

Motions on Notice Dublin City Council Meeting 06th of November 2023

1) Councillor Mannix Flynn

Submitted: 27th April 2022

That this meeting of DCC call on the management of the Artane Band and the Artane School of Music and the GAA to change the uniform and change the name of the Artane Band.

The symbol of the Artane Band, its uniform, its name, its insignia and its history are deeply traumatising and hurtful to the many thousands of us who were incarcerated in industrial and reform schools run by the Christian Brothers and other religious organisations. Indeed, many children from the mother and baby homes were incarcerated in Artane. Many more were press ganged into the band where children suffered horrendous abuse, sexual and otherwise, in the band room. Today, many of us still carry these scars and we find it wholly unacceptable in this day and age having gone through all of the various inquiries including the Ryan Report, and the many horrors of child sexual abuse that the Artane Band still marches under that banner and in the uniform of the residential industrial School, Artane, St Joseph's where it was formed over 150 years ago. It is no excuse in this day and age to say that the children in the present band are well looked after or that the children in the band at present are going to be in anyway hurt by a change of uniform and change of name. In a world of political correctness, in a world where symbols of this nature are being frowned upon, one only has to site the symbols of slavery and the decommissioning of public monuments etc. to realise that the time has come, and long overdue, that the oppressive symbols of the Artane Band, its uniform and its name, be consigned to history.

It is absolutely outrageous that the National sports field, that the likes of the GAA and indeed RTE would blatantly display these symbols and this band without having any regard whatsoever for the ongoing dreadful suffering many thousands of children had to endure in residential institutions.

Indeed, Justice Ryan in his report regarded the Artane band, "The band was the public face of Artane and was used as propaganda to reassure the public that those in residential institutions such as Artane and Letterfrack were receiving good care and education" But as we all know now, the reality was very different. Indeed many of those that were in this band have since committed suicide. And many more who are alive today can't even look at a GAA match or go to Croke Park where the band is playing. This is our present day suffering and it needs to stop. It is time now for change. Stop this re-traumatising and let us begin a proper process of recovery and healing.

2) Councillor Nial Ring

Submitted: 6th September 2022

Replaced: 22nd August 2023

The members of Dublin City Council ("DCC") welcome the recently published Final Report of the Oireachtas Joint Committee on Autism and commit DCC to implementing the recommendations of the extensive report where applicable to DCC.

In particular, DCC commits to the recommendations (in particular the provision of sensory rooms) pertaining to autism-friendly social housing, autism-friendly public buildings such as public offices and libraries as well as autism-friendly public spaces such as parks, playgrounds etc.

In addition, the members note the recommendations that autism training should be provided to staff, and agree that this should be offered to councillors if requested.

3) Councillor Racheal Batten

Submitted: 6th October 2022

This council agrees that as if this day all Dublin City Council residential leases will include first right of refusal on sale of the said property. This clause will be inserted into all new lease agreements with an independent assessment of fair market value to take place. The landlord shall not commence placing the property on the market without such 60 days' notice been given to the council.

4) Councillor Declan Meenagh

Submitted: 28th April 2023

“That this Council endorses the recent Amnesty International report entitled 'Israel's Apartheid against Palestinians: A Cruel System of Domination and a Crime against Humanity' as a show of solidarity with the Palestinian people.”

5) Councillor Cieran Perry

Submitted: 26th October 2022

This council supports the Fair Employment Bill 2022 drafted by the Trade Union Left Forum as a replacement for the 1990 Industrial Relations Act.

The 1990 Industrial Relations Act was introduced as a control mechanism on trade unions. The act introduced many changes to the accepted norms of industrial relations up to that time. It banned support strikes, solidarity action, political strikes, sit-ins and immediate action. It isolated individual workers and introduced 7 day notice. It puts many conditions and restrictions around balloting for industrial action it ended Union autonomy and transferred what were always Union decisions to the judiciary. At the Irish Congress of Trade Unions (ICTU) biennial delegate conference last year the following motion proposed by the Dublin Council of Trade Unions (DCTU) was unanimously passed and is now ICTU policy:

"Conference recognises that the restrictions on trade union action in the 1990 Industrial Relations Act need to be opposed, and that the act should be reformed to restore rights which trade unions had before 1990. Conference mandates the executive to seek an alternative legislative regime which would allow trade union and industrial action for workers, for issues that concern workers across society and, across employers, and for effective solidarity to workers in dispute".

6) Councillor Michael Pidgeon

Submitted: 12th December 2022

Replaced: 28th April 2023

That Dublin City Council supports libraries in their rightful provision of LGBTQ+ community supportive literature and related educational material in libraries.

No library worker should have to deal with harassment or threats: this Council stands in support with them, and in opposition to hateful, homophobic and transphobic protests that we have seen at Irish libraries in recent months.

Libraries must be safe, inclusive and supportive services for Dublin's diverse communities, and through their provision of knowledge counteract prejudice.

7) Councillor Janice Boylan

Submitted: 23rd February 2021

Replaced: 29th April 2021

This Council calls on the Government to:

- Work with family carers to deliver the services and supports that their loved ones need and immediately end the practice of compiling and storing secret dossiers on children using information gathered by health, education and social care professionals shared without the express consent of their parents;
- Relax the Carer's Allowance means-test by raising the income disregard thresholds in order to increase eligibility and payments;
- Further increase the annual Carer's Support Grant;
- Increase Carer's Allowance & Carer's Benefit in every budget over 5 years;
- Establish a discretionary fund for Covid-19 utility debt to aid carers and people living with a disability struggling with heating and electricity costs;
- Extend eligibility for Carers Benefit to the self-employed;
- Extend an automatic GP Visit Card to all recipients of the Carer's Support Grant; Create an Emergency Talk Therapy Fund to provide sessions with an accredited counsellor or therapist in the private system for carers on referral from a GP;

- Ensure that Family Carers get the respite they need by building up respite capacity, including delivery of hours and overnights through a doubling of public expenditure; Prioritise the full resumption of respite Day Services in the re-opening and implement the standardisation of the provision of free transport to and from these vital services; Update and publish the National Carers' Strategy in 2021, with a dedicated budget and timeframe to ensure the implementation of all actions.

8) Councillor Cat O'Driscoll

Submitted: 22nd March 2023

That this council will examine the impact of LED lighting on migraine sufferers and develop guidelines on the intensity and tone of light emitted in residential areas.

9) South East Area Committee

Submitted: 3rd April 2023

That the Health Services Executive (HSE) agrees to urgently establish a working group with officials from HSE and DCC along with appointed HSE Forum / DCC Local Area Committee members to find a way to progress the building of the Primary Care Centre (PCC) on the Gulistan Site in Rathmines. Unless this is progressed it will have implications for the provision of public housing as well as health care services

10) Councillor Ray McAdam

Submitted: 17th May 2023

That the City Council agree to establish a pilot initiative in the #NorthInnerCity to encourage and engage communities in order to create more playful, healthy and inclusive public places. Such an initiative should be piloted within the North Inner City given the lack of outdoor space within family homes. It can enable inner city communities to get the most out of the resources that they have and allow them to enjoy the places where they live, and for children, adults, older people, to have somewhere that's close to home for them where they can rest, they can play, communities can come together.

11) Councillor Keith Connolly

Submitted: 31st May 2023

That Dublin City Council agrees to lease site 31 in Ballymun to Ballymun Kickhams.

12) Councillor Daithi Doolan

Submitted: 21st June 2023

Dublin City Council Notes that:

- over the last 25 years drug related deaths in Ireland have increased by 225% with the total number of deaths exceeding 10,500;
- Ireland has the joint highest rate of drug induced deaths in the European Union;
- the number of people prosecuted for possession for personal use has increased over the last 25 years by 484 per cent, with more than 250,000 convictions recorded for that offence;
- In the same period there has been substantial overall increase in drug use, with use of cocaine rising by 10,376 per cent, benzodiazepines by 1,824 per cent and cannabis by 263 per cent;
- the Drug crisis and it's harmful effects, including drug related intimidation, extortion and violence aimed at drug addicts and their families has also risen;
- despite legislation being introduced in 2017, followed by HSE procurement and the selection of a preferred operator to run the State's first medically supervised injecting facility in Dublin city centre, this urgent facility remains unopened;
- despite evidence and research highlighting the need for a holistic approach to dual diagnosis, our mental health services and treatment services are still not organised to holistically treat people with both mental health and addiction issues; and

Agrees that:

- there has been a lack of joined up thinking between Ministers, Departments and State agencies, and a lack of focus, energy and urgency in tackling the causes and consequences of the drug crisis;
- the policy of criminalisation of the drug user has failed, nationally and internationally, the resources of the State are wasted on inappropriately processing addiction cases through the courts and prisons, and a health-led and patient –focused alternative is needed;
- the previous international consensus on the ‘war on drugs’ approach is now collapsing with over 30 countries decriminalising drug possession for personal use in some form;
- the worst harms of a criminalisation policy are experiences by people and communities who are already disadvantaged and marginalised, and a reform approach must operate in the context of strategies to combat poverty and marginalisation;
- a community based health led alternative response would target the adverse health, social and economic consequences of drug use and provide harm reduction services to address transmission and overdoses; and
- the 2001 Portuguese initiative of decriminalising possession of drugs and introducing a health diversion scheme, with a resulting significant decline in drug deaths in Portugal while they continue to rise across the EU, merits particular study; and Calls on the Government to:
 - reinstate core funding for Drug and Alcohol Task Forces to 2008 levels;
 - to introduce emergency amending legislation to facilitate mobile supervised injection facilities for both urban and regional sites;
 - regulate oversight of all addiction services, with a firm commitment to client centred and evidence based recovery programmes;
 - to expand the work of the Criminal Assets Bureau to target and seize smaller assets in local communities with full resources of An Garda Síochána at organised crime gangs, traffickers and dealers.

13) Councillor Deirdre Heney

Submitted: 21st June 2023

That the sandbags along the Clontarf Promenade be removed for a period of time during the Summer (and sand stored in the North City Operations Depot, (similar to the way in which salt is to be stored) as the condition of the bags currently along the Promenade is really poor

14) Councillor Máire Devine

Submitted: 29th June 2023

That a pilot “Controlled Parking Zone” be introduced in the inner city area of Dublin 8 where locals are finding it increasingly difficult to park near their homes and businesses. This scheme has been successfully operating in areas of Belfast since 2018 when the council designated over 50% of a defined area’s available parking bays to resident only with the remaining bays as Pay & Display. They are clearly colour coded and signage erected to alert motorists to the scheme.

15) Councillor Alison Gilliland

Submitted: 23rd August 2023

That Dublin City Council recognises the representative importance of visual depictions, illustrations and computer generated imagery of new buildings and the regeneration or conversions of older buildings as presented in planning applications. Such representations support the public’s understanding of the overall design of the proposed building/renovation/conversion as well as allowing for the aesthetic appreciation of the application. Therefore to allow for greater public engagement with the built environment of our City and to keep the public better informed of ongoing development in our City, Dublin City Council will require either as enforceable policy or as a bye-Law that all commercial sites or commercial buildings subject to the planning application process from submission to building commencement AND during the construction process until full building/conversion/regeneration completion to display full colour computer graphic imagery of the proposed

building/regeneration/conversion of significant size (no smaller than 3m x3m) on all visible sides of the building/site and to include a Current Update poster (no smaller than A3 size) to keep the public informed of the status of the planning application process and the construction process.

16) Councillor Deborah Byrne

Submitted: 20th September 2023

That Dublin City Council restates its support for the redevelopment of the Smithfield Fruit and Vegetable Market without further delay. That the Council dedicates itself to working with the Government, contractors, architects and engineers to remove any barriers to the progress of the development of this site and to bring it into public use. That the Council recognises the successful development of the Smithfield Fruit and Vegetable Market as providing a crucial amenity to residents of Dublin and as a positive example for the redevelopment of markets elsewhere in the city and that a clear timeline be put in place for the re-development of the market.

17) Councillor Hazel de Nortúin

Submitted: 18th October 2023

Dublin City Council recognises that we deal with people who may be coming or dealing with different levels with trauma when navigating the Housing System. For this we recognise that there's a need to firstly support a Trauma Informed approach and furthermore, DCC will agree to adopt a Trauma Informed approach when engaging with the public in our Housing Department.

18) Councillor Deirdre Heney

Submitted: 25th October 2023

That Dublin City Council agrees do an audit of all vacant private housing with a view to approaching owners of same in relation to purchase of same.

19) Councillor Donna Cooney

Submitted: 25th October 2023

That Dublin City Council as part of its obligation under EU nature restoration law set out plans to increase urban space for nature.