councillor directly in relation to works in the above mentioned area.

**Q.100 COUNCILLOR DECLAN FLANAGAN**

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

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

As highlighted in 'Forgotten Communities', Dublin City Council are exploring the feasibility of providing community facilities in this area.

**Q.101 COUNCILLOR DECLAN FLANAGAN**

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

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

<b>Costs Associated With Cromcastle Court, Dublin 5 :</b>	<b>Spend €</b>
Appropriate Assessment	45,510
Archaeology	1,353
Demolition	63,393
Consultant Integrated Design Team	1,783,214
Detenancing	456,228
Internal Salaries	287,990
Procurement Advice	9,680
Road Safety Audit	3,321
Site Clearance	2,951
Site Investigations	50,890
Utilities	579,796
<b>Total Spend</b>	<b>3,284,326</b>
<b>Grant Funding Received from DHPLG</b>	<b>2,418,153</b>

Dublin City Council has initial funding and project approval for the redevelopment of Phase 1 Cromcastle Court, which also includes the development of the Old Coalyard site. The current proposals show for 115 homes on the Cromcastle Court site, a mix of one, two and three bedroom homes, while it is planned to provide for 34 older person homes on the Old Coalyard site. An integrated design team has been working to progress design development to bring it to the planning approval stage.

A revised Stage 2 application is due for submission to the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage by the end of June 2023 and upon receipt of approval, it is intended to proceed with the planning approval process.

**Q.102 COUNCILLOR DECLAN FLANAGAN**

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

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The following are the current percentages of applications that are inspected within 4 weeks of receipt of a completed application:

Housing Adaptation Grant: 90%

Mobility Aids Grant: 96%

Housing Aid for Older People Grant: 92%

The combined budget for the three schemes this year is €8,782,802. The total expenditure for grants up to the end of May is €4,659,742.15.

b) In 2022 we approved 15 extensions on medical grounds and works are currently ongoing with 24 extensions. Out of this total of 39 extensions, 34 were approved on

medical grounds, four for overcrowding and nine are a combination of overcrowding and medical grounds.

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

We are concerned at the value for money and current market rates for extensions and are looking at other methods of putting a model in place to get value for money. We expect to complete the 10 extensions in 2023.

**Q.103 COUNCILLOR DEIRDRE CRONIN**

To ask the Chief Executive if the council can clarify why a tenant (**Details Supplied**) has been refused access to the tenant purchase scheme despite having over 10 years on social housing supports and if they can clarify if years spent on social housing supports no longer count toward the 10 year period referenced in correspondence with the tenant

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The Tenant Incremental Purchase Scheme allows eligible tenants to purchase their homes from Dublin City Council at a discounted cost of either 40%, 50% or 60% of the market value of the property. The discount awarded is based on the tenant's income at time of application. As part of the Tenant Incremental Purchase Scheme criteria, the period of time a tenant is required to be in receipt of social housing support to be considered eligible under the Scheme is 10 years.

When (**Details Supplied**) applied to purchase her property, we requested clarification on (**Details Supplied**) length of tenancy as the primary tenant in her current address.

(**Details Supplied**) has demonstrated that she meets the criteria to qualify for the Tenant Incremental Purchase Scheme and her Tenant Purchase Application is currently being processed.

Further information can be obtained from the Tenant purchase section at Phone Number 01 222 5449 or by emailing [tenant.purchase@dublincity.ie](mailto:tenant.purchase@dublincity.ie)

Full details of the Tenant Incremental Purchase Scheme can be found via the following link <https://www.gov.ie/en/service/12558-incremental-tenant-purchase-scheme-for-existing-local-authority-houses/>

**Q.104 COUNCILLOR DEIRDRE CONNOLLY**

To ask the Chief Executive to detail the visits by the noise control unit to the construction site at Temple Lane North and if any breaches of regulations were recorded at this site to date and if the council have made any representations to the construction firm or CA ventures directly as a result of complaints from nearby tenants

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The Air Quality Monitoring and Noise Control Unit received two noise complaints from residents of Father Scully House with respect to the construction site at the old bakery, Temple Lane North, Dublin 1. The complainants were contacted, the builders were contacted and the site was visited. The purpose of the investigation was to determine if works are carried out having regard to best practice outlined in the approved construction management plan submitted with the application.

It was determined that the works and associated remedial measures to control noise levels are done in accordance with the plan submitted. The complainants were contacted again and they advised that noise from construction was no longer an issue.

**Q.105 COUNCILLOR DEIRDRE CRONIN**

To ask the Chief Executive if **(Details Supplied)** can be checked to ascertain if adequate fire and safety provisions are in place

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

As this is a private house DFB advise that adequate smoke alarms are installed and information provided to know what to do in the event of an emergency.

Dublin City Council will arrange an inspection of the property in the coming days. We will investigate the escape routes and check the existing alarms and replace if necessary

**Q.106 COUNCILLOR BREIGE MACOSCAR**

To ask the Chief Executive for a review of the recent decision of the City Council to no longer collect green waste as this has a disproportionate impact on tidy towns and environmental groups who maintain public spaces and do not have adequate access to common mulching areas etc

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

With regard to the green waste, Parks & Landscape Services have advised the following:-

*"In accordance with a more sustainable policy with regard to amenity grass maintenance to support the establishment of wildflower rich swards, DCC will only be maintaining open spaces/greens and will not be cutting grass margins in residential estates.*

*Residents who wish to maintain a more manicured margin can do so. This policy is in keeping with the policy of every other local authority in the country. Support for Tidy Towns and environmental groups who wish to contribute to the appearance of their neighbourhood streets will be available by contacting their local public domain officer."*

Should Resident Committee's/Environmental Groups wish to cut the grass margin, it is DCC's preference that the cut grass should be left in place to allow for return of valuable nutrients like nitrogen back into the soil in accordance with best practice and as outlined in the document attached.

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**Q.107 COUNCILLOR BREIGE MACOSCAR**

To ask the Chief Executive to arrange for weeding around the edge of the green on **(Details Supplied)** on the outside of the kerb.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

We will inspect (**details supplied**) and issues found will be either added to the prioritised list of Parks works for the area or referred to the appropriate department/section within DCC.

**Q.108 COUNCILLOR BREIGE MACOSCAR**

To ask the Chief Executive for an update on the speed survey which was recently carried out on (**Details Supplied**)

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

A request for Traffic Calming on Clancy Road (Enquiry Ref: 7032431) is listed for examination and report by the Transport Advisory Group.  
The Councillor will be informed of the recommendation in due course.

**Q.109 COUNCILLOR HAZEL CHU**

To ask the Chief Executive the number of street bins removed in the last year, the number of new street bins added in the last year.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Below are the number of bins in each administrative area in 2022 and 2023.

<u>2022</u>		<u>2023</u>	
North West	660	North West	668
North Central	716	North Central	730
Central	478	Central	481
City Centre	614	City Centre	617
South Central	477	South Central	477
South East	417	South East	424
Total	3362		3397

There are 160 bins awaiting replacement throughout all areas. 50 new bins will be delivered at the end of June 2023 and 50 each month thereafter until the end of the year. These new bins will replace the 160 bins and cater for new requests and replace existing bins near end of life usage.

**Q.110 COUNCILLOR HAZEL CHU**

To ask the Chief Executive on implementation updates for DCCs Integration and Inclusion Strategy and whether they have been reaching objectives

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The Housing Department will provided a response within 2 weeks of the June City Council meeting

**Q.111 COUNCILLOR HAZEL CHU**

To ask the Chief Executive for a breakdown of funding for the various community projects in relation to the DCCs integration and inclusion strategy

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The Housing Department will provided a response within 2 weeks of the June City Council meeting

**Q.112 COUNCILLOR HAZEL CHU**

To ask the Chief Executive the number of council owned buildings which have has solar panels installed in the last 12 months, the number planned to be installed in the next 12 months

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The Housing Department will provide a response within 2 weeks of the June City Council meeting

**Q.113 COUNCILLOR DAITHI DOOLAN**

To ask the Chief Executive would the Parks Department be willing to work with local residents to arrange for 'flower bombs' to be planted in appropriate places in East Timor Park.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Parks Service favours supporting rewilded areas within parks. "Flower Bombs" can have species of an unverified origin within them which may compete with native pollinator species. Parks can look at bulb planting with local residents who may be interested.

**Q.114 COUNCILLOR KARL STANLEY**

To ask the Chief Executive to arrange an assessment of the informal parking area at **(Details Supplied)** to determine if it is suitable for either pay-and-display parking or if marked parking bays can be painted at this location. Under the current arrangement it's not clear whether cars should be parked parallel or perpendicular to the kerb, which has caused some conflict between residents.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The request regards marked parking bays (Enquiry Ref: 7033402) will be referred to the Area Engineer for assessment and report to the Transport Advisory Group for their consideration. The Councillor will then be informed of the final recommendations of the Transport Advisory Group. If residents wish to formalise parking on this road they can apply for a Pay & Display/Permit parking scheme. By clicking on the link below.

<https://www.dublincity.ie/residential/parking-dublin-city-centre/start-parking-scheme/criteria>

Dublin City Council can consider the introduction of a scheme on a road and if recommended arrange for subsequent ballot of residents where there is a demonstrable and clear desire in favour of a Scheme, i.e. 35% of households in favour of the request. This may take the form of a number of written requests or ideally a signed petition from the residents of the road. A request for a Parking Scheme will be referred to the Traffic Advisory Group for examination and report.

The road layout and this design will be circulated with the ballot to the residents. Please note that Residential Permit Parking Schemes also include Pay and Display so it is not possible to designate a public road for residents use only.

**Q.115 COUNCILLOR KARL STANLEY**

To ask the Chief Executive to publish, in tabular form by administrative area, the following data relating to the Vacant Property Grant: Number of applications received, number of grants approved, number of grants rejected, number of grants where monies have been drawn down, total sum of monies disbursed under this scheme.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

In response to Cllr Karl Stanley's question as regards applications for the Croi Conaithe Vacant property Refurbishment Grant I can confirm that Dublin City Council has received the below responses as regards same for its administrative area of the City.

Applications received	136
Inspections completed	64
Applications approved	23
Applications withdrawn	2
Appeals process	1
Applications refused	5
Funds drawn down	0
Total monies disbursed	0

**Q.116 COUNCILLOR KARL STANLEY**

To ask the Chief Executive to provide an explanation of why the recruitment process for a new Chief Executive is scheduled to start in September 2023 as opposed to at an earlier time. The date of the current Chief Executive's departure has been known for some time, but starting the recruitment process after his departure means that Dublin City Council will have an Interim Chief Executive for an indeterminate period of time instead of having a new Chief Executive ready to take up the position. Some clarity on the rationale behind this approach would be welcome.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The Public Appointments Service has responsibility for the recruitment process for the position of Chief Executive. The timelines associated with the campaign are managed by PAS.

**Q.117 COUNCILLOR JANE HORGAN-JONES**

To ask the Chief Executive if he will install a second dog bin on Templeview Green in Clarehall in view of the high usage of the current bin?

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Waste Management Services no longer provide dog foul specific litter bins. Dog walkers in this area can use the existing bin and standard litter bins to dispose of their dog foul.

**Q.118 COUNCILLOR DARRAGH MORIARTY**

To ask the Chief Executive to confirm the extent of training, if any, offered to Housing Welfare Officers in Dublin City Council to consider the best interests of a child when assessing families and children presenting as homeless. Can the Chief Executive also outline to what extent, if any, the Children First Act 2015 and Children First National Guidance for the Protection and Welfare of Children 2017 informs this training received by Housing Welfare Officers.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

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

**Appendix A – Questions & Replies June City Council Meeting**