

QUESTIONS LODGED PURSUANT TO STANDING ORDER NO.18 FOR REPLY AT THE MONTHLY MEETING OF DUBLIN CITY COUNCIL TO BE HELD ON MONDAY, 8th OF JANUARY 2024

Q.1 COUNCILLOR RACHEAL BATTEN

To ask the Chief Executive to provide details of vacant property grant applications.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Dublin City Council, in partnership with the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage, administers the Croi Conaithe Scheme (Vacant Property Refurbishment Grant) for the City.

The purpose of this scheme is to make a financial grant available to applicants who wish to return a long-term vacant property back to residential use in a timely manner.

The key requirements is that the property must be vacant for two years at the date of applying to join the scheme. The grant sum available is up to a maximum of €70,000 (max €50,000 if non derelict).

The full terms and conditions of the Scheme and Application details are available on the Housing Agency's web site at www.housingagency.ie and the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage site at www.gov.ie

The City Council's administrative process is as follows:

- Once the City Council receives an application it is vetted to ensure that the applicant has fully completed the application form together with the necessary supporting documentation and that it meets the requirements of the Scheme.
- If the application is deemed suitable for entry to the scheme an appointment is made for a site visit to view the property.
- Once a site inspection report is completed a decision will be made on the application and this will be corresponded to the applicant (Approval or Refusal).
- When the refurbishment works are completed the applicant must inform the City Council and another site inspection is undertaken and a site report generated.
- The City Council will then review its file and then initiate the legal process for the registering of the charge document in Tailte Eireann.
- Once the charge document is registered then the City Council will complete the necessary administration for the issuing of a grant payment to the applicant(s).

Q.2 COUNCILLOR RACHEAL BATTEN

To ask the Chief Executive to provide a time line to applicants which are availing of this grant.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The City Council cannot provide an exact time schedule for the processing of the Croi Conaithe Vacant Property Refurbishment Grant as this time period is dependent on the quality and quantity of information provided by the applicant on their application form.

Where all required information is received by the City Council the time period for processing the initial application form, undertaking the initial site inspection and issuing an approval or refusal letter to the applicant takes approximately four weeks.

In practice however we have found that applicants often do not provide all the information necessary to assess the application. This requires ongoing communication between parties until such time as all information is received and a decision can be arrived at and communicated to the applicant.

Q.3 COUNCILLOR RACHEAL BATTEN

To ask the Chief Executive provide an explanation why applications are taking 7 months to process.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The City Council is dependent on applicants for the Croi Conaithe Vacant Property Refurbishment Grant providing them with a fully completed application form in order to administer the Grant.

Where the City Council receives a fully completed application form the time period for processing the initial application, undertaking an initial site inspection and issuing an approval or refusal letter to the applicant takes approximately 4 weeks.

Where information is not provided to the level of detail and quality required to properly assess the application, the application process is lengthened by the duration of time taken to receive relevant information.

A number of applicants have also submitted numerous application forms for the scheme together with revisions in the refurbishment works and or revised costing reports for same. Naturally these changes lead to delays in the processing of these applications for the scheme.

All other aspects of the processing of the grant is dependent on the completion of the refurbishment works and the active engagement of the applicant and or their representatives with this office as regards the completion of the administration process thereafter.

Q.4 COUNCILLOR DECLAN MEENAGH

To ask the Chief Executive how many privately operated homeless hostels have only the dining room as inside social space. In his answer can he explain what is being done to make sure people have enough space in these facilities.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Out of 81 private emergency accommodation (PEA) services for singles, couples and families:

34 have only dining room communal spaces, however many are large and open plan spaces.

The DRHE always examines the options for additional communal space within each accommodation setting if required, mindful of the footprint of each building and the fact that any additional changes could trigger a material planning issue.

Q.5 COUNCILLOR JANE HORGAN-JONES

To ask the Chief Executive the following question:

Regarding the Ayrfield United premises on Blunden Drive. This club have no connection to water, waste or electricity at their site leased to us by Dublin City Council.

The club have Academy U7s, U8s and U9s boys and girls teams playing there each weekend as well as youth teams and senior teams not having access to toilets for home and away teams as well as spectators is completely unacceptable in this day and age.

The Club have spoken to Ayrfield Community Centre but they are refusing to give them use of any of the toilets inside the main building however they have informed the club that we are welcome to add a toilet at our own cost into one of the storage rooms on the outside of the building. This is certainly not ideal however it would solve their problem in the short term.

There is access to water in the room and the room is close to existing foul drainage outside which requires very minimal civic works. The club believe that this is the cheapest alternative for a short term solution as it requires the least amount of work to be carried out. To fit a new toilet, urinal, wash hand basin, cubicle walls and doors etc. as well as works on connections to foul waste, we are looking at between €5k and €6k. Can the Manager please confirm if funding can be made available for this project?

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The local Area Manager has met with representatives of the club and has agreed to support the provision of temporary toilet facilities to accommodate both juvenile and adult members of both Ayrfield United and visiting clubs.

Q.6 COUNCILLOR JANE HORGAN-JONES

To ask the Chief Executive for a full statement on the circumstances in which the Clontarf Half Marathon came to be held on the Sheriff FC pitches which were badly damaged by the event, and what measures have been taken to find alternative pitches for the club during repairs, and a timeframe for restoring the pitches to a good condition.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The Clontarf Half Marathon has been a popular event on runner's calendar for many years. Recently however as the event grew it was seen as less sustainable to allow these numbers run through the protected habitats of Dollymount Strand which necessitated a new starting and finishing point for the participants to achieve the requisite distances. The public open space at Alfie Byrne Road is ideally located for this purpose.

The weather in the run up to the event did pose a challenge and the Parks Service met with the organisers on 3 occasions before the event the most recent being the Thursday before the start. A route was agreed with the organisers that avoided the playing surface of the pitch with the runners exiting the public open space using the space behind the goals. However the rain was so heavy the night before the event that this space was waterlogged with several inches of standing water in this undrained space. It was necessary to allow the runners to use the space in front of the goals on the Saturday for safety reasons. This was a calculated risk with the potential of damage to a section of 1 pitch currently allocated to 1 local adult team. It was however understood that even in the worst case scenario the goal posts could simply be moved forward a few meters to the other side of the runners route until full repairs could be affected to the damaged area.

However once the rain washed down the mud kicked up by the runners it was clear that the pitch remained playable and available to the club but was subject to the usual weather calls as is the case with every other council owned pitch in the area. While no invasive repairs are necessary a small bit of decompaction and topdressing has

been commissioned along the runner's route and will be carried out as soon as conditions allow. These works will not take the pitch out of commission.

Q.7 COUNCILLOR JANE HORGAN-JONES

To ask the Chief Executive to address the following issues arising in Maypark, Donnycarney

- The trees in Maypark hanging over the Malahide road side of the pavement need to be cut back, some of the branches are really long. They cause a mess because there are leaves everywhere on the footpath and bus / cycle lane. For cyclists this is not safe particularly during wet weather.
- The park has 3 bins, all in the playground. I noticed 2 were replaced last year to those ones with tiny openings to place your rubbish, this has increased litter in the area. Can there be a bin at the entrances and beside the Astro pitch? The park needs more bins and they need to be picked up more frequently. The one on the Killester Avenue side of the park is always overflowing and between that bin and the dog poo bin it is unsightly. There are also no recycling facilities available for plastic bottles etc., could this be considered?
- The playground has gotten so shabby over the years. The council used to be great at repairing broken equipment but now equipment is removed and not replaced. The ground materials are coming apart and children are picking at it (it doesn't look hygienic or safe). The council did a lovely job of Fairview playground. Are there plans to do up Maypark playground? It is due a makeover.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

A reply to this question is currently being compiled. The response will be sent directly to the councillor within the next three weeks.

Q.8 COUNCILLOR JANE HORGAN-JONES

To ask the Chief how often are bins emptied in the Killester area and on what days? Residents have noticed full bins (especially beside, in the park or near schools) on a Friday and not collected until Monday / Tuesday. Same goes for bank holidays, overflowing bins in the area.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Waste Management Services have the bins on main routes and shopfronts in the Killester area emptied on a daily basis. The bins in residential areas here are emptied five days a week, Monday to Friday.

Q.9 COUNCILLOR MICHAEL PIDGEON

To ask the Chief Executive if any further indoor cycle parking facilities are being considered, beyond the three currently in place, and if council management are open to funding any further ones should sites become available?

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The development of indoor cycle parking facilities have certain key requirements. The facility needs to be located on the ground floor of a building or on floors that are accessible by shallow ramps suitable for safe access by cyclists. It needs to be centrally located to generate sufficient demand to justify the establishment of a cycle parking facility. It needs to be safe and secure while also allowing for easy access and egress by cyclists. Ideally the facility is owned by the City Council but where necessary lease agreements can be entered into with car park owners.

In recent years Dublin City Council has inspected car parks, both publically and privately owned, in the city centre area. The above requirements have ruled out the

development of cycle parking facilities in these car parks with the exception the Spire Car Park and Jervis Street Car Park where facilities have been installed.

DCC would welcome opportunities in other suitable locations and if funding is available DCC is open to developing facilities further indoor cycle parking facilities in the future.

Q.10 COUNCILLOR DECLAN MEENAGH

To ask the Chief Executive To ask the Chief Executive to provide, in tabular form, the number of housing standards inspections and housing standards prosecutions brought by DCC in the following years 2018,2019,2020,2021, 2022 and 2023 and if he will make a statement on the matter.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Year	Number of inspections of private rented properties carried out	Improvement Letters issued	Improvement Notices issued	Prohibition Notices issued	Number of legal proceedings initiated
2018	5830	.*	3367**	46	28
2019	9099	4562	1118	60	55
2020	3020	1761	465	10	0
2021	3663	2098	254	0	0
2022	6532	3828	945	138	0
2023 (to end Q3)***	5449	2365	746	106	2

*Improvement letters and Improvement Notices were not distinguished between in 2018 statistics.

**Includes both Improvement Notices and Improvement Letters.

*** 2023 annual statistics will not be available until January 2024. The figures provided may be subject to minor change.

In 2019 the Housing (Standards for Rented Houses) Regulations 2017 were revoked which meant that legal actions initiated under the 2017 Regulations did not proceed to court. In 2020 - 2021 Covid restrictions meant that legal proceedings from 2019 did not proceed to court.

Due to the resulting backlog with both inspections and also within the courts service itself no new legal proceedings were initiated in 2022. This was reviewed in 2023 and it is now possible to return to initiating legal proceedings in cases of continuing non-compliance.

There was a significant increase in enforcement activity in 2022 and 2023 in terms of Improvement Letters issued and Improvement Notices and Prohibition Notices served on non-compliant properties, increased significantly, with high numbers of Prohibition Notices served, and a return to legal proceedings being recommended in the case of continuing non-compliance.

Q.11 COUNCILLOR DECLAN MEENAGH

To ask the Chief Executive for an update on the number of people who have expressed an interest in selling their home to Dublin City Council under the financial contribution scheme. How many of these applied for the scheme, and how many were allocated? How many are currently on the waiting list and can he explain this in tabular form and make a statement on the matter.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Allocations of tenancies to applicants on the Financial Contribution list are dependent on new Older Persons Housing Developments becoming available, as supply increases we expect to be in a position to increase offers to these lists.

The below table sets out the current number of applications in respect of the Financial Contribution Scheme –

Area	Number
Area B	41
Area D	13
Area E	122
Area H	17
Area J	35
Area K	32
Area L	13
Area M	15
Area N	13
Area P	5

Five applicants were housed through the Financial Contribution Scheme in 2023.

Q.12 COUNCILLOR DERMOT LACEY

To ask the Chief Executive if he can clarify if within an estate that has not been taken in charge by the Council the land outside individual houses which contains the infrastructure of water supply and drainage of foul water is owned by a Company limited by Guarantee (the shareholders being the owners of the properties in the estate).

Which entity is responsible legally and financially to rectify a) a failure and breakage in the fabric of the said infrastructure outside the individual houses and b) an internal blockage not affecting the fabric of the said infrastructure outside the individual houses.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

For any estate not taken in charge, the responsibility for repairs to water and wastewater infrastructure is the responsibility of the management company. Should there be an issue such as a blocked private wastewater connection, then that is between the householder and the management company. When a Local Authority now takes in charge an estate, they do not take in charge the Water and Wastewater Infrastructure. These are taken in charge by Uisce Eireann.

Q.13 COUNCILLOR CHRISTY BURKE

To ask the Chief Executive when the cycle and bus lane works be complete on (**Details supplied**)

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The (**details supplied**) will deliver 8km of walking facilities, 6km of cycling facilities, and 5.4km of bus lanes on the following routes (**details supplied**).

Construction commenced in Q1 2022 and the Project Team are working towards a substantial completion in Q2 2024. The Scheme Contractor has a substantial workforce of typically 100no. Operatives at any given time in an effort to progress the works as quickly as is possible in a difficult and restricted urban environment.

Q.14 COUNCILLOR CHRISTY BURKE

To ask the Chief Executive when in 2024 will the winter beds close down at homeless services?

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

330 additional single adult beds have been added to the system since the 1st of October. These are permanent beds, with no end date in 2024. In addition to these, there are 40 extreme weather beds in NGO services, which are made available as needed, depending on the demand for homeless services on any given night. There is no specific end date for these in 2024.

Q.15 COUNCILLOR CHRISTY BURKE

To ask the Chief Executive when (**Details supplied**) will come under the Demolition of the empty complex.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Dublin City Council has received Stage 3 funding and budget approval from the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage for the redevelopment of the (**Details supplied**).

Currently the tender for the main contract is progressing and we hope to finalise the tender process in early 2024. The main contract includes for the full demolition of the current estate and the construction of 163 new homes alongside a multi-use community space (crèche/karate/community facility), a boxing club, a commercial unit and a café space. It is anticipated that a contractor will be appointed and onsite by May 2024.

Q.16 COUNCILLOR CHRISTY BURKE

To ask the Chief Executive if DCC have held any discussions with (**detail supplied**) regards a Garda sun station at the Docklands.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The Dublin City Council Docklands Office had corresponded with An Garda Síochána during 2023 at the request of the Docklands Oversight and Consultative Forum in respect of a number of matters one of which was to request consideration of a Garda Station for the Docklands area. No further discussions have taken place following a response received from the Assistant Garda Commissioner.

- Q.17 **COUNCILLOR MANIX FLYNN** To ask the Chief Executive to issue a full report as the cost and expense of the “We Believe in Dublin” campaign. This report to include evening events nitefest in the city

CHIEF EXECUTIVE’S REPLY:

The Believe in Dublin campaign and associated events and initiatives, including night time events, were all put in place over a short period of time and in collaboration with many city stakeholders. The campaign and the many events were part of a concerted campaign to bring citizens and tourists back into the City after the terrible events of November 23rd 2023. The rapid response to delivering family friendly events, supporting the night time economy and boosting retail added hugely to the city during the festive season and was extremely successful based on the footfall figures that were recorded at this time.

Due to the nature of the events and the many stakeholders involved and with the holiday period it will take time to gather the relevant information that has been requested. The information will be prepared and a report will issue to the Councillor as soon as possible.

- Q.18 **COUNCILLOR MANNIX FLYNN**
To ask the Chief Executive to issue a report regarding the progress of the creation of the municipal theatre at Smock Ally this report to include intended board structures and all financial contributions made by Dublin city council to this project as well as governance structures and who owns the buildings

CHIEF EXECUTIVE’S REPLY:

Temple Bar Cultural Trust (TBCT), as the owner of this property, has been actively engaging with the Board and Executive of Smock Alley Theatre Ltd (SAT) with a view to an orderly wind up of the company on the basis that TBCT, in partnership with DCC, would turn the building into a Municipal Theatre. In September 2022, Dublin Municipal Theatre CLG was incorporated as a company to be the vehicle to carry out this project. SAT will begin the final stages of their orderly wind up in the near future, DMT will then take over control of the building and its operations in early 2024. There are still some legal pieces between TBCT and SAT to be finalised and executed.

The current board of DMT is comprised of TBCT executive directors. Once all legal agreements have been executed, a new Board for DMT will be established to oversee operations of the new Theatre and ensure the corporate governance responsibilities of the new entity are adhered to. It is envisaged that the board will have the following structure:

Independent Chair (Selected by DCC Chief Executive in consultation with the Lord Mayor)

2 x DCC Officials

2 x Elected Members

2 x External members

1 x Existing SAT board member (to ensure continuity for the first 12 months)

Dublin City Council, via the Arts Office, will provide financial support to DMT going forward and a Service Level Agreement will be put in place to ensure that the theatre is operating in line with the needs of the City. It is proposed that €250,000 will be provided for in the Annual Revenue Budget going forward. The initial SLA will be for a period of five years with a review thereafter. Payment of this annual grant to DMT will be made once the following steps have been adhered to:

DMT to formally write to DCC requesting each drawdown of the annual grant. A twice yearly payment schedule is to be agreed in advance and subject to review during the period of the agreement.

Each request is to include specific details of programming for the preceding period, an updated cash-flow statement, set of management accounts made up to the most recent quarter and up to date confirmation of tax clearance status.

Q.19 COUNCILLOR MANNIX FLYNN

To ask the Chief Executive to initiate the full investigation regarding the financial costs of Avalon House and the governance around the leasing contracts and costs into the future use of the building.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The Peter McVerry Trust entered a 20 year lease for Avalon House in 2019 for use as emergency accommodation. This was funded through Section 10 funding. Local stakeholders began legal proceedings in December 2019 and an application for an injunction was lodged with the High Court to prevent the use of the facility as emergency accommodation for single adults.

Following intensive negotiations, senior management agreed to a re-assignment of the lease from PMVT to Dublin City Council (DCC) on the basis the hostel would be used to accommodate families. In December 2020 it was agreed that the lease would be re-assigned to DCC for the residue of the term and this completed in May 2021.

The DRHE considered alternatives and a family hub was considered to be the only viable use. The DRHE commenced the capital works application process, conditional approval was granted in February 2023 and full Stage 1 approval given by the Department in June 2023, following compliance with the conditions set out. In August

2023 a contractor was appointed to prepare the tender to procure an integrated design team. This tender did not go live in late November 2023/early December 2023 as anticipated but is scheduled to go live in January 2024.

The building currently costs €2m per annum plus utilities and security costs. The outcome of the judicial review was a settlement agreed by all parties and the costs incurred during this process were legal costs and ongoing rent on the building. The estimated cost of planned works to the building is €6m.

Q.20 COUNCILLOR MANNIX FLYNN

To ask the Chief Executive to carry out a full investigation as to how the iconic listed building, protected structure, Taylors Hall that is owned by DCC was allowed to be turned in a full pub without the full informed consent of the elected representatives and the local community

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

There is an ongoing investigation being carried out by the Planning Enforcement Section in respect of the alleged change of use of part of the premises concerned to a public house. There has been a recent updated inspection carried out by Officers from the Planning and Property Development Department, following receipt of a submission on behalf of the operator of the premises. A decision will be made in due course as to whether further enforcement action is warranted in this case.

Q.21 COUNCILLOR DEBORAH BYRNE

To ask the Chief Executive to comment on reports that contracted clampers use a 'discretionary policy' when applying clamps to vehicles, to provide a copy of said discretionary policy and to ask how this complies with DCC's obligations to operate in a transparent, fair, objective and impartial manner.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

There is no discretionary policy in place. Parking Enforcement action is governed by the Road Traffic Act 1961 and amendments. In order to carrying out legal enforcements there are a number of factors to consider. There can be many reasons why non enforcement would take place such as: insufficient road markings and road signage, road marking could be awaiting re instatement due to recently roadworks in an area, signage can be vandalised or knocked down, enforcement at these locations may have to be suspended until the appropriate markings and signage is re-instated. Enforcement action can only take place where Dublin City Council as the roads authority is in charge of the area. There are private lands and footpaths and areas in front of shops called private landings in various locations that may look like they are public areas but are in fact owned privately and therefore cannot be enforced.

Applications for parking suspensions may granted by the Parking Enforcement Section, on foot on an application, purposes vary from organised events, filming in the city or emergency roadworks, if granted, this could lead to an instruction not to enforce on a particular street or allowances area made for residents of such streets to park on adjoining streets to facilitate the suspension and it ensures they won't be enforced in the interim.

Q.22 COUNCILLOR DEBORAH BYRNE

To ask the Chief Executive how infrastructure which allows parking / stopping for hearses, wedding cars and disabled parking spaces close to entrances of religious spaces will be included within the Draft Dublin City Centre Transport Plan.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Any religious spaces that are close to any planned interventions included as part of the Draft Dublin City Centre Transport Plan will be consulted with prior to any new measures being introduced. It is planned to carry out local consultations for all specific measures which will allow for consultation with all local stakeholders.

Q.23 COUNCILLOR DEBORAH BYRNE

To ask the Chief Executive for an update regarding the UN IOM migration forum and DCCs response to the Department of Integration's community engagement model.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

As noted in the *Guide for Inclusive Community Engagement in Local Planning and Decision Making*, engagement fosters long-term trusting relationships between communities. The principles for community engagement, outlined in the guide, are evident in the preparation of the Dublin City Local Economic and Community Plan (LECP) 2024 – 2029.

The LECP public consultation period began on 13 November 2023, continuing until 15 January 2024. Throughout the consultation process a variety of mechanisms are being used to ensure meaningful engagement with Dublin City citizens and stakeholders.

These include:

Accessible online and in-person workshops.

World Café Event.

Online survey promoted via corporate website, social media platforms and in public buildings.

Series of one to one conversations with key contributors and stakeholders.
Facilitated consultation through Dublin City PPN.

On completion of the public consultation, the objective is that the diverse needs of people in Dublin City are represented and reflected in the LECP. The Plan, will then be implemented in partnership with Dublin City Council, state bodies, community and voluntary organisations and local businesses.

The Local Economic and Community Plan 2024 – 2029 framework and initial 2-year Implementation plan will be published towards the end of Q2 2024. As part of this an action to establish the pilot Dublin City Migrant Forum will be progressed at an early stage.

Q.24 COUNCILLOR DEBORAH BYRNE

To ask the Chief Executive for an update regarding plans to refurbish the CTC building since the North Inner City meeting held on September 25th

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The North Inner City Area Office will present options to the NIC Councillors early in 2024.

Q.25 COUNCILLOR DAITHÍ DOOLAN

To ask the Chief Executive the following:

Firstly I want to acknowledge the great work done by DCC staff in delivering the Friendship Agreement with Ramallah. Can the Chief Executive please outline the programme of work that will now take place to ensure the aims and objectives of the agreement are met and to also outline the resources being committed to this programme.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Following the signing of the Friendship Agreement between Dublin City Council and the Ramallah Municipal Authority in December 2023, further work will be progressed in the first quarter of 2024 to agree a programme of work to support the terms of this agreement. In the coming weeks a meeting will be set up to discuss the work plan within the areas of cooperation we agreed upon;

Areas of Cooperation

The Parties will carry out, in accordance with the principles of equality and mutual benefit, and subject to the availability of personnel and resources, exchanges and cooperation between the two cities in various forms in the following fields.

Climate Action

Sustainable Transport/Active Travel

Municipal Services

Smart Cities to promote common prosperity and development.

Regular contacts shall be maintained between the leaders and relevant departments of both sides to facilitate consultations on the exchanges and cooperation as well as matters of common concern. This work aligns with Dublin City Council's Mission Statement "*To drive the sustainable development of the City through strong civic leadership and delivery of effective services that promote the well-being and quality of life of citizens and communities.*"

Both cities will work with relevant organisations to develop a practical programme of cooperation and to develop and implement joint initiatives.

Q.26 COUNCILLOR DAITHÍ DOOLAN

To ask the Chief Executive will the DRHE be receiving any extra funding to meet the demand on resources as a result of extra rough sleepers or people presenting as homeless because of the change in Government policy in the provision of accommodation to asylum seekers.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

DRHE will receive extra funding in 2024 to continue the work that we do with rough sleepers and with people presenting as homeless in the Dublin Region. DRHE does not have a role in the provision of accommodation to International Protection applicants. That falls under the remit of the *Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth* (DCEDIY).

Q.27 COUNCILLOR BRIEGE MACOSCAR

To ask the Chief Executive to arrange for the repair of the footpath at 21 Grove Road, Dublin 11 as the temporary repair is in poor condition.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

An enquiry (ref. 11150232) has been created & forwarded to the Area Inspector, who will carry out an inspection of the locus & add any defects to a works list for repair.

Q.28 COUNCILLOR BRIGE MACOSCAR

To ask the Chief Executive to review the public lighting on (**details supplied**) which is quite a dark stretch.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The existing street lights on (**Details supplied**) are planned to be upgraded to LED street lights under the Public Lighting Upgrade Project. These works are expected to be completed by the end of summer 2024.

Until the upgrade works are completed, routine maintenance work on the existing street lighting will continue to be carried out in accordance with normal maintenance regimes.

Q.29 COUNCILLOR BRIEGE MACOSCAR

To ask the Chief Executive can he advise if (**Details supplied**) is due to receive a public lighting upgrade as the existing lights do not provide great coverage.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The street lights in (**details supplied**) were upgraded to LED Street lights in 2017 so there are no plans for a further upgrade of these lights. In the meantime a lighting assessment will be carried out on the street lighting in (**details supplied**) to ascertain whether or not any additional lighting may be required.

Q.30 COUNCILLOR BRIEGE MACOSCAR

To ask the Chief Executive arrange for the repair of the footpaths at (**details supplied**) as the footpaths in the cul-de-sac are in very poor condition.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

An enquiry (ref.11150234) has been created & forwarded to the Area Inspector, who will carry out an inspection of the locus & add any defects to a works list.

Q.31 COUNCILLOR CAROLINE CONROY

To ask the Chief Executive to provide me with an update on the current status of Adelphi House 153 North Circular Road Dublin 7, D07 W1K6 (a building in the ownership of the Health Services Executive) and indicate whether a fire certificate was issued or Commencement Notice lodged, when it was last inspected by Dublin City Council officials, when rates were last paid on the building and whether the premises is on the Vacant Sites or Derelict Sites Register, and can he make a statement on the matter.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

153 North Circular Road is owned by the Health Service Executive (HSE). Section 16 of the Health Service Executive (Financial Matters) Act 2014 which amends Schedule 4 of the Valuation Act 2001 includes "any land, building or part of building occupied by the Health Service Executive" is deemed not rateable. Hence this building is exempt from Commercial Rates and no rates demand have been issued. The Dublin City Council rating system confirms that no charge has been raised in respect of the premises since 1997. I have no records prior to 1997.

An application for a fire safety certificate was submitted on the BCMS on the 21st April 2021 and a decision issued on 18th June 2021 (Fire Cert Granted). It is application submission number SN3002304 / decision number FSC2103059DC.

It Was For A Proposed Single Storey Activity Hub At The Rear Of Adelphi House Community Dwelling At 153 North Circular Road, Cabra East, Dublin 7, D07 W1k6.

Q.32 COUNCILLOR CAROLINE CONROY

To ask the Chief Executive provide me with an update on the current status of Baggot Street Hospital, 15-18 Baggot Street Upper, Dublin 4, D04 T6N3, and indicate when it was last inspected by Dublin City Council officials, indicate when the local authority last met with the Health Services Executive to discuss the building's future, and can he make a statement on the matter.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Responsibility for the maintenance and security of a Protected Structure lies with the owner (and occupiers if any) of the building under Section 58 of the Planning and Development Act, 2000 (as amended), in this case the HSE.

Dublin City Council Conservation Department and the Buildings at Risk Inspector shall request and arrange a detailed inspection and on-site meeting with the HSE in the coming weeks to ensure that the integrity and fabric of the Protected Structure is safeguarded.

Dublin City Council Housing Department held a number of meetings in 2023 with the HSE to investigate the potential of adapting and refurbishing the Baggot Street Hospital Buildings to create apartments, either for use as social housing or to provide housing for public sector employees working in healthcare or other sectors. As part of this engagement, an inspection of the property took place in January 2023. This inspection was facilitated by the HSE with DCC employees in attendance.

With respect to the potential Adaptive Reuse project, the last meeting between the HSE and the Adaptive Reuse Unit in the DCC Housing Department took place in March 2023. Subsequent to this meeting, a decision was made by DCC Housing Department not to pursue the HSE any further in relation to the potential redevelopment of this building.

Q.33 COUNCILLOR CAROLINE CONROY

To ask the Chief Executive provide me with an update on the current status of Aldborough House, Portland Row Dublin 1, D01 YF59, and indicate the current status of Planning Permission 3457/17, and indicate whether a fire certificate was issued or

Commencement Notice lodged, and when it was last inspected by Dublin City Council officials, when rates were last paid on the building and whether the premises is on the Vacant Sites or Derelict Sites Register, and can he make a statement on the matter.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Dublin City Council recognises the historical importance of the building, Aldborough House and are keen to see it used in a meaningful way. The Council are willing to engage in further discussions regarding its future use and ownership.

Any such discussions would have to take account of the complexity of such a project, planning regulations and how Aldborough House could be used in the future.

There were some discussions with the OPW on this pre-Covid19. The OPW were considering an intervention to use the building ultimately for offices and whether Aldborough House could be brought into public ownership.

The scale of expenditure to purchase and fully refurbish was daunting and the owners were keen to retain the building at that time. Aldborough House is on the Vacant Sites Register.

The most recent planning permission for this location Planning Reference 3457/17 expired on 25th August 2023. No further planning applications have been lodged.

Derelict Sites has no active file on this property and it is not entered on the Derelict Sites Register.

The site identified as Aldborough House, Portland Row, Dublin 1, was entered on the Vacant Sites Register on 28th July 2017 as it met the criteria, as set out in the Urban Regeneration and Housing Act, 2015. The market value of the site was determined by the City Valuers Office on 18th August 2017 at €3 million euro (the market value was revised in 2022 to €3.5 million euro but will not apply until 2024 in respect of 2023 should the site remain entered on the Vacant Sites Register).

Demands for payment of Vacant Site Levies were levied in respect of the site for 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021 and 2022. The Vacant Site Levy for 2018 was calculated at 3% of the market value of the site and all subsequent Demands were based on 7% of the market value of the site.

The Vacant Sites Unit raises demands for payment annually and reminders for payment are issued quarterly. Under the vacant site levy provisions, there is a cumulative effect associated with not activating a site for development purposes for each year that a site remains vacant or idle and in respect of which levy liability is not paid.

Where a vacant site levy becomes due and payable, it becomes a charge on the land concerned until it is paid.

The Residential Zoned Land Tax ("RZLT") was introduced in the Finance Act 2021. This is a new tax to activate land for residential purposes which will in time replace the Vacant Site Levy. The RZLT is an annual tax, calculated at a rate of 3% of the market value of land and will be collected by the Revenue Commissioners. Lands that fall into scope will be liable for this tax measure in February 2025. Aldborough House was identified as a site that met the criteria under the RZLT and was included on the final map on the basis that the site constitutes land satisfying the relevant criteria as set out in the Act. The owner will have an opportunity to make a submission on the annual draft map that will be published in February 2024.

Q.34 COUNCILLOR CAROLINE CONROY

To ask the Chief Executive the following:

Given the important legacy of James Joyce to Dublin can the Chief Executive provide me with a list of locations, where he lived, and where a commemorative plaque has been placed, and in the case of those that don't have a plaque can he ensure that one is provided, and can he make a statement on the matter?

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

James Joyce lived at a total of eighteen addresses in Dublin city and county, of which sixteen are within the City Council area. (Information taken from *where They Lived in Dublin* by John Cowell.)

Period	Address
1882-84	41 Brighton Square, Rathgar
1884-87	23 Castlewood Avenue, Rathmines
1893-94	14 Fitzgibbon Street and 29 Hardwicke Street
1894	2 Millbourne Avenue, Drumcondra
1895	17 North Richmond Street
1896-99	29 Windsor Avenue, Fairview
1899	7 Convent Avenue, Fairview
1899-1900	15 Richmond Avenue, Fairview
1900-01	8 Royal Terrace (now Inverness Terrace), Fairview
1902	32 Glengariff Parade, North Circular Road
1902-03	St Peter's Terrace (now St. Peter's Road), Phibsboro
1904	60 Shelbourne Road, Ballsbridge
1904	35 Strand Road, Sandymount
1904	103 Strand Road, Sandymount
1909	44 Fontenoy Street, Dublin 1
1912	17-21 Richmond Place, North Circular Road

There is only one plaque marking a house where Joyce lived, at his birth place of 41 Brighton Square. The (now somewhat faded) plaque was erected by Montclair State University (USA) in 1966.

Joyce is otherwise memorialised in the City at several locations, including:

James Joyce Street.

James Joyce Bridge.

A statue of James Joyce in North Earl Street.

A bust of James Joyce in St Stephen's Green.

14 brass plaques in the footpath marking Leopold Bloom's journey across Dublin.

A plaque in St Patrick's Park.

The James Joyce Centre.

The Dedalus Library in the Museum of Literature Ireland (MOLI).

The Council's policy on commemorations states that '*In considering proposals for naming of infrastructure or erection of civic monuments or plaques, consideration will be given to what other infrastructure; monuments or plaques exist in honour of the person/s or event. in general a person should be commemorated by one memorial.*'

Notwithstanding that, it would be impractical to erect a plaque at every address.

Q.35 COUNCILLOR JOHN LYONS

To ask the Chief Executive for a detailed update on the legal challenge taken by Hammerson against the City Council's decision to add several historic buildings on Moore Street to the Record of Protected Structures.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The matter is next in court for mention on the 20 February 2024. At that stage it is expected that the pleadings will be closed and that a date for hearing can be allocated.

Q.36 COUNCILLOR DARCY LONERGAN

To ask the Chief Executive for an update on what progress, if any has been made to render the following site non-derelect: Dublin City Council owned site at junction of Marshal Lane and Bridgefoot Street to the rear of the premises 134-137 Thomas Street West.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The site is managed by Property Management and currently in use by the Council's Parks Department as a temporary depot facility while options for use are considered.

Q.37 COUNCILLOR DARCY LONERGAN

To ask the Chief Executive the following in regard to the continued dereliction of 13a/13b Conyngham Road, Dublin 8 for many decades, can the Chief Executive state whether a Reference of Ownership has been received from the Law Department, and if so to state who the owner is, and whether a Derelict Site or Vacant Site Notice has been or will be issued to them.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The property at 13a/13b Conyngham Road, Dublin 8 are not currently on the Derelict Sites Register (DSR) and as it is not registered with DCC, a reference of ownership was carried out. The owner has been contacted regarding the appearance of the property and a reply is awaited which will inform the next steps to be taken by the Derelict Sites Section. In general, ownership details are only provided when a site is included on the Derelict Site Register and when the information is available in the public domain.

Q.38 COUNCILLOR DARCY LONERGAN

To ask the Chief Executive the following:

"In regard to the European Union Green City Capital awards might the Chief Executive consider entering Dublin for this award, and can he ensure sufficient capacity is made available to the Parks Department to do so, and can he make a statement on the matter."

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Dublin City Council through the Environment and Transportation Department has previously applied for the European Green Capital Award in 2020 for 2023. The application at that time was unsuccessful. The Environment and Transportation Department will consult with our colleague in CRES and following a review of the indicators that are assessed for the award, we will consider if a submission in the next round would be appropriate.

Q.39 COUNCILLOR DARCY LONERGAN

To ask the Chief Executive advise on the current status of the long term plans for comprehensive traffic calming of the Western and Northern sides of Parnell Square. While acknowledging that the temporary build-outs for bus stops on the West side of the Square have been beneficial, as well as the temporary cycle lane on the East side, can the Chief Executive update me on the status of the long-term plans for comprehensive plan to improve the public realm and increase the attractiveness of the Parnell Square Cultural Quarter for residents and visitors alike by widening

footpaths and narrowing vehicular traffic lanes to actively ensure that speed limits are adhered to on the Square, as was first proposed in the O'Connell Street Area Integrated Area Plan back in the 1990s.'

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

At present, DCC is progressing the design of Parnell Square Project Phase 1 which comprises the construction of the City Library, Essential works to six number Georgian houses including complete renovation of one of the Georgian houses and works to the Hugh Lane Gallery.

Phase 2 comprises the upgrading of the public realm works at Parnell Square and the complete renovation of two further number Georgian houses.

Design of the Phase 2 works is due to commence in the latter half of 2024.

Q.40 **COUNCILLOR PATRICIA ROE**

To ask the Chief Executive to have a traffic survey carried out at **(details supplied)**. This area is particularly dangerous in the morning rush hour with many students walking and cycling to school and others being dropped off by car. Extending the yellow box to both sides of the road would help as would the provision of a school warden (which was recently refused by TAG) as this would encourage cyclists who all use to footpath on Collins Ave south, from the pedestrian crossing at Shanowen Avenue, to use the cycle lane provided.

Could the Chief Executive ask the Active Travel office when the cycle land is likely to be extended from the school as far as the Swords Road junction

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Response from Traffic Advisory Group:

The area engineer will assess Cllr. Roe's request for the extension of the existing Yellow Box at **(details supplied)**. The Councillor will be informed once the Area Engineer has assessed this request.

School Warden Request:

Following investigation on **(details supplied)** there it is not a suitable or safe crossing point to recommend a school warden crossing. The road is wide and a 50km/h arterial route and there is no suitable place in the vicinity of the school gates with no appropriate footpath that is safe for students to use in order to access the school gates via a school crossing point. Therefore a school warden it is not recommended.

Students can be redirected by school management to a safe crossing point at the pedestrian crossing on at the junction with Larkhill Road. Students can use this pedestrian crossing to access alternative school gates on Falcarragh Road.

Response from DCC Active Travel Programme Office

Dublin City Council's Active Travel Network will be delivered through a series of infrastructural projects. The School is located on the proposed Finglas to Killester Active Travel Route, which is programmed for delivery in the period 2025 – 2027, pending approval of funding. Design consultants are expected to be appointed to this scheme in Q1 2024.

Q.41 **COUNCILLOR PATRICIA ROE**

To ask the Chief Executive to provide an indicative time line of when footpath repairs will be carried out in (**details supplied**). I have previously requested this information from Roads Maintenance department to no avail, and have submitted photo evidence of injuries to residents who have tripped and fallen on broken footpaths in this estate.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

An enquiry (ref. 11150235) has been created & forwarded to the Area Inspector, who will carry out an inspection of (**details supplied**) and add a list of defects for repair. The timeframe for commencement of these repairs is 6-8 weeks.

Q.42 **COUNCILLOR VINCENT JACKSON**

To ask the Chief Executive please look at what measures DCC Parks Dept. can do to ensure equine / scramblers are kept off the GAA Pitch at Californian Hills Park Rossmore Road Ballyfermot Dublin 10. On a number of occasions, it has become impossible to use the facility due to some ongoing issues Dublin City Council must take responsibility to ensure this beautiful Park is protected and remains a valuable asset to the People of Ballyfermot / Chapelizod, Palmerstown etc. I would be very grateful for an on-site meeting with D La Salle GAA to discuss issues.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Parks are available to meet with the club at a mutually convenient time in the New Year. The issue relating to horses requires input from animal welfare section. The kissing gates at all locations serves as a deterrent to scramblers in the park, however, it is impossible for parks to completely prevent the entry of these bikes into the park. Gardai require involvement in addressing this issue.

Q.43 **COUNCILLOR VINCENT JACKSON**

To ask the Chief Executive can the housing Department please look at the following (**Details Supplied**)

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Housing Maintenance have engaged a damp specialist to investigate the issue at this property. We are currently awaiting inspection and recommendations. We anticipate having this information in early January 2024.

Q.44 **COUNCILLOR VINCENT JACKSON**

To ask the Chief Executive to please ensure that retail units like the former Iceland store on Le Fanu Road Ballyfermot and the former Bank of Ireland premises are not allowed to be used for any additional fast food outlets. Ballyfermot has enough of this type of commercial premises.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Ballyfermot urban village is governed by the landuse zoning objective Z4: *To provide for and improve mixed-services facilities*. Key Urban Villages and Urban Villages (formerly District Centres) function to serve the needs of the surrounding catchment providing a range of retail, commercial, cultural, social and community functions that are easily accessible by foot, bicycle or public transport; in line with the concept of the 15-minute city. Key Urban Villages form the top tier of centre outside the city centre. Urban Villages zoned Z4 are typically smaller in scale and provide a more localised role for the daily shopping needs and local services of a residential community.

All planning applications including change of use applications for fast food outlets in Z4 areas such as Ballyfermot are assessed against the policies and objectives of the

Development Plan, including the Retail Strategy and Development Management Standards for retail, food and beverage and leisure uses.

Any such proposal for fast food outlets on the sites identified, would require a planning application. In assessing any planning applications including fast food outlets on these sites, the Planning authority will have regard to the detailed list of issues in Section 15.14.7, which includes the effect on amenities, the need to safeguard the vitality and viability of the shopping area and to maintain a suitable mix of uses. In particular for take away proposals, the number/frequency of such outlets within 1km of school sites is examined, as is the context and character of the existing street, where the aim is to maintain and improve its vitality by encouraging a range of convenience and/or comparison retail shops.

Q.45 COUNCILLOR VINCENT JACKSON

To ask the Chief Executive please ensure that the leaking water cylinder at **(details supplied)** is replaced and that the central heating be looked at this is a very Cold house awaiting external wall insulation for the past few years without any clear indication when works will be done.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Housing Maintenance have carried out the repair to the leaking cylinder. The Heating Section have contacted the tenant in relation to the above problem and all necessary works will be carried out to ensure it is working correctly.

Q.46 COUNCILLOR RACHEAL BATTEN

To ask the Chief Executive to provide the 2023 Council Gender Equality report and outline the percentage of the Senior Executive of each gender.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The City Council published its 2023 Gender Pay Gap Report in December. The 2023 report shows a Mean Gender Pay Gap of 4.44% and a Median Gender Pay Gap of 3.14%.

This represents a slight reduction in our figures from 2022. (In 2022, our Mean Gender Pay Gap was 4.83% and our Median Gender Pay Gap was 5.65%.)

Although our results will vary from year to year, the City Council will monitor the long-term trends and continue to emphasise the importance of opportunity for all.

At the end of 2023, the gender breakdown of senior managers within DCC (Analogous Senior Executive Officer and above) is set out below:

Gender	Percentage
Female	38%
Male	62%

Q.47 COUNCILLOR JANET HORNER

To ask the Chief Executive what steps have been undertaken to expedite the examination of 54 Arbour Hill with a view to including it on the Record of Protected Structure in light of its social and architectural significance, and amidst concern over its recent sale?

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

No. 54 Arbour Hill is a detached single-bay three-storey over basement former widows almshouse, built c.1720, having a four-bay side elevation, with angled corner to the north-west and a two-storey extension to the west elevation.

In November 2019, the Planning & Property Development SPC agreed a methodology to expedite the proposed additions/deletions to the RPS in a systematic manner, based on the Architectural Heritage Protection Guidelines 2011 and NIAH/Ministerial Recommendations under Section 53(1) of the Planning and Development Act, 2000 (as amended). The methodology agreed to prioritise industrial, twentieth century, early buildings and underrepresented typologies.

No. 54 Arbour Hill was surveyed by the NIAH (as part of the DHLGH Stage 2 programme of work) and given a Ministerial Recommendation as being of Regional significance. Additionally, the structure is an early building.

In 2023 the Conservation Section opened an RPS Addition file for 54 Arbour Hill for the structure to be assessed for inclusion on the Record of Protected Structures.

In early 2024 the Conservation Section will be carrying out a review of the Stage 2 NIAH Ministerial Recommendations received by the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage. No. 54 Arbour Hill will be prioritised for assessment as part of this review.

Q.48 COUNCILLOR JANET HORNER

To ask the Chief Executive how many personal injury claims were filed in 2023 relating to incidents on footpaths and cycle lanes in Dublin City Council and how does this compare with recent years?

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The number of personal injury claims filed to end of quarter 3, 2023 relating to incidents on footpaths is 169. A total of 298 claims were filed in 2022 and 316 claims were filed in 2021 in relation to incidents on footpaths. Personal injury claims in relation to cycle lanes in Dublin City Centre are not distinguished separately to incidents on footpaths.

Q.49 COUNCILLOR JANET HORNER

To ask the Chief Executive for an update regarding plans for the redevelopment of Mountjoy Square?

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The design team has been conducting comprehensive desktop studies and site surveys, engaging in consultations with crucial stakeholder groups within the vicinity. This collaborative effort also involved inter-departmental discussions to meticulously outline a scope of works, with the ultimate goal of presenting a well-structured Part 8 planning proposal in 2024.

Q.50 COUNCILLOR SOPHIE NICOULLAUD

To ask the Chief Executive how many housing units (and the type of units) were bought in 2023 for the Traveller Community. Were the houses bought specifically for this community?

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Dublin City Council Traveller Accommodation Unit purchased 10 houses in 2023. These homes were specifically bought for the Traveller Community to alleviate overcrowding and de-canting.

These consisted of 7x3 Bedrooms 2x2 Bedrooms 1 x 4 Bedroom.

Q.51 COUNCILLOR SOPHIE NICOULLAUD

To ask the Chief Executive of the full process to sign off on a housing maintenance job done directly by DCC and to sign off on a job done by a contractor? Who signs off? Is the work inspected by the housing manager for him to sign off?

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

In general the process of allocation and management of Housing maintenance jobs is the role of the local Area Maintenance Officers (AMOs), who report to the Senior Executive Officer, Housing Maintenance. This is a separate role to the Area Housing Officers who carry out a more general estate management role under the Area Management structure.

All maintenance requests are logged via the OHMS IT System (Open House Management System) and referred to the local AMO who assigns the job via the relevant Foreman. The range of maintenance jobs is broad and each job is allocated either to direct labour or Contractor depending on the nature of the request.

All jobs, whether direct labour or Contractor are inspected and signed off by the relevant Foreman in consultation with the Area Maintenance Officer where necessary.

If the Councillor has a query in relation to a specific case please contact the S.E.O. Housing Maintenance directly (Contact details below).

Q.52 COUNCILLOR SOPHIE NICOULLAUD

To ask the Chief Executive the list of DCC properties which would fall into phase two of the energy efficiency retrofitting programme and that have not been completed yet?

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

According to our records we have 2245 properties which would fall into Phase Two of the Energy Efficiency Retrofitting Programme and that have not been completed yet. As it is not feasible to furnish a list of the individual properties/addresses, a breakdown of same are listed in the table below as per the areas/lots of the current tender for the programme:

Lot	Area	No. of Properties Remaining
Lot 1	Finglas West	468
Lot 2	Finglas East	141
Lot 3	Artane/Whitehall	60
Lot 4	Donaghmede	7
Lot 5	Clontarf	38
Lot 6	Cabra/Glasnevin	222
Lot 7	North Inner City	96
Lot 8	South Inner City	314
Lot 9	Ballyfermot West	274
Lot 10	Ballyfermot East/Drimnagh	257
Lot 11	Kimmage Rathmines/Pembroke	368
Total		2,245

Q.53 COUNCILLOR JAMES GEOGHEGAN

To ask the Chief Executive, further to question 38 on the 4th of December 2023 if he could clarify that the amounts listed in the table provided between 2019 and 2023 are inclusive of any funding that the Office of Public Works or Central Government may have provided funding for during those years for the specified projects.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Yes these figures to end of October 2023 are inclusive of all funding from sources outside of Dublin City Council. They do not include the cost of Office of Public Works direct labour however which would add a further €2m to these mainly on the Dodder Flood Alleviation Scheme. They also do not include private flood alleviation schemes through the planning process and as part of private initiatives all of which are monitored by the Flood Defence Office of Dublin City Council.

There are many other initiatives involving the monitoring of existing flood defences and flood warnings also not included in these figures. These roughly cost the Council €1m per annum.

Q.54 COUNCILLOR JAMES GEOGHEGAN

To ask the Chief Executive if he can request that the Senior Executive Technician in the Bus Stop And Services section of Dublin City Council to nominate himself or an appropriate colleague and/or an appropriate representative from the NTA with whom he is engaging with on this issue, to meet with the **(details supplied)** who has ongoing concerns about safety arising from the installation of a bus-stop across her driveway without any prior-warning or consultation.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

As per previous correspondence on the matter, it is not accurate to say that the bus stop was installed without prior warning or consultation.

With respect to the perceived safety issues: The design was carried out by competent designers in line with the 'Design Manual for Urban Roads and Streets.' It is in keeping with the guidance which states that it is acceptable for bus stops to traverse driveways (See screenshot below). Road Safety Audits have been carried out to ensure safety and the NTA's design team found there to be no safety issues at this stop. Further to this, a Stage 4 Road Safety Audit is scheduled to take place as a matter of routine, approximately 3-4 months after the bus route went live (in this case approx. March 2024). In order to address any concerns the resident may have, a member of the bus stops and services team will arrange to meet with the resident in the New Year arranged via Cllr James Geoghegan. To ensure that the meeting is successful and that the relevant members of the team from DCC and NTA can be invited we would again request that the Councillor or the resident inform us of the exact nature of these safety concerns.

Q.55 COUNCILLOR JAMES GEOGHEGAN

To ask the Chief Executive whether he believes the Dublin riots necessitate a rethink of the proposed pedestrianisation of College Green or whether he is committed to the project proceeding as planned.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

We are completely committed to the project proceeding as planned. The recent riots reinforce the need for a more vibrant city centre which this project will help to deliver.

Q.56 COUNCILLOR JAMES GEOGHEGAN

To ask the Chief Executive if he will carry out a review of the Dublin City Council capital programme and identify projects which have been listed, and relisted, for capital funding over several years with no actual implementation or delivery with a view to rationalising and prioritising the capital programme list.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The Capital Programme for 2024 – 2026 was considered at the December Council meeting and identifies projects with an estimated spend of €4.245 bn over the 3 years. The programme is critically reviewed each year to take account of (1) those projects that can be delivered in the timeframe (2) a review of both external and internal funding sources and (3) the need to address deficits in infrastructure provision. The 2024 - 2026 programme prioritises those projects that the City Council expects will be delivered over the 3 years.

Q.57 COUNCILLOR DEIRDRE CONROY

To ask the Chief Executive and the Parks Department about an issue from an enquirer on Bushy Park Road, Terenure.

Along the road, numbers 70/72, 84/86 and 94/96, and others, notified that the trees are massive whether in leaf or without leaves.

The tree's habit is out of control with all the pruning done to its front, to allow buses to pass and no pruning done to the other sides or the back. The enquirer states that this makes it dangerous particularly when there are storms. The enquirer also mentions to have emailed parks@dublincity.ie but has not got the trees revised. The request includes a good pruning at the lower level.



CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

A reply to this question is currently being compiled. The response will be sent directly to the councillor within the next three weeks.

Q.58 COUNCILLOR DEIRDRE CONROY

To ask the Chief Executive and Parks Department, in regard to the enquiry about the mature amenity trees, flora and fauna in the large Bushy Park, Terenure. The enquirer forwards on information about DCC Parks.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Some trees in the woodland have had to be removed as they were in a dangerous condition. This work was overseen by the DCC Tree Officer in accordance with good arboricultural practice. All of the trees have been independently surveyed by a qualified arborist. To ensure there is no impact on biodiversity, in particular bats and herons the work was planned in cooperation with the DCC Biodiversity Officer and approved by National Parks and Wildlife Services (NPWS). It should be noted that there are some additional trees that need to be removed in due course.

As part of an on-going management plan it is proposed to plant Oak, Beech, Scots pine, hawthorn and hazel in Q1 2024 in the enclosed area. Laurel prevents the development of a sustainable ground cover flora and so it is being removed on a phased basis to facilitate re-planting. Dublin City Council is a member of the Tree Council of Ireland.

Q.59 COUNCILLOR ANTHONY CONNAGHAN

To ask the Chief Executive to cut back the shrubbery in (1. **details supplied**) which is adjacent to the back gardens of (2.**details supplied**) as residents have reported rats coming across the walls there.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Housing Maintenance will arrange for an inspection of the shrubbery in the area adjacent to the back gardens.

Q.60 COUNCILLOR ANTHONY CONNAGHAN

To ask the Chief Executive to arrange for the replacement of the wooden gates, which are rotten at (**details supplied**).

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The repairing or replacing of gates is the responsibility of the tenant as per page 19 the Tenant Handbook.

Q.61 COUNCILLOR ANTHONY CONNAGHAN

To ask the Chief Executive to arrange for a housing maintenance inspection at (**details supplied**) where it is reported that the extension walls need to be dry lined/insulated. The tenant reports that the sitting room, kitchen and hall have damp issues.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Housing Maintenance have called out to this tenant and carried out an inspection. An appropriate programme of works has been agreed and the tenant has been informed that all of these works will commence in January 2024.

Q.62 COUNCILLOR ANTHONY CONNAGHAN

To ask the Chief Executive to arrange for the installation of speed ramps on (**details supplied**) where local residents have reported that cars are regularly speeding along this stretch of road that is used as a rat run.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

(**Details supplied**) has 3 No. Raised tables at various junctions. These raised tables are installed to encourage drivers to reduce their speeds.

In addition (**details supplied**) has 30km/h Slow Zone signage indicating the lower speed limit and the area is a Home Zone/Slow Zone. This warns drivers they are driving

in a residential area and to expect children. These 30km/h Slow Zone signs are clearly marked on **(details supplied)** at the entrances from Jamestown Road and Ballygall Road West respectively.

Parked vehicles along **(details supplied)** provide additional traffic calming as oncoming motorists yield to allow each other to proceed. On-street parking reduces the available carriageway width and increases driver caution. The trees lining **(details supplied)** creates an enclosed environment which further enhances traffic calming. For these reasons the provision of extra traffic calming measures are not recommended at this time.

Q.63 COUNCILLOR DAITHÍ DOOLAN

To ask the Chief Executive for a breakdown in tabular form of the numbers on DCCs housing list, including numbers on both the housing list and transfer list, for each area, length of time on list, bedroom size required on comparison to 12 months ago.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Please find attached the most recent housing report and the corresponding report for the previous year for comparison purposes.

Q.64 COUNCILLOR DAITHÍ DOOLAM

To ask the Chief Executive how many families are in 'family hubs' and how many families are in there longer than 12 months & how many families are in longer than 2 years?

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

On Nov 30th 2023, there were 557 unique families living in family hubs across the four Local Authority areas in the Dublin region (DCC, SDCC, FCC, DLRCC).

These 557 families were made up of 882 adults (this includes adult dependents aged 18+) and 1,038 children aged 17 and under.

Of these 557 unique families, 301 families had been living in family hubs for 12 months or longer. These 301 families were made up of 516 adults (including adult dependents aged 18+) and 624 children aged 17 and under (see Table 1 below).

A total of 135 families had been living in family hubs for 2 years or longer. These 135 families were made up of 253 adults (this includes adult dependents aged 18+) and 314 children aged 17 and under (see Table 1 below).

Table 1: Duration of Families living in Family Hubs in the Entire Dublin Region as of 30th Nov 2023

Duration in EA – (as at 30/11/2023) One Night Only	Total Families	Total Adults	Number Dependents
24+ months	135	253	314
18-24months	81	138	151
12-18 months	85	125	159
6-12 months	101	142	152
6 months or less	155	224	262
Total	557	882	1038

Q.65 COUNCILLOR KEITH CONNOLLY

To ask the Chief Executive to carry out a review of traffic calming measures at **(details supplied)**

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The Area Engineer will carry out a review of the issues raised by Cllr. Connolly in relation to **(details supplied)** in Q1 of 2024. The Cllr. Will be notified if any traffic calming measures are required on the aforementioned road.

Road Maintenance Services will add the ramps on the Avenue at **(details supplied)** to the 2024 North West Area works programme.

Q.66 COUNCILLOR KEITH CONNOLLY

To ask the Chief Executive to consider upgrading the lighting on **(details supplied)** the lights and poles are old and in need of repair/replacement

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

A special night check was carried out on **(details supplied)** and two lights were recorded out of order and these will be scheduled in for repair as soon as possible. All other lights were found to be operating normally.

Under our Public Lighting Upgrade Project the street lights on **(details supplied)** will eventually be upgraded to LED street lights although an exact timeframe cannot be provided for these works at present.

With regard to the poles on **(details supplied)** virtually all of them are ESB Networks poles so attending to those is a matter for ESB. Only the lights and brackets (supporting the lights) belong to DCC. Until the lighting upgrade works take place we will continue to maintain the existing lighting in accordance with our normal maintenance regimes.

Q.67 COUNCILLOR KEITH CONNOLLY

To ask the Chief Executive if he will consider putting a basketball court in **(details supplied)**. One of the tennis courts could easily be converted in a basketball court.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Parks services have completed a feasibility study of the tennis courts at **(details supplied)** with the intention of providing upgraded tennis and padel facilities for the NW area. Park services will investigate the feasibility of installing a small basketball court next to this new proposed tennis facility, subject to available budget.

Q.68 COUNCILLOR KEITH CONNOLLY

To ask the Chief Executive to arrange for the clean-up of the leaves, street sweep and weeding to be carried at **(Details supplied)**.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Waste Management will have the above mentioned estate cleaned by the end of January 2024.

Q.69 COUNCILLOR RAY MCADAM

To ask the Chief Executive to provide an update on the status of plans being prepared by the Parks Department regarding revising the existing layout of **(details supplied)**; the nature of the proposed changes; the timeframe for the undertaking of these works; the indicative cost of the proposals; whether a Part 8 planning application is required; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Parks Service will be reviewing the layout of **(details supplied)** this year. When details are available they can be made available to the councillor.

Q.70 COUNCILLOR RAY MCADAM

To ask the Chief Executive to provide a comprehensive update on plans to redevelop **(Details supplied)**; the consequences of changes introduced in the Dublin City Development Plan 2022 - 2028 on the redevelopment site; how many homes are now likely to be built; whether the site will be connected to the existing senior citizens housing complex; when does he expect an application for planning permission to be granted; the indicative cost of the project and the likely time frame for the completion of same; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The Fold Housing design team are currently evaluating the impact of changes introduced in the Dublin City Development Plan, specifically in relation to the required riparian zone. Fold and DCC Housing Development team have been engaging directly over the last number of months with the relevant technical departments and a design response is being worked on at the moment.

It is expected that the scheme will follow a Part 8 / Section 179 (a) planning process. A cost analysis of the project is currently not available due to the ongoing adjustments to the design for the site.

It is expected that a design will be available for presentation to the local Area Councillors and the local community before the end of Q1 2024.

Q.71 COUNCILLOR RAY MCADAM

To ask the Chief Executive to outline how he intends to implement the approach adopted by the Transportation SPC with regards **(Details Attached)**; to list the actions that have been taken to date by officials since the SPC meeting in September; the next steps in terms of advancing tendering procedures, etc; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Following the approval of the proposal in relation to the **(details supplied)** at the Traffic and Transportation SPC in June 2023, the following actions have commenced;

The procurement department has been contacted to inform of intention to proceed with the procurement of this service

Tender documents are being drafted and approved for procurement

It is intended to go to procurement on this scheme in Q1 2024.

Q.72 COUNCILLOR RAY MCADAM

To ask the Chief Executive to indicate the current status of plans to enhance and upgrade **(Details supplied)** the time frame for the undertaking of any planning procedures to advance this initiative; the indicative cost of these works; to provide an outline of what is being considered and if he will make a statement on the matter.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The design team has been conducting comprehensive desktop studies and site surveys, engaging in consultations with crucial stakeholder groups within the vicinity. This collaborative effort also involved inter-departmental discussions to meticulously outline a scope of works, with the ultimate goal of presenting a well-structured Part 8 planning proposal in 2024.

Q.73 COUNCILLOR NIAL RING

To ask the Chief Executive to detail the amount paid by DCC in respect of Overtime directly related to the Bloom Festival and to further ask if the Bloom Festival organisers, which is a hugely profitable venture, make any contribution towards this increased workload.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Parks Service had no overtime in respect of Bloom Festival 2023.

Q.74 COUNCILLOR NIAL RING

To ask the Chief Executive to detail the scope and remit relating to the recent appointment of Infrastructure Asset Management Services Limited for a special inspection of Luke Kelly Bridge. In addition, could the Chief Executive request that any works deemed necessary also include new lighting and signage for the bridge.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Infrastructure Asset Management Services Limited were appointed to carry out testing so that more information could be provided to determine the cause of concrete spalling. The lighting and signage will be examined.

Q.75 COUNCILLOR NIAL RING

To ask the Chief Executive to detail what is involved in and envisaged for the Ormond Square concept design (20798 CRES/0260/2023) and to further detail the budget amount allocated for the concept design stage and the resultant works programme.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Parks Services are currently reviewing the overall design of Ormond Square with a view to delivering an enhanced park and play space for the community. The proposal is still at early stages and as part of developing the scheme, there will be local consultation with residents.

Q.76 COUNCILLOR NIAL RING

To ask the Chief Executive what percentage of DCC public lighting is LED lights and to further ask how this compares to other local authorities and the overall average of 53% in 2022.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

There are approximately 47,400 street lights in the Dublin City Council's (DCC) administrative area and around 32.5% of these lights are now LED street lights. Under the current Public Lighting Upgrade Project this percentage will increase quickly over the next few years.

DCC doesn't have access to information from other Local Authorities and thus comparisons cannot be made. It needs to be noted that DCC has a significant proportion of old lighting infrastructure much of which cannot be upgraded to LED street lights without addressing other aspects of the lighting infrastructure at the same time which we are compelled to undertake. This makes the delivery of the Public Lighting Upgrade Project more complicated in Dublin City than in many other Local Authorities around the country.

Q.77 COUNCILLOR DECLAN FLANAGAN

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

Can the council look again about allowing the above resident take in charge the space beside her home?

1. The Council were agreeable in the past but it was not finalised
2. The area suffers regular spates of anti-social behaviour
3. The area is of little public utility as open space.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The Area Manager is currently liaising with the Parks Department and the Gardai to verify the level or existence of serious Anti-Social Behaviour in this green area. Once this has been clarified then we will make contact with the lady at **(details supplied)**

Q.78 COUNCILLOR DECLAN FLANAGAN

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

Can I ask that the work along this route be completed immediately?

What is the delay with its completion?

What is the cost and is it on track to be opened in Q2 – 2025

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The works along the **(details supplied)** contain significant civil and structural engineering elements of construction, in a tight and narrow urban environment, while complying with numerous environmental and conservation restrictions. The Contractor must also carry out the works in compliance with the requirements of numerous stakeholders, such as DCC Traffic, the landowners whom are Waterways Ireland and CIE/Irish Rail, statutory utilities such as ESB, Úisce Eireann, Bord Gais etc, while liaising with the numerous businesses and home owners along the entire route. The Contractor started on site in January of this year (2023), and in order the complete these works in a safe, compliant and satisfactory manner, a programme of greater than two years is required, which has resulted in a completion date of Q2 of 2025.

Below is a high-level list of the works

- 2.1 km of footpaths and cycle tracks
- Replacement of existing public lighting heads
- Replacement of CCTV infrastructure
- A new pedestrian bridge at lock 3, which was recently installed
- Numerous earth retaining structures, such as long lengths of piling and retaining walls
- Ramps including their foundations and support structures
- Repairs to sections of historic canal banks and walls
- Diversions of existing services, such as gas mains and electricity mains to facilitate the structures
- Installation of new services where required, such as electricity ducting
- 4 new signalised toucan crossings or junction upgrades, at Phibsborough Road, Drumcondra Roads, Russel Street and Summerhill Parade / Ballybough.
- Upgrades to the public domain, such as Charlemount Mall
- Landscaping along sections of the entire route
- Tree protection areas, and tree planting where required

Subject to the works progression and their satisfactory completion, some sections of the route may be opened before Q2 of 2025, such as the section between Phibsborough (Cross guns bridge) and Drumcondra (Binns bridge), which the Project Team anticipate could be opened in Q2 of next year (2024). We will give our elected representatives advance notifications of these major milestones.

The City Council at a recent meeting in November, approved an amending Part VIII for the east side of Drumcondra Roads or Binns bridge. The Project Team are working through the various design items listed in the approved report, and are currently completing the resulting detailed design for construction in the new year.

The Project Team, which includes DCC staff, the Project Designer, the Contractor and numerous other specialists, such as an arborist, landscape designer, ecologist and conservation architect are all working together to ensure the completion date of Q2 2024 is achieved, while anticipating that some sections may be completed before that date.

This project is funding by the National Transport Authority (NTA), whom approved an allocation of close to €30.8 million.

Q.79 COUNCILLOR DECLAN FLANAGAN

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

He is concerned about trees located on land whose owner has long since been dissolved.

Would the Council take the land in charge or take responsibility for the tree?

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Arrangements will be made to carry out an inspection of the tree at this location to determine any action.

Q.80 COUNCILLOR DECLAN FLANAGAN

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

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Property management are organising a Condition Survey of the building and once it is made clear that the building is in a safe condition to lease, the Area Office will liaise with local groups, clubs etc with regard to the granting of a new lease/licence

Q.81 COUNCILLOR MICHAEL WATTERS

To ask the Chief Executive to please outline how often bins are emptied at (**details supplied**) and address the comments from resident below.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Waste Management Services have the bins on main routes and shopfronts in the above mentioned area emptied on a daily basis. The bins in residential areas here are emptied five days a week, Monday to Friday.

Q.82 COUNCILLOR MICHAEL WATTERS

To ask the Chief Executive to give me an update on both cycle ways as per (**details supplied**) and say when same will be completed and made safe, ready for use by cyclists.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Cycle lane on details supplied (a)

The proposed cycle lanes on (**details supplied (a)**) are part of Phase 1 of the (**details supplied**) Walking & cycling route, that is 2.5km of protected cycle paths and improved pedestrian facilities from (**details supplied**). The non-statutory Public

Consultation for this phase of the route was carried out from 6th June to 31st July, 2023. A public information event was held in Artane Coolock Family Resource Centre on Tuesday 25th July, 2023 with over eighty persons attending. Over 800 submissions have been received. These are being reviewed and the Public Consultation Report is currently being prepared. Consultants Jacobs have commenced detailed design on the project. Traffic counts, Site surveys, tree surveys and road safety audit are underway at present. Consultants will also oversee the preparation of the Tender documents for the Construction phase. The procurement of a Contractor is expected to be in Q4 2024.

Cycle lane on (details supplied (b))

A contractor was appointed to construct the **(details supplied)** in May of 2023 with site works commencing in June of 2023. Works on site are currently running in line with the contractors agreed construction program. Final Footpath and traffic island works are expected to be complete in January of 2024 with resurfacing works and the installation of the concrete cycle way segregation kerb to follow. Following this the installation of traffic lights and final line marking will be completed. All site works are expected to be completed in Q2 of 2024 with the cycle lane being open and ready for public use.

Q.83 COUNCILLOR MICHAEL WATTERS

To ask the Chief Executive report on the condition of road (potholes, cracks etc) as per **(details supplied)** which local residents/cyclists say is badly broken up/in poor condition as a result of building/development works taking place over recent years with heavy construction related vehicles etc using the road and say if he can arrange to have same reinstated/resurfaced.

Partially as a result of the apartments built over the last few years and the heavy vehicles using the roads. If I take photos who do I report these too and will they be repaired? As a cyclist I am fed up trying to avoid cracks and potholes.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

An enquiry (ref. 11150353) has been created & forwarded to the Area Inspector, who will carry out an inspection of the locus & add any defects to a works list for repair

Q.84 COUNCILLOR MICHAEL WATTERS

To ask the Chief Executive refer to the removal of weeds at location as per **(details supplied)** and say what his plans are for removal of same.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The Public Domain Enforcement Officer has advised that waste management services will have this area added to the list of the 2024 weeding programme and works will be completed once resources allow. If Councillor can give exact details we can request that this be added to the listing.

Q.85 COUNCILLOR EIMER MCCORMACK

To ask the Chief Executive report on when Pelletstown residents can expect their estates to be taken in Charge by Dublin City Council. What can the community groups in the area do to expedite the situation?

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Taking in charge (TIC) requests have been received from Ballymore Homes for Royal Canal Park and from Castlethorn for Rathbourne Vale. Engagement is ongoing between the service departments and Ballymore and Castlethorn. Once all matters

have been dealt with satisfactorily the TIC process will be completed as soon as possible thereafter.

Q.86 COUNCILLOR EIMER MCCORMACK

To ask the Chief Executive to report on progress made locating a suitable, long term recycling centre in Phibsborough. The current location at the shopping centre is less than fit for purpose and DCC need to be assisting the community with providing a safe, accessible location for such a centre.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Waste Management Services is committed to recycling and providing the best infrastructure possible in a busy, urban environment. We are always open to the possibility of adding new recycling facilities should suitable locations become available, and always happy to investigate any reasonable suggestions for new bring bank sites. However, the reality is that finding sites for new bring banks in the city is very problematic. Many are located on privately owned land e.g. supermarket car parks and sports grounds. Publicly owned land is at a premium. Statutory planning regulations restrict the locations where new bottle banks can be installed, and our service provider requires safe access to all sites. The area must be free of overhead cables and overhanging trees, must not conflict with bus or cycle lanes and must be directly accessible by HGV.

Due to the high density urban nature of Phibsborough, and both sides of the city centre in general, there is a lack of suitable spaces for the establishment of new bring bank sites. While we absolutely agree that the bring bank facility in Phibsborough is less than ideal, and is in fact very problematic in terms of incredibly high levels of illegal dumping, Waste Management Services have tried on numerous occasions to find a suitable alternative site for this facility but have been unsuccessful to date. Most recently, working with the Cabra Area Office, we have reached out to local community groups to ask for suggestions for a potential alternative site but no such suggestions have been forthcoming.

Q.87 COUNCILLOR EIMER MCCORMACK

To ask the Chief Executive to report on when a segregated cycle route will be provided from Doyle's Corner to Cabra Cross on the Cabra Road, Dublin 7.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The proposed cycle lanes on Ratoath Road are part of the Cabra to Blanchardstown Active Travel Scheme. The scheme will provide 2.5km of protected cycle paths and improved pedestrian facilities along Ratoath Road from the junction with the Navan Road northbound to Cappagh Road.

The non-statutory Public Consultation for this route has been undertaken and over 224 submissions have been received. These are being reviewed and the Public Consultation Report is currently being prepared. Consultants will be appointed in January 2024 to undertake the detailed design on the project.

The appointed consultants will also oversee the preparation of the Tender documents for the Construction phase. The procurement of a Contractor is expected to be in Q1 2025 and construction to commence thereafter pending NTA approval.

Q.88 COUNCILLOR EIMER MCCORMACK

To ask the Chief Executive report on when the long required works to clean and make safe and accessible the laneway to the rear of homes on Glendhu Road, Navan Road, Dublin 7 will be undertaken. Residents have been seeking these works for some time and have been very patient

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Waste Management will have the above mentioned laneway cleaned by the end of January 2024.

Q.89 COUNCILLOR DEIRDRE HENEY

To ask the Chief Executive, in relation to trees that were removed from location as per **(details supplied)**, to say if/when same are planned to be reinstated, if he is aware that telecommunications infrastructure is currently being installed at details attached and if this work can be suspended, pending the replacement of the removed trees, as residents fear that if the telecommunication infrastructure is installed fully, that this will be used as an excuse not to reinstate the missing trees.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

A reply to this question is currently being compiled. The response will be sent directly to the councillor within the next three weeks.

Q.90 COUNCILLOR DEIRDRE HENEY

To ask the Chief Executive to refer to trees on road as per **(details supplied)** and say if he can give me a follow up report in relation to the inspection referred to in the reply to my question at the November 2023 North Central Area Committee meeting.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

A reply to this question is currently being compiled. The response will be sent directly to the councillor within the next three weeks.

Q.91 COUNCILLOR DEIRDRE HENEY

To ask the Chief Executive to refer to road as per **(details supplied (a))** and say if he can examine same with a view taking action to improve egress from **(details supplied (b))** as residents of **(details supplied (a))** find it increasingly difficult to navigate their way out of this one way system and say if consideration can be given to erecting a mirror on a lamppost at **details supplied (b)**.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The Traffic Department does not provide convex traffic mirrors as requested as they give a distorted view of approaching traffic which is potentially hazardous and also because such mirrors would attract a high degree of vandalism with associated maintenance costs.

Q.92 COUNCILLOR DEIRDRE HENEY

To ask the Chief Executive with reference to my question 44 of the December Council meeting, if he can confirm that the matter was brought to the attention of the TAG Area Traffic Engineer, and if not can this be done to try and assist residents address the problem of the ongoing traffic mayhem at **(details supplied)**

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The Transport Advisory Group is not in a position to make any traffic management recommendations in relation to **(details supplied 1)** as the location concerned is private and not in the charge of Dublin City Council.

However, the junctions of **(details supplied 2)** have proper road markings and traffic lights that require drivers to follow traffic regulations. Issues relating to poor driver behaviour should be referred to the local Gardaí as and when they occur.

Q.93 **COUNCILLOR TERENCE FLANAGAN**

To ask the Chief Executive to respond to the following regarding a green (**Details supplied**). Can part of this green area be cut back to make way for more parking spaces which are badly required at the shops. The traffic is very heavy at this location. There were original plans to make spaces at this green but it never happened. With the extra traffic in the area it is needed now.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Details Supplied (a):

There is already indented parking on the north side of this road opposite the Spar Shop. There is on street parking available on the south side of this road opposite the indented parking area is located.

Details Supplied (b):

The majority of residents opposite the "green area" have off street parking in the form of driveways.

Details Supplied (c):

The majority of residents opposite the "green area" have off street parking in the form of driveways. Some of these driveways can accommodate 2 No. vehicles.

The Area Engineer does not recommend any reduction of the "green area" for the purpose of parking for residents at the aforementioned roads.

Any reduction to this "green area" would be contrary to DCC's Climate Action Plan 2019 – 2024.

Q.94 **COUNCILLOR TERENCE FLANAGAN**

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

Can the council please carry out a comprehensive traffic survey on the above roads & monitor the traffic flow at Clare Hall shops
Recommendations need to be made particularly around the poor signage, markings, roundabouts, which are dangerous

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The Area Engineer has responded to Cllr. Flanagan with the following responses:

Details Supplied 1 is short in length 65m approx. As such this road does not meet the criteria for provision for speed ramps.

The criteria for provision of speed ramps on a public road are:

1. The road should have a **straight run of at least 200m.**
2. The 85th percentile speed should be greater than speed limit of the road.
3. Traffic volumes should exceed 60 vehicles per hour.
4. There should be genuine road safety concerns based either on actual accident statistics or on observed road safety patterns or written report from an Inspector of the Garda Traffic Division.

Details Supplied 1 has parking available on both sides of this road which passively calms traffic on this road.

Details supplied 2 has 7 No. speed ramps from Temple View Ave to Elmfield Lawn via Elmfield Ave.

There is a 30km/h SLOW ZONE sign to alert drivers they are entering a residential 30km/h SLOW ZONE. This sign is located as south of the roundabout as vehicles exit Belmayne Avenue/R139.

The onus is on drivers to adhere to the posted speed limit within the aforementioned roads. If residents observe speeding/dangerous driving these issues should be reported to the Gardai as/when they occur.

Details Supplied 3 does not meet the criteria for the provision of speed ramps (see speed ramp criteria above bullet point 1). In addition on street parking is available on both sides of this road which passively calms vehicular speeds. The aforementioned road is a cul-de-sac as a non-through road therefore has low traffic volumes.

Details supplied 4 has 4 No. Speed ramps in place along with on street parking acts as traffic calming by narrowing the road.

Details supplied 5 - has 4 No. Speed ramps in place along with on street parking acts as traffic calming by narrowing the road.

The aforementioned roads above have been traffic - calmed where applicable. As such no further traffic calming measures are recommended at this time.

Q.95 **COUNCILLOR TERENCE FLANAGAN**

To ask the Chief Executive to respond to the following regarding footpath (**Details supplied**). The footpath is damaged. Can it be added to the repairs list?

Re: Lead pipe scheme. Any further information regarding a list of contractors available to do underground water pipe replacement

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

An enquiry (ref.11150352) has been created and forwarded to the Area Inspector who will carry out an inspection and add this defect to a works list for repair.

RE: Lead Pip Scheme: Please refer to Waterworks Division/Irish Water

Q.96 **COUNCILLOR TERENCE FLANAGAN**

To ask the Chief Executive to respond to the following regarding illegal parking (**Details supplied**).

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The parking enforcement inspector has visited this location and engaged with customers and business owners about illegal parking. Dublin Street Parking Services have been instructed to patrol this location and carry out enforcement action on illegally parked cars on the footpath. Incidents of dangerous driving or driving on footpaths do not fall under the remit of Dublin City Council.

Q.97 **COUNCILLOR TOM BRABAZON**

To ask the Chief Executive confirm when (**details supplied**) will reopen fully to full public use.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

We are awaiting a construction programme from the contractor. As soon as the commencement and completion dates are available the Area Committee and the public will be informed.