

DUBLIN CITY COUNCIL
SOUTH CENTRAL AREA COMMITTEE
17th July 2024

Q1 Councillor Máire Devine

To ask the Director of Services for an update on the agreed maintenance and repairs at Herberton Apartments , Rialto with emphasis on safety issues posed by intruders on a regular basis?

Reply

The Housing Maintenance Section have been engaging with the Management Co. regarding the installation of a new fob system with fobs that cannot be copied. It is the intention that this new system will be introduced for all of the blocks in the Estate. The door locking mechanisms have also been repaired. The City Council regularly meet with An Garda Síochána regarding anti-social behaviour on the Estate.

Contact: Frank Murphy, Administrative Officer, South West Inner City.
Email: frank.murphy@dublincity.ie

Q2 Councillor Máire Devine

To ask the Director of Services for an update on the long requested insulation of (details supplied)

Reply

Dublin City Council Housing Maintenance (DCC-HM) would ask the Councillor to confirm the specific tenancy/tenancies to which this and previous representations relate, as we believe that the address is incorrect.

DCC-HM engineering personnel have carried out an inspection of the suspected subject property to establish if there is a justifiable basis for retrofitting additional sound insulation in the dwelling. Based on the results of this inspection, DCC-HM will not be advancing with the request. DCC-HM have retrofitted sound insulation in a very limited number local authority dwellings in the past due to exceptional circumstances, and the measures have rarely produced the desired result. Furthermore, the implementation of such measures would cause significant disruption on the residents during construction and are considered to have a negative cost-benefit overall, e.g., there would likely be a reduction in floor space due to the addition of an extra insulation on wall elements, and the works to wall and floor elements would necessitate costly and disruptive reconfiguration of existing fixtures and fittings, including mechanical and electrical installations.

DCC-HM will investigate the reported mould in the dwelling specified.

Contact: Robert Buckle, Senior Engineer, Housing Maintenance
Tel: 01 222 3708
Email: robert.buckle@dublincity.ie

Q3 Councillor Máire Devine

To ask the Director of Services that Street signs at St Anthony Crescent & Park and Our Lady of Fatima Close be erected. There exists much confusion for blue light services, deliveries visitors etc?

Reply

Road Maintenance inspected these three cul-de-sacs and have ordered two cast iron nameplates for each road that will have to be mounted on a stand by direct labour.

Contact: Carl Ryan-Operations & South Central Area Engineer.
Tel: 222 8812
Email: roadmaintenance@dublincity.ie

Q4 Councillor Máire Devine

To ask the Director of Services for an update on the replacement play equipment at Weaver Park D8- response from Parks to my query at Jan 2024 Area Committee committed to purchasing appropriate equipment at that time.

Reply

The playground upgrade is advertised on eTenders currently. Parks will update the councillor once a contractor has been appointed, hopefully early autumn. Depending on contractors availability it would be hoped that the upgrade will be completed by the end of the year.

Contact: Brid Brosnan, A/Snr. Exec Parks & Landscape Officer, Parks Department
Email: parks@dublincity.ie

Q5 Councillor Máire Devine

To ask the Director of Services (**details supplied**) be included in the permit parking scheme as is afforded to the neighbours of the same street address?

Reply

According to our system, the residents of the properties named above, all have a permit quota for the parking spaces further down the road from their properties and have the ability to park there using those permits.
If the residents are looking to change the road layout to have spaces placed closer to their properties, they are advised to contact the Traffic Advisory Group at traffic@dublincity.ie to have a traffic engineer assess that stretch of the road as it may not be feasible to provide parking at that location due to traffic density, width of road etc.

Contact: Suzanne Lacey, Administrative Officer, Parking Enforcement
Tel: 01 222 7075
Email: suzanne.lacey@dublincity.ie

Q6 Councillor Daithí Doolan

To ask the Director of Services for an update on the proposed redevelopment of Richmond Park and for an update on the related CPO'ing of the properties along Emmet Road.

Reply

The CPO is at preliminary stage. Arrangements are underway for the preparation of a CPO map and Book of Reference & Rental ie ownership details.

It is the City Council's preference and policy to acquire by agreement where at all possible and the City Valuer's Office is continuing to secure the acquisition by agreement of required properties to facilitate the redevelopment of Richmond Park.

119/119A and 133 Emmet Road have been acquired, 131 Emmet Road is under contract and agreement has been reached between City Valuer's and the owners of No. 129. Negotiations are ongoing with other property owners.

Contact: Margaret Mooney, Administrative Officer
Phone: 01 2223941
Email: margaret.mooney@dublincity.ie

Q7 Councillor Daithí Doolan

To ask the Director of Services to consider introducing a 'Dog Park' in Le Fanu Park, Ballyfermot, this will curtail dog fouling and dogs roaming freely across the Park.

Reply

The optimal size for a dog park is 1 acre which is a considerable amount of space. The area is best to be level to allow easy access. Le Fanu would struggle to accommodate these conditions as the level areas are currently laid out for pitches.

Contact: Brid Brosnan, A/Snr Exec Parks and Landscape Officer
Email: parks@dublincity.ie

Q8 Councillor Daithí Doolan

To ask the Director of Services for an update on, **(details supplied)**

Reply

Reply sent directly to Councillor.

Q9 Councillor Daithí Doolan

To ask the Director of Services to take action to maintain **(details supplied)**

Reply

Reply sent directly to Councillor.

Q10 Councillor Daithí Doolan

To ask the Director of Services for an update on the primary Health Care Centre for Drimnagh. Planning ref: 357113

Reply

There is an Extension of Duration of Permission on this permission to the 31st January 2025 (3571/13/X1). A Commencement Notice has not been lodged as at date of reply.

Contact: Tara Robertson, Administrative Officer, Planning & Development
Tel: 01-2225233
Email: tara.robertson@dublincity.ie

Q11 Councillor Daithí Doolan

To ask the Director of Services to please commence the installation of a level access gate in to Le Fanu Park, this will facilitate universal access as the current access points prohibit certain wheelchair users.

Reply

There is level access from the public footpath into Le Fanu Park through the playground. When this entrance is locked there is access on the path that runs between the swimming pool and skate park. There is an issue with horses and scramblers in the park and for this reason Parks are reluctant to remove the kissing gates at all other entrances.

Contact: Brid Brosnan, A/Snr Exec Parks and Landscape Officer

Email: parcs@dublincity.ie

Q12 Councillor Daithí Doolan

To ask the Director of Services what are the plans for the pitch & putt course in Drimnagh and what is the time frame for these plans. Residents are very concerned about the site being used for anti-social behaviour.

Reply

The former pitch and putt lands at Lansdowne Valley were closed when the club moved to an alternative location. As the grounds are arranged for a pitch and putt course there is no paved access. Parks are working on plans to reopen this section, as part of the wider Lansdowne Valley Park. However, the new network of footpaths will need to be designed, tendered and constructed. The councillor will be updated in due course.

Contact: Brid Brosnan, A/Snr Exec Parks and Landscape Officer

Email: parcs@dublincity.ie

Q13 Councillor Daithí Doolan

To ask the Director of Services to install dog waste bins in Bunting Park.

Reply

Parks will install a bin in this location as soon as possible.

Contact: Brid Brosnan, A/Snr Exec Parks and Landscape Officer

Email: parcs@dublincity.ie

Q14 Councillor Hazel de Nortúin

To ask the Director of Services why the basketball courts behind the Inchicore Community Centre are closed? What's the plans for these and when are they due to be opened?

Reply

The staff at St Michael's Community Sports Centre have confirmed that the basketball courts behind the centre are not closed. These facilities are accessible at any time.

*Contact: Sandra McAleer, Senior Executive Engineer,
Housing & Community Services*

Tel: (01) 222 3695

Email: sandra.mcaleer@dublincity.ie

Q15 Councillor Hazel de Nortúin

To ask the Director of Services why St Michael's Community Centre is closed, when will it be back opened or what's its plans?

Reply

St Michael's Community Centre was initially closed as a result of the Covid Pandemic in 2020.

In preparation for the future regeneration of the site (The Emmet Road Project) the SCA office coordinated the relocation of the existing community groups utilising the centre.

The new development will deliver a new library/community hub. As a result the current building will not be reopening. This building will be demolished as part of an enabling works contract commencing on the site at the end of Q4 2024.

*Contact: Sandra McAleer, Senior Executive Engineer,
Housing & Community Services*

Tel: (01) 222 3695

Email: sandra.mcaleer@dublincity.ie

Q16 Councillor Hazel de Nortúin

To ask the Director of Services how long the house at (**details supplied**) has been vacant, and when there'll be a date to return the property back for allocations.

Reply

Dublin City Council are engaging with the tenant of the above address regarding the surrendering of the house. DCC hopes to complete the surrender in the coming weeks.

Contact: Pat Smith, Area Housing Manager, Ballyfermot/Drinnagh

Email: pat.smith@dublincity.ie

Q17 Councillor Hazel de Nortúin

To ask the Director of Services can the bushes around Bunting park be cut and maintained to;

-Remove all shrubbery along Bunting Park at the Bunting road side – makes Park safer and footpath cleaner.

- Clean up the footpath along Bunting Park at the Bunting road side - cannot be used by people with buggies or wheelchair users.

- Remove pine trees from beside memorial bench at running track.

- Fix up the running track. The track is overgrown and needs some TLC.

Reply

The hedge will be trimmed in autumn once nesting season is over (Mar-Aug incl).

The pine trees were planted in the last couple of years following requests from local residents and community groups to improve the biodiversity offering in the park. The hedge that runs along Bunting Road is also a biodiversity measure that provides a corridor for wildlife in an urban setting. It also provides habitat and food for many species. Additionally it acts as a buffer to the traffic travelling on Bunting Road offering shelter from the noise and pollution for users of the park.

We will examine the running track and carry out any works that are deemed necessary.

Contact: Brid Brosnan, A/Snr Exec Parks and Landscape Officer
Email: parcs@dublincity.ie

Q18 Councillor Hazel de Nortúin

To ask the Director of Services for an update and timeline on the Lansdowne Valley Pitch and Putt course? What is planned for the park and what is the timeline.

Reply

The former pitch and putt lands at Lansdowne Valley were closed when the club moved to an alternative location. As the grounds are arranged for a pitch and putt course there is no paved access. Parks are working on plans to reopen this section, as part of the wider Lansdowne Valley Park. However, the new network of footpaths will need to be designed, tendered and constructed. Consideration will be given to your suggestions as part of this process. The Councillor will be updated in due course.

Contact: Brid Brosnan, A/Snr Exec Parks and Landscape Officer
Email: parcs@dublincity.ie

Q19 Councillor Máire Devine

To ask the Director of Services that the “concrete planters” in Brabazon Square be repaired/replaced with more appropriate structures that will be in keeping with the unique setting of this community.

Reply

The Trees and concrete planters in Brabazon Square will be examined with a view to ameliorating this issue if appropriate, subject to the advice of the Dublin City Council tree officer.

Contact: Niall O'Reilly, District Parks Officer, Parks Department
Tel: 01 222 5278
Email: parcs@dublincity.ie

Q 20 Councillor Darragh Moriarty

To ask the Director of Services for the footpath to be fixed on Stephens Road, Bulfin Estate where tree roots have caused the footpath to uplift creating a trip hazard for local residents.

Reply

I visited this location today and logged a number of footpath repairs to our works list for direct labour. This tree trip is particularly bad so I will request that the repair be

moved up the list of priority. I will also include the speed ramps on this road for possible inclusion in our 2025 resurfacing contract.

*Contact: Carl Ryan-Operations & South Central Area Engineer,
Environment & Transport.*

Email: roadmaintenance@dublincity.ie

Q 21 Councillor Darragh Moriarty

To ask the Director of Services for DCC Traffic to investigate the feasibility of a one-way system in Maryland, Dublin 8 – specifically on Rosary, Morning Star and Lourdes Roads. The current situation in Maryland is not tenable with parking on both sides of these roads, often resulting in motorists coming head to head, which a one-way system would avoid. Can this be investigated by DCC Traffic and any recommendations brought to local residents for discussion before implementation?

Reply

Road closures and one-way systems have a number of drawbacks associated with them including:

- Operational difficulties for emergency services, waste disposal and deliveries.
- Inconvenience to local residents and other road users due to diverted traffic.
- Increased volumes of traffic on other local streets as traffic is displaced.
- Change in traffic speeds.

Therefore, it is not recommended to turn the roads in the Maryland area into a cul-de-sac and/or one-way system.

If residents feel parking is an issue, they may wish to apply for a pay and display/permit parking scheme (<https://www.dublincity.ie/residential/parking-dublin-city-centre/start-parking-scheme>).

However if residents still feel that a one-way system / filter permeability is required, they may wish to apply for a neighbourhood transport scheme. (https://citizenhub.dublincity.ie/en/service/Traffic_Request)

Ref. No. 7040404

Contact: Neil O'Donoghue, South City Executive Engineer, Traffic Advisory Group

Email: neil.odonoghue@dublincity.ie

Q 22 Councillor Darragh Moriarty

To ask the Director of Services to urgently address the lack of lighting on the public walkway between Dolphins Barn Bridge and Herberton Bridge, Rialto alongside Dolphin House flats. There is some public lighting where the new phase of housing has been built but the rest of the walkway is in near total darkness at night time and evening time during the winter period. Can DCC investigate and address this issue, if even on a temporary basis, until the housing regeneration is completed?

Reply

The walkway area in question falls under the remit of Waterways Ireland. Dublin City Council have sent the Councillor's request to Waterways Ireland and will revert back as soon as a response issues.

Contact: Gabrielle Malone, Senior Staff Officer, South Central
Tel: 2223654
Email: gabrielle.malone@dublincity.ie

Q 23 Councillor Darragh Moriarty

To ask the Director of Services to address the following **(details supplied)**

Reply

Reply sent directly to Councillor.

Q 24 Councillor Darragh Moriarty

In August 2020, then acting on local concerns raised about the possible removal of the tarmac football pitch at Vicar Street, to make way for a “plaza area” outside proposed hotel development at Molyneux Yard, I sought clarification from DCC that there were no plans to get rid of this pitch. I received the following response in August 2020, from then Acting Assistant CE, Tony Flynn:

I have confirmed with the Deputy City planner that in spite of the image shown for a plaza, it was not included within the red line boundary for the recent planning application (4262/19) and did not form part of the assessment of the application. The Area Manager has confirmed there are no plans to remove the pitch from this area.

A similar planning application was lodged recently, showing similar plans for a public plaza once more, and I am seeking clarification on behalf of local residents that again, there are no plans to get rid of this pitch at Vicar Street, which in spite of its poor condition and lack of upkeep from DCC, is much used by the local community in the Liberties. Can the Director please confirm that there is no intention from DCC to remove this pitch and that in fact, it is in need of upgrading?

Reply

The current planning application Reference 3687/24, does not include the lands referred to within the red line boundary of the site

Contact: Emer Uí Fhátharta, Deputy City Planning Officer
Tel: 222 3319
Email: emer.uí.fhátharta@dublincity.ie

The surface and equipment on this kick about area was upgraded in recent years. The Area Office will arrange an inspection of the play area to see whether any maintenance issues need to be addressed.

Contact: Stephen Coyne, Economic Development Officer, South Central Area Office
Tel: 01 222 5180
Email: stephen.coyne@dublincity.ie

Q25 Councillor Hazel de Nortúin

To ask the Director of Services for a breakdown of local area staffing positions filled and vacant within the Ballyfermot/Drimnagh area office, in;

Housing
Community Development
Public Domain
Clerical

If the manager can fill in any staffing positions that have been missed but are allocated to the local area office.

Reply

The current level of staffing is set out below:

Housing:

1no. Area Housing Manager
2no. Project Estate Officers
2no. Housing Liaison Officers
1no. Allocations Officer
1no. Clerical Officer
1 no. Rent Arrears Officer

Community Development:

1no. Senior Community & Social Development Officer
1no. Community & Social Development Officer
1no. General Operative

Public Domain:

1no. Public Domain Officer

Clerical:

1no. Senior Staff Officer
4no. Staff Officers
4no. Assistant Staff Officers
1no. Clerical Officer

There are currently 7 vacancies in the Ballyfermot/Drimnagh Area Office. Four of these vacancies are in the process of being filled from recently formed panels.

The Human Resources Department engages with local management in relation to the filling of vacancies through the Council's Workforce Planning process.

Contact: Dymphna Farrell, Executive Manager, Human Resources Department

Tel: 2222381

Email: dymphna.farrell@dublincity.ie

Q26 Councillor Hazel de Nortúin

To ask the Director of Services how many Housing allocations have been awarded to tenants who were referred on estate management grounds to the Ballyfermot/Drimnagh area from both external and internal in the Ballyfermot/Drimnagh ward in 2024, 2023, 2022?

Reply

Please find the requested information as set out below –

Year	Estate Management Lettings Area J
2022	5
2023	4
2024	0

Contact: Sandra Barry A/Allocations Officer, Housing & Community Services

Tel: 01 2222201

Email: sandra.barry@dublincity.ie