

**QUESTIONS LODGED PURSUANT TO STANDING ORDER NO.18 FOR REPLY AT THE MONTHLY MEETING OF DUBLIN CITY COUNCIL TO BE HELD ON MONDAY, 12<sup>th</sup> OF FEBRUARY 2024**

**Q.1 COUNCILLOR JANE HORGAN-JONES**

To ask the Chief Executive the following question regarding roadway condition in Killester:

The roads in Killester (particularly St Brigid's Road) are in very poor condition, I believe partially as a result of the apartments built over the last few years and the heavy vehicles using the roads. Can these be included in road maintenance schedule in the coming period and can the removal of weeds on the roadways and pavements also be included in this?

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

An enquiry (ref. 11151120) has been created with regard to Quarter 1. The Area Engineer will carry out an inspection of the roads in Killester & also St. Brigid's Road and consider these roads when drafting the 2024 works programme.

**Q.2 COUNCILLOR JANE HORGAN-JONES**

To ask the Chief Executive the following question:

Regarding the cycle lane on Alfie Byrne Road and into East Wall. This area is extremely congested and dangerous for cyclists. Can an update on the cycle lane on the left (towards East Point) be provided? It is not safe currently. Cyclists have to use the road instead and it is not bike friendly. The cycle lane on the right hand side is painted onto the footpath (Works are now being carried out on this side so there's currently no cycle lane). When will the cycle lanes fully reopen and are there plans to improve the cycling lane on Alfie Byrne road all the way to East Wall? At the moment as well with all the building activity there is a lot of debris on the road, again not safe for cyclists who have no choice but to use the road.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Waste Management Services will ensure that the above mentioned area is kept as clean as possible while all the building activity and works are being carried out there.

Currently works are underway on The East Coast Trail on East Wall Road and Alfie Byrne Road which will see the construction of a new contraflow cycle lane linking the East Point Business Park on Alfie Byrne Road and St Joseph's National School on East Wall Road. As well as the construction of two new crossing points linking the school to the scheme and linking this scheme through Fairview Park to the City Centre to Clontarf scheme. Works are well progressed at this stage, the new cycle lanes are expected to be fully open on schedule in Q2

**Q.3 COUNCILLOR RACHEAL BATTEN**

To ask the Chief Executive to provide a report on childcare facilities that have sought planning permission, including extension in 2023, and the breakdown of approval or declines.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

This report will take some time to compile. Once complete the report will be forwarded directly to the Councillor within the next two weeks.

**Q.4 COUNCILLOR RACHEAL BATTEN**

To ask the Chief Executive to provide an update of progression of actions to be taken in the Childcare report commissioned by the office in 2021.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The following motion was proposed by Councillor Racheal Batten and seconded by Lord Mayor, Alison Gilliland at the May 2021 City Council meeting:

*'That we write to the Minister for Children requesting support for Dublin City Council to run their own city crèches and special state insurances be provided.'*

Following discussion of the motion at the Council meeting it was agreed that the Chief Executive would commission research on the matter.

The CE commissioned a study by 'Unique insight' Consultants, with a brief to look at the current role the Council plays in supporting the sector, and what potential it might have in facilitating childcare services in the city. The Consultant's Report received in September 2022 contained 8 recommendations.

- I. Strengthening Relationships, including those with the Childcare Committee, the Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth (DCEDIY) and the Department of Education.
- II. Enhancing how information is captured and shared.
- III. Providing advice and sharing experience.
- IV. Regularisation of lease/licence agreements
- V. Exceptional circumstances pertaining to Change of Use (e.g. when developer cannot find a childcare provider to occupy a premises).
- VI. Repurposing existing premises for childcare use.
- VII. A Childcare Contribution fund (in cases where a childcare facility may not be viable or needed in a particular development).
- VIII. The preparation of a Policy Statement setting out the Council's future role in supporting childcare provision.

The Corporate Policy Group (CPG) referred the report to the Planning & Urban Form SPC for consideration. Following consideration of the report and the executive response to the report at its December 2022 meeting the SPC proposed the establishment of a Childcare Subgroup. On the 31<sup>st</sup> March 2023 the CPG agreed to the establishment of the subgroup and its terms of reference.

**Terms of Reference for Childcare Sub-Group of Planning & Urban Form SPC**

- I. To investigate ways of presenting the list of childcare services (currently held by the Childcare Committee) in map form, together with areas of population growth (using Housing Task Force data which is geo-referenced), to assist with an analysis of the distribution of childcare facilities in the city and where locational gaps exist.
- II. To examine the Apartment Standard Guidelines (which states in part 4.7 that a review is to be progressed), having regard to the guidance that "one-bedroom or studio type units should not be generally considered to contribute to a requirement for any childcare provision and subject to location, this may apply in part or whole to units with two or more bedrooms", so that the SPC can make representations to the Minister for Housing.
- III. To explore methods within the City Council's powers of reducing the cost of childcare provision, and the possibility of merging childcare requirements so a large viable facility is delivered instead of non-viable smaller facilities. Note that sub-group recommendations may need to be addressed in any update/review of the Childcare Guidelines, and possibly in legislation.

- IV. To explore systems (if any) to facilitate combining funding to enable delivery of fitted out childcare spaces of an appropriate scale, possibly as part of large projects (such as housing).
- V. To review development plan standards in relation to childcare (over and above those standards which are properly under the control of TUSLA); setting out planning policies and planning standards in relation to location, scale, access and parking which future childcare facilities should incorporate, which could then be included, where relevant to planning, by variation into the City Development Plan.
- VI. To investigate ways to strengthen data sharing and working relationships between key stakeholders, including the City Childcare Committee, Department of Children (DCEDIY), Dept. of Education and the City Council; such Data Sharing to include keeping the childcare committee informed when potentially suitable premises for childcare becomes available from the City Council's portfolio.
- VII. To explore ways to regularise the criteria DCC use in delivering leases/licences in relation to childcare providers, including those in mixed use buildings.
- VIII. To investigate whether a legally enforceable childcare contribution fund can be established which developers would contribute to in circumstances where it is demonstrated that a childcare facility in a particular location is not viable or necessary.
- IX. Having regard to the outcome of the work and analysis in I to VIII above, to advise on the content of a Policy Statement/Position paper to give clarity to all stakeholders, including parents/guardians, on DCC's future role in supporting childcare provision, and the precise relationship with other organisations involved in childcare, including the Dept. of Children and Youth.

The Subgroup met on 3 occasions: 8<sup>th</sup> May 2023, 20<sup>th</sup> June 2023 and 25<sup>th</sup> September 2023.

Contact was made with Dublin City Childcare Committee (DCCC). Carol Dillon who at the time was the Manager of DCCC gave the subgroup a presentation on the new funding model for Early Learning Care (ELC) and School Aged Childcare (SAC) 'First 5 - Partnership for the Public Good' a new funding model. The vision for the sector is for one that is increasingly publicly funded and publicly managed, delivering a service for the public good, through a partnership approach between the State and providers, to the benefit of children, parents, practitioners and society overall. She advised that the Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Integration & Youth planned to fill two new national posts. Successful applicants will work with the Department and Pobal to assess supply and demand of ELC & SAC, to support services and to develop capacity of the sector. Carol Dillon was subsequently appointed into one of the newly established national posts of Supply Management Co-ordinator. The vacated Manager post in DCCC is filled by Aoife Boland.

The output from the subgroup has been the identification of where changes need to be made and in this regard the Chair wrote to Roderic O'Gorman T.D., Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration & Youth and Darragh O'Brien T.D., Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage (see below).

*“The sub-group of the SPC is concerned that the current Childcare Facilities Guidelines for Planning Authorities date from 2001 and have not been reviewed or updated*

*since. It is requested that a comprehensive review be undertaken and that a new set of Guidelines is prepared for the sector that reflects the current policy and regulatory context and gives relevant direction and guidance to Local Authorities and landowners alike.*

*In considering the content and issues to be addressed in a future updated version of the guidelines, the SPC wish to highlight a number of areas that should be incorporated in the review.*

1. New primary schools should be designed to incorporate pre-school facilities. This shared campus approach would be more sustainable for parents in allowing combined trips for young children; reducing stress for parents and traffic congestion and would also provide the opportunity to increase crèche provision in rapidly growing areas.
2. Clear guidance is needed with regard to the design of childcare facilities. There is a need for minimum standards and space requirements. Such guidance should incorporate TUSLA standards – giving architects and planners the information needed to ensure that the spaces designed in planning applications is fit for purpose. The guidance should be informed by research into what is the minimum scale of building needed to ensure viability for future operators so that the likelihood of the space being used is maximised. It is recommended that the Department consult with stakeholders in the sector on this.
3. Design guidance for new buildings should also address other relevant planning concerns such as access, parking, open space, preference in location within larger schemes and best practice design where new facilities are in dense urban locations and within multi-use buildings.
4. The review should examine some of the emerging challenges with childcare facility provision in residential infill schemes; particularly taking into account the NPF targets for brownfield regeneration. Options to enable a combined approach between landowners, and the methodology required to facilitate this, in providing one viable facility rather than two smaller unviable units should be explored including a range of possible solutions such as contributions, levies and legislative options; and the option to locate the facility on another parcel of land in the area.
5. The review should consider the most appropriate methodology to estimate demand for childcare in a given area as there is a need for the Guidelines to set this out in order to inform the Development Management process. Too often cases are made by landowners that there is no demand in an area where Councillors are informed of pressure by parents in the area.

Side by side with the review of the childcare Guidelines the SPC also wish consideration to be given to a number of issues that require to be addressed in a future updated version of the Apartment Standard Guidelines.

1. The review should examine the decision to exclude schemes with a high number of one-bed and studio units from the requirement to provide childcare as set out in the 2018 Apartment Standard Guidelines (Section 4.7) and again in the 2020 Guidelines. For many young families with pre-school children, their first home is often a small apartment and it can take years for the family to have the resources to move to a larger unit; especially as the costs associated with rearing young children and paying for childcare are so high. The presumption

that all one-bed units are occupied only by single people/couples without children is inappropriate; particularly in a housing context where the price of both renting and buying locks young families into small scale accommodation.

2. The review should explore making funding available as part of approved social housing developments so that the childcare element is funded fully for construction and fit out.
3. Finally the review should consider options for funding childcare provision for example a childcare contribution fund which developers would pay into in circumstances where a childcare facility in a particular location is not viable or a facility where developers could combine their obligations to provide one larger facility between them in circumstances where smaller services would not be viable.“

An acknowledgement was received and as far as this office is aware the guidelines are currently under review with draft guidelines to be available for consultation this year.

The subgroup also considered leases and licences:

- All current licences due for renewal are reviewed to ascertain if a lease agreement is more appropriate, or the agreement remains as a licence.
- When a lease or a licence comes up for renewal, Property Management as part of its process, consults with the Area Manager/Office about the group.
- When the requirements for Capital Grant Funding become known lease/licence arrangements will be reviewed where required.

Childcare will remain an agenda item of the Planning & Urban Form SPC and in this regard Carol Dillon will be making a presentation to the next SPC meeting due to take place over Zoom on the 20th February at 2pm which the Councillor can attend. DCC and DCCC are working together to ensure clear lines of communication are maintained.

**Q.5 COUNCILLOR RACHEAL BATTEN**

To ask the Chief Executive to actively look at alternatives to the Whitehall Car Park developed as there is huge delay on much needed housing for the area.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Under the Governments Housing for All Action Plan, Approved Housing Bodies are required to deliver 50% of the overall DCC target for new build social housing, in light of this target DCC assigned a number of sites to AHB's for delivery, including the Whitehall carpark site.

This site was assigned to Clúid Housing with the proposal to develop a new apartment complex for older persons, the delays in delivery have been due to the extensive and detailed technical work required to design a scheme which addresses the complexities of this location and is appropriate for the site. The Clúid Design Team continue to progress their works on preparing the Planning Documentation for the project and a draft of the planning documentation will be issued to DCC Housing development team in the next few weeks for our consideration.

**Q.6 COUNCILLOR DERMOT LACEY**

To ask the Chief Executive if he could give a full report on the Dog Pound including where possible the following information:

Date of arrival / Breed / Details (relinquished / stray) / Microchip? / Age / Requirements (No Dog, No Cats, No Children,) / Still In care? Or date Rehomed  
Also, Number of dogs that came in / number of dogs rehomed per month (last 6 or 12 months).

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Under section 14 (1) of the Control of Dogs Act 1986 each Local Authority “shall keep a register of all dogs – Seized by a dog warden employed by it, and detained by any other person and notified to such dog warden”.

This register is maintained by staff at each of the dog shelters provided under Section 15(2) Control of Dogs Act 1986. The following details have been extracted from the register at the Hollygrove Shelter for the period covering 1st June 2023 to 31st December 2023.

Arrival Date	Breed	Details	Reason for exit
02/06/2023	Staffordshire Bull Terrier	Surrender/stray	PTS
07/06/2023	XL Bull Dog	Surrender/stray	PTS
16/06/2023	XL Bull Dog	Surrender/stray	Rehomed
09/07/2023	German Shepherd	Surrender/stray	PTS
12/07/2023	Jack Russell Terrier X	Surrender/stray	Rehomed
12/07/2023	Jack Russell Terrier X	Surrender/stray	Rehomed
14/07/2023	Boxer X	Surrender/stray	PTS
17/07/2023	Whippet	Surrender/stray	Rehomed
24/07/2023	Jack Russell Terrier X	Surrender/stray	Rehomed
27/07/2023	Pitbull	Surrender/stray	Rehomed
29/07/2023	French Bull Dog	Surrender/stray	Rehomed
09/08/2023	Terrier	Surrender/stray	Rehomed
09/08/2023	Bichon	Surrender/stray	Rehomed
09/08/2023	Shitzu	Surrender/stray	Rehomed
09/08/2023	Shitzu	Surrender/stray	Rehomed
10/08/2023	Pug	Surrender/stray	Rehomed
10/08/2023	Pug	Surrender/stray	Rehomed
14/08/2023	Staffordshire Bull Terrier	Seizure	Returned to owner
14/08/2023	Mali X	Surrender/stray	Returned to owner
16/08/2023	Pocket Bull Dog	Surrender/stray	Rehomed
17/08/2023	Cava Poo	Surrender/stray	Rehomed
17/08/2023	Jack Russell Terrier X	Surrender/stray	Rehomed

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17/08/2023	Pocket Bull Dog	Surrender/stray	Rehomed
18/08/2023	Golden Lab	Surrender/stray	Returned to owner
18/08/2023	Lurcher	Surrender/stray	Rehomed
20/08/2023	XL Bull Dog	Surrender/stray	At Shelter
21/08/2023	Labradoodle	Surrender/stray	Rehomed
21/08/2023	XL Bull Dog	Surrender/stray	Rehomed
21/08/2023	Staffordshire Bull Terrier	Surrender/stray	Rehomed
22/08/2023	Staffordshire Bull Terrier	Surrender/stray	Rehomed
28/08/2023	Dachshund	Surrender/stray	Rehomed
23/08/2023	Bichon	Stray	Rehomed
23/08/2023	Staffordshire Bull Terrier	Stray	Rehomed
01/09/2023	Jack Russell Terrier X	Surrender/stray	Rehomed
01/09/2023	Jack Russell Terrier	Surrender/stray	Rehomed
03/09/2023	Pocket Bull Dog	Surrender/stray	Rehomed
03/09/2023	American Bull Dog	Surrender/stray	Rehomed
04/09/2023	Belgian Shepherd	Surrender/stray	PTS
05/09/2023	Labrador	Surrender	Rehomed
05/09/2023	Terrier	Stray	Rehomed
06/09/2023	Yorkshire Terrier	Stray	Rehomed
06/09/2023	Pocket Bull Dog	Stray	Rehomed
12/09/2023	Pocket Bull Dog	Stray	Rehomed
13/09/2023	Terrier	Stray	26/08/23 returned
27/09/2023	Pitbull	Surrender	Rehomed
29/09/2023	Pitbull	Surrender	PTS
02/10/2024	Labrador	Stray	Rehomed
22/07/2023	Jack Russell Terrier X	Stray	Returned to owner
14/10/2023	Pocket Bull Dog	Stray	Rehomed
13/10/2023	Collie X	Stray	Rehomed
11/10/2023	Collie	Stray	Rehomed
10/10/2023	French Bull Dog	Stray	Returned to owner
09/10/2023	Bully X/ Staffordshire Bull Terrier	Stray	Rehomed
09/10/2023	German Shepherd	Siezed	At Shelter
09/10/2023	German Shepherd	Siezed	At Shelter
06/10/2023	XL Bull Dog	Siezed	PTS

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03/10/2023	Jack Russell Terrier X	Stray	Rehomed
02/10/2023	Pocket Bull Dog	Surrender/Stray	PTS
02/10/2023	Yorkie	Stray	Returned to owner
02/10/2023	Staffordshire Bull Terrier X	Stray	Rehomed
02/10/2023	Cairn Terrier	Stray	Returned
02/10/2023	Poodle	Stray	Returned
02/10/2023	Labrador X	Stray	Returned
29/09/2023	French Bull Dog	Surrender	Returned
29/09/2023	French Bull Dog	Surrender	Returned
28/09/2023	Yorkie	Stray	Returned
27/09/2023	Bull Dog X	Surrender	Rehomed
27/09/2023	Bull Dog	Surrender	Rehomed
25/09/2023	Jack Russell Terrier X	Stray	Rehomed
19/09/2023	Jack Russell Terrier X	Stray	Rehomed
19/09/2023	German Shepherd	Siezed	At Shelter
20/09/2023	Boxer	Siezed	Returned
20/09/2023	German Shepherd	Seized	Returned
18/09/2023	French Bull Dog Cross	Stray	Rehomed
02/06/2023	Staffordshire Bull Terrier	Stray	Rehomed
01/05/2023	Belgian Malinois	Stray	Rehomed
21/10/2023	Terrier	Stray	Rehomed
19/12/2023	Staffordshire Bull Terrier	Surrender	Returned to owner
25/10/2023	Terrier/Cross	Stray	Rehomed
25/10/2023	German Shepherd	Surrender	PTS
26/10/2023	Belgian Shepherd	Surrender	PTS
27/10/2023	Collie Cross	Stray	Rehomed
01/11/2023	XL Bull Dog	Stray	Rehomed
03/11/2023	Labrador	Stray	Rehomed
04/11/2023	Belgian Malinois Cross	Stray	Rehomed



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23/11/2023	Terrier Cross	Stray	Rehomed
09/11/2023	XL Bull Dog	Surrender	PTS
18/11/2023	Labrador	Surrender	Rehomed
18/11/2023	Labrador	Surrender	Rehomed
09/11/2023	Bull Mastiff Cross	Stray	Rehomed
09/11/2023	Pitbull	Surrender	Rehomed
10/11/2023	Dachshund	Surrender	Rehomed
10/11/2023	XL Bull Dog	Stray	PTS
14/11/2023	Shar Pei	Stray	Returned
14/11/2023	Labrador	Surrender	Rehomed
19/11/2023	Pitbull	Seizure	At Shelter
23/11/2023	British Bulldog	Seizure	At Shelter
18/11/2023	Pocket Bull Dog	Seizure	At Shelter
18/11/2023	British Bulldog	Seizure	At Shelter
19/11/2023	Pitbull	Stray	Rehomed
20/11/2023	Husky	Stray	Returned
20/11/2023	French Bulldog	Stray	Returned
21/11/2023	Mali Shepherd X	Stray	At Shelter
23/11/2023	Jack Russell Terrier X	Stray	Returned
23/11/2023	Belgian Shepherd	Stray	PTS
24/11/2023	Belgian Malinois	Stray	At Shelter
25/11/2023	Pitbull	Stray	At Shelter
28/11/2023	Whippet	Stray	Rehomed
28/11/2023	Belgian Malinois	Stray	At Shelter
30/11/2023	Jack Russell Terrier X	Stray	Rehomed
04/12/2023	XI Bull Dog	Seizure	At Shelter
06/12/2023	Terrier	Surrender	Rehomed
06/12/2023	Springer Spaniel Cross	Surrender	Rehomed
06/12/2023	Terrier	Stray	Rehomed
07/12/2023	Jack Russell Terrier X	Stray	Rehomed
07/12/2023	Staffordshire Bull Terrier	Stray	At Shelter
11/12/2023	German Shepherd	Stray	At Shelter
11/12/2023	Presa Canario	Surrender	At Shelter
11/12/2023	Belgian Shepherd	Stray	Rehomed
12/12/2023	Doberman Pincher Cross	Stray	PTS
14/12/2023	Staffordshire Bull Terrier	Surrender	At Shelter
14/12/2023	Terrier Cross	Stray	Returned

14/12/2023	American Bulldog	Surrender	At Shelter
14/11/2023	Pitbull	Stray	At Shelter
18/12/2023	Staffordshire Bull Terrier	Stray	At Shelter
19/12/2023	Staffordshire Bull Terrier	Surrender	At Shelter
20/12/2023	XL Bull Dog	Seizure	At Shelter
20/12/2023	XL Bull Dog	Seizure	At Shelter
20/12/2023	XL Bull Dog	Seizure	At Shelter
21/12/2023	French Bull DOg	Stray	Returned
22/12/2023	Alaskan Malamute	Surrender	At Shelter
22/12/2023	Pocket Bully	Surrender	PTS
24/12/2023	Terrier	Surrender/stray	PTS
24/12/2023	Bully	Stray	At Shelter
Staffordshire Bull Terrier	Staffordshire Bull Terrier	Seizure	At Shelter
19/10/2023	German Shep	Stray	Returned
19/10/2023	Jack Russell Terrier X	Stray	Rehomed
19/10/2023	Jack Russell Terrier X	Stray	Rehomed
20/10/2023	Staffordshire Bull Terrier	Stray	At Shelter
21/10/2023	Bully	Stray	At Shelter
14/11/2023	Shar Pei	Stray	Returned
18/11/2023	Pocket Bully	Stray	At Shelter
11/12/2023	German Shepherd	Stray	Rehomed
31/12/2023	Pocket Bully	Stray	PTS
22/08/2023	Jack Russell Terrier X	Stray	Rehomed

For the 6 months commencing on the 1<sup>st</sup> of June 2023 Dublin City Council have seized or accepted 145 dogs at the Dublin City Council Animal Welfare & Control Shelter. 74 of these dogs have been successfully re-homed.

Following a recruitment process held in late 2023 Dublin City Council will appoint a number of Animal Wardens in the coming weeks. These new posts will increase the capacity of Dublin City Council Animal Control & Welfare Services for wider enforcement of these Regulations including dog seizures. The Council has also contracted with a second vendor to provide Dog Shelter facilities in North Dublin. This facility opened to the Council on 1<sup>st</sup> February 2024 and can provide 20 additional dog spaces bringing the overall capacity to 45. Please do not hesitate to contact the Animal Welfare Unit should you have any other queries.

**Q.7 COUNCILLOR DERMOT LACEY**

To ask the Chief Executive if he will have the regulations examined to make it possible for owners of properties in Architectural Conservation Areas to install electric car charging points or provide for parking within their front gardens in a manner in keeping with the conservation objectives and Government policy of encouraging more sustainable electric cars.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Appendix 5 Section 5 (Electric Vehicles) of the Dublin City Council Development Plan 2022-2028 states that detailed guidance for EV charge points is currently in preparation by Dublin City Council in association with the other Dublin local authorities, the SEAI and the Department of Transport. As we await this guidance, the current policies for parking in gardens is detailed in Appendix 5 as follows:

Appendix 5 Section 4.3 (Parking in Front Gardens) of the Dublin City Council Development Plan 2022-2028, states that “planning permission is required for the alteration of a front garden in order to provide car parking by creating a new access, or by widening of an existing access. Proposals for offstreet parking in the front gardens of single dwellings in mainly residential areas may not be permitted where residents rely on on-street car parking and there is a strong demand for such parking.” This policy extends to all domestic dwellings and is not limited to Protected Structures or structures in Conservation Areas. Detailed requirements for parking in the curtilage of Protected Structures and in Conservation Areas are set out in Section 4.3.7 of Appendix 5.

Appendix 5 Section 4.3.7 (Parking in the Curtilage of Protected Structures, Architectural Conservation Areas and Conservation Areas) and in accordance with Section 13.4.3 of the Architectural Heritage Protection Guidelines 2011, states that “proposals to remove or alter boundary features could adversely affect the character of the Protected Structure and the designed landscape around it. Widening an entrance or altering railings will alter the scale and visual impact of the gate and gate piers. Relocating a gateway may destroy a carefully designed relationship between the entrance and the main building.”

Features including boundary walls, railings and gardens make an important contribution to the character and setting of protected structures, ACAs and conservation areas. Therefore, poorly designed parking within the curtilage and front gardens of protected structures and in conservation areas can have a negative impact on the special interest and character of these sensitive buildings and areas. For this reason, proposals for parking within the curtilage and front gardens of such buildings will not normally be acceptable where inappropriate site conditions exist, particularly in the case of smaller gardens where the scale of intervention is more significant, and can lead to the erosion of the character and amenity of the area and where the historic plinths, decorative railings and gates, historic gate piers, and historic ground surfaces are still intact. Where site conditions exist which can accommodate car parking provision without significant loss of visual amenity and/or historic fabric, proposals for limited off-street parking will be considered where the following criteria can be met. Planning permission will be required in these circumstances:

- A high standard of design and layout will be expected to integrate the proposal into the sensitive context, the use of natural materials that would complement the special character of the Protected Structure i.e. gravels, granite etc.;
- The retention of most of the original boundary wall and/or railings and plinth wall and the re-use of the removed railings for new access gates will be sought;
- The outlook of rooms with regard to light, including basement rooms, should not be obstructed;
- Works which would involve the loss of mature and specimen trees (those in good condition) which contribute to the character of a protected structure or conservation area, both within the private and public domain, will be discouraged;
- High quality appropriate surface treatment, which should be influenced by the surrounding context and buildings, will be sought, particularly traditional materials such as gravel or other permeable materials. Bituminous or concrete surfacing are not acceptable;

- Every reasonable effort is made to protect the integrity of the protected structure and/or conservation area;
- There is sufficient depth available in the garden to accommodate a private parked car;
- Access to and egress from the proposed parking space will not give rise to a traffic hazard;
- The remaining soft landscaped area to the front of the structures should generally be in excess of half of the total area of the front garden space, exclusive of car parking area, footpaths and hard surfacing. SuDS features should be incorporated as appropriate (see also Appendix 12);
- Car parking shall be designed so that it is set-back from the house and front boundary wall to avoid excessive impact on the protected structure;
- Car parking bays shall be no greater than 5 m x 3 m metres wide;
- The proposed vehicular entrance should, where possible, be combined with the existing pedestrian entrance so as to form an entrance no greater than 2.6 m and this combined entrance should be no greater than half the total width of the garden at the road boundary. The gates shall not swing outwards so as to cause an obstruction on the public footpath;
- Where cast or wrought iron or other historic railings exist and historic brick and stone boundary walls, which contribute to the special character of the structure, every effort will be made to preserve and to maintain the maximum amount of original form and construction through minimum intervention. Any original existing gates, piers and cast iron or other railings that require alterations shall be reused and integrated with all new parking proposal. The use of automatic gates will be discouraged as the mechanisms required to operate them could have a significant impact on the legibility of the historic gates.
- Special regard shall be given to circumstances where on-street parking facilities are restricted as a consequence of the introduction of bus priority measures or other traffic management changes. In such situations, every reasonable effort will be made to facilitate proposals for off-street parking in the front gardens of protected structures and in conservation areas subject to the above criteria being met.

**Q.8 COUNCILLOR DERMOT LACEY**

To ask the Chief Executive if Dublin City Council is the owner of the former Station House at Merrion Gates, previously used by Shelter Referral and if so what plans the Council has to ensure the physical stability of the building and future use and if it is not the owner to take whatever action is necessary to ensure the safety, stability and security of the buildings.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The Station House at Merrion Gates is in the ownership of Dublin City Council. The Culture, Recreation and Economic Services Department is currently seeking funding to refurbish the house into artist studios (approx. €700,000). The Development Department have engaged a contractor to carry out repairs to the roof and guttering and to remove the graffiti, this work should be completed within the next two weeks.

**Q.9 COUNCILLOR JANE HORGAN JONES**

To ask the Chief Executive to cut the tree back as branches keep falling off it at (**Details Supplied**) it's a danger to traffic and pedestrians.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

There does not appear to be a street tree at this address. If the address can be confirmed an inspection will be arranged.

**Q.10 COUNCILLOR CHRISTY BURKE**

To ask the Chief Executive to consider leaving in place the extra winter beds for homeless services for 2024. As numbers of homeless personal are reaching high numbers in sleeping bags and tents.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The DRHE opened 330 additional single beds in Quarter 4 2023. These are permanent beds, with no end date in 2024. As there is sufficient capacity in the system for anyone presenting as homeless, the 40 extreme weather beds in NGO services, will continue to only be used as needed in extreme weather events.

**Q.11 COUNCILLOR CHRISTY BURKE**

To ask the Chief Executive to remove the graffiti from (**Details supplied**)

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Grffiti was removed from this stature by way of contract on the 19<sup>th</sup> January 2024.

**Q.12 COUNCILLOR CHRISTY BURKE**

To ask the Chief Executive when will the overdue traffic plan for (**Details supplied**) begin to be put in place?

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The neighbourhood engineer will contact the Councillor directly to seek clarity on what plan the Councillor is referring to.

**Q.13 COUNCILLOR CHRISTY BURKE**

To ask the Chief Executive what is the timeframe to turn around a house or flat that becomes vacant and to be put back into housing for letting.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The average time for the refurbishment of units in 2023 was 17.81 weeks.

**Q.14 COUNCILLOR DARRAGH MORIARTY**

To ask the Chief Executive to explain Dublin City Council's support for Tuath Housing to deliver 171 social housing units in a proposed Build-to-Rent development at the Steelworks Site, James's Street, Dublin 8. 100% Build-to-Rent developments of this nature were effectively banned by this local authority in our 2022-2028 City Development Plan only then for Government to scrap this lower standard form of housing in its entirety. Can the Chief Executive make a statement on the following:

- Would Dublin City Council directly be able to deliver this scheme for social housing or would it contravene our own City Development Plan?
- If yes, why does it not logically follow that an AHB providing social housing on the local authority's behalf is permitted to deliver social housing via a 100% BTR scheme?
- Can the Chief Executive commit that Dublin City Council and Tuath Housing will seek an immediate alteration to the planning of this site to bring the proposed development up to standard and in line with the current City Development Plan?

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Dublin City Council supports Tuath Housing in its proposed acquisition of this development for social housing. Tuath Housing have carried out their own assessment on the quality and standards of the proposed development at the Steelworks Site and have satisfied themselves that the planning permission as it stands will, once

complete be suitable for use as social housing. This site is in private ownership it is the intention of Tuath Housing to acquire this development under a turnkey arrangement. Tuath Housings technical team is satisfied that the standards and unit sizes are is well within acceptable sizes for use as long term social housing. This development comprises of 185 units broken down as follows;

4 x 3 bed Apartments all 92mtr sq.  
32 x 2 beds Aps - average unit size 73 sq metres  
149 x 1 beds - Avg unit 50 sq meters -

The City Development Plan policies and objectives apply only to all new applications lodged since the adoption of the Plan and associated variation. All schemes granted based on the previous standards are not impacted by the revised approach; and can be built out based on their existing permission.

**Q.15 COUNCILLOR LARRY O'TOOLE**

To ask the Chief Executive to respond to:

**(Details supplied)** is seeking alternative accommodation for herself and her four daughters (one who lives with her part time). One of her daughters suffers Autism and is nonverbal. When can this family be offered alternative accommodation.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The above applicant is on the Housing Transfer List with a medical priority, with an application date of 7/04/2022, the applicant holds the following position on this list;

<b>Area</b>	<b>Bedsizes</b>	<b>Position</b>
B	3	7

Based on the applicant's current position, they should maintain contact with the Coolock and Kilbarrack area offices.

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

**Q.16 COUNCILLOR LARRY O'TOOLE**

To ask the Chief Executive to have the rubbish removed from **(Details supplied)**

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Waste Management Services inspected the above mentioned location on the 26<sup>th</sup> January 2024 and found it to be completely litter free.

**Q.17 COUNCILLOR DERMOT LACEY**

To ask the Chief Executive if he will have the EV charging system, outlined in **(detail supplied)** with this question, examined for potential use in Dublin City and respond to the offer by a citizen to the Council to trial the system at his home.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Dublin City Council adopted the Dublin Local Authority Electric Vehicle Charging Strategy in 2022. It was agreed that DCC's role was to facilitate the roll out of fast charging hubs over other models including neighbourhood charging.

To support the strategy DCC and the other Dublin Local Authorities are in the process of procuring an operator to implement a pilot project to develop a limited number of public charging hubs across Dublin City and County.

In relation to residential / domestic charging, where a property has off street parking, the property owner can install an EV charger for use within the curtilage of the property. Dublin City Council do not sanction any other systems of EV charging from a domestic supply.

Dublin City Council is responsible for the maintenance of the public road in the interest of all road users. The installation of privately owned infrastructure within the structure of the public footpath would be detrimental to the structure of the footpath and is not permissible under current legislation.

The use of the 'Kerbo Charge' system has not been approved for use by DCC, and while the specific system has not been tested by DCC, it does not meet the requirements for traversing the public realm.

DCC would not recommend a trial of this product on the public footpath for the following reasons;

- The system does not provide adequate cover for an electrical service in a footpath
- The system has not demonstrated that it will not cause a trip hazard
- The system has not demonstrated that it is tamper-proof
- The resident is not licensed to maintain services on the public footpath

Liability in the event of an injury will be decided by the courts. DCC are not necessarily indemnified.

Finally, while this system may have attained certain standards for trial use in other jurisdictions, DCC do not want to see a proliferation of imitation systems that do not meet any safety or construction standards.

**Q.18 COUNCILLOR DANIEL CÉITINN**

To ask the Chief Executive if the footpaths on Melvin Road, Derravaragh Road and Neagh Road could be included on the 2024 Footpath resurfacing programme and if the existing speed bumps on Neagh Road can be repaired to address speeding and rat run concerns.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Melvin Road – The Area Engineer will carry out a site visit to ascertain the condition of the pavement. Based on the outcome the Area Engineer will make a decision on inclusion to the 2024 Footpath Resurfacing Programme.

Derravaragh Road – This road has been included on the 2024 Footpath Resurfacing Programme.

Neagh Road - The Area Engineer will carry out a site visit to ascertain the condition of the pavement. Based on the outcome the Area Engineer will make a decision on inclusion to the 2024 Footpath Resurfacing Programme.

**Q.19 COUNCILLOR DANIEL CÉITINN**

To ask the Chief Executive if the trees in the park on Neagh Road, directly behind the Boxing Gym could be pruned; if he could install a latch on the playground gates as parents are concerned that children can walk out of the playground easily; and if he could provide an update on the installation of a new surface in the playground.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The trees in Neagh road park will be inspected and if deemed necessary will be added to the next scheduled pruning of trees in this area.

The playground gate is designed for use specifically on playgrounds and has a soft spring to gently close when in use. We don't have latches on any playground gates anywhere in the south east area, for health and safety reasons. Adding a latch increases the risk of finger traps and is not recommended. Parks are not responsible for supervising the care of children in playgrounds, we rely on responsible adults accompanying children to do this.

Neagh Road playground is set back 6 meters from the park boundary entrance gate, which can also be closed. The entrance to the park is located on to a public footpath on a very quiet residential side road.

The woodchip under the equipment has been replaced by a rubber surface. This surface upgrade was decided on due to the continuous complaints from playground users that the woodchip surface was spilling all over the playground.

**Q.20 COUNCILLOR DANIEL CÉITINN**

To ask the Chief Executive if a pedestrian crossing or similar safe crossing area could be installed on Terenure Road West roughly around the junction with Hazelbrook Road/Glenavy Park. There is approximately 0.7km between the pedestrian crossings at the KCR and Greenlea Road junctions which is a long stretch without a crossing particularly for school children or elderly people to navigate.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The South East area engineer will conduct a site assessment on Terenure Road West to determine the feasibility of installing a controlled pedestrian crossing at the junction with Hazelbrook Road and Glenavy Park. This site falls within several Bus Connects Network Redesign routes and the Active Travel Network, including:

Bus Connects Network Redesign:

- Limekiln - Ringsend Bus Garage A (81)
- Limekiln - Ringsend Bus Garage B (81)
- Dundrum - Poolbeg Street (74)
- Liffey Valley – UCD (S4)

Active Travel Network

- Terenure to Kimmage - DCC 22 0020 (1.72 km long)

Following the assessment, if the junction meets the warrant, the pedestrian crossing will be included in the South East Area's list of junctions to seek funding.

**Q.21 COUNCILLOR DANIEL CÉITINN**

To ask the Chief Executive if he could clarify the status of two dwellings (**details supplied**) and if the rubbish being dumped in their front gardens could either be removed by DCC or if tenants could be requested to remove on a health & safety basis.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The dwelling that is owned by Dublin City Council, is a ready to let property. The building contractors have cleared rubbish that was dumped by the neighbours on two occasions, and the Depot cleared rubbish that was dumped a third time. The property is now cleared of rubbish.

The second property referred to is not owned by Dublin City Council. If there is an issue with rubbish being illegally dumped in the front garden, this can be reported to Waste Enforcement [waste.enforcement@dublincity.ie](mailto:waste.enforcement@dublincity.ie).



**Q.22 COUNCILLOR JANET HORNER**

To ask the Chief Executive for a full update of the works completed to date on the Victorian Fruit and Veg Market and the current expected timeline for future works?

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

An Integrated Design Team was appointed in February 2022 to undertake survey work and detail design for the refurbishment of the Wholesale Fruit and Vegetable Market at St Marys Lane Dublin 7. To date surveys and testing in relation to Ground Penetrating Radar, Topo, Measurement, Asbestos, roof, stone and timber surveys have been completed. Enabling works for conservation and ground opening for archaeology have been carried out to inform the design and minimise risk. Sundry meetings in relation to compliance, conservation, drainage, electrical etc. have been undertaken and fire cert application is underway with a meeting set for Feb 2<sup>nd</sup>.

At the most recent meeting of the Members Advisory Group on Refurbishment of the Markets, in December 2023, the outline design was presented to show indicative of the new entrance to the south and proposed market layout, back of house facilities etc. Detail Design documents are expected in March / April. These then need to be costed and undertake a value engineering review. Once agreed, the tender will be reviewed internally by DCC and a procurement specialist before issue. Tender will issue to a DCC construction framework in line with public procurement and to shorten the timeline. A contractor will be appointed to carry out the identified package of works thereafter. It is anticipated that this process will take approximately 5 months. Below sets out the current indicative timeline for works -

February 2024 Fire Cert and Disability Access Cert Application/  
Complete Design Detail

March 2024	QS Costing and Design Review thereafter
April 2024	Draft Tender docs and technical/ financial review
May/June 2024	Construction Tender for refurbishment to a framework in DCC
Oct 2024	Tender award
November 2024	Site mobilisation to construction
Construction	20 to 24 months with the Tender for Operator / fitout etc. running in tandem

**Q.23 COUNCILLOR JANET HORNER**

To ask the Chief Executive To provide a full, comprehensive summary of works ongoing and planned at D-Light studios, the estimated costs, the agreement in place between D-Light and the Council and timeline for the same? There has been ongoing confusion for some time and it is important to have an accurate, comprehensive, written and public record of the current state of affairs.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Over the past number of months the Dublin City Council Arts Officer and the Local Area office have been meeting with staff from D Light and their Board of Management. As part of these discussions a Chartered Surveyor was engaged to carry out a building survey. This survey highlighted some serious concerns regarding the lack of fire protection. A fire safety audit and risk assessment was recommended.

A Fire Consultant carried out a fire safety assessment in October 2023. This assessment raised a number of serious concerns. Meetings were held with D Light to discuss these concerns and how they were going to be addressed. There were 17 items that were identified by the Fire Consultant. Consultants have been engaged to design, spec out the works and prepare tender documents etc.

Dublin City Council are to meet with our consultants to discuss interim fire measures - costs, timelines, scope of works etc. within days.

**Q.24 COUNCILLOR JANET HORNER**

To ask the Chief Executive How many telecommunications cabinets have been installed in the DCC area in the past year? If there has been a change of policy to install them above ground rather than below ground and if this policy could be reconsidered to look at sinking them in light of the commitment of the Council to avoid street clutter?

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Telecommunications companies apply for licences under Section 254 of Planning and Development Act 2000, to place aboveground telecommunications infrastructure on the public road. Section 254 applications are determined by the Environment and Transportation Department on the basis of planning recommendations by Dublin City Council planners, who take planning suitability criteria into consideration, such as the avoidance of street clutter. Advice was sought from Commission for Communications Regulation (ComReg) in relation to the feasibility of siting this type of infrastructure underground. ComReg consulted with the utility companies. For safety reasons it is not feasible to site these cabinets below ground. Hence, there is no change in policy planned for placing cabinets below ground.

Over the last year 37 Section 254 licences for telecommunications infrastructure were granted and 21 installations were carried out.

**Q.25 COUNCILLOR JANET HORNER**

To ask the Chief Executive for a progress update on the preparation for the use of CCTV for detection of litter and dumping, whether a list of locations has been prepared, what the criteria for determining the locations is and what the timeline for implementation is anticipated to be?

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The Code of Practice for the operation CCTV cameras for the purposes of Prevention, Detection and Prosecution of litter offences has been agreed by the relevant Departments and agencies. However it must be noted that while the relevant legislation has been signed into law we are still awaiting a commencement date. In the meantime DCC understands that the offices of WERLA will now arrange to prepare a suite of documents to assist Local Authorities in preparing DPIA's and CCTV schemes. An Oversight Body must be set up and all of the above will ensure that Dublin City Council will have undertaken a "privacy by design and default" process prior to the deployment of CCTV.

When the above is in place, it is Dublin City Councils intention to then proceed to tender for a contractor to provide CCTV services. It is envisaged that all of the above will take some time.

**Q.26 COUNCILLOR NOELEEN REILLY**

To ask the Chief Executive how much was received from each Leisure Centre in 2023 income wise.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The income for 2023 in respect of the Dublin City Council's Sport & Fitness Leisure Centre's is outlined below.

<b>Centre</b>	<b>Amount</b>
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Markievicz	€666,225
Finglas	€641,481
Ballyfermot's	€701,253
Ballymun	€935,204

**Q.27 COUNCILLOR DEIRDRE CONROY**

To ask the Chief Executive and the Planning Department about the vacant and derelict buildings in Rathgar village. The enquiry is brought by Rathgar Residents Association, regarding the state of commercial property in Rathgar village.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The Derelict Sites Unit will arrange to have the properties inspected and will take action as appropriate following the assessment of their condition. A full report on the findings of the inspection will issue to the Councillor.

**Q.28 COUNCILLOR DEIRDRE CONROY**

To ask the Chief Executive and Traffic department, in regard to the enquiry on Sundrive Road and Kimmage Road Lower, provided by LOKRA Core Group.

Residents Association is responding to the build-out at the corner of Sundrive Road and Kimmage Road Lower. They have also focused on co-ordinating the community's submission to An Bord Pleanála on the Kimmage Scheme Bus Connect proposals.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The temporary buildout came via a request from the Area office from local councillors and businesses. This is an interim measure to improve the junction in the interim and add a well needed 'public realm area'. The temporary buildout was placed there fully cognisant of the NTA proposals which will take a number of years to implement. Therefore this is very much a temporary measure and does not intimate or preclude the Bus Connects design which will be a full redesign and upgrade of that junction. The plan is now for the Area office to furnish it with seating and planting and make it a much more attractive public area.

**Q.29 COUNCILLOR MANNIX FLYNN**

To ask the Chief Executive in light of the recent controversy surrounding the sub leasing of Tailors Hall to a public house can the Chief Executive ensure that any sub lease of a premises belonging to Dublin city council be brought to the attention of Dublin City Councillors under the reserve function of disposals prior to any sign off, in the interest of transparency, accountability and public interest.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The consent of the Head Landlord is required for a sublease but it should be noted that such consent cannot be unreasonably withheld. The sub-lease of a property is not a disposal for the purposes of Section 183 of the Local Government Act, 2001 as it is not a disposal by the Council, but rather a disposal by a third party.

A sub-lease of a Council leased property is required to comply with the provisions set out in the superior lease.

**Q.30 COUNCILLOR MANNIX FLYNN**

To ask the Chief Executive to give a full costing of Dublin City Council's Winter Wonder Lights. This also to include the costing of the extension of the Winter Wonder Lights for the month of January.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The total cost for Dublin City Council Dublin Winter Lights 2023 was € 1,277,506.12 +VAT

The total cost for the extension of lights for the month of January 2024 was €130,000 + VAT

**Q.31 COUNCILLOR MANNIX FLYNN**

To ask the Chief Executive if Ireland is the only EU country adding fluoride to drinking water. It is time now that Dublin City Council got in line with best practice and stop placing such poisons into the drinking and bathing waters.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

On 13<sup>th</sup> September 2023 Uisce Eireann (previously known as Irish Water) took over direct control of all water services and foul and combined sewage matters in accordance with the Government's '*Framework for Future Delivery of Water Services*'. As the issue raised is a matter for Uisce Eireann I have forwarded the Councillor's query to the dedicated email address and cc'd the Councillor.

**Q.32 COUNCILLOR MANNIX FLYNN**

To ask the Chief Executive to initiate a full audit of the amount of motor cars, vans etc that are now being parked in Dublin City Council flat complexes and housing estates. This report to include how many residents of DCC have parking permits for these locations? And the exact location of these permits? Also, how many cars have been removed for illegal parking from these sites? How many fines or penalties, if any, have been issued to Dublin City Council tenants for breaches in this regard? And a full schedule of when inspections were carried out throughout the DCC housing estates and flat complexes to make sure that the parking criteria was in order. Also, what legal grounds do DCC have to raise the parking fees within flat complexes? Finally, bearing in mind DCC's active travel and greening strategies and the removal of car parking spaces from the public domain are such initiatives envisaged for DCC housing estates and flat complexes? What cycling infrastructure, if any, such as bicycle stands and bicycle sheds have been installed throughout DCC's housing estates and flat complexes.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The South East Area Office is compiling a report on parking within DCC flat complexes and this will be circulated to Councillors shortly.

**Q.33 COUNCILLOR ANTHONY CONNAGHAN**

To ask the Chief Executive if it's possible to install thermostats in Senior Citizens complexes where communal heating systems exist to allow individuals to control their own places heat. Complaint was made by a resident in (Details supplied) but I'm sure the situation is replicated elsewhere.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Thermostatic Radiator Valves (TRV's) are installed locally in each housing units in our senior citizen complexes where communal heating systems exist which allow respective tenants to regulate and control their heat locally. Any housing unit which does not is managed on a case by case basis and any tenant can request TRV's should they not already be in situ. We can confirm that according to our records, TRV's are installed in all units in Griffith Crescent.

**Q.34 COUNCILLOR ANTHONY CONNAGHAN**

To ask the Chief Executive to provide a report on how many properties Dublin City Council suggested to Fingal County Council as Tenant in Situ purchases and how

many were actually purchased? Does the Chief Executive know of the reasons Fingal decided not to purchase certain properties? Can a report be provided please?

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

With regard to the query above the following applies –

There have been 68 Tenant request checks requested and sent, the status of which is set out below –

Tenant in situ not proceeding - 16 (this is due to not reaching price agreement, not clearing estate management check, process too long resulting in Landlord not proceeding)

Currently under offer – 5 (these were successful for Choice Based Letting's while Tenant in Situ was in assessment stage)

9 Currently at sale agreed with Fingal County Council – Fingal County Council waiting to finalise legal side

2 have signed with Fingal County Council and their files have be sent over

The remaining properties are still at the assessment stage with Fingal County Council

Fingal County Council inform Dublin City Council on a case by case basis if a tenant in situ is not going through, this is communicated immediately to the Allocations team.

**Q.35 COUNCILLOR ANTHONY CONNAGHAN**

To ask the Chief Executive to arrange for a yellow box and double yellow lines at the junction of Westpark Drive and Ballygall Road East. Residents struggle to get out of the estate at times and it was said that this situation was worsened by the traffic lights which were installed just up the road recently. Residents have also reported that the entrance to the estate is regularly blocked with cars parking on both sides and an ambulance couldn't access the estate recently. There are also 2 dishings on either side which are regularly blocked by cars so double yellow lines should prevent cars blocking the dishing's here.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

There is currently a continuous white line on Westpark Drive at the junction with Ballygall Road East for a distance of 17m approximately. It is not recommended to extend the parking prohibition any further into the estate as this would serve to push parking further into the residential area. Westpark Drive is wide enough to accommodate parking on both sides of the road.

Yellow Boxes are intended to prevent blocking of major traffic generating junctions. The blocking of a road traffic junction should occur regularly, on a daily basis. This guideline is in place to avoid a proliferation of yellow boxes in the city which are expensive to maintain. Therefore, a Yellow Box is not recommended at this junction, as it does not meet the criteria.

**Q.36 COUNCILLOR ANTHONY CONNAGHAN**

To ask the Chief Executive if the DCC Alerts covers roadworks where traffic will be affected. A local resident has queried this with me having been caught in heavy traffic due to roadworks in Phibsboro leading to being late for a hospital appointment.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Dublin City Council issues permits to the various utility companies in order for them to carry out roadworks in connection with new and existing services. These permits can be valid for up to 30 days so that the utilities are able to schedule resources and deal with weather delays. The Council is not involved in deciding on the exact dates for these works and the information is not included in the DCC Alerts system.

However, the following link on the Council's website does provides updates on traffic in the city and includes a Traffic News Bulletin which lists expected disruptions, stemming from road works, for the week ahead:

<https://www.dublincity.ie/residential/transportation/traffic-news>.

Consequently Roadworks Control will investigate whether or not this information can be used by the DCC Alerts system.

**Q.37 COUNCILLOR LARRY O'TOOLE**

To ask the Chief Executive when will (**Details supplied**) be considered for suitable housing accommodation.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The above applicant is on the Housing List, with an application date of 08/09/2020, the applicant holds the following position on this list;

Area	Bedsize	Position
B	1	644
E	1	713

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

The applicant may be eligible for HAP which will provide him with financial assistance towards the cost of renting another property. Should the applicant wish to apply for the HAP Scheme, he should make contact with the HAP Section ([hap@dublincity.ie](mailto:hap@dublincity.ie))

Dublin City Council are increasing the number of units that are being allocated through the Choice Based Letting Scheme, such vacancies are advertised on the DCC website. If there are no properties available at present, nothing will be advertised. Applicants can only apply for properties in their chosen areas that meet the size requirement of their household.

**Q.38 COUNCILLOR LARRY O'TOOLE**

To ask the Chief Executive to consider this application for suitable housing accommodation of (**details supplied**).

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The above applicant is on the Housing List, with an application date of 14/01/2021, the applicant holds the following position on this list;

Area	Bedsize	Position
B	3	276
D	3	110
E	3	296

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

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

The applicant may be eligible for HAP which will provide her with financial assistance towards the cost of renting another property. Should the applicant wish to apply for the HAP Scheme, she should make contact with the HAP Section ([hap@dublincity.ie](mailto:hap@dublincity.ie))

Dublin City Council are increasing the number of units that are being allocated through the Choice Based Letting Scheme, such vacancies are advertised on the DCC website. If there are no properties available at present, nothing will be advertised. Applicants can only apply for properties in their chosen areas that meet the size requirement of their household.

**Q.39 COUNCILLOR MÁIRE DEVINE**

To ask the Chief Executive to request that the Public Realm official accept an invite to visit Inchicore National School, Dublin 8, to agree solutions to the dangerous conditions faced daily by pupils and staff that are caused by the ill-placed bottle bank?(**see attached photo**).

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

I have been in contact with the school Principal in relation to this matter and will arrange a meeting.

**Q.40 COUNCILLOR MÁIRE DEVINE**

To ask the Chief Executive to request an update on action taken following refusal of planning permission at (**details supplied**)

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The Planning Enforcement Section have a current enforcement investigation on going in respect of this matter. An enforcement notice was served in late August 2023 requiring;

This notice was to be complied with, within the period commencing Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> August 2023 and ending Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> January 2024. An up to date inspection is due to be carried out next week to ascertain whether the enforcement notice has been complied with. If the notice has not been complied with legal proceedings will be initiated to secure compliance.

**Q.41 COUNCILLOR MÁIRE DEVINE**

To ask the Chief Executive following the allocation of numerous new units in the past year, how many voids were returned to council stock and if additional resources can be allotted to speed up their refurbishment.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Housing Maintenance manages the refurbishment of vacant council housing for re-letting. Vacant properties come about as a result of a tenancy ending or through new properties being acquired by Dublin City Council. In recent years, we have refurbished an average of over 900 new and existing properties per year. The new properties come into the Council's ownership through programmes such as Acquisitions, Buy and Renew and Housing First. The refurbishment of these properties plays a key role in meeting the significant housing challenges we face. The voids framework has 11 contractors at present and all contractors are working at fully capacity to return these properties back to active use as quickly as possible.

Number of units refurbished 2023: **1081 units**

By contractor: **754**

By direct labour: **327**

Of the 1081, 185 units are still in the allocations process

Vacant Council Properties: 962

Acquisitions: 119

### **Refurbishment of Voids currently underway**

Status	Central	North Central	North West	South Central	South East	Total
Awaiting Vacant possession	29	15	16	30	31	121
Contractor On-site	69	27	57	48	24	225
Direct Labour	36	15	30	40	9	130
<b>Total</b>	<b>134</b>	<b>57</b>	<b>103</b>	<b>118</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>476</b>

**Q.42 COUNCILLOR MÁIRE DEVINE**

To ask the Chief Executive to provide the expanding communities of the Liberties and surrounding areas with a much need Public Library.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Dublin City Council operates three libraries which are easily accessible by residents of the Liberties. The libraries are listed below with the distance from Thomas Street/the Digital Hub as a reference:

- Kevin Street Library (1.4km)
- Dolphin's Barn Library (1.8 km)
- Inchicore/Richmond Barracks (2.5km)

All three libraries are well-served by public transport.

**Q.43 COUNCILLOR TARA DEACY**

To ask the Chief Executive for a breakdown of the funding opportunities in Dublin City council for community groups. I am aware that different streams are available at different times of the year through the LCDC etc. but could I get a list of opportunities and rough time of the year they are advertised from smaller once off grants to larger capital grants.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The Dublin City Local Community Development Committee (LCDC) is a conduit for funding to a variety of programmes across the city each year.

These include:

Large funding streams requiring a competitive public procurement process such as the Social Inclusion Community Activation Programme (SICAP) which takes place every 5 years.



Prescribed funding by the Department of Rural and Community Development (DRCD) to programmes such as the AMAL and ICON community development pilot projects for a duration of 3 years.

Once off streams such as Dormant Account Funding or the Community Recognition Fund. These have not been announced by DRCD for 2024 at this time.

The 2024 Local Enhancement Programme, previously called the Community Enhancement Programme, is scheduled to be open for online applications from 19th February 2024 until 8th March 2024.

Non-profit, community-based and / or voluntary sector organisations or groups registered with the PPN that promote social inclusion, tackle poverty and disadvantage and promote participation, empowerment and positive social change are eligible.

The total fund is €503,189.38. Groups can apply for a maximum of €25,000 towards capital expenditure to purchase equipment or improve premises/facilities. Thirty percent of the fund has been ring-fenced for small grants under €3,000 and 16% of the fund has been ring-fenced for women's groups.

In addition to above, on an annual basis, Dublin City Council provides financial support through local community grants. With a particular emphasis on community development and social inclusion, a wide range of resident, community, environmental and festival groups apply each year. The 2024 scheme is due to open for online applications from mid-April to early June 2024. The Informal Adult Education grants are also open at this time with both schemes awarding funding to a maximum of €1,500.

**Q.44 COUNCILLOR ALISON GILLILAND**

To ask the Chief Executive to provide an update on i) the implementation of rainbow pedestrian crossings (following the agreement on the best approach to such crossings with the NCBI), ii) the implementation of the rainbow mile and iii) the realisation of the following Development Plan Objective (CU021)

***LGBT+ Community***

*To build upon the strong connection between the Temple Bar Quarter and environs and the LGBT+ community and (i) seek to preserve and enhance key cultural spaces within the area that serve the community and (ii) undertake a feasibility study in relation to a new dedicated Museum and Cultural Centre dedicated to Irish Queer history and LGBT+ rights*

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The City Arts Office did engage pre Covid on the potential of an LGBT inspired commemorative work of Art. A day-long session looked at the many issues involved and the use by the LGBTQI+ community of certain streets and spaces where they felt comfortable and welcome. The LGBTQI+ community itself is best placed to undertake a feasibility study such a Museum through the representative/resource organisations involved and could seek funding from different sources to support such a study. Cultural spaces that support this community such as Outhouse on Capel Street are recognised structures such as clubs/ trusts or CLGs and again these should be the prime movers in continuing to build the high public value of or their operation. The City Arts Office is willing at any time to work with such spaces organisations or groups to support their development.

**Q.45 COUNCILLOR ALISON GILLILAND**

To ask the Chief Executive to provide an update on progress on the Killester Heritage Garden, in particular to clarify if a tree, 2 x park benches and flowerbeds will be included in the final design and implementation of the Heritage Garden.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Provision has been made in 2024 budgets to provide seating and planting to compliment the new historic interpretation signage. Design work will commence in consultation with the group and the heritage office late Q1 or early Q2.

**Q.46 COUNCILLOR ALSION GILLILAND**

To ask the Chief Executive to arrange i) for the installation of gates at the entrances of both Albert College Park car parks at the end of Hampstead Avenue and that these be closed when the Park closes and ii) for the upgrading of the car park lighting and the street lighting along all of Hampstead Avenue.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Parks services intend to meet with local Garda in the coming weeks to establish exactly the issues at this location. The installation of barriers or gates at these carparks will impact other local user groups in the area including Tennis Ireland, which operate beyond Park opening hours. Parks services will investigate repair of the carpark lighting also.

**Q.47 COUNCILLOR NIAL RING**

To ask the Chief Executive if Dublin City Council tenants in private/management run apartment blocks are entitled to attend and, in particular, to vote at AGMs and other meetings called by the apartment/complex management company. If it is the case that only owners are entitled to vote at meetings, could the Chief Executive detail how Dublin City Council, as owner of apartments in a complex, exercises this right to vote and furthermore, should the tenant be contacted and asked how DCC (as owner and possibly entitled to vote) should vote on their behalf if they are excluded from voting.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

In general, voting at property management company AGMs is restricted to owners of the residential units. As there are in excess of 2,000 Dublin City Council units in private apartment blocks it would not be feasible for Dublin City Council to exercise all votes, however, the matter will be examined to explore options in this regard. It is open to Dublin City Council tenants to raise any maintenance concerns through the normal Housing Maintenance channels, either as individuals or collectively. If these matters are deemed to be within the remit of the management company they will be referred for attention as appropriate. There is generally a working relationship in place on the ground between property management company representatives and local Dublin City Council estate management personnel.

**Q.48 COUNCILLOR NIAL RING**

To ask the Chief Executive to detail the additional resources deployed by Dublin City Council in the aftermath of the disturbances in Dublin City Centre of 23rd November last following the attack on children on Parnell Square and furthermore, to detail the cost of the clean-up operation.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Waste Management Services deployed the majority of available staff from other parts of the city to the core city centre in the early hours of the 24th November 2023. Redeployed staff were taken away from core duties outside the city centre to assist with the urgent clean-up of this significant event. No significant extra cost was incurred

in this clean-up operation as redeployment and flexible urgent actions assisted a speedy resolution to the issues faced in the aftermath.

**Q.49 COUNCILLOR NIAL RING**

To ask the Chief Executive to detail progress made in respect of the outsourcing of the "bike bunker" scheme and how this affects the current bunkers installed by DCC. Also, to ask the Chief Executive to confirm whether, or not, the 300 shelter target (by 2026) will be achieved and if there is a rollout timetable and location schedule for this.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The Road Safety and Micro mobility Section is currently working on the Bike Bunker scheme tender. Dublin City Council is planning to launch a competitive tendering process to select a contractor who will manage the comprehensive bike bunker operations, users and assets. After selecting a contractor, the council aims to collaborate with a third party to provide this service throughout the city and establish a goal of having 300 bike bunkers (by 2026), dependent on funding. It is intended to go to procurement on this scheme in Q1 2024.

**Q.50 COUNCILLOR NIAL RING**

To ask the Chief Executive to detail buildings/properties in Dublin being used, or being considered as accommodation for homeless persons, asylum/international protection seekers, and those afforded refugee status, such detail to include breakdown by postal area, capacity and number of occupants by age and gender. Also, to ask the Chief Executive to confirm that each such premises is operating in accordance with fire regulations and that each has prepared and submitted a Fire Safety Plan to DCC and that these plans have been approved by the Chief Fire Officer.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Please see attached a breakdown per postcode of all DRHE facilities being used for homeless accommodation for which the DRHE has statutory responsibility. IPAS is the statutory agency with responsibility for the provision of accommodation for asylum/international protection applicants. The DRHE works in partnership with Dublin Fire Brigade which inspects homeless facilities in the same manner as hotels and guesthouses etc. The DRHE successfully tendered for an independent inspectorate in 2022 to carry out inspections of all DRHE facilities to examine fire compliance, staff training, environmental health standards and food hygiene. Eamon O' Boyle Fire Consultants secured the tender and embarked on their first full round of inspections of DRHE facilities from October 2022 to July 2023 and all inspection reports are currently published on the DRHE website - <https://www.homelessdublin.ie/quality-standards/test>

**Q.51 COUNCILLOR ALISON GILLILAND**

To ask the Chief Executive to organise both a health and safety and a fire safety inspection at (**details supplied**) and provide a report to this Councillor and relevant officials in the local area office. Should this inspection deem that there is either a health and safety risk or a fire risk that appropriate action be taken to remove the risks.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Dublin City Council will arrange to call to the property in the coming weeks and investigate and Fire Issues as well as Health and Safety concerns outlined by the Councillor. Once we have completed our investigation we will furnish a report on our findings.

**Q.52 COUNCILLOR DARCY LONERGAN**

To ask the Chief Executive if there is any possibility of permitting counter flow cycling on Derrynane Parade.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

This location will be examined to assess whether it is suitable for the introduction of contraflow cycling. The Councillor will be informed of the outcome of the investigation.

**Q.53 COUNCILLOR SÉAMAS MCGRATTAN**

To ask the Chief Executive how many times in 2023 was the swimming pool forced to close due to lack of available staff at (**Details supplied**)

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

(**Detail supplied**) pool was forced to close due lack available staff four times in 2023.

5th May 2023 from 2pm to 9pm.

12th October 2023 from 7am to 10am.

9th December 2023 from 9am to 5pm

16th December 2023 from 9am to 5pm.

**Q.54 COUNCILLOR SÉAMAS MCGRATTAN**

To ask the Chief Executive to provide a ground plan for sewerage drains for (**Details supplied**)

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

A record map showing the public foul and surface water sewers at the above location was issued on the 1<sup>st</sup> February 2024.

It is noted that since 2014 the foul and combined sewers are now in the charge of Uisce Eireann and Dublin City Council is responsible for the surface water network since that date.

With very limited exceptions, no records of private foul drains connecting to public sewers are held by Dublin City Council Drainage (or Uisce Eireann) as private drains are not the legal responsibility of these bodies.

Only records of public sewers are maintained. Further information on pipe responsibility can be found on Uisce Eireann's website at the following link: [www.water.ie/help/pipe-maintenance-responsibility/](http://www.water.ie/help/pipe-maintenance-responsibility/) .

Private drains are the responsibility of the owners/occupiers of the premises served by those drains. Knowledge of the direction and connectivity of private drains (e.g. which houses share a drain, the direction it falls to, and where any outfall manhole is located) is usually available locally. Where this information is not available a detailed survey on the ground may need to be carried out. Neither DCC Drainage nor Uisce Eireann is statutorily charged with, or resourced to carry out, such surveys of private drainage on private property. There are however private surveying/drainage companies available to carry out this type of work.

On 13th September 2023 Uisce Eireann (previously known as Uisce Eireann) took over the direct control of all foul and combined sewage matters in accordance with the Government's '*Framework for Future Delivery of Water Services*'.

Dublin City Council Drainage crews still working in the SLA now operate under the control and direction of Uisce Eireann Engineers and management.

Accordingly, questions/requests relating to foul sewerage network should now be made directly to Uisce Eireann. Questions/requests relating to surface water drainage and sewerage should continue to be made to Dublin City Council.

Uisce Eireann provides a dedicated service for Local and Elected Representatives nationwide to ensure efficient and effective triage and resolution to any queries that they may have. Uisce Eireann's Local Representative Support Desk (LRSD) is open Monday to Friday (excluding Bank Holidays), between the hours of 09:00 to

17:30. The LRSD can be contacted either by telephone (0818 178 178) or by email at [localrepsupport@water.ie](mailto:localrepsupport@water.ie). Uisce Eireann's LRSD team receive prioritised support from across the Uisce Eireann business and have direct relationships with the Regional Engineers so that information from the ground can be gathered and fed back where necessary.

**Q.55 COUNCILLOR SÉAMAS MCGRATTAN**

To ask the Chief Executive how many housing adaptation grants were issued by Dublin city council in 2023 and is there a breakdown of the type of work carried out

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

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

The three Housing Grants are as follows: -

- 1) Housing Adaptation Scheme.
- 2) Mobility Aids Scheme.
- 3) Housing Aid for Older People.

Please below the amount of Housing Adaptation Grants that were issued by Dublin City Council in 2023.

<i>Grant</i>	<i>Amount Of Grants provided 2023</i>
<i>Housing Adaptation Grant for People with a Disability.</i>	<i>831</i>
<i>Mobility Aids Grant.</i>	<i>130</i>
<i>Housing Aid for Older People,</i>	<i>458</i>
<b><i>TOTAL</i></b>	<b><i>1419</i></b>

The type of work carried out under each Grant is as follows: -

**1) Housing Adaptation Scheme.**

A Ramp.  
 Grab Rails.  
 Bathroom facilities like an accessible shower or downstairs toilet.  
 Stair Lift.  
 Space for Wheelchair access.  
 An extension (for a bedroom or bathroom to accommodate a person with a disability).

**2) Mobility Aids Scheme.**

Grab Rails.

A Ramp.  
An Accessible shower.  
A Stair Lift.

**3) Housing Aid for Older People.**

Help repair or replace the roof.  
Upgrade the Electrical Wiring.  
Repair or replace doors and windows.  
Provide central heating (where there is no central heating or it is broken beyond economic repair).

I have attached the hyperlink to the Housing Adaptation Grants for People with a Disability.

<https://www.dublincity.ie/residential/housing/i-own-my-home/grants-homeowners/housing-adaption-grant-people-disability>

Q.56 **COUNCILLOR SÉAMAS MCGRATTAN**

To ask the Chief Executive what apprentice schemes are available within Dublin city council in 2024?

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The City Council advertised apprenticeship opportunities for the following trades. The recruitment process is currently at interview stage.

Bricklayer  
Carpentry  
Electrician  
Heavy Vehicle Mechanic  
Painter  
Plumber  
Metal Fabrication  
Stonemason

Under the Access to Apprenticeship Programme operated through TU Dublin, 3 people have transferred from a 3 month trade internship to commence 1<sup>st</sup> year apprenticeships as carpenter and painter.

The City Council will also commence an apprenticeship Horticulture programme through Teagasc in 2024.

Q.57 **COUNCILLOR DEBORAH BYRNE**

To ask the Chief Executive whether the NEIC Programme Integration Body is a 'public body' as per Section 2 of the Act and what are the NEIC/DCC levels of funding for the NEIC Intercultural work in 2022, 2023 and 2024?

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The NEIC and DCC have had numerous meetings with the Department of Integration in relation to expanding the Intercultural roles and capacity. Joy Eniola, the previous Intercultural Coordinator had noted the volume of work would require more than one person to be effective. An agreement has to been made to share fund a team of three people to work as the Intercultural team for the NEIC. These posts will be advertised by Dublin City Council in the coming weeks.

Q.58 **COUNCILLOR DEBORAH BYRNE**

To ask the Chief Executive to outline anti-theft infrastructure that will be put in place and how DCC plans to collaborate with Gardai in 2024 to combat bike theft in the city.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

This question has been forwarded to An Garda Síochána for follow-up. It will also be included as an agenda item for the next meeting of the Dublin City Joint Policing Committee (JPC), scheduled to take place next month.

**Q.59 COUNCILLOR DEBORAH BYRNE**

To ask the Chief Executive to outline DCC's strategy to address proper disposal of cigarette butts including the number of ballot bins and whether the number of ballot bins could be increased.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Cigarette bins are included in all litter bins and big belly bins infrastructure in the city. There are over 3,400 litter bins in the city. Licensed premises are obliged to provide cigarette bins in accordance with the Bye-Laws for the Prevention and Control of Litter. Ballot bins were trialled in the city centre for a short time some years ago.

**Q.60 COUNCILLOR DEBORAH BYRNE**

To ask the Chief Executive to outline contingency plan put in place during public holidays to ensure adequate staffing for essential services such as housing, maintenance etc in light of the fact that residents at (**details supplied**) were without heating for 8 days during the Christmas period.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

There are standard arrangements in place for Housing Maintenance out of hours essential repairs and emergency cover. Tenants can access the service via the Dublin City Council main out of hours nos. 01 6796 186 or 01 222 2222 and calls will be referred to Housing Maintenance personnel for investigation and response as appropriate.

Specific arrangements were in place for the Christmas period. Heating system failures are treated as urgent. Records show that only one report of a heating fault was received from Drumalee Court over Christmas and that was resolved. If details can be supplied regarding the specific address/es referred to in the question the case will be examined further.

**Q.61 COUNCILLOR DARRAGH MORIARTY**

To ask the Chief Executive for Dublin City Council to urgently install a public bin at the grotto in Maryland at the corner of Our Lady's/Lourde's Road. I have raised the need for a bin in this estate numerous times, due to severe dog fouling issues nowhere for owners to dispose of dog waste, only to be told that public bins cannot be installed in residential settings.

This part of Maryland serves as a main thoroughfare from the busy Cork Street/Marrowbone Lane area to local schools in Basin Lane and the Fatima Luas stop. There is considerable footfall along this stretch justifying the installation of a public bin. I ask that Dublin City Council at least trial a bin at this location to see if there has been an improvement in litter and dog fouling in the Maryland area.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Waste Management Services does not consider this residential location as a suitable location for a litter bin. There is a sufficient number of bins on the main thoroughfares

near this location for dog owners to dispose of their dog waste and to cater for the litter needs there.

**Q.62 COUNCILLOR DARRAGH MORIARTY**

To ask the Chief Executive to outline the official Dublin City Council response to tens of thousands of people living in terraced housing, who cannot accommodate a brown wheelie bin, but are required to do so under new national legislation.

Tens of thousands of people, according to Census 2022 there are 93,356 terraced households in the Dublin City Council area, many of whom have no space to accommodate green, black and brown wheelie bins. Instead, they use refuse bags, but many private bin collection operators will not allow the use of brown waste collection bags, as these would be targeted by seagulls, foxes etc.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

It is a condition of the permits granted to the Waste Collectors to provide a food waste collection service. Condition 6.6.4 of the permit states:-

“The permit holder shall ensure that food and bio-waste from households is collected and managed in accordance with European Union(Household Food Waste and Bio-Waste) Regulations 2015.”

Dublin City Council Waste Enforcement section have advised that where specific instances of breaches of the operators waste collection permits are received, and where details and evidence can be provided of operators concerned, and addresses of where breaches occur, then the Waste Enforcement Section will investigate the matter and take appropriate action if required.

The contact details for the Waste Enforcement Section are:-  
[waste.regulation@dublincity.ie](mailto:waste.regulation@dublincity.ie)

**Q.63 COUNCILLOR CIERAN PERRY**

To ask the Chief Executive to provide the following information:

The number of people currently on the various Dublin City Council housing lists giving details of the numbers on each list and further detailed by area.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Please find attached report which outlines the requested information.

**Q.64 COUNCILLOR CIERAN PERRY**

To ask the Chief Executive to provide the following information;

In relation to the O'Devaney Gardens development, can the Chief Executive provide an update on discussions in relation to the purchase of units by an Approved Housing Body for a cost rental scheme?

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

DCC can confirm that Tuath Housing have negotiated acquisition of 78 residential units in Phase 1. These are to be provided as Cost Rental homes.

Discussions are ongoing with respect to further acquisitions within the latter two phases of the Development for provision of further cost rental homes.

**Q.65 COUNCILLOR RAY MCADAM**

To ask the Chief Executive when he expects the City Council to prepare a Scheme for the use of CCTV in line with the approvals process detailed in the Circular Economy and Miscellaneous Provisions Act, 2022 given the plethora of hot-spot locations where illegal dumping is rampant and the pro-active enforcement opportunity afforded



through this legislation will make it easier for this Council and our Public Domain crews to tackle this scourge; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The Code of Practice for the operation CCTV cameras for the purposes of Prevention, Detection and Prosecution of litter offences has been agreed by the relevant Departments and agencies. However it must be noted that while the relevant legislation has been signed into law we are still awaiting a commencement date. In the meantime DCC understands that the offices of **WERLA** will now arrange to prepare a suite of documents to assist Local Authorities in preparing DPIA's and CCTV schemes. An Oversight Body must be set up and all of the above will ensure that Dublin City Council will have undertaken a "privacy by design and default" process prior to the deployment of CCTV.

When the above is in place, it is Dublin City Councils intention to then proceed to tender for a contractor to provide CCTV services. It is envisaged that all of the above will take some time.

**Q.66 COUNCILLOR DECLAN FLANAGAN**

To ask the Chief Executive what is the update on Kilmore Celtic gaining access to the youth club again?

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

By agreement dated 1<sup>st</sup> July 1980, the premises at Cromcastle Road, Coolock, Dublin 17 was demised by Dublin City Council to the Trustees of St. Luke's Youth Club (lessee) for a term of 99 years from 1<sup>st</sup> July 1975, subject to an abated rent provided that the premises was used as a youth club and for no other purpose.

Dublin City Council's Property Management Section, in its role as Landlord, became aware of breaches of the Lease namely that there was no insurance on the building, that the rent had not been paid and that the lessee was no longer in possession of the premises which was occupied by unauthorised users. The Council engaged with the lessee to resolve the breaches and provided a reasonable opportunity for the lessee to remedy same. However the lessee subsequently ceased engagement.

The Council exercised the Forfeiture Procedure of the Conveyancing Act 1881 which provides for the termination of the Lease prematurely. Accordingly, a Section 14 Notice dated 14th November 2023 was issued to each individual Trustee and also sent to the premises giving 28 days' notice for the Trustees to rectify the breaches of the Lease. The Notice expired on 11<sup>th</sup> December 2023 and as there was no communication from the Trustees. The Council peaceably entered the premises on Tuesday 12th December 2023. As a result of the possession of the premises by the Council, the lease held by the Trustees of St. Luke's Youth Club was terminated.

A condition survey was carried out on the building for compliance with Fire Safety regulations. Additional checks and works required at the premises are noted below. When all investigations are complete, the works will take at least 4 months depending on availability of contractors and procurement requirements:

Procurement of appropriate contractor to address recommendations in the Fire Safety report e.g.: absence of fire doors, flame retardant paint required to internal roof surfaces, blockage of internal access door by kitchen unit installation, boiler housing replacement with appropriate fire retardant materials and service of fire alarm system. Review Disabled WC which has shower heads installed and is currently filled with items of furniture. Also to review the statutory requirement for Disability Access Certification (DAC).

Review of the Electrical Services.  
Review and service of the Gas Boilers.  
Replacement /repair of broken window.  
Unblock waste drains and address toilet leaks.  
Review the suitability of the flooring in main hall.

An executed Licence Agreement will be required to be in place before occupation of the premises. In this regard, whilst the above noted checks and works are carried out, it is proposed to start the process for a new agreement for the use of the premises. This will entail co-ordinating with the Local Area Office for recommendations of any entity or group who wish to propose a detailed use for the premises under a new Licence Agreement. The recommended entity or group will be referred to the Council's Chief Valuers Section to agree terms and conditions which will include the permitted use of the building, the payment of the licence fee, repairs and maintenance of the premises, services, insurance, utility bills etc. When terms are agreed the Department will be instructed to prepare the necessary legal documents to include a deed of renunciation.

It is anticipated that by the time the legal documents are prepared that all the necessary checks and works will largely have been completed.

**Q.67 COUNCILLOR DECLAN FLANAGAN**

To ask the Chief Executive can he confirm if any of the broken footpaths on Kilbarron road /Castlekevin and other roads in Kilmore west have been fixed in the last year.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

There are no records of any footpath repairs carried out by Road Maintenance Services in Kilbarron Road Road/Castlekevin or the Kilmore West Area in 2023. Sections of footpaths in the Kilmore West Area shall be included for repair in the 2024 works programme.

**Q.68 COUNCILLOR DECLAN FLANAGAN**

To ask the Chief Executive Are there any further updates on the proposed playgrounds for Kilmore west and McAuley Park.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The revised layout and location for the proposed playground in Kilmore has been circulated to the area committee upon which local consultations will be based. Once agreement is reached the project can proceed to contracts where timescales will be fixed. Consultations have commenced with residents of McCauley Park and the Parks Service will be reverting with revised designs based on same in the coming weeks.

**Q.69 COUNCILLOR DECLAN FLANAGAN**

To ask the Chief Executive what is the update on planning at the drive in site in Beaumont? Can the developer be written to and reminded on his responsibilities, the site is attracting anti-social activity and is an eye sore.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

**Planning Update:** The question would appear to refer to Site at Beaumont Road / Beaumont Grove / Grace Park Court / Ellenfield Road, Beaumont, Dublin 9 Planning permission was refused by Dublin City Council for 99 Build to Rent (BTR) apartments under Plan Ref. 2569/21. This decision was appealed to An Bord Pleanála. ABP overturned DCC's decision and Granted permission under ABP-310709-21 on

11/01/2022. The decision was subject to a judicial review. I have no further details to hand on the judicial review. This is a matter for ABP's legal department.

**Anti-Social Behaviour on the site:** This would pertain to a non-planning matter and is an issue of site security and maybe potential malicious damage and as such would be a matter for the owner of the site and perhaps, An Garda Síochána

**Q.70 COUNCILLOR DEARBHÁIL BUTLER**

To ask the Chief Executive arrange for the weeds to be removed from roundabout outside Artane Castle.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The public domain team will arrange to have these weeds sprayed in the coming weeks.

**Q.71 COUNCILLOR DEARBHÁIL BUTLER**

To ask the Chief Executive to arrange for a bin to be installed at the bus stop on Ardlea Road, Artane. Rubbish is being stuffed into the hedging behind the bus stop.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Waste Management Services are satisfied at this time that there is a sufficient number of bins near this location to cater for the litter needs there.

**Q.72 COUNCILLOR KELSEY MAY DALY**

To ask the Chief Executive what steps have been taken in the past to address the ongoing issue of dumping and bins being left on the street in the vicinity of Eugene Street and whether a similar exercise could be conducted as the problem has escalated.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The Litter Wardens have been a constant presence in Eugene Street and the surrounding area removing illegal dumping for investigation. The people doing the dumping are aware of our tactics in trying to gather evidence and we are finding it increasingly harder to issue fines by going through bags. I have been made aware of a property on Eugene Street that was illegally dumping bags. Title searches to establish the landlord's details were requested and a letter sent detailing their responsibilities under the Bye-Laws for the Storage, Presentation and Segregation of Household and Commercial Waste 2018. The owners were asked to provide proof of a waste collection service being in place at the property but nothing was provided. Fines were issued but the legislation is weak and doesn't hit the landlords hard enough for them to take notice.

If I can be made aware of any other properties illegally dumping their waste, I will take similar action. More responsible landlords may take action and adhere to their responsibilities. This may give us an improvement in the situation but stronger legislation is required to tackle this problem in the long term.

**Q.73 COUNCILLOR KELSEY MAY DALY**

To ask the Chief Executive whether there are any plans to install Bike Lockers in the vicinity of Meath Street. If so, could the Manager set out those plans and if not, could a number of locations be considered.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The Road Safety and Micromobility Section is currently working on the Bike Bunker scheme tender. Dublin City Council is planning to launch a competitive tendering

process to select a contractor who will manage the comprehensive bike bunker operations, users and assets. After selecting a contractor, the council aims to collaborate with a third party to provide this service throughout the city and establish a goal of having 300 bike bunkers (by 2026), dependent on funding.

The procurement process for this scheme is scheduled to commence in the first quarter of 2024. Upon successful contractor selection, there is potential for a bike bunker to be installed on Meath Street pending adequate interest.

**Q.74 COUNCILLOR KELSEY MAY DALY**

To ask the Chief Executive whether there are any plans to establish a dog park in the Liberties area and if not whether a location for a dog park could be considered.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

There is insufficient space in the parks and open spaces across the Liberties area to provide for a dog park.

**Q.75 COUNCILLOR KELSEY MAY DALY**

To ask the Chief Executive if there are improvement plans devised for Cameron Square. Including for example; electric vehicle charging ports, bike lockers, greening of the square, upgraded lighting and parking enforcement. If not, could these improvements be considered for this area in line with DCC's environmental and greening strategies.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Dublin City Council Community Social Development team are meeting with residents to discuss possible small environmental projects within the estate.

Parking Enforcement patrols are active in Cameron Square and carry out enforcement on illegally parked vehicles.

There are no immediate plans to install bike lockers in Cameron Square.

Dublin City Council adopted the Dublin Local Authority Electric Vehicle Charging Strategy in 2022. It was agreed that DCC's role was to facilitate the roll out of fast charging hubs over other models including neighbourhood charging.

To support the strategy DCC and the other Dublin Local Authorities are in the process of procuring an operator to implement a pilot project to develop a limited number of public charging hubs across Dublin City and County.

The following locations have been identified by Dublin City Council as suitable for the pilot scheme.

- |                                  |                    |
|----------------------------------|--------------------|
| 1. St. Anne's Park               | North Central Area |
| 2. Clontarf Bus Garage           | North Central Area |
| 3. Strand Road, Sydney Parade    | South East Area    |
| 4. Mary's lane                   | Central Area       |
| 5. Donnybrook (The Crescent)     | South East Area    |
| 6. Milltown (Strand Terrace)     | South East Area    |
| 7. Ballyfermot Leisure Centre    | South Central Area |
| 8. Raheny Library                | North Central Area |
| 9. Cabra Parkside Leisure Centre | Central Area       |
| 10. Finglas, Wellmount St.       | North West Area    |
| 11. Clonskeagh (Farmer Browns)   | South East Area    |
| 12. Bushy Park (Rathdown Avenue) | South East Area    |
| 13. Cabra Library                | Central Area       |

14. Walkinstown Library

South Central Area

These are currently the only locations under consideration by DCC for public Electric Vehicle Charging

**Q.76 COUNCILLOR CLAIRE BYRNE**

To ask the Chief Executive what criteria is used by the planning office when assessing planning applications to ensure they are compliant with the following objectives in the City Development Plan 2022 to 2028:

*0.3 Climate Action:*

*It is the Policy of Dublin City Council: CA6 Retrofitting and Reuse of Existing Buildings To promote and support the retrofitting and reuse of existing buildings rather than their demolition and reconstruction, where possible. See Section 15.7.1 Re-use of Existing Buildings in Chapter 15 Development Standards*

*Chapter 15: 15.4.3 Sustainability and Climate Action to minimise the waste embodied energy in existing structures, the re-use of existing buildings should always be considered as a first option in preference to demolition and new build. See Section 15.7 for further details on energy requirements*

*.15.7.1 Re-use of Existing Buildings Where development proposal comprises of existing buildings on the site, applicants are encouraged to reuse and repurpose the buildings for integration within the scheme, where possible in accordance with Policy CA6 and CA7. Where demolition is proposed, the applicant must submit a demolition justification report to set out the rationale for the demolition having regard to the 'embodied carbon' of existing structures and demonstrate that all options other than demolition, such as refurbishment, extension or retrofitting are not possible; as well as the additional use of resources and energy arising from new construction relative to the reuse of existing structures. Existing building materials should be incorporated and utilised in the new design proposals where feasible and a clear strategy for the reuse and disposal of the materials should be included where demolition is proposed. I would ask that these concerns and those raised by the local school and the wider community.*

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

All planning assessments are carried out in accordance with relevant National, Regional and Local Guidance and having regard to the provisions of the City Development Plan 2022. It is a requirement of the Plan that development proposals which include demolition rather than re-use and rehabilitation of existing structures, submit an expert report to demonstrate that all other options are not possible. The Planning Authority considers any such report, together with all other relevant supporting documentation in making a robust determination on all applications for demolition in accordance with the City Development Plan

**Q.77 COUNCILLOR CLAIRE BYRNE**

To ask the Chief Executive what progress, if any, has been made on the following objective as set out in section 15.14.1 Hotels and Aparthotels of the City Development Plan 2022 to 2028 (see below) and when a report on this analysis will be published.

**15.14 Commercial Development/Miscellaneous**

**15.14.1 Hotels and Aparthotels**

*To ensure a balance is achieved between the requirement to provide for adequate levels of visitor accommodation and other uses in the city such as residential, social, cultural and economic uses, there will be a general presumption against an*

*overconcentration of hotels and aparthotels. Pending the outcome of an analysis of the supply and demand for tourism related accommodation in the Dublin City area (to be carried out by Dublin City Council), hotels and aparthotels will be considered on a case by case basis having regard to the location of the site and existing hotel provision in the area. In all instances, where the planning authority deems there to be an overconcentration of such facilities in an area, the applicant will be requested to submit a report indicating all existing and proposed hotel and aparthotel developments within a 1km catchment providing a justification that the development will not undermine the principles of achieving a balanced pattern of development in the area, and demonstrating that the proposed development fully complies with the criteria set out in Policy CEE28 and in Section 15.14.1.1 and 15.14.1.2 below.*

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Last year, the forward plan team focused on meeting statutory deadlines including background work relating to the implementation of the Residential Zoned Land Tax, several variations of the development plan and major local plans for Dublin Industrial estate and Jamestown Industrial estate.

In this context, an analysis of the supply and demand for tourism related accommodation in the Dublin City area has yet to commence. It is the intention of the Planning Department to carry out a demand analysis in accordance with Section 15.14.1 of the City Development Plan 2022, commencing in Quarter 4 2024. All applications will continue to be assessed on their own merits pending the completion of this analysis.

**Q.78 COUNCILLOR CLAIRE BYRNE**

To ask the Chief Executive when will the former 'pocket park' at the corner of Dame Lane and Georges Street South (behind the Mercantile redevelopment) be reinstated and brought back into public use, when will the new plans be made public and will those plans go out for public consultation, and can he provide a timeline on this please'

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The Terms of the licence to the Mercantile are that they will enhance the space when reinstating, to a design agreed with Dublin City Council. DCC Parks Department, Public Realm and the Area Office have engaged with the Mercantile Group, their Architectural and Landscape Designers, in developing a design for the space which takes account of the new building and reinstates the civic use. When a concept design is agreed it will be presented to Local Councillors. It is hoped to have agreed concept by end Q1 with a view to having work being carried out Q3.

**Q.79 COUNCILLOR CLAIRE BYRNE**

To ask the Chief Executive when will the feasibility study on the pedestrianisation of South William Street as set out in the City Development Plan 2022 to 2028 be carried out and can he provide a clear timeline please.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

It is most likely a feasibility study on the pedestrianisation of South William Street will be undertaken in 2025 – 2026, as there are a number of changes in the area which will need to be taken account of, namely the introduction of the College Green Dame Street Plaza and the Bus Connect changes on Georges Street.

**Q.80 COUNCILLOR KEITH CONNOLLY**

To ask the Chief Executive for a breakdown of Road Maintenance expenditure per LEA for the years 2019 to present in tabular form.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The Environment and Transportation Accounts Division will commence collating the information that he has requested regarding Road Maintenance Services' expenditure since 2019. As it will take some time to gather this information, it will not be possible to provide the information at the Council Meeting on the 12<sup>th</sup> February. An update will however issue to Cllr Connolly once the relevant information has been gathered.

**Q.81 COUNCILLOR KEITH CONNOLLY**

To ask the Chief Executive for an update on the neighbourhood scheme/traffic calming for **(details supplied)**.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

There are currently three areas included on the list of areas to be considered for a neighbourhood scheme. These are **(details supplied)** Willow Park Avenue and Ballygall Estate. The neighbourhood engineer will liaise with the North West Area Office and Councillors to select which area Councillors would like to be prioritised and receive a Neighbourhood Transport Scheme first.

**Q.82 COUNCILLOR KEITH CONNOLLY**

To ask the Chief Executive to examine the extension of double yellow lines at **(Details supplied)**.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

During a site visit, it was observed that the average road width of **(Details supplied)** is 7.4 metres, and there is ample room for vehicles to get access. The minimum requirement for double sided parking is 6.5 metres. On-street parking offers passive traffic calming by reducing available carriageway width and raising the driver's attention to parked vehicles.

Recently double yellow lines were provided at the end of the road (cul-de-sac area) to create a safe turning area for all vehicles.

In accordance with S.I. No. 182/1997 - Road Traffic (Traffic and Parking) Regulations, 1997, Article 36, Prohibitions on parking (2) a vehicle shall not be parked;

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

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

If residents wish to formalise parking on this road they can apply for a Pay & Display/Permit parking scheme through the link below.

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

**Q.83 COUNCILLOR KEITH CONNOLLY**

To ask the Chief Executive to provide an update on Dublin Fire Brigade's plans to purchase a high turn table ladder for Finglas Fire Station due to the amount of high-rise buildings in the area.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Turntable Ladder appliances are on the Pre-Determined Attendance for high-rise developments for all areas of the city and county. These appliances can be in attendance in the Finglas area within the national guideline travel times for Special Aerial Appliances. However, we are currently reviewing our Aerial Appliance

deployment model for the city, which may see these appliances being redeployed to other station areas in the future.

A new 42 metre ladder has come into service in DFB with a second 42m ladder has been delivered this week.

**Q.84 COUNCILLOR SOPHIE NICOULLAUD**

To ask the Chief Executive when will DCC retired staff get the 1% increase? It has been 5 months and the increase has not be applied to retired staff. How many retired staff are affected by this delay? The same delay happened from October 2021 and I emailed Owen Keegan about it on the 14th of February 2022? How does Dublin City Council explain how this delay happened in the first place and how is it happening again?

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The Pension increase was processed this current pay day (Fortnight 3).

There were two parts involved in processing the pension increase.

The Circular stated that the annualised amount of basic salary was to be increased by 1.5% or €750, whichever was the greater.

As such, it was not the pension that the increase was to be applied to, but the salary that the individual retired on.

This salary had to be examined to identify if 1.5% was to apply or €750, whichever was the greater. As there are currently 4,856 pensioners on the payroll (both Wages & Salaries), this was a time consuming process. Once this part of the process is completed the instruction is issued to payroll, as to what increase to apply to each pensioners yearly rate.

The second part of the job was with Payroll. Further work had to be carried out by the Payroll section, in order to calculate the revised pension for each pensioner, apply it to the payroll system and calculate arrears due.

A substantial amount of work was undertaken by both sections (Superannuation & Payroll) in the payment of the pension increase. In general, the length of time it takes to process a pay increase is determined by the amount of work involved.

The pay increase for salaried staff, for example, can be paid much quicker, once sanction is granted, purely because the salary scales are provided with the revised pay rates (by Circular). The system is set up to capture the scales and apply the increase in a more automatic process.

The more manual element to the work involved for the pension increase, coupled with the high number of pensioners on the payroll, results in a longer processing timeline. It should be noted that the fortnightly payment of salaries and pensions continues throughout this process with the same resources.

**Q.85 COUNCILLOR SOPHIE NICOULLAUD**

To ask the Chief Executive when is **(details supplied)** be getting the attic insulation done? DCC and contractor were there today 31/1/23. Will all the attics get measured and insulated and if so when? Please provide a timeframe.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Housing Maintenance will be insulating all the attics in Davitt House, subject to the tenants permitting clear access to same at the required times. Currently it is envisaged that the attic insulation works will commence in the coming weeks during Q1/Q2 this year and the attic insulation works will be completed in 2024.

**Q.86 COUNCILLOR SOPHIE NICOULLAUD**



To ask the Chief Executive the timeframe for the windows and doors to be to measures and fitted? How many flats and their windows and door measures in (**Details supplied**) How many are waiting for windows and doors replacements? How long have the ones waiting been waiting for?

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Dublin City Council Housing Maintenance Department have finished measuring for windows and doors. It's now moving on to the tender stage. The whole process will take six months.

**Q.87 COUNCILLOR MICHAEL MACDONNCHA**

To ask the Chief Executive what discussions have so far taken place with the Land Development Agency regarding the proposed housing developments under its aegis in Clongriffin; if in further engagements with the LDA Dublin City Council will stress the need for the development of community facilities in parallel with housing, as well as the need to ensure that infrastructure meets the required standard and that taking in charge by the City Council can proceed without the totally unacceptable delays which persist in Clongriffin to this day; and what measures and proposals will the Council bring forward to ensure these outcomes.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The lands in question were very recently acquired by the LDA. At this stage only one meeting has taken place with the LDA where these lands were raised. The meeting took place on the 31<sup>st</sup> of January 2024 which was arranged at their request. This meeting was an introductory meeting between DCC and the LDA as regards these lands. The CE took the opportunity to raise key issues for the DCC Executive for the LDA to consider as they start examining their approach to the lands. These were (i) the need for significant investment in community, cultural and sports infrastructure in the area; (ii) the importance of creating sustainable communities and a diversity of housing stock; (iii) the importance of high quality development in line with current standards.

The taking in charge of the existing lands at Clongriffin, built by a different entity, is a separate issue which the Council is continuing to work actively to address. This is a very complex issue due to the design and built form of the existing schemes. The Council will continue to liaise with the residents and management companies to identify where progress can be achieved.

**Q.88 COUNCILLOR DEIRDRE HENEY**

To ask the Chief Executive in relation to the need for improvement works to be carried out to public facilities at (1.**Details Attached**) can he please, with reference to the reply to my motion as per (2.**Details attached**).

- (a) Indicate what date the last inspection of the steps was carried out
- (b) Say what standards are used to identify problems with steps and rails
- (c) Say if it is possible to view the latest inspection report

As it is the widely held view amongst local users of the facilities, that the current condition of steps and rails are dangerous, and an accident waiting to happen.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

- (a) Visual inspections of the facilities here are carried out regularly through the year and algae and seaweeds are treated on the steps during the bathing season.

- (b) More detailed visual inspections are carried after the winter months in advance of the bathing season to identify where hand rails require re-securing and steps require repairs after exposure to winter storms. Standards applied is to ensure that such facilities are safe and fit for purpose. Such an inspection will be carried out again this year and necessary repairs programmed as schedules and weather allows.
- (c) Such visual inspections by experienced staff do not generate reports that can be shared. The Parks Service is more than receptive to and will fully investigate specific concerns of users of the facility if same can be forwarded to [parks@dublincity.ie](mailto:parks@dublincity.ie)

**Q.89 COUNCILLOR DEIRDRE HENEY**

To ask the Chief Executive in relation to location as per (**details attached**) please say what action he can take to improve the poor public lighting that exists along this stretch of public domain, as the current poor lighting is making life difficult for our elders walking that route.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

A lighting assessment will be carried out to assess whether or not lighting improvements are needed on this section of the public domain. The Councillor will be informed of the outcome of the assessment in due course.

**Q.90 COUNCILLOR DEIRDRE HENEY**

To ask the Chief Executive can he please refer to vacant property as per (details attached) (about which local residents have communicated with City Council on but have received no feedback) and say what if any action he can take to either (a) acquire the premises or (b) encourage the owners of the property to bring it back into active use as the current condition of the property is adding to a feeling of dereliction and a sense of unsafeness for local residents;

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The City Council has added this property to its vacant property register and is currently conducting an investigation into the status of same. If the property is confirmed long term vacant then the Vacant Property Unit will identify the owner(s) and issue them with correspondence to return the property to use in a timely manner. Any failure to adhere to this request could result in the City Council invoking its legislative powers to have the property returned to use.

**Q.91 COUNCILLOR DEIRDRE HENEY**

To ask the Chief Executive refer to traffic lights installed at location as per (1.**Details supplied**) and explain the reason behind their installation in the first instance and if same can be reviewed as requested by local resident in the correspondence at (2.**Details supplied**).

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

**Details supplied**

**Q.92 COUNCILLOR MICHAEL WATTERS**

To ask the Chief Executive to refer to housing transfer application at (a. **Details supplied**) and say if tenant can be accommodated in the nearby vacancy at (b. **Details supplied**) and if tenant cannot be so accommodated, please explain the reason why this is the case.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The above applicant is on the Older Persons Housing Transfer List, with an application date of 13/07/2023, the applicant holds the following position on this list;

Area	Bedsizes	Position
B	1	80

I have noted the applicant's interest in (**details supplied B**) however, based on her position above it is unlikely she will be made an offer.

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

Q.93 **COUNCILLOR MICHAEL WATTERS**

To ask the Chief Executive to please refer to housing applicant, (**details supplied**) and confirm her place on the housing list from which she seems to have been removed at some stage in the past.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The above applicant is on the Housing List, with an application date of 15/12/2023, the applicant holds the following position on this list;

Area	Bedsizes	Position
B	2	810

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

It is noted that the applicant did have a previous housing application which was cancelled in August 2021, as she was over the income limit, the applicant appealed the decision, however, the decision was upheld and the application remained cancelled.

The applicant may be eligible for HAP which will provide her with financial assistance towards the cost of renting another property. Should the applicant wish to apply for the HAP Scheme, she should make contact with the HAP Section ([hap@dublincity.ie](mailto:hap@dublincity.ie))

Dublin City Council are increasing the number of units that are being allocated through the Choice Based Letting Scheme, such vacancies are advertised on the DCC website. If there are no properties available at present, nothing will be advertised. Applicants can only apply for properties in their chosen areas that meet the size requirement of their household.

Q.94 **COUNCILLOR DEIRDRE HENEY**

To ask the Chief Executive to please refer to location as per (**details supplied**) and say if he can clear some of weeds overgrowth etc.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The weeding program in NCA has not yet commenced. This location has been included on the schedule for manual scraping and will be prioritised when the program commences.

**Q.95 COUNCILLOR MICHAEL WATTERS**

To ask the Chief Executive refer to previous request and his advice that the flowerbeds at (**details supplied**) would be attended to and maintained by Parks Department and say why this is not happening and if he will arrange to have the matter dealt with as soon as possible.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Parks Service is in the process of making contact directly with the Councillor in relation to this question

**Q.96 COUNCILLOR COLM O'ROURKE**

To ask the Chief Executive regarding the issue of dog fouling:

A) To request the amount of dog fouling fines issued and the amount of fines paid for, in tabular form each year for the past five years.

B) What recent initiatives have Dublin City Council taken to tackle the issue of dog fouling?

C) What initiatives are Dublin City Council going to undertake in 2024 regarding the issue of dog fouling?

D) Dublin City Council took on board my previous request to trial dog poo bag dispensers on lampposts across the area to tackle the ongoing issue of dog poo on paths. What areas was this piloted in and can it be trialled again in the Cabra-Glasnevin Local Electoral Area?

E) To request that more general waste bins across Dublin City to not just tackle litter but also dog poo, considering that Dublin City Council now has a 'any bin will do' policy as dog poo bags can be disposed of in any public bin. This would also help with the increasing issue of dog poo in bags being dumped on streets and in gardens/driveways.

F) Dublin City Council took on board previously my request to put signs on every public bin reminding members of the public that they can dispose of waste in any public bin. This has worked well, could it please be ensured that every new bin has this signage, particularly in Cabra-Glasnevin?

G) Is there a hotline across the city that residents report dog fouling?

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

**A)**

Dates	Fines Issued	Fines Paid	Cancelled On appeal	Witness Not Prepared To give Evidence In court	Prosecutions initiated	Conviction	Awaiting Hearing In court
From 01/01/2019 To 31/12/2023	8	1	1	2	4	1 Summons Returned And 1 case Struck out	2

**B)** In January 2020 JWT Folk were hired to prepare a creative for a dog fouling awareness campaign which was to be in 2 phases and included:

A radio advertising campaign. – The ads ran in early March 2020 on the majority of the Dublin Radio Stations including RTE radio 1.

Out of home campaign - New advertising posters were created and placed on JC Decaux digital screens throughout the city.

The new Posters were also placed on big belly bins throughout the city.

A PR stunt was developed which included “You don’t pick up after your dog, you’d want to start, Bag it and Bin it”. – This stunt took place in Mount Bernard Park, Cabra. Special posters were created to encourage people to use the litter bins to dispose of the doggie bags. These posters are still on the bins in many locations..

10k free doggie bags were distributed throughout the city.

The campaign was also promoted on social media

Campaign launched by the then Lord Mayor Cllr Tom Brabazon in Marrowbone Lane on 14/02/2020

395 signs were installed throughout the city and thousands of free doggie bags were distributed throughout the city.

Due to Covid 19 the HSE took over the use of DCC’s assets and the impact of the dog fouling campaign was somewhat lost.

**2021 – No activity due to Covid 19 lockdown.**

**2022**

Phase 2 of the dog fouling awareness campaign began in 2022 and included the following:

Audio Visual systems were installed in 16 locations throughout the city, reminding dog owners and dog walkers to clean-up after their dog and to “**Bag it and Bin It**”. A Paw Fall analysis was carried out and dog trends of the controlled areas were identified where the audio visual systems were installed

DCC joined with a number of other Local Authorities to Promote “**Scally the Dog**” campaign on social media, details can be found on:

<https://www.facebook.com/watch/?v=1716172652085823>

296 signs were installed and thousands of free doggie bags were distributed to dog owners and dog walkers throughout the city.

**2023**

Dog fouling campaign – “Bag it and Bin it” was launched by the then Lord Mayor, Cllr Caroline Conroy in St. Patrick’s Park, Dublin 8 in February 2023.

The SPC set up a working group to examine reasons why dog fouling was such an issue and to develop solutions to try eliminate dog fouling in the city. The Litter Prevention Officer was invited to join the working group and arranged for a **Behavioural & Attitudes** survey to be carried out at a number of locations throughout the city. The methodology used for deciding on the locations where the survey took place was the 40-40-20 basis, which is the same methodology used for the National Litter Pollution Monitoring System (NLPMS)

40% of the locations were where the audio visual systems were placed.

40% were randomly chosen.

20% were where there was local knowledge of dog fouling.

The result of the survey has been forwarded to the Working group and are available on DCC website.

An intensive compliance campaign (ICC) was organised in conjunction with a Gardai Síochána in a number of locations in the north side of the city.

A Poster competition was organised for pupil’s primary schools in Dublin city. Winning poster was placed in bins adjacent to schools.

388 signs were installed throughout the city and thousands of free doggie bags were distributed to dog owners and dog walkers throughout the city.

**C)** Dublin City Council will develop an awareness campaign in relation to dog fouling. Details will be provided when available.

**D)** Dispensers for doggie bags are no longer placed in public places as they have been proven to be a litter generator.

**E)** The issue in relation to the placement of bins will be examined in conjunction with the Litter Management Plan. The tag line “Any bin will do” is no longer used as it caused confusion. Dog owners and dog walkers were of the opinion that they could dispose of their doggie bags in their own brown or green bins. Instead the tag line “Bag it and Bin it” is used.

**F)** Signs were put on public litter bins to inform dog owners and dog walkers that they could use the bin to dispose of doggie bags. However, not all bins are suitable for signage.

**G)** The litter hotline is: 180 251 500

**Q.97 COUNCILLOR COLM O’ROURKE**

To ask the Chief Executive regarding footpaths and roads:

A) To provide the number of legal claims made by members of the public regarding falls on footpaths and roads due to their bad condition in Dublin City Council (to be provided in tabular form) and the number of payments made each year for the past five years.

B) What has been the budget to maintain footpaths and roads in Dublin City Council each year for the past years?

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE’S REPLY:**

Reply on behalf of the Law Department to

(a) The gathering and collating of the information is on-going and a detailed response will issue for the March Council meeting.

B) Road Maintenance Services Division is responsible for the maintenance of the 1,240 km of public roads and streets throughout Dublin City, together with the associated footways, bridges and other structures. The total area of carriageway is 8.1 million square meters and the total area of footways is 3.5 million square meters. This maintenance work is carried out by direct labour units operating from two depots and also by private contractors. A works programme is presented and budgeted for annually. Details of Road Maintenance works programme budgets 2022-2024 are set out below:

2024

In 2024, a total budget of €12.5M, comprising €4M from the revenue budget and €8.5M from the capital budget has been allocated for the reconstruction of footways and carriageway resurfacing.

2023

In 2023 a total budget of €12.1M, comprising €3.6M from the revenue budget and €8.5M from the capital budget has been allocated for the reconstruction of footways and carriageway resurfacing.

2022

In 2022 a total budget of €12.1M, comprising €3.6M from the revenue budget and €8.5M from the capital budget has been allocated for the reconstruction of footways and carriageway resurfacing.

**Q.98 COUNCILLOR COLM O’ROURKE**

To ask the Chief Executive regarding parking enforcement and clamping:

- A) How many wheel clamps did Dublin City Council/Dublin Street Parking begin the year with in 2023?
- B) How many wheel clamps did Dublin City Council/Dublin Street Parking end the year with in 2023?
- C) How many new wheel clamps were purchased throughout 2023?
- D) How many wheel clamps are believed to have been removed/stolen/damaged by members of the public in 2023?

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE’S REPLY:**

- A) Dublin Street Parking Services began the 2023 year with a stock of 520 clamps.
- B) Dublin Street Parking Services ended the 2023 year with 370 clamps in stock.
- C) There were 1652 new wheel clamps purchased in 2023.
- D) There were 3574-wheel clamps removed/stolen/damaged by members of the public in 2023, 622 clamps were recovered and repaired before been put back in service.

The number of clamp purchases may appear low compared to the level of removed/stolen/damaged clamps, this is because very often it is the clamp lock that gets cut off and the clamps are recovered and reused. For further information please see additional information on locks that are used in conjunction with clamps.

Dublin Street Parking Services began the 2023 year with a stock of 800 locks.  
Dublin Street Parking Services ended the 2023 year with a stock of 220 locks.  
There were 3000 locks purchased in 2023.

Dublin Street Parking Services purchased 1000 locks and 504 clamps in January 2024.

**Q.99 COUNCILLOR COLM O’ROURKE**

To ask the Chief Executive to tackle the issues of cars parking in a laneway and thus blocking vehicular access of a resident at the back of their house (**Details supplied**)

- A) Could anything be done from a Public Domain perspective to stop people parking in the space at the back of the house (details supplied).
- B) Can bollards be reinstated at the space at the back of house?
- C) What is the policy regarding DCC putting double yellow lines here?
- D) Could Parking Enforcement and Dublin Street Parking Services ensure that the resident who parks at back of house can get out due to cars parking in laneway and blocking access?
- E) Dublin Fire Brigade previously wanted to close access at this location, is this something still being considered?

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE’S REPLY:**

The Assistant Parking Enforcement Inspector will review the location and may seek further restrictions to be implemented by the area engineer to aid with enforcement action.

- A) The area engineer will assess the request and investigate what is happening in the area and what can be done to solve the problem.

- C) It is not DCC policy to install parking restrictions where restrictions are already provided for in law:

In accordance with the Road Traffic (Traffic & Parking) Regulations 1997, Article 36, Paragraph (2), a vehicle shall not be parked;

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

(k) In a manner in which it will interfere with the normal flow of traffic or which obstructs or endangers other traffic;” However, the road markings on the area are old, and other entrances for laneways have double yellow lines on it. It will be assessed if this can cause some kind of confusion on drivers, and a decision will be made soon.

**Q.100 COUNCILLOR NAOISE Ó MUIRÍ**

To ask the Chief Executive to please provide an update on the installation of the new playground at McAuley Park including timeframe to completion?

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE’S REPLY:**

Consultations have commenced with local residents and revised designs based on same have been received. The Parks Service will be reverting to the residents in the coming weeks as schedules allow. Once agreement has been reached contracts can be entered into with the supplier that will fix timelines.

**Q.101 COUNCILLOR NAOISE Ó MUIRÍ**

To ask the Chief Executive please provide an update on footpath inspections of 29-37 McAuley Drive and 27-17 McAuley Drive to be undertaken by Road Maintenance Services as referenced in the response to my question to the July City Council meeting (Question 79)

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE’S REPLY:**

Footpath repairs to McAuley Drive (no.29-37 & 27-17) shall be carried out within the next 8-10 weeks.

**Q.102 COUNCILLOR NAOISE Ó MUIRÍ**

To ask the Chief Executive the following:

Local residents have contacted me a number of times about the new traffic lights at the Gracefield Road/Brookwood Avenue junction; they say that there is too little time provided in the phase for traffic coming from Brookwood Avenue onto Gracefield Road resulting in long tailbacks on the Avenue during peak times. Can the Area Manager request ITS to investigate and rebalance the phasing?

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE’S REPLY:**

This junction is controlled by Dublin City Council’s Urban Traffic Signal Management System, SCATS, which adapts signal timings on each approach, automatically, in response to real time demand(s) from traffic / pedestrians.

SCATS has to manage a balance between the different approaches / different modes of transit and also ensure safe crossing for pedestrians. Therefore prioritising one approach over another is not always possible.

However, in light of your query, the operation and timings associated with the traffic signals at this location have been evaluated and changes made, via SCATS, to reduce journey times approaching from Brookwood Ave onto Gracefield Road.



The traffic signal operation will also continue to be monitored and further changes made, as required, where there is scope to do so.

Many thanks for your query.

**Q.103 COUNCILLOR NAOISE Ó MUIRÍ**

To ask the Chief Executive provide an update on the tree audit being undertaken in Grace Park Heights including work done to date and related findings.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The tree audit has been completed and has recommended that the lime trees be significantly reduced. There are options to replace a quantum of these trees while affecting repairs to the pavements. Parks Service will be contacting the residents association in the coming weeks regarding these options as to how this work might best be programmed.

**Q.104 COUNCILLOR PATRICIA ROE**

To ask the Chief Executive to reinstate double yellow lines along (**details supplied**) as they are no longer visible since the road was resurfaced.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The location will be inspected within 30 days of today's date.

**Q.105 COUNCILLOR PATRICIA ROE**

To ask the Chief Executive to have 'Children at Play' signs erected at entrances to (**details supplied**).

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

There is an existing 30 km/h Slow Zone signage visible at (Details supplied) indicating the lower speed limit and that the area is a Home Zone/Slow Zone which alerts drivers that the road is a residential and to expect children. The signage is located at (**Details supplied**).

**Q.106 COUNCILLOR PATRICIA ROE**

To ask the Chief Executive if he would consider lobbying the relevant minister to enact legislation to allow DCC to levy a "bed tax". I have put this question to the previous Chief Executive but the reply has always been that DCC could not do so without the appropriate legislation being in force. Considering the demands on DCC's budget particularly the costs in dealing with dumping, littering and enhancement of the public realm, perhaps it is eventually time to enforce a tourist tax similar to that in force in other European cities which could be used for the benefit of the city.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The matter of a Bed Tax or Accommodation Charge has been examined in depth by the Finance Strategic Policy Committee of this Council. There has been extensive consideration of the issues involved and much correspondence issued to the relevant government departments on this important issue. An Accommodation Charge has been normalised in many countries throughout the world with the SPC members having reviewed the experience of other locations. Nearer to home, plans to introduce such a charge are progressing in both Scotland and Wales.

Funds generated from this charge could be applied to support projects that would add to the shared experience of Dublin residents and visitors alike. The introduction of an Accommodation Charge would bring a sustainable and resilient element of change to local government funding. Tourism is a vital industry and to ensure it continues to thrive we must take measures to bring about a more supportive funding stream.

**Q.107 COUNCILLOR VINCENT JACKSON**

To ask the Chief Executive that Dublin City Council Housing Department respond to the following with positive solution focused responses.

In relation to Claddagh Court Ballyfermot Dublin 10 that the following be addressed.

A. That all vegetation needing cleaning out / thinning be removed from the grounds of the complex as residents are looking at rats in this badly maintained grounds, that all waste be removed on a regular basis.

B. That the central area be provided with raised beds to allow residents with limited mobility plant flowers etc.

C. that the seating / benches be replaced as promised 3 years ago.

D. That the SKY Connection in the common room be repaired it is broken over 8 months now.

E. That 2 to 3 large concrete flower planters be positioned opposite the Claddagh Green Shops to deter parking on the footpath the current flower planters are regularly moved by motorists.

F. the Dryer is broken for the past 8 months leaving it impossible for order persons to dry clothes can we repair or replace as a matter of urgency.

G. That they be able to get a community grant to support complex events.

H. That we hold scheduled meeting 2 to 3 times a year with residents committee in the complex to review issues.

Residents are proposing to stop paying rent if routine maintenance is not done in the complex.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Housing Maintenance will attend to the matters raised that come within their remit and discussions will be held with the local Area Manager with a view to following up on outstanding matters that come within the remit of Estate Management.

**Item G:**

The 2024 Dublin City Council Community Grant Scheme will be open in April for applications.

**Q.108 COUNCILLOR VINCENT JACKSON**

To ask the Chief Executive can the proper parking restriction box be positioned outside Borza's Take-Away at Ballyfermot Road Dublin 10 between the Gala Centre and the busy strip of Shops. This trader lives over his Shop as has his family for over 70 years they cannot get in and out of their home with the lack of enforcement by DCC, An Garda Siochana etc. I need another onsite meeting with traffic department staff, new signage and enforcement. We promised 18 months ago to do the proper Yellow Box alas it was never done.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The Transport Advisory Group have already met with Cllr Vincent Jackson and the Area Office at Borza's Take-Away on Ballyfermot Road. The issue is the triangular area outside the side of Borza's Take-Away is a pedestrian footpath and not roadway.

Yellow boxes are only put on roadway and there is currently a yellow box outside this side entrance on the public road.



The Transport Advisory Group have raised the concerns at this location with internal stakeholders within the Transport and Environment Department to see if there are any further solutions and will issue a report.

Please note that instances of illegal or obstructive parking should be referred to Dublin Street Parking Services, DSPS (email [info@dsps.ie](mailto:info@dsps.ie) or tel. no. 01 602 2500) or a Garda Síochána for enforcement.

**Q.109 COUNCILLOR VINCENT JACKSON**

To ask the Chief Executive that the on-going issue with waste left in the private Car-Park at Le Fanu Road Shopping Centre Ballyfermot Dublin 10 be addressed in a proactive manner, this issue is going on for years and every few months DCC clean the area up. This simple fact is the area needs daily / weekly maintenance to keep the busy area clean and tidy. Can the owners introduce a pay parking regime with the ring-fenced funds used to keep the area clean. 30 Min free parking and then a payment would generate substantial funding which could pay for someone to keep the area clean. Without action from DCC this area will remain in a filthy poor state.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

This car park is not in charge of Dublin City Council and therefore a paid parking scheme could not be introduced or operated by Dublin City Council. Our Litter Enforcement Officer will contact the owners of the above mentioned private car park and see what can be done to address the waste issue there.

**Q.110 COUNCILLOR VINCENT JACKSON**

To ask the Chief Executive that the NTA be asked to hold community wide meetings to alert residents from Ballyfermot of proposed changes to the road layout in Ballyfermot that they leaflet to area to inform people of what they propose to do, the implication for local Parks / Open spaces etc. It is essential people are made aware before things start to happen.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The NTA applied to An Bord Pleanála in July of 2023 for approval of the Scheme under Section 51(2) of the Roads Act 1993 (as amended), along with a submission for confirmation of the associated Compulsory Purchase Order.

An Bord Pleanála has now issued its decisions, being to approve the Scheme, subject to conditions, and to confirm the Compulsory Purchase Order (CPO).

Following An Bord Pleanála's determinations, various public notices and notifications are required to be issued and this will be published/issued at the appropriate time.

Subject to completion of various processes, the NTA will now be developing a construction sequence taking account of any planning consents received, along with documentation to allow procurement to commence for the construction stage of the Scheme.

It is expected that all twelve corridors will be completed in 2030 with the first construction contracts to be awarded at the end of 2024 and on-site construction commencing early next year. The construction of the corridors will be delivered on a phased basis in order to reduce the traffic impacts that could arise should all twelve be constructed concurrently. In relation to the Liffey Valley to City Centre Core Bus Corridor, it is likely that the Scheme will be implemented in the first half of the overall Core Bus Corridor construction programme.

During 2024, detailed communication arrangements for the construction phase will be developed to ensure that residents, community groups, businesses and public representatives are kept fully informed and have access to relevant liaison personnel during the delivery of the Scheme.

**Q.111 COUNCILLOR DARCY LONERGAN**

To ask the Chief Executive Dublin City Council's position on shared micro-mobility - is there a policy paper/implementation roadmap available?

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Chapter 8 of Dublin City Council Development Plan 2024 – 2028 provides policy on Sustainable Movement and Transport and in particular micro and shared mobility:

“Sustainable and efficient movement of people and goods is crucial for the success and vitality of the city. It is important that we transition away from the private car and fossil fuel based mobility to mitigate against the negative impacts of transport and climate change.

This plan also looks to the future of mobility in the city including the increasing role of shared mobility schemes, micro mobility options...and the application of technology in the mobility sector.”

For shorter journeys micro and shared mobility are good choices of transportation, but operational challenges exist and are a real thing, especially regarding public realm and space management; parking space and infrastructure.

<b>It is the Policy of Dublin City Council:</b>	
<b>SMT24</b>	<p><b>Shared Mobility and Adaptive Infrastructure</b></p> <p>To promote the use and expansion of shared mobility to all areas of the city and facilitate adaptive infrastructure for the changing modal transport environment, including other micro-mobility and shared mobility, as part of an integrated transport network in the city, and to support and promote smart growth initiatives that develop new solutions to existing and future mobility services and support Smart Dublin in the development of a Mobility as a Service (MaaS) platform.</p>

The Road Traffic and Roads Act 2023 creates a new vehicle category called powered personal transporters or PPTs which include e-bikes and e-scooters, which have specified prescribed weight and design speeds. The Department of Transport, Tourism and Sport are drafting an advice note for Local Government which will assist in the decision making around policy for PPTs, the objectives and needs of the citizens and

visitors to Dublin City Council, and will help implement the best options that best suit our city.

**Q.112 COUNCILLOR RAY MCADAM**

To ask the Chief Executive to explain the rationale for the preparation of a Noise Action Plan for the city; what impact its preparation and ultimate implementation will have for my constituents in the North Inner City; how the establishment of quiet areas will benefit Inner city communities; the timeframe for the undertaking of a public consultation and if he will make a statement on the matter.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The Environmental Noise Directive (2002/49/EC) was transposed into Irish Law by the Environmental Noise Regulations 2006 (S.I. 140/2006). The Regulations were revised by the European Communities (Environmental Noise) Regulations 2018 (S.I. 549/2018) and amended through the European Communities (Environmental Noise) (Amendment) Regulations 2021 (S.I. 663/2021).

Under the Regulations, Dublin City Council and other Local Authorities in the Dublin Agglomeration are designated as the Noise-Mapping Bodies for the purpose of making and approving strategic noise maps for the Agglomeration of Dublin. The Local Authorities are also responsible for preparing a Noise Action Plan for the Agglomeration. Please click on below link for further details.

<https://www.dublincity.ie/residential/environment/air-quality-monitoring-and-noise-control-unit/dublin-city-noise-maps/noise-action-plan>

The World Health Organisation Noise Guidelines state that exposure to high noise levels is harmful to health. Click on below links for more information

[https://www.who.int/europe/health-topics/noise#tab=tab\\_1](https://www.who.int/europe/health-topics/noise#tab=tab_1)

<https://www.epa.ie/environment-and-you/noise/noise-and-your-health/>

The implementation of the Noise action Plan will ensure there is a strategic approach to managing environmental noise which will benefit all of Dublin's citizens including those of the North Inner City.

A requirement of the Regulations is to identify areas within the Agglomeration to be considered for preservation for environmental noise quality. These are referred to as Quiet Areas click on below link for more information.

<https://www.dublincity.ie/residential/environment/air-quality-monitoring-and-noise-control-unit/dublin-city-noise-maps/quiet-areas-dublin-city>

The designation of Quiet Areas close to residents of the inner City will provide people with a more tranquil space to visit, away from the noisier areas of the city.

It is anticipated that for the current process the public consultation will commence in April 2024 and run for a period of 6 weeks.

**Q.113 COUNCILLOR RAY MCADAM**

To ask the Chief Executive the potential cost of (**Details Attached**) how the council would determine where and what areas would be prioritised for planting should such an initiative be advanced by the Council; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

There are an estimated 300,000 trees growing in Dublin City at present which represents more than 200 years of tree planting in the city, from the tree planting in the 18th century Phoenix Park to the thousands of trees planted annually by Dublin City Council. However, to find land to plant and establish (**details supplied**) in such a compact city as Dublin would not be feasible.

A study by UCD in 2017 funded by Dublin City Council found that the tree canopy cover also known as the urban forest represents 10.37% of the City although many inner city areas have much less tree canopy cover. In response, Dublin City Council has initiated

Greening Strategies in the Liberties, North East Inner City and Stoneybatter as well as other areas.

Tree planting in the City is a meticulous exercise that needs careful consideration of planting sites to check for the presence of underground services, overhead services and signage, potential impact on pedestrian movements etc. The process involves a lot of consultation with local communities and the selection of the right tree species (as per old adage “the right tree in the right location”).

Dublin City Council is wary of committing to projects which do not appreciate the stewardship which goes into the planting and care of trees if they are to be brought to maturity which is when the climate benefits from carbon sequestration, air and water purification and biodiversity are achieved. Too often we see well-meaning but naïve efforts at tree planting which are not sustainable.

It should be noted also that Dublin City Council is a partner of the Dublin Mountains Partnership which supports the planting by Coillte Nature of thousands of native trees annually in place of coniferous woodland.

**Q.114 COUNCILLOR DAITHÍ DOOLAN**

To ask the Chief Executive to please confirm when Dublin City Council will be engaging with residents in Lissadel maisonettes to evaluate the next round of maintenance works and will the manager please meet with the residents committee to discuss the process in detail?

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Dublin City Council supports Tuath Housing in its proposed acquisition of this development for social housing. Tuath Housing have carried out their own assessment on the quality and standards of the proposed development at the Steelworks Site and have satisfied themselves that the planning permission as it stands will, once complete be suitable for use as social housing. This site is in private ownership it is the intention of Tuath Housing to acquire this development under a turnkey arrangement. Tuath Housings technical team is satisfied that the standards and unit sizes are well within acceptable sizes for use as long term social housing. This development comprises of 185 units broken down as follows;

4 x 3 bed Apts all 92mtr sq.

32 x 2 beds Apts - average unit size 73 sq metres

149 x 1 beds - Avg unit 50 sq meters -

The City Development Plan policies and objectives apply only to all new applications lodged since the adoption of the Plan and associated variation. All schemes granted based on the previous standards are not impacted by the revised approach; and can be built out based on their existing permission.

**Q.115 COUNCILLOR DAITHÍ DOOLAN**

To ask the Chief Executive will the Director of Services ensure that Dublin City Council engage with St. Laurence's National School, Chapelizod to help assess the property fenced off outside the school with the view to accessing some safe space to securely park pupil's bicycles there?

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The Ballyfermot/Drimnagh Area Management is engaging with a representative of the board of management in relation to this issue.

**Q.116 COUNCILLOR DAITHÍ DOOLAN**

To ask the Chief Executive to outline in tabular form the number of empty Dublin City Council properties in each of the DCC areas for each of the years since 2019 up to 2024 and the number of units brought back in to use for each of those years and the budget spent in each year since 2019 returning these properties to use?

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:****VOIDS MANAGEMENT PROGRAMME**

	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
<b>Framework Vacant DCC Properties</b>	446	368	380	404	626
<b>Direct Labour</b>	337	347	321	265	327
<b>Acquisitions</b>	263	207	174	103	119
<b>Total Framework and Direct labour</b>	1046	922	875	772	1080
<b>Framework Expenditure</b>	€19m	€12.3m	€12.3	€14m	€28m
<b>Direct Labour Expenditure</b>	€2.69m	€2.91m	€2.83m	€2.44m	€3.15M
<b>Average cost per framework unit</b>	€42,600	€33,423	€32,368	€34,653	€44,728
<b>VOIDS Dept. funding</b>	€10.8m	€6.17m	4.69m	€5.74m	€12.39m

The fluctuation on the Average costs is due to pricing changes with Term Maintenance framework contracts and the restructure of voids unit in 2019.



These frameworks were established through procurement via E-tenders. Frameworks where est. between 2018-2020, 2020-2022 and currently 2022-2024.

The 2022-2024 prices are running at an average of 30% above the 2020 prices and this reflects the increase in construction inflation across the period.

### **Vacant (Void) Property Refurbishments completed in 2023**

<b>Totals by Area</b>	Central	North Central	North West	South Central	South East	Total
House	35	82	98	82	5	302
Apartment	155	33	53	139	112	492
Senior Citizens	45	45	79	53	64	286
<b>Total</b>	<b>235</b>	<b>160</b>	<b>230</b>	<b>274</b>	<b>181</b>	<b>1080</b>

### **Vacant (Void) Property Refurbishments completed in 2022**

<b>Totals by Area</b>	Central	North Central	North West	South Central	South East	Total
House	27	47	62	63	11	210
Apartment	93	22	50	89	64	318
Senior Citizens	36	66	55	46	41	244
<b>Total</b>	<b>156</b>	<b>135</b>	<b>167</b>	<b>198</b>	<b>116</b>	<b>772</b>

### **Vacant (Void) Property Refurbishments completed in 2021**

<b>Totals by Area</b>	Central	North Central	North West	South Central	South East	Total
House	27	61	94	83	11	276
Apartment	66	21	54	137	64	342
Senior Citizens	27	67	63	61	39	257
<b>Total</b>	<b>120</b>	<b>149</b>	<b>211</b>	<b>281</b>	<b>114</b>	<b>875</b>

### **Vacant (Void) Property Refurbishments completed in 2020**

<b>Totals by Area</b>	Central	North Central	North West	South Central	South East	Total
House	20	82	93	74	20	289
Apartment	73	35	47	96	83	334
Senior Citizens	27	82	63	84	43	299
<b>Total</b>	<b>120</b>	<b>199</b>	<b>203</b>	<b>254</b>	<b>146</b>	<b>922</b>



**Vacant (Void) Property Refurbishments completed in 2019**

<b>Totals by Area</b>	Central	North Central	North West	South Central	South East	Total
House	38	103	137	124	11	413
Apartment	68	18	43	111	112	352
Senior Citizens	38	65	76	55	47	281
<b>Total</b>	<b>144</b>	<b>186</b>	<b>256</b>	<b>327</b>	<b>170</b>	<b>1046</b>

**Q.117 COUNCILLOR DAITHÍ DOOLAN**

To ask the Chief Executive to give serious consideration to allocating one of the retail units being developed opposite St. Ultans, Cherry Orchard to Familibase so as it can be used by Cherry Orchard Running Club.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The City Council is considering very carefully the best use of the commercial units for the benefit of the local community and will consider any proposals submitted to it from locally based organisations in that context.

**Q.118 COUNCILLOR BRIEGE MACOSCAR**

To ask the Chief Executive to arrange for reinstatement of the path at (**details supplied**). During recent pavement upgrades a mucky verge was left where there was previously a pavement.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

An inspection will be carried out at this location and any defects identified during the inspection will be scheduled for repair when a works crew is available in the area.

**Q.119 COUNCILLOR BRIEGE MACOSCAR**

To ask the Chief Executive to inspect the tree at (**details supplied**) and arrange appropriate interventions as it is very large and has caused cracks to the pavement and adjoining wall which is now causing people to trip.

Parks services have inspected this tree and it was found in a healthy condition. This tree is growing in a sizable grass verge with no further works recommended at this time. The condition of the path is a matter for our Roads maintenance section.

Road Maintenance Services will carry out an inspection of the footpath at this location and any defects identified during the inspection will be scheduled for repair when a works crew is available in the area.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Parks services have inspected this tree and it was found in a healthy condition. This tree is growing in a sizable grass verge with no further works recommended at this time. The condition of the path is a matter for our Roads maintenance section.

Road Maintenance Services will carry out an inspection of the footpath at this location and any defects identified during the inspection will be scheduled for repair when a works crew is available in the area.

**Q.120 COUNCILLOR BRIEGE MCOSCAR**

To ask the Chief Executive to advise if parking restrictions apply on (**Details supplied**) whereby parking is only permitted on one side of the road due to the width of the road and whether such restrictions are normally advertised by way of signage or road markings.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

(**Details supplied**) is a 4.7 metre wide road. The minimum road width required for one sided parking without compromising the flow of traffic is 4.6 metres. If a vehicle is parked opposite another vehicle on (**Details supplied**), it is physically impossible to allow traffic to flow along the road.

In accordance with the Road Traffic (Traffic & Parking) Regulations 1997, Article 36 paragraph (2), a vehicle shall not be parked;

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

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

These restrictions are not normally advertised with signage or road markings, as the restrictions are already provided for in law. Motorists are allowed to park anywhere along the road as long as it does not interfere with the normal flow of traffic or obstruct vehicular entrances and exits. The speed of motorists could increase if the restriction were to be applied to the entire length of the road.

**Q.121 COUNCILLOR BRIEGE MACOSCAR**

To ask the Chief Executive provide an update on a planned survey of (**details supplied**) in order to assess whether traffic calming measures can be installed as TAG advised that an engineer would be assigned to survey the road in January 2024.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Recently a speed survey was conducted on (**Details supplied**), and the average speed is above the speed limit. The road is currently traffic calmed with 6 No. Speed Cushions, Slow road markings and 30 km/h roundels. According to Traffic Management Guidelines, it is recommended on bus and emergency service routes, speed cushions rather than ramps are provided to facilitate emergency vehicles and the safety of bus passengers. This allows the buses and emergency vehicles to straddle the cushions and proceed without damage to the vehicle.

(**Details supplied**) Road is 7.35 metres wide, enough to accommodate parking on both sides of the road. It was observed that vehicles were parked on the footpath, leaving more room for speeding and blocking pedestrians. The area engineer will assess the road and try to recommend other measures to slow down vehicles besides the existing ramps and signs.

**Q.122 COUNCILLOR CATHERINE STOCKER**

To ask the Chief Executive to outline the cleaning schedule for the lane behind Haverty Road, D3, on the side backing on to Fairview strand and if an improved schedule can be put in place as residents complain of public ruination/defecation, dumping and littering in the lane.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Waste Management Services had the above mentioned lane inspected on the 1<sup>st</sup> February 2024. There was some litter there but no evidence of human waste. Arrangements have been made to have this lane cleaned by the middle of this month.

There is no specific cleaning schedule for back lanes. They are cleaned as a result of our routine inspection of litter levels in them or on receipt of reports of illegal dumping taking place there.

**Q.123 COUNCILLOR CATHERINE STOCKER**

To ask the Chief Executive to add Croydon Park Avenue, Dublin 3 to the programme of works for carriageway repair as the surface is in very poor condition from heavy bus use.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Consideration will be given to including the resurfacing of the carriageway (or part thereof) at Croydon Park Avenue, D.3 when drafting the 2024 works programme.

**Q.124 COUNCILLOR CATHERINE STOCKER**

To ask the Chief Executive to install bins in McAuley Park, Dublin 5 as indicated on the map as there are no bins in these areas making it difficult to avoid/prevent littering.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Waste Management Services have bins around McAuley Park on McAuley Road and McAuley Avenue.

The McAuley Park Road itself is not considered a main thoroughfare and is not in proximity of any significant litter generators. There are no plans to install bins there.

**Q.125 COUNCILLOR CATHERINE STOCKER**

To ask the Chief Executive if he is aware of local reports that the pitches in St Anne's Park, Dublin 5 were unusable for up to 7 months of the year last year due to condition/water logging, if the relevant department has examined any options to manage/prevent this problem given the importance of sport in our communities and if he will make a statement on the matter.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

2023 was one of the wettest summers in Dublin since 2008 with 163% of usual rainfall and July was provisionally declared the wettest July on record by Met Eireann. Pitches are called off when they are too wet to play without causing damages that would lead to pitches being taken out of service for rest and repairs further exacerbating the situation.

While the pitches in St. Anne's were called off due to the extreme rainfall last year more than would be in a normal year, 7 months does seem to be overstating the challenge this weather posed.

The routine decompaction and regular topdressing of pitches with sand does make the playing surfaces more resilient to wear but unfortunately cannot deal with such extreme weather.

**Q.126 COUNCILLOR JANE HORGAN-JONES**

To ask the Chief Executive if a regulation sized pitch for use in St Anne's Park can be made available to Scoil Ui Chonaill Ladies Gaelic Football as the current pitch allocated does not meet the requirements.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Pitches for 2024 were allocated to Scoil Ui Chonaill GAA based on their application. The club secretary is welcome to contact the Parks pitches team at [parkpitches@dublincity.ie](mailto:parkpitches@dublincity.ie) to discuss their requirements.

**Q.127 COUNCILLOR TERENCE FLANAGAN**

To ask the Chief Executive to respond to the following regarding a wheelchair marking (**Details supplied**).

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The transport Advisory Admin Team have contacted the customer with the relevant criteria for a Disabled bay.

[Disabled Parking Bay Criteria | Dublin City Council](#)

**Q.128 COUNCILLOR TERENCE FLANAGAN**

To ask the Chief Executive to respond to the following regarding Traffic survey (**Details supplied**). Can the council please carry out a traffic survey on the above roads & monitor the traffic flow at Donaghmede Roundabout. Can an engineer please visit during peak busy times to see what improvements can be made as I've had some complaints recently about excessive delays and huge traffic congestion particularly at peak times.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

This request (Enquiry Ref: 7037549) will be referred to the Area Engineer for assessment and report to the Transport Advisory Group for their consideration.

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

**Q.129 COUNCILLOR TERENCE FLANAGAN**

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

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

**Details supplied**

**Q.130 COUNCILLOR TERENCE FLANAGAN**

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

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

**Details supplied**

**Q.131 COUNCILLOR JAMES GEOGHEGAN**

To ask the Chief Executive if further to the images below; if Anna Villa, Ranelagh could receive road resurfacing works and footpath repair, with necessary inspections carried out, if required; if Anna Villa could have the grass growing along the footpath adjacent to the double yellow lines pictured removed; if Anna Villa could be scheduled for a street clean.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Waste Management Services will have street cleaning carried out on Anna Villa during week beginning the 5<sup>th</sup> February 2024.

The Roads Inspector and the Area Engineer will arrange for repairs to be carried out on the aforementioned road. This repair work will be scheduled when a road maintenance work crew is available.

**Q.132 COUNCILLOR JAMES GEOGHEGAN**

To ask the Chief Executive to alter the parking permits for residents of Elmpark Avenue, Ranelagh and allow them to park on Elmwood Avenue, Ranelagh in addition

to their street and Winton Place, having regard to the content of the email below (**Details supplied**).

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

This request has been received by the Parking Policy and Enforcement section and the matter will be investigated to ascertain if the resident can be accommodated. Requests for additional streets to be added to a residential parking permit should be requested to [parkingenforcement@dublincity.ie](mailto:parkingenforcement@dublincity.ie) and each request is considered on an individual basis depending on the circumstances of the location and the demand on the street/s by the residents of that street.

The street will also be referred to the Traffic Advisory Group for a review of restrictions on the road.

**Q.133 COUNCILLOR JAMES GEOGHEGAN**

To ask the Chief Executive if the grass pitch located at Beach Road, Dublin 4, formerly Roslyn House and now Sandymount Park Educate Together Secondary School is on the record of protected structures; if the grass pitch is on the record of protected structures, is it precluded from being transformed into an all-weather pitch; and if it is on the record of protected structures, if he could outline the process for removing the grass pitch, only, from the record of protected structures.

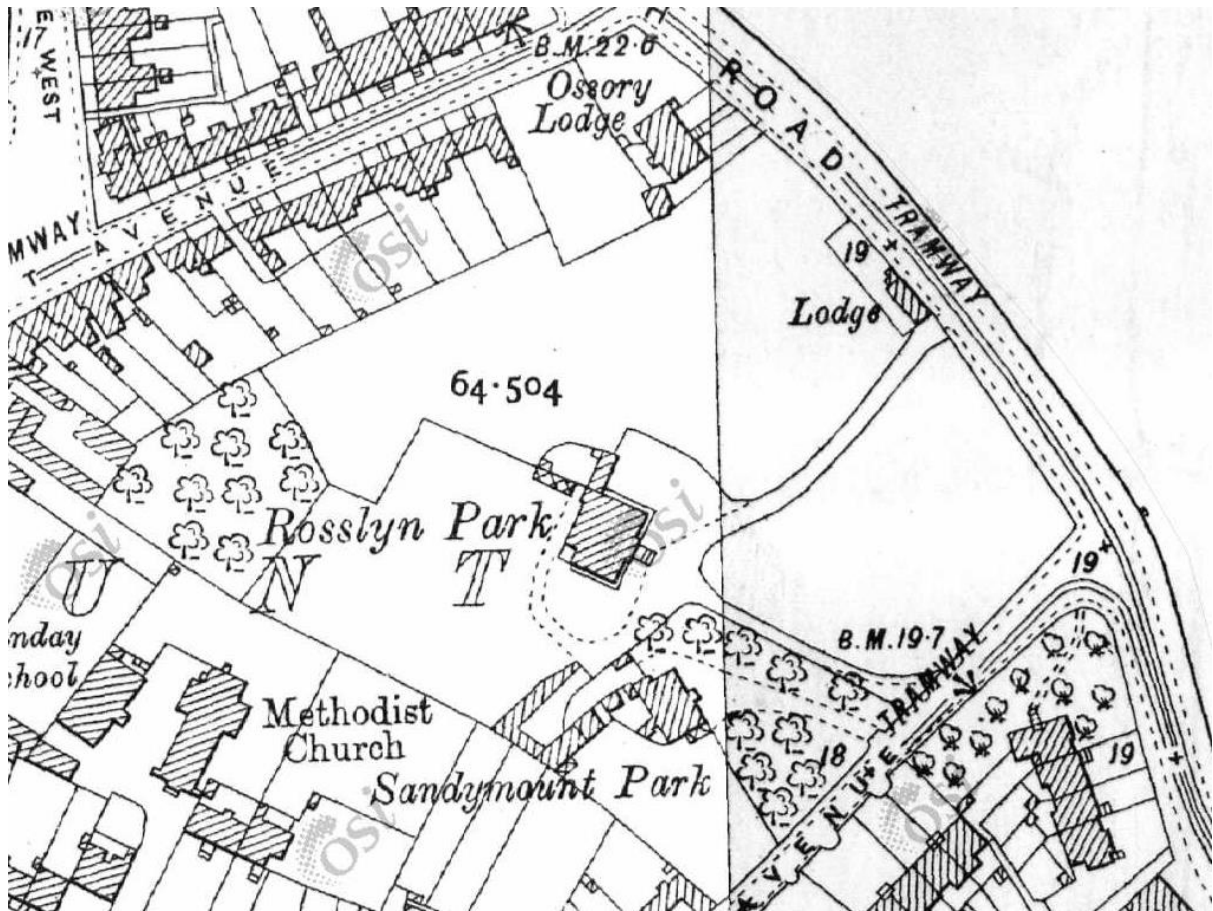
**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Roslyn House (RPS.496) was built in the late 1780's to the designs of James Gandon – one of Ireland's most important Georgian architects – and architect of the Customs House, for the painter William Ashford. The building report in respect of the Section 57 Declaration (2000) for the Protected Structure notes that the building would be considered to be of "national if not international importance" as it is one of the few domestic buildings that Gandon produced.

The protection afforded to the house includes the inside of the structure, the land in its curtilage. (*Curtilage* means the land and outbuildings immediately surrounding a structure which is (or was) used for the purposes of the structure), any other structures on that land and their interiors and all fixtures and features forming part of the interior and exterior of the protected structure or any structure on the grounds attached to it. Therefore the grassed area to the front of the Protected Structure is also protected as it forms part of the land that surrounds the Protected Structure.

The grassed area is the last remaining vestige of the historic landscape associated with the house, which has been altered by development.





Excerpt from Second Edition OS Map showing Roslyn Park and its historic setting



Excerpt from OS Satellite Map 2013-2018 showing Roslyn Park and its historic setting compromised by 20<sup>th</sup> C development

The recently permitted (and now constructed) school made huge efforts to protect the vista and setting of the house by making sure that all development was sited to the side and behind the Protected Structure and made conscious decisions to retain the grassed area as a recreational space and amenity space for the school and to protect the setting of the Protected Structure.

If a playing pitch is required by the school, full planning permission will be required. A Grade 1 Conservation Architect will be expected to work on this proposal and offer conservation advice to the applicant for any work proposed. However, from a conservation standpoint, the removal of the grassed area to facilitate an all-weather playing pitch would be problematic as it would be considered to detract from the vista, setting and special architectural character of the Protected Structure.

The deletion of an element of a Protected Structure can be applied for by emailing the Conservation Section at [conservation@dublincity.ie](mailto:conservation@dublincity.ie) and formally requesting that the element be deleted from the Record of Protected Structures. The Conservation section will record the request and will carry out an assessment in due course when the RPS is next reviewed.

**Q.134 COUNCILLOR JAMES GEORGHEGAN**

To ask the Chief Executive if further to the reply given to question 17 at the 8<sup>th</sup> of January 2024 South East Area Committee and subsequent email sent from the principal of Sandymount School, a school for children with complex intellectual and physical needs, if the dispensation sought in respect of the removal of the parking space has been granted, and if not, why not.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Since Councillor Question No. 17 was submitted on January 8th, 2024, the Transport Advisory Group (TAG) has been collaborating with other sections of the Traffic Department in Dublin City Council (DCC) to explore a number of options to address the access issue at Sandymount School. Additionally, TAG will coordinate with the relevant stakeholders to arrange an on-site meeting in the next two weeks to discuss the matter face-to-face.

Associated Service Requests:

7035901 – Request for Yellow Box at the school's Northern entrance – Recommended  
7032304 – Request for Double Yellow Lines at the school's Southern entrance – Pending  
7028631 – Request for Double Yellow Lines at the school's Southern entrance – Pending"

**Q.135 COUNCILLOR JOHN LYONS**

To ask the Chief Executive for a detailed update report on the proposed regeneration of the Cromcastle Court flat complex in Kilmore West and the development of the Old Coalyard site. The report should include detail on the overall masterplan for the site, inclusive of all phases, as well as detail as to the timelines involved and the proposed consultation with the residents of the flat complex and the wider community.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The Masterplan for Cromcastle Court is for the redevelopment of the housing scheme at Cromcastle Court and the development of the Old Coalyard site. It outlines a potential capacity for approximately 350 homes on the entire site.

Phase 1 is for the redevelopment of three housing blocks which have been detenanted at the south of the existing scheme to provide for 115 new homes which will be a mix of one, two and three bedroom homes. It also includes for the development of the Old Coalyard site which will provide 34 older person homes. Altogether phase 1 will deliver 149 new social housing homes.

Phase 1 of the Masterplan is currently at design development stage and has received Stage 2 project and funding approval from the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage. Once design has been completed, the next step is to achieve planning permission for the proposals which will be through the Part 8 process.

The remaining homes will be delivered in subsequent phases all subject to the City Development Plan, Building Regulations, Infrastructure capacity and other requirements. While no formal decisions have been made about the tenure or phasing, the opportunity to provide mixed tenure will be explored.

As advised at the January Area Committee, further consultation is being arranged through the Local Housing Manager and her office, with the residents, local community and elected members. A project newsletter is due to be issued in March 2024 and will be followed up with a consultation evening shortly after. A presentation will also be made in the coming months at the Area Committee meeting on the regeneration plans.

**Q.136 COUNCILLOR EIMER MCCORMACK**

To ask the Chief Executive report on when the footpaths at Willow Park, Cabra East will be repaired. A recent visit showed their poor condition.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

There are no planned footpath works for Willow Park on our 2024 Works Programme. Willow Park footpaths will be put forward for consideration for inclusion in future works programmes. In the interim, if specific areas of concern could be pinpointed by address location details, these will be inspected and local repairs will be scheduled as required.

**Q.137 COUNCILLOR EIMER MCCORMACK**

To ask the Chief Executive to investigate if it might now be possible to return to the previous programme of grass verge cutting for the Dublin City Council of area of responsibility? The current situation is not fit for purpose.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

In 2023 the Park Service collated a list of locations where grass verges were identified by residents and Councillors as being in need of maintenance and these were attended to in Q3 of 2023. In 2024, funding has been allocated to cut these locations once a fortnight throughout the growing season. Any other such locations where residents or communities are in need of support by the City Council to cut grass margins can be emailed to the following: **(details supplied)**

**Q.138 COUNCILLOR EIMER MCCORMACK**

To ask the Chief Executive to report on the possibility of providing speed ramps on Park Road, Dublin 7.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Park Road is currently traffic calmed with 4 No. speed ramps which are appropriately spaced to offer optimum traffic calming. As per the traffic management guidelines it is poor design to have traffic calming features that are spaced too close as it encourages harsh braking and heavy acceleration in between. It is therefore not recommended to install additional speed ramps on this road.