

QUESTIONS LODGED PURSUANT TO STANDING ORDER NO.18 FOR REPLY AT THE MONTHLY MEETING OF DUBLIN CITY COUNCIL TO BE HELD ON MONDAY 4th NOVEMBER 2024

Q.1 COUNCILLOR DECLAN FLANAGAN

To ask the Chief Executive to provide an update on the various Active Travel programmes throughout the city, are the timescales being met and how much has the projects cost to date.

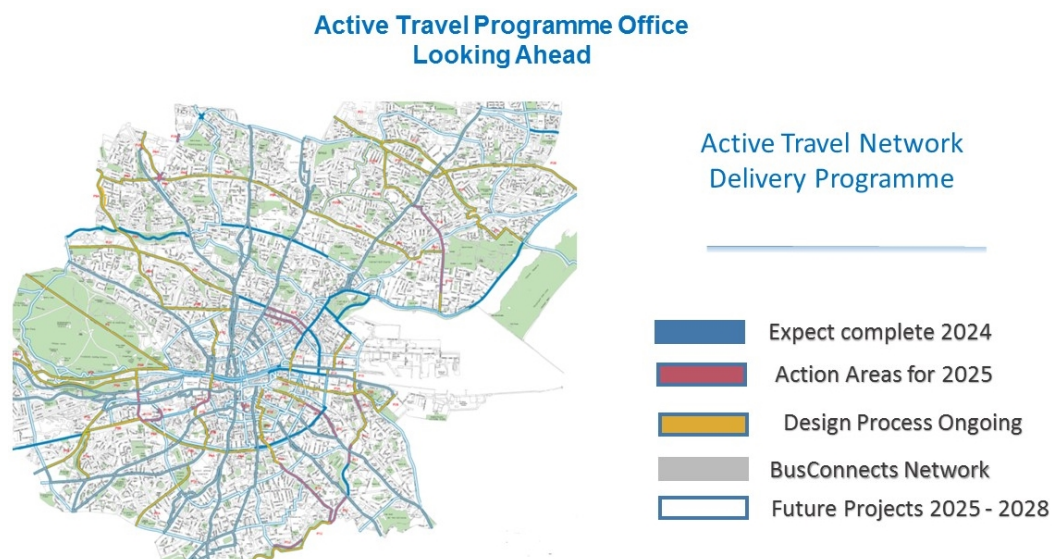
CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

A detailed report on the activities of the Active Travel Programme Office in Q3 2024, report no 181.2024 of the Assistant Chief Executive and City Engineer, was submitted to the Lord Mayor and Elected Members for the October Full Council Meeting.

The Active Travel Programme Office have been allocated funding of €47 million from the National Transport Authority (NTA) for projects in 2024. This is a reduction on the funding which was allocated in 2023, where €58.8 million was spent on the Active Travel Network.

This prompted a review of the delivery programme. Arising from this, the 2025 to 2028 programme for delivery has been prepared in consultation with the National Transport Authority. It is informed by the likely funding levels expected over the period.

Under this programme, at least ten projects are planned to construction in 2025. The map below highlights the action areas for construction in 2025.



It is planned that design work will have been completed at least half of the network by end 2028. Over the same period, the pace of construction will depend on availability of funding with a third of the AcTPrO programme planned to be constructed by end 2028.

Further information about the Active Travel Network, including an interactive GIS map of all routes and a complete list of roads and streets where activities are proposed is available on www.dublincity.ie/activetravel. This information is currently being updated to reflect the revisions discussed above.

Q.2 COUNCILLOR DECLAN FLANAGAN

To ask the Chief Executive to advise if businesses have been adversely affected due to the new traffic restrictions that have been implemented in the City Centre. Has the CEO had any meetings with the small business owners and what have the updates been?

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Meetings were held with small and individual businesses both prior to and post the implementation of the north and south quays traffic management measures by the Project Team. Additionally all businesses directly on Bachelors walk and Aston Quay were called into before and post the implementation. The Project Team are continuing to work with any business who raises a query.

Additionally the first meeting of the Dublin City Centre Transport Working Group was held on the 24th of September which had representatives of multiple business organisations. The second meeting is due to be held early November.

Q.3 COUNCILLOR DECLAN FLANAGAN

To ask the Chief Executive to confirm what Dublin City Council has done to help Kilmore Celtic football club to date and what plans has DCC to help the club in the future?

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The Area Office have met with Kilmore FC representatives on numerous occasions to work towards their objectives. They have been seeking winter training facilities and use of the St Luke's building. We will be arranging a meeting of the four local clubs, Local Councillors, representatives from Parks & Sports sections to move forward with the proposed All Weather pitch on Glin Road. We are working internally on Pre part 8 requirements for the development of the All Weather pitch. The Property Management Section in Dublin City Council are working on necessary maintenance in order to bring the St. Luke's Building back into use.

Q.4 COUNCILLOR DECLAN FLANAGAN

To ask the Chief Executive can the road at Belmayne beside St. Francis of Assisi primary school and the Educate together school be resurfaced please as it is an appalling state.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Please be advised that this road is not in the charge of Dublin City Council and therefore we are not in a position to undertake any repairs.

Q.5 COUNCILLOR JOHN LYONS

To ask the Chief Executive for a comprehensive report on the removal of the illegal commercial dump in Belcamp Dublin 17.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The Executive began a two part Tender Process in February/March this year to procure a preferred Contractor to install a wall and to remove the waste/soil from the illegal dump site in Belcamp/Moatview. The first stage was a request on eTenders for Expressions of Interest to carry out this work. The work included the build & installation of the pre-designed wall, the removal of the waste from the illegal landfill and the installation of a new foul sewer on Belcamp Lane to service the nearby Traveller Accommodation sites. Six interested parties were then asked to apply for the second stage of the process. There were some delays between the two processes due to numerous questions and clarifications that were sought by the interested parties. In September the Executive appointed their preferred Contractor and held a pre-contract meeting. It was agreed that there was a plan in place ready to go but a letter of acceptance could not be sanctioned until the site was cleared of the five trailers that were in place there. These five trailers are in the process of being removed so the letter of acceptance should be signed over the coming week or so. Site works should begin then to prepare the site and Haul Road for the removal of waste.

Q.6 COUNCILLOR JOHN LYONS

To ask the Chief Executive the inspection of the very large trees outside Numbers 13 and 22 Howth Park View Dublin 13 both of which need to be properly cut back and maintained; and an inspection of the dirt and damage caused by the tree outside No. 13 to the front garden wall of that address and the path at that location.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

An inspection will be arranged in the coming weeks as local schedules allow and any works deemed necessary will be listed for inclusion in the prioritised tree care programme for the area.

Q.7 COUNCILLOR CHRISTY BURKE

To ask the Chief Executive if his office would contact senior Garda management to seek extra Garda personnel for the north inner city.

Given the amount of anti-social and open drug dealing day by day 7 days a week

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The City Council will write to the Chief Superintendent regarding the matter raised and request a response. Upon receipt, the Councillor will be given the details.

Q.8 COUNCILLOR CHRISTY BURKE

To ask the Chief Executive how many checks per year are carried out by Dublin City Council to hostels and B&Bs who house family's and single persons, to be satisfied that the properties are complying with fire and other regulations for fire and health and safety compliance carried out this year in DRHE facilities.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The DRHE appointed Eamon O' Boyle Fire Consultants to visit all homeless facilities once a year to inspect for compliance with fire and health and safety regulations and these inspection reports are published on the DRHE website.

DRHE teams will also visit homeless facilities at least once a year to check for fire compliance. The DRHE also meets with Dublin Fire Brigade on a regular basis to discuss any fire compliance issues at homeless facilities.

In total there are 467 inspections for fire and health and safety compliance carried out this year in DRHE facilities.

Q.9 COUNCILLOR CHRSTY BURKE

To ask the Chief Executive what it cost Dublin City Council to provide a bike shed in the parking area at civic offices and who carried out the build?

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

A mesh bicycle cage was provided in the Civic Offices Car Park by Farrar engineering at a cost of €4,400 + VAT.

Q.10 COUNCILLOR CHRISTY BURKE

To ask the Chief Executive when will new windows be fitted at **(details supplied)**

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Dublin City Council has a number of single glazed windows throughout the city. As part of the standards for rented houses we are upgrading all single glazed windows to double glazed in the first instance. The windows fitted in **(details supplied)** are double glazed. If specific details are supplied maintenance@dublincity.ie arrangements will be made for any defects to be inspected and repaired.

Q.11 COUNCILLOR JOHN LYONS

To ask the Chief Executive to provide a report on the capital allocation and expenditure on Traveller Accommodation for each of the years 2019, 2020, 2021, 2023 and 2024

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Traveller Accommodation Unit breakdown for capital allocation and expenditure for 2019 to September 2024 is detailed below.

Traveller Capital Spend 2019-2024		
Year	Capital Allocation	Expenditure
2019	5,028,800	803,788
2020	3,805,550	421,808
2021	3,790,000	1,427,943
2022	4,359,910	7,430,643
2023	7,623,874	4,254,810
Sep-24	7,340,000	255,691
Total Spend	31,948,134	14,594,682

Q.12 COUNCILLOR JOHN LYONS

To ask the Chief Executive for a report on the housing file of (**Details supplied**): the report should address how the applicant has not been reached with an offer of housing, what her current housing options are and for her applications for Choice Based Lettings to be seriously considered given that she has been on the housing list for such a significant number of years.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The above applicant is on the Housing List, with an application date of 01/03/2021, the applicant holds the following position on this list:

Area	Bedsizes	Position
B	2	243
D	2	113
E	2	319

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.

If a number of applicants apply for the same property on a Choice Based Lettings competition, the final offer will be made to the applicant with the highest position on list. The applicant may wish to make an application for HAP which would provide financial assistance towards the cost of renting a property.

Q.13 **COUNCILLOR MAIRE DEVINE**

To ask the Chief Executive that the Public Sector Duty Plan, currently being prepared, include a study of how this Duty could be applied with regards to the environmental quality of different parts of the city and show the benefits that provision of green spaces etc have on the population.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Access to green space, the presence of trees and being close to nature have multiple benefits for people and the environment. The Parks, Biodiversity and Landscape Services team has been implementing Greening Strategies in The Liberties, North East Inner City and Stoneybatter as well as other locations since 2017 and the success of this work is evident and acknowledged.

Going forward, the new Corporate Plan for Dublin City Council 2025-2029 will articulate the Council's ongoing commitment to the implementation of the Public Sector Duty and the elimination of discrimination; our commitment to promoting equality of opportunity & treatment of our service users and staff, and to protect the human rights of our members, service users and staff.

In line with this commitment, the Culture, Recreation and Economic Services Department has developed its own Public Sector Duty Implementation Plan for 2024/2025.

In 2025, the current Parks Strategy will be reviewed, in consultation with the Community, Gaelige, Sport, Arts & Culture SPC. This review will apply the to the Public Sector Duty Process to the strategy.

There are 3 steps in giving effect to the Public Sector Duty Process:

1. **Assess:** Undertake an assessment of the equality and human rights issues facing the identified groups for the Duty that are relevant to Dublin City Council.
2. **Address:** Identify and communicate the plans, policies and actions being taken or proposed, to address the issues identified.
3. **Report:** Report annually on developments and achievements in implementing the Duty.

Through this process, the Parks, Biodiversity and Landscape Services team will strive to ensure that the communities and staff from the identified groups can fully benefit from the provision of green spaces, in line with our values:

- Dignity & Respect
- Diversity & Accessibility
- Inclusion & Social Justice
- Participation & Engagement
- Choice & Autonomy

Q.14 **COUNCILLOR HAZEL DE NORTÚIN**

To ask the Chief Executive Can the Planning Department in Dublin City Council clarify if the long-term leasing of DCC in Tristan Square contravenes the Development Plan of 5% cultural and art spaces by leasing the 181 units without any plan or knowledge of what is to happen with the empty 4 office units and a crèche? The developer is no longer onsite, Tuath has requested on numerous occasions that they have an office on site to support their management of tenant's concerns.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The provision of the space has been provided in line with the approved planning application and therefore accords with Development Plan policy. It is not a breach of planning permission for the space to remain unoccupied.

The non-residential elements of this development are outside the scope of the DCC lease agreement. However DCC has been informed that these non-residential spaces are not yet ready to let and that the owner is working with his contractor in this regard.

One of the spaces is intended to be used as a crèche and is currently being publicly advertised for rent. Tuath are free to engage with the owner/agent as is any other group should they wish to rent any of the vacant spaces in this development

Q.15 COUNCILLOR HAZEL DE NORTÚIN

To ask the Chief Executive Can Dublin City Council also explain, in detail, what plans they have put in place in long leasing developments, if the Department of Housing won't supply funding for the recreational 5% that DCC has insisted is in all new developments, as included in the Dublin City Development Plan.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Of the 24 multi-unit Long Term Lease developments there are 3 developments which have vacant spaces Table A. below outlines these developments.

The LTL Scheme does not facilitate the fit out, rental or lease of spaces outside the residential unit's itself. The non-residential elements of such development are outside the scope of any the LTL agreement with DCC.

Cultural or community organisations who wish to lease these spaces should contact the agent acting for the owner. DCC has no plans to lease these spaces.

Table A:

Development Address	BTR	Non Resi -space	Vacant Space
Broomhill House, Swords Road, Whitehall, Dublin 9.	Y	Y	Y space unfinished
Tristan Square, Chapelizod Hill Road, Chapelizod, D20	Y	Y	Y space unfinished
Heatly Block A, Newtown, Malahide Road, Dublin 17.	Y	Y	Y space unfinished

Regarding Tristan Square in Chapelizod, none of the non-residential spaces are at final fit out stage, we have been informed that the owner is still engaged with his contractor in this regard.

We have been advised that one or two of the spaces are intended to be leased for use as a crèche and negotiations are ongoing to progress this.

With regards to the other non-residential space in Tristan Sq, Tuath is considering leasing space here to use as an office to support tenant management, when this unit is complete and ready to let.

Q.16 COUNCILLOR HAZEL DE NORTÚIN

To ask the Chief Executive will Dublin City Council accept applications from organisations to rent these units, once their services are functional for DCC tenants, within these developments.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Enquiries regarding the rental of spaces/ units in private developments where DCC has leased residential units should be submitted directly to the owner/agent of the development for their consideration.

Community or cultural groups who wish to lease/rent such spaces will need to enter into their own legal agreement with the owner/agent of these developments.

Q.17 COUNCILLOR DERMOT LACEY

To ask the Chief Executive what assurances of additional funding has he received from An Taoiseach towards implementing the recommendations of the Dublin City Task Force and if he will further request the Task Force Chairperson to arrange for all submissions and minutes of the Task Force meetings to be available to Dublin City Councillors.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The Department of An Taoiseach has established an Inter Departmental Working Group to assess the recently published Taskforce report. The group is tasked with reporting back to Government by mid -December on the possible areas that could be actioned, the respective timelines and what are the resourcing implications going forward. An update will be provided to members once the Department has carried out its processes. The Taskforce Chair will present to members on the working of the Taskforce, consultations and the work that was undertaken that culminated in the recently published City Centre Taskforce report.

Q.18 COUNCILLOR MANNIX FLYNN

To ask the Chief Executive to issue a full report with regards how much money was spent regarding the acquisitions of the two Harry Clarke works. This report to include a full account of all monies, where the monies came from and who the works were acquired from? Also, that a full account of all monies that were made available for the purchase of all the works that were acquisitioned by the Hugh Lane Gallery totalling 21 pieces of art that were outlined in the CEO's reply to me on the 7th October 2023.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Margaret Clarke's 'Portrait of Harry Clarke' was purchased from Bonhams Fine Art for the sum of €53,776

- Purchase made from CRES Reserve.

Harry Clarke's 'Angel of Peace and Hope' purchased from Adams Fine Art for the sum of €31,250

- Purchase made from CEO Fund.

No funds from Hugh Lane involved in these purchases.

Purchases for the Hugh Lane Gallery collection made in the last two years.

Hannah Levy, Untitled, 2019	€24,357.10
Mairead O'hEocha, Antelope, Natural History Museum, Dublin, 2020	€22,700
Na Cailleacha, Child's Play 2, 2021	€9,000
Patrick Graham, As I roved out, 2018	€15,000
Perry Ogden, Three photographs from the Pony Kids series, 1999	€12,500
Mark Dion, Emperor Penguin, 2016	€42,500
Richard Gorman: Blam, 2021	€13,620

John Beattie, Reconstructing Mondrian, 2022	€30,000
John Beattie, Yellow, Red and Blue, 2023	€5,000
Jasper Johns, Regrets, 2014 (x 2)	\$75,030 USD
Edouard Vuillard, Vuillard Family, c.1902-4	£47,500 GBP
John Kindness, Odysseus in Hades, 2009	£4,500 GBP
John Kindness, Bust of Poseidon, 2022	£4,000 GBP
Ailbhe Ní Bhriain, Interval III, 2024	€54,480
Fergus Martin, Smoke, 2024	€32,688

Q.19 COUNCILLOR MANNIX FLYNN

To ask the Chief Executive to issue a full report that would indicate the extent of the area of public lands that have been transferred under street licences to private enterprise. This report also to include the extent of the area of public streets and footpaths that have been converted from traffic use to food and beverage enterprise. Also can the manager indicate the amount of rates that have been collected from enterprises using such public lands for food and beverage businesses?

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The licencing section of the City Co-ordination office issue street furniture licences for outdoor dining. There is no transfer of public lands under street furniture licences to private enterprises.

The total area of public streets and footpaths that have been converted from traffic use to food and beverage enterprise including footpaths and public streets for the 261 businesses is 3032 square Meters.

Each business that is successfully approved for a street furniture licence pays a licence fee to Dublin City Council. These fees are calculated from a cost of €125 per table and €200 to €500 per square meter depending on the total area.

The Rateable Valuation of any temporary street furniture is determined by Tailte Éireann, which is an independent statutory body. Any additions that are deemed fixed and permanent in nature will be captured in any revaluation of the city which will be conducted by Tailte Éireann.

Dublin City Council will levy rates on foot of any revaluation and the Commercial Rates will be calculated by multiplying the Rateable Valuation of a property by the Annual Rate on Valuation which is set by the members of the City Council at their annual Statutory Budget meeting.

Q.20 COUNCILLOR MANNIX FLYNN

To ask the Chief Executive in light of the recent revelations concerning financial governance and other matters at the Fr. Peter McVerry Trust outline in full detail what measures DCC and the Dublin Regional homeless executive have put in place with regards future governance of the Peter Mc Verry Trust and the monies it receives from the Dublin Regional homeless executive and also, what measures, if any, of financial oversight and governance does DCC and DRHE have over the many entities such as approved housing bodies, homeless charities and other such organisations that it financially supports. And can you supply me with all such information as to when, in the past three years, Dublin City Council or its audit committee conducted any financial governance checks on these organisations. While indeed its founder, were negligent, there would be absolutely no excuse for the local authority to have such failings particularly when it concerns substantia amount of tax payers money. In that regard, can the CEO initiate a full financial audit of all monies that were spent on the acquisition of Avalon House, on Aungier Street that was acquired by the Peter McVerry Trust from finances supplied by the Dublin Regional Homeless executive and their offices

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The (DRHE) has Service Level Agreements (SLAs) in place with PMVT and other Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs) for the provision of accommodation and services to persons experiencing homelessness. At an individual service level, SLAs are managed via performance reports, quarterly financial returns, KPI returns and site inspections. The overall performance under the programme spend is remitted to the DHLGH and published on a quarterly basis. SLAs contain an outline of the roles, outputs, funding, review, delivery and assurance requirements under the funding arrangement.

The DRHE initiated a review in 2023 to examine areas of concern within PMVT. The DHLGH established an Oversight Group, of which DRHE is a member, to ensure continuity of services in emergency accommodation or supported housing with PMVT. That work will continue until there is confidence in the organisation's compliance with financial and governance requirements.

PMVT has ongoing engagement with the DRHE and the Department of Housing in relation to financial and governance matters. The DRHE is concerned with ensuring a continuity of services to people experiencing homelessness and that none of PMVT's service users are negatively affected during this time.

The Charities Regulatory Authority have recently published their report on their investigations into the affairs of PMVT.

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

Following intensive negotiations, senior management agreed to a re-assignment of the lease from PMVT to Dublin City Council (DCC) on the basis the hostel would be used to accommodate families.

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

Q.21 COUNCILLOR MANNIX FLYNN

To ask the Chief Executive how many approved housing bodies that are associated with Dublin City Council are using private security firms to protect their housing estates and tenants. Many of these tenants are from the DCC's housing list and homeless list and many of these tenants are subject to gross anti-social behaviour and criminal activity in and around their homes.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Four of the larger Approved Housing Bodies have advised that they use the services of private security companies in certain circumstances, for example for the protection of new housing developments where there has been a delay with final completion. These properties can be vulnerable to vandalism.

Also where there is an escalation in anti-social behaviour in an estate AHB's have advised that private security has been used to provide a visible presence in specific areas.

Q.22 COUNCILLOR MAIRE DEVINE

To ask the Chief Executive that a public consultation be undertaken to ascertain what type of outdoor spaces/hangouts young people between 12-18 years want?"

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

This issue is being considered and a response will be issue to the councillor in due course.

Q.23 COUNCILLOR JEN CUMMINS

To ask the Chief Executive about the progress of the Marrowbone Lane development: I note that the closing date for the submission of quotations from planning/urban design consultants for the preparation of a masterplan of the Marrowbone Lane site was 20th September 2024. Can the Chief Executive please advise whether the Consultant has now been engaged? Can the Chief Executive also advise on anticipated dates for the consultant's engagement with key Council and South West Inner City community stakeholders, and the process for initiating this engagement?

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Following receipt of submissions on 20th September 2024, those submissions are being assessed and once a consultant is appointed, the Local Area Committee will be advised of the proposed timeline and programme for engagement. This will include engagement with relevant City Council departments, local Elected Representatives and community stakeholders as part of the work.

Q.24 COUNCILLOR PUNAM RANE

To ask the Chief Executive to provide a detailed breakdown of the criteria required for individuals to meet the eligibility threshold for housing across this Council, specifically in the following areas:

1. Social/Local Authority Housing
2. Affordable Purchase Housing
3. Cost Rental Housing "

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

For an applicant to be eligible for social housing they must provide the following criteria

- Fully completed application form
- Photographic identification (current passport or Irish driving licence)
- Birth certificates for all household members
- PPSNs for all household members
- Marriage certificates for all applicants, where applicable
- Proof of current address (utility bill, lease or rental statement) for all applicants, where applicable
- If renting proof of tenancy agreement and Residential Tenancies Board (RTB) registration, where available
- Proof of citizenship or permission to remain in Ireland for all household members (e.g. letter from the Department of Justice or similar from Garda National Immigration Bureau

- Evidence of income as set out below –
Employed
Documentary evidence of the preceding 12 months income through a combination of the following –
The previous years' Statement of Liability and the Employment Details Summary, both available from Revenue
Proof of the households current income e.g. payslips for the intervening period from Statement of Liability to date of application or a Pay and Tax Summary (year to date) where additional superannuation contribution (ASC) is payable, the previous years' final payslip and the most recent payslip must be provided
Social Welfare Income

A statement from the Department of Social Protection detailing all welfare payments received over the preceding 12 months, this should include the commencement and cessation date of receipt of such payments, if a household is in receipt of social welfare for less than 12 months, evidence of employment income must be provided to cover the duration of the employment

Self Employed

A minimum of 2 years accounts with an Auditor's report and a notice of assessment and/or self-assessment acknowledgement letter for the preceding 12 months

Documentation required in relation to separation/divorce

- Copy of separation /divorce agreement for both applicants, where applicable
The agreement must identify
The extent of maintenance being received or paid by the applicant
The circumstances under which the maintenance can cease

If there is no agreement, a letter from the applicant's solicitor or a legal affidavit signed by a practising solicitor must be included with the application. The letter should confirm

- That there is no formal separation agreement
- That there are no court proceedings pending under family law legislation
- The position in relation to maintenance and other payments
- Overnight access/custody arrangements for children
- Property ownership
- Evidence of maintenance payments received for previous 12 months, prior to the date of application

Property Ownership

- If an applicant or any member of the household owns property, an affidavit or any other documentation requested by the local authority is required outlining the location, value, current status of the property and any monies being received in respect of the property

Other Documentation required

- If an applicant is not resident in the local authority area where they are seeking housing support, an applicant must provide evidence of their local connection within the area
- If an applicant or any member of the household was previously a local authority/Approved Housing Body tenant, they must provide a letter from the local authority/Approved Housing Body where the applicant or member resided setting out details in relation to the previous tenancy, his letter should include the duration of tenancy, reason for leaving, arrears, any other relevant information
- If it has been deemed that an applicant's mortgage is no longer sustainable and they have exited from the Mortgage Arrears Process (MARP), they should include a letter from the Arrears Support Unit of the applicant's lender

2. Affordable Purchase Housing

The Scheme is aimed at people who cannot afford to purchase a home at its full purchase price, based on their ability to receive a 90% mortgage from a financial institution. The prices of the home on offer will vary from development to development as they are linked to the open market value of the home.

In general, the maximum household income limit for an affordable home is 85.5% of the open market value of the home divided by 4.

The table below includes a notional 'open market value' of €400,000 and the methodology to arrive at the max income limit.

Open Market Value	€ 400,000
85.5% of Open Market Value	€ 342,000
Divided by 4	€ 85,500 = max income limit

Other eligibility criteria are:

- You are over 18 years of age.
- You are a First-Time buyer or qualify under the Fresh Start principle.
- Your purchasing power (mortgage + deposit + savings) must not exceed 95% of the open market value of the home.
- You have a minimum deposit of 10% of the purchase price.
- You have a right to reside indefinitely in the State.
- The affordable home will be your principle place of residence.

3. Cost Rental Housing

An applicant may qualify for Cost Rental housing if:

- Their net household income is €66,000 or below per annum;
- They are not in receipt of any social housing supports, including the Housing Assistance Payment (HAP);
- They do not own a property;
- Their household size matches the size of the home advertised. For example, a two-bed unit may be suitable for two adults, a couple, or a lone parent with 1 or more children.
- All members of the household are living in Ireland at the time of applying;
- They can afford to pay the rent for the home.

Q.25 **COUNCILLOR PUNAM RANE**

To ask the Chief Executive to provide an update on all of the Council's capital projects that were completed or are in progress throughout 2024. Additionally, could the Chief Executive provide a summary update, including projected costs, for all planned capital projects expected to commence in 2025, broken down by each electoral area?"

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The Capital Programme 2025 – 2027 will be presented to Council in February 2025 and detail the planned expenditure for next 3 years.

The Capital Programme 2024 -2026 can be accessed by the link below;

[HOUSING CAPITAL ACCOUNT](#)

Report 192/2024 was presented to the October 2024 Council Meeting and Appendix C provided a review of the performance of the Capital Account to Q2 2024.

	Expenditure		Income				Transfers			Balance at 31/3/2024
	Balance at 01/01/2024	Expenditure YTD	Grants and LPT	Non-Mortgage Loans	Other	Total income YTD	Transfer from Revenue	Transfer to Revenue	Internal Transfers	
	€	€	€	€	€	€	€	€	€	€
Housing & Building	(46,053,651)	88,298,283	80,030,237	-	852,692	80,882,929	3,432,381	-	451,036	(49,585,588)
Road Transport & Safety	82,859,239	7,768,679	4,551,460	-	2,719,739	7,271,199	1,051,500	-	-	83,413,259
Water Services	5,790,892	597,974	151,214	-	-	151,214	12,501	-	-	5,356,633
Development Management	180,884,313	12,086,562	293,916	-	17,771,365	18,065,281	146,589	95,001	(2,716,509)	184,198,111
Environmental Services	15,938,071	560,352	40,000	-	198,410	238,410	378,726	75,000	-	15,919,855
Recreation & Amenity	19,170,980	4,225,770	1,659,387	-	587,958	2,247,345	893,748	339,096	2,265,473	20,012,680
Agriculture, Education, Health & Welfare	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Miscellaneous Services	60,703,534	1,547,805	214,997	474,909	2,361	692,267	964,996	-	-	60,812,992
Total	319,293,377	115,085,425	86,941,211	474,909	22,132,525	109,548,645	6,880,441	509,097	-	320,127,941

Q.26 COUNCILLOR PUNAM RANE

Question withdrawn

Q.27 COUNCILLOR PUNAM RANE

To ask the Chief Executive to provide this committee with an update on the pitch allocation and annual letting process for sports facilities that are maintained and managed by Dublin City Council (DCC). Specifically, I would appreciate detailed information on the following:

1. The criteria and timeline for pitch allocation.
2. The steps involved in the annual letting process.
3. How the Council addresses double bookings and other challenges arising from the current system.
4. Any plans for reviewing or updating the allocation process to ensure fair access for all teams.

Given the issues that have been raised regarding pitch availability and double bookings, I believe a review of the process could be beneficial for both the Council and the sports teams involved.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The use of playing fields in public parks is based on an annual application process. The letting is for an 11-month period from mid-January to mid-December and each pitch is let on a morning/afternoon basis on Saturdays and Sundays, taking into account that teams play away from home on alternative weeks. Application forms are circulated to clubs in November each year and are required to be returned by a date specified to a dedicated email account parkpitches@dublincity.ie

Once the applications have been processed, insurance documents received and the appropriate fee paid in the case of adult teams, permits are issued to clubs advising them of their pitch allocation/s for the year. For transparency, the pitch allocations are also placed on the City Councils website

In reality, from year to year there is little change in allocations as clubs seek the continued use of the same pitches and so any change is incremental. In the event of decisions having to be made in relation to pitch allocations where there are competing requests from clubs we are guided by the principle of facilitating local clubs in their nearest local park and the needs of junior teams over adult teams.

Over time however, it is evident that there is a significant increase in the demand for playing fields due to expanding club membership. This issue was the subject of

discussion in the preparation of the City Development Plan and a webinar which was held as part of the Development Plan review. As part of that engagement the councillors were advised that Dublin City Council is experiencing increasing demand from clubs for more playing fields, however there is little spare capacity on existing pitches and there is little likelihood of new playing fields being achieved through the planning process as residential development in the city are now almost exclusively high density on relatively small sites.

Historically, in the 1960/70's/80's when open spaces were being planned in the city suburbs (outside the canals), 10% of the site area was required to provide green space (public open space) and in most cases the landscape design was minimised in favour of levelling the open space to create playing fields and kickabout space. Today public open space in any new development is planned for a more diverse range of habitat for biodiversity other than amenity grassland and open spaces now incorporate sustainable drainage swales and other such features. This combination of factors inevitably means that space for active recreation and playing fields is not being achieved through the development control planning process.

Based on population growth, the assumption that more people are playing sport, people are playing to a later age in life and female participation is increasing, the demand for playing fields will increase. While the 2022 – 2028 Dublin City Development Plan provides increased protection of existing and established sport and recreational facilities in the city (Policy GI49 refers) if the quantity of playing fields is to increase this can only be achieved by gaining access to under-utilised recreational grounds in the City or acquisition of lands outside of the City.

In relation to the specific query about double bookings, we are not aware of any such instances.

In relation to Crumlin United FC, the all-weather pitch in Willie Pearse Park was the subject of a licence agreement 15 years ago. Any further information on this can be sought from DCCs Property and Development Department.

There are a total of five playing fields in Willie Pearse Park, two of which are allocated to Crumlin United, one full-sized and one 7-a-side. Crumlin United apply annually for the use of these pitches for their 27 juvenile and 2 adult teams.

The use of the pitch and gym at CBS Captains Road is a private arrangement between the club and the school.

Q.28 COUNCILLOR EOIN HAYES

To ask the Chief Executive to reverse the planning enforcement order on Shaku Maku in Rathmines, Dublin 6, to paint over a mural depicting a Palestinian child.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Dublin City Council Planning Enforcement Section are aware of the publication of recent media reports relating to a mural on Shaku Maku Restaurant on Rathmines Road Lower, and the associated social media outcry from some quarters relating to the removal of the mural concerned. It is important to make you aware of the actual facts in respect of this matter.

1. Dublin City Council did not remove the mural concerned.
2. Dublin City Council did not issue an enforcement order or notice, or initiate legal action, requiring its removal.
3. Nobody from Dublin City Council proactively brought this mural to the attention of, or made a complaint relating to it to the Planning Enforcement Section within this Department.

A complaint was received from a third party local resident to the Planning Enforcement Section of Dublin City Council relating to the provision of a mural on the gable wall of

Shaku Maku Restaurant, 192 Rathmines Road Lower, Dublin 6, in the absence of a prior grant of planning permission.

As required under Part 8 of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended) a Section 152 Warning Letter was issued to the Owner and Manager of the restaurant on the 1st of October 2024 outlining the allegation made in the complaint concerned.

This warning letter outlined that the matter was under investigation. It did not order the removal of the mural. It also importantly outlined in **bold that submissions or observations in writing to Dublin City Council could be made within 4 weeks of service of the letter regarding the subject matter of the letter**. Direct contact details including the mobile phone number of the Planning Enforcement Case Officer were also provided should the restaurant owner or manager wish to discuss the matter. The latest date for submissions or observations was the 28th of October 2024.

No contact was made to the Planning Enforcement Case Officer, or to the A/Planning Enforcement Manager by anybody from, or representing the restaurant following the issuing of the Warning Letter concerned. No submission or observation was made on foot of the letter sent.

As a point of clarity murals on the façade or gable wall of a premises require planning permission, regardless of their content. The owner of the restaurant had a number of options following receipt of the warning letter, including making a planning application to retain it. The restaurant owner chose to remove it.

This matter was dealt with in a fair and balanced manner by the Planning Enforcement Section, in compliance with our statutory requirements. The actions of the owner of the restaurant in this instance pre-empted any consideration by Dublin City Council to issue an Enforcement Notice, or seek an order relating to this matter.

Q.29 COUNCILLOR EOIN HAYES

To ask the Chief Executive what alterations to commercial rates to specific business sectors (e.g. restaurants) he might consider or suggest for adoption to help struggling local businesses, as well as asking larger multinational corporations to pay more towards city council services in a way that enhances the financial position of the city.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Commercial Rates are a property based charge on commercial and industrial properties and are a key source of funding for Dublin City. The levying and collection of commercial rates by local authorities is legislated for under the Local Government Rates and Other Matters Act 2019, as amended by the Historic and Archaeological Heritage and Miscellaneous Provision Act 2023. This legislation came into effect on 1st January 2024.

The City Council, at the Statutory Budget meeting, determines the rate on valuation each year which is applied to the valuation of all rateable properties and from which commercial rates are determined.

The Local Government Rates and Other Matters Act 2019 was passed by the Oireachtas and enacted on 11th July 2019. The Act contains a provision, in section 15, relating to potential alleviation schemes. These provisions empower the Elected Members of local authorities to devise and achieve policy objectives through locally targeted rates waiver schemes. This will enhance the capacity of local authorities to address important issues and challenges particular to their local areas and to enable them to support specific objectives to promote community, social and economic development and urban planning.

Any waiver scheme implemented by a Local Authority will be funded from its own resources. Under SI No. 349 of 2024 (Local Government Waiver of Rates Regulations). The following conditions apply;

Per section 3,

1. A waiver scheme shall not be made, or an existing waiver scheme amended, by a local authority unless it is proposed to the authority by a strategic policy committee established by the authority under section 48 of the Act of 2001.
2. A proposal to the strategic policy committee of a local authority in respect of a local financial year to recommend a waiver scheme shall, subject to paragraph (3), be made to the committee before 30 June in any year before that financial year.
3. The proposal referred to in paragraph (2) in respect of the local financial year 2025 shall be made before 30 September 2024.
4. The strategic policy committee of a local authority may, in respect of a rates waiver scheme proposal before it—
 - Endorse or reject a new scheme
 - Endorse the renewal of an existing waiver scheme with or without amendment
 - Reject the renewal of an existing waiver scheme.
5. A proposal for a waiver scheme (whether new or existing) which is rejected by the SPC of a local authority has no effect.
6. A local authority shall not have in operation more than one waiver scheme within each local financial year.

A report estimating the financial effect of the making of a waiver scheme shall be prepared under the direction of the Chief Executive. A public consultation must be held for at least 14 days and a report on any submissions shall be prepared. Once a waiver scheme is made a local authority shall publish on its details of the scheme and the procedure for making an application.

Q.30 COUNCILLOR EOIN HAYES

To ask the Chief Executive what plans there are to extend the number of dog bins in the Dublin City Council area, the process to secure them, and the options available to councillors to amend the bye-laws to increase dog fouling fines, given the recent rise in dog populations in the city.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Dublin City Council no longer provide bins for the sole use of disposing of doggie bags. Instead we advise dog owners and dog walkers to dispose of doggie bags in the public litter bins provided or else take the doggie bag home and deposit in their household bin, i.e. the black/grey bin.

Fines in relation to dog fouling is included in the Litter Pollution Act 1997 as amended. Any amendments made to this Act is a matter for the Government of the day.

Q.31 COUNCILLOR RAY MCADAM

To ask the Chief Executive to expedite all steps in order to prepare a Neighborhood Traffic Scheme in **(1.Details Supplied)** that includes measures to reduce traffic speeds by installing ramps, cushions or the chicaning of streets, especially the lights of **(2.Details supplied)** given the fact that drivers are blatantly ignoring speed limits from as early as 5.30am and where existing measures like **(3.Details supplied)** are ineffective in tackling this road safety issue; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The TAG Area Engineer will assess the issues raised at the locations identified along with an overview of the wider vicinity. A report will be issued with recommendations and possible traffic interventions.

Q.32 COUNCILLOR RAY MCADAM

To ask the Chief Executive Executive to provide a comprehensive update including indicative timelines for the completion of the (**Details supplied**); when works are expected to start; the overall funding that has been provided; the name of contractors, etc. and if he will make a statement on the matter.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Dublin City Council received Part 8 approval for the redevelopment of (**Details supplied**) in 2014 and vacant possession Q3 of 2019. Tender documents were prepared for a Design Build Finance and Operate model of delivery. However, the Covid Pandemic and associated impact on Markets in particular made this approach unattainable, as providers in the industry were not in a position to invest. Dublin City Council advanced the first phase of the project, which was delivery of a Multi-use Games Area, improved public realm to St Michan's Street and St Mary's Lane and a car park with high-density cycle parking. This was delivered while awaiting the outcome of grant funding to implement the Refurbishment Phase.

Grant funding was secured in 2022 and tender issued for an Integrated Design Team who were appointed in February 2023 to develop the design detail, Fire cert and Disabled Access Cert applications and bring forward construction tender documents. Design Team lead is Louise Cotter of Cotter Naesean Architect's. Design detail completed and tender for construction/ conservation works issued to a Dublin City Council Framework in August 2024. There have been several queries and requests for extension of time due to the complexity and scale of the project. Tenders are due back November 5th.

The timeline thereafter is expected to be as follows:

Tender Assessment – 5 weeks

Standstill and authorisation period - 4 weeks

Contract Assignment and mobilisation – Q1 2025

Construction - 26 weeks

The final contract price will not be available until tender assessment.

Q.33 COUNCILLOR RAY MCADAM

To ask the Chief Executive the next steps in the delivery of (**Details supplied**); the indicative timeframe of same; the likely measures to be introduced; what communication plan is being prepared for the delivery of same; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The indicative timeframes are as per Section 24 "Delivery" of (**Details supplied**);. These are the likely measures to be introduced over the lifetime of the plan. The recently published "Taoiseach's Taskforce for Dublin" includes (**Details supplied**);. This is currently being looked at as to how this can be met. A communication plan for each measure, similar to the initial measures on the north and south quays, will be prepared as the individual measure is being progressed.

Q.34 COUNCILLOR RAY MCADAM

To ask the Chief Executive the number of housing complexes owned or maintained by Dublin City Council in (**Details supplied**); the number of homes in each complex; what the Estate Renewal Plan proposed in terms of upgrading or expanding each of the

complexes and the additional number of homes that could be provided; the indicative cost per complex to delivering on these proposals and to outline what engagement has taken place to date with the Department of Housing, Planning, Heritage and Local Government in terms of seeking and securing such funding; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The current Housing Regeneration programme for the Dublin 1 and Dublin 2 areas is outlined below. There is regular engagement between the DHLGH and the Housing Regeneration Team across all projects, and both work together to progress projects to deliver new homes. Regeneration Projects are funded by the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage (DHLGH) in accordance with its 4 Stage Approval Process. At each of the stages/gateways, updated costs are provided to the DHLGH for funding approval. Due to commercial sensitivities around our public tendering processes, indicative costs cannot be disclosed.

Project	Status	Information	Expected date of Delivery
Dorset Street, Dublin 1	Onsite	The former housing development consisted of 113 flats. The demolition of the existing blocks is in progress and the new housing scheme will provide 163 new homes	Q4 2026
Matt Talbot Court, Dublin 1	Stage 3	The current scheme provides 72 flats. Proposals are for the demolition of existing flat blocks and delivery of 92 new homes	Q3 2027
Dominick Street West, Dublin 1	Stage 1	The former housing development consists of 90 flats. The new proposed scheme will provide approx. 59 new homes through deep retrofit of the current blocks	Q1 2029
St Andrews Court, Dublin 2	Stage 2	The former housing scheme consists of 16 flats. The proposals for the new scheme, is for the demolition and delivery of 33 new build homes	Q4 2027
Pearse House, Dublin 2. Phase 1	Stage 1	The Blocks due to be redeveloped in Phase 1 contain 78 flats. As this is a protected structure, redevelopment options are limited. The proposals for Phase 1 will deliver 44 new homes (39 deep retrofit & 5 new build)	Q4 2027
Glover Court, Dublin 2	Stage 1	The current scheme contains 38 flats, the proposals for the new scheme will deliver 53 new homes through deep retrofit & extension	Q4 2027

The undertaking of regeneration projects require case by case assessment of each site where all options for enhancement, redevelopment and delivery are considered. The impact of lead in times for projects to start onsite and the necessity for decanting also requires understanding and managing.

Below is a list of DCC owned complexes in the Dublin 1 & Dublin 2 areas. Examination of each complex is required to understand how best to upgrade or expand, and to explore if additional homes can be provided within specific complexes. Options available that inform feasibility studies include enhanced works, retrofit, amalgamation, infill, extension, demolition and new build.

DCC Housing Complex	No. of Existing Units
Dominick Hall, Dublin 1	72
Matt Talbot Court, Dublin 1	72
Dominick Street West , Dublin 1	90
Dunne Street & Nth Clarence Street, Dublin 1	63
Gardiner Street, Dublin 1	38
Henrietta House, Dublin 1	48
James Larkin House, Dublin 1	34
Sheridan Court, Dublin 1	50
Alfie Byrne House, Dublin 1	30
Georges Place, Dublin 1	60
Hill Street, Dublin 1	30
Fitzgibbon Court, Dublin 1	53
Charleville Mall, Dublin 1	26
North William St, Dublin 1	47
Rory O'Connor House, Dublin 1	133
Dermot O' Dwyer House, Dublin 1	77
Fitzgibbon Court, Dublin 1	53
Dominick Court, Dublin 1	29
Summerhill Court, Dublin 1	39
Liberty House, Dublin 1	181
Brendan Behan Court, Dublin 1	51
Oriel Street Lower, Dublin 1	8
Saint Laurence O'Toole Court, Dublin 1	28
Sheridan Place, Dublin 1	28
Wolfe Tone Close, Dublin 1	71
Pearse House, Dublin 2	345
Glovers Court, Dublin 2	38
Leo Fitzgerald House, Dublin 2	46
Mercer House, Dublin 2	104
Countess Markievicz House, Dublin 2	165
O'Carroll Villas, Dublin 2	32
Conway Court, Dublin 2	36
Macken Villas, Dublin 2	24
Cuffe Street, Dublin 2	27

York Street Flats, Dublin 2	37
Digges Street, Dublin 2	30
Saint Andrews Court (Exc. Block 3), Dublin 2	51
Powers Court, Dublin 2	8
Stephens Place, Dublin 2	4
Verschoyle Court, Dublin 2	11
Rostrevor Court, Dublin 2	4
Greenore, Dublin 2	6
Cambridge Court, Dublin 2	12
Boyne Street, Dublin 2	78
Charlemont Court, Dublin 2	30
Smock Alley Court, Dublin 2	49
York Street Apartments (New), Dublin 2	64
Crampton Court/Crampton Buildings, Dublin 2	28

Q.35 COUNCILLOR PADDY MONAHAN

To ask the Chief Executive to install roadside bollards on Watermill Road, Raheny, from Watermill Lawn to The Village / Bettyglen, to ensure cars do not park on the grass and among the trees.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The DCC Transport Advisory Group does not favour the extensive use of bollards, however the issue raised will be assessed by the Area Engineer and in addition will liaise with colleagues in the Council's Parks Department. A report will be forwarded to the Councillor when the assessment is complete.

Q.36 COUNCILLOR PADDY MONAHAN

To ask the Chief Executive to provide a full list of the conditions and commitments, including planning conditions, that need to be met by private developers, builders and land owners in the areas of Belmayne, Parkside, Belltree and Clongriffin in order to facilitate Dublin City Council in taking these areas fully in charge. When questions are raised with Dublin City Council with regard to the provision of a wide range of services and amenities in these areas the answer is almost always that nothing can be done until the area is taken in charge. This has been the response for a number of years. We need to know specifically what needs to be done so Dublin City Council can take the areas in charge.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Discussions are ongoing with Developers in relation to Belmayne, Parkside, Belltree and Clongriffin regarding the works that are required to take these developments in charge. All services must be to a required standard that would allow Dublin City Council to consider the taking in charge of these developments. All necessary work must be carried out by private developers, builders and land owners prior to the services being taken in charge. The issues are varied and complex and involve a cross section of service departments within DCC who continue to liaise with the Developers.

Q.37 COUNCILLOR PADDY MONAHAN

To ask the Chief Executive to set out the actions it has taken to compel private developers to fulfil their obligations in terms of conditions and commitments, including planning conditions that need to be met to facilitate Dublin City Council in taking these areas fully in charge. Has Dublin City Council examined the potential for legal action

seeking the remedy of specific performance to compel private developers to fulfil their obligations and thus facilitate the taking in charge process.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The Taking in Charge process is a legislative process and as such the procedure around the process must be complied with by the Council and the applicant in accordance with the legislation. The Taking In Charge process of the services within an estate can only be considered when requested by the applicant/developer or the residents of an area. An application must be submitted in the first instance to the Planning and Property Development Department. All works that are required to be carried out to the specific standards must be completed before the services can be taken in charge.

Q.38 COUNCILLOR PADDY MONAHAN

To ask the Chief Executive to examine the species of tree that lines the road in Belmont Park, Raheny. These trees appear to produce excessive amounts of sap that then drips onto cars and property in the area. Can the Chief Executive investigate this and report as to whether anything can be done to minimise this issue?

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The substance in question is not sap but honeydew the sugary excretion of sap-sucking insects such as aphids. This is a wholly natural phenomena and a feature of all broad leaved tree species to a greater or lesser extent. Honeydew can be more evident in certain years most likely depending on the summer weather and aphid populations and corresponding populations of predators such as lacewings and ladybirds. Honeydew is essentially sugar and water and is usually washed away by seasonal rains. The effect is most pronounced during dry spells in late summer when the trees are in full leaf. Affected residents might consider parking elsewhere during these periods to avoid the worst of the problem or investing in a car cover.

Dublin City's Tree Policy, adopted as policy in 2016 does not consider the reduction or removal of Honeydew as a valid reason to prune or remove an otherwise healthy tree. Leaves, seeds and honeydew are defined in the policy as '*natural and seasonal occurrences and are judged to be a relatively-minor, short-lived inconvenience when considering the many benefits of having trees in the urban environment*'.

Q.39 COUNCILLOR EDEL MORAN

To ask the Chief Executive if there is a possibility for the provision of Sustainable public lighting along the pathways in Belcamp Park, Dublin 17? Local Residents have raised this request as the Park is widely used for recreation and access and the lack of lighting in the Park restricts the use through the dark evenings and mornings, effects public safety and encourages anti-social behaviour.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

As parks are officially closed after dark the Parks Service does not install such lighting unless there is a recognised commuter route connecting residential areas to transport links etc. such as those in Rockfield.

Q.40 COUNCILLOR EDEL MORAN

To ask the Chief Executive for an update on the Programme for the completion/re-introduction of the Public Playground in Kilmore West, Dublin 5.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Delays in processing the tender and contract documentation prepared by the Parks Service under the new procurement and finance system introduced this summer led to

inordinate delays in issuing the order to the preferred contractor. The contractor understandably did not place the order with the suppliers for the necessary equipment until the order was confirmed. The supplier has confirmed that the equipment will be dispatched to Ireland in January 2025 and will be with the contractor a week later. While we do not have a firm start date from the contractor as yet as they have not fixed their work programmes for early 2025 it is expected that the works will commence soon thereafter and the playground will be in place for the improving weather in spring 2025.

Q.41 COUNCILLOR EDEL MORAN

To ask the Chief Executive if there have been confirmed reports of construction vehicles from local Construction sites in the Dublin 5 , 9 and 17 districts discharging waste into Manholes in housing estates in those localities? There have been reports of this activity occurring from Resident groups in the Area.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

A complaint made on behalf of the Woodlawn Residents Association was received by the Water Pollution Control (WPC) section on the 09/10/24. It reported the unauthorised discharge to drains in Woodlawn Park, Kilmore, Dublin 17 by an environmental contractor.

Upon receipt of the complaint, an investigation promptly commenced into the matter. The complainant was updated accordingly and was requested to provide any further evidence (photographic/videos) to support the investigation. No explicit evidence was provided.

WPC visually inspected the surface water network in Woodlawn Park for evidence of contamination. The inspector noted there was heavy rainfall before the inspection, which may have impacted findings. No definitive evidence was found at the time of inspection to support enforcement measures at this time.

Additionally, the complainant suspected a construction site near the estate as the source of the dumped effluent. The site was visited as part of the investigation, where the allegations were put to them. The site denied any unauthorised off-site activities and advised they are conducting an internal investigation into the matter.

As a precautionary measure and in response to the concerns raised, Dublin City Council conducted non-routine cleaning of the gullies in Woodlawn Park.

The complainant was provided with the investigation outcomes and encouraged to contact [Water Pollution Control](#) directly in the unlikely event of a reoccurrence.

Q.42 COUNCILLOR LESLIE KANE

To ask the Chief Executive can a system be set in place to organise, or a booking system be set up for housing maintenance as so many people are missing the repair men as they have no way of knowing if or when someone is calling to carry out the job.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

In general, tenants are given an indication of timeframe for call outs. Schedules can change depending on volume of calls, complexity and changes in priority. If a tenant has limited availability due to work commitments etc. this should be flagged when the repair request is being logged.

The matter will be raised with the maintenance depots as part of our customer service monitoring processes with a view to identifying any gaps and improving communication with our tenants.

Q.43 COUNCILLOR LESLIE KANE

To ask the Chief Executive how many DCC retail units are currently lying vacant in area D and E.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

DCC does not maintain an ongoing record of the volume of vacancy of retail units across the City. Where a particular study is being undertaken of a location (such as a local area plan) or a Special Scheme for Planning Control is being reviewed (current schemes cover the O'Connell Street area and Grafton St area); surveys of retail use and vacancy are undertaken to inform the study/scheme.

A number of operators and commercial entities undertake regular assessments of the retail sector, such as the Society of Chartered Property, Land and Construction Surveyors which are publicly available.

Q.44 COUNCILLOR LESLIE KANE

To ask the Chief Executive can DCC and NTA please move the bus shelter down to the bus stop at (**details supplied**) as this stop is close to Burren Court many of our senior citizens use this stop and have experienced falls while trying to make it from the bus shelter to bus stop.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The NTA has requested that correspondence received by DCC regarding the Core Bus Corridors Infrastructure Works is sent directly by the Cllr to the NTA for response. Councillor queries should be sent to oireachtasliaison@nationaltransport.ie

Q.45 COUNCILLOR CIERAN PERRY

To ask the Chief Executive detail the number of DPRO's currently recognised by Dublin City Council

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

There are currently 11 DPOs known to Dublin City Council:

- Voice of Vision Impairment
- National Platform of Self Advocates
- Independent Living Movement Ireland
- AslAm
- Irish Deaf Society
- Disabled Women Ireland
- Physical Impairment Ireland
- Disability Power Ireland
- National Disabled Postgraduate Advisory Committee (NDPAC)
- Dublin City DPO
- Headway National Advocacy Group

There is a dedicated intranet webpage for the Access Officer with contact information for each of the DPOs, details of their communication preferences and accessibility needs. The site also contains links to National Disability Legislation, DCC Accessible Guidelines and information on the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.

Q.46 COUNCILLOR CIERAN PERRY

Question withdrawn

Q.47 COUNCILLOR CIERAN PERRY

To ask the Chief Executive to provide an estimate of the average time taken for the completion of the Tenant Purchase process

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The process for purchasing a property through the Tenant Incremental Purchase Scheme is approximately 6 – 12 months. There are numerous steps involved in the process of purchasing a Council property, these include liaising with outside Agencies e.g., An Garda Síochána and The Housing Agency (if a tenant wishes to purchase their Tenancy with a Local Authority Home Loan).

Further information for tenants can be obtained from the Tenant Purchase Section at Phone Number 01 222 5449 or by emailing tenant.purchase@dublincity.ie

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

Q.48 **COUNCILLOR CIERAN PERRY**

To ask the Chief Executive to detail the annual loss of revenue due to the Planning and Development (Street Furniture Fees) Regulations waiving fees for street furniture

There are 261 businesses in DCC Administrative area with street furniture licences with a total of 1333 tables. Each of these licences expire at some stage in 2024. The fee per table licence is €125 each. The Government decision taken in 2024 to waver the street furniture table fees amounts to a total reduction of revenue of €166, 625.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

There are 261 businesses in DCC Administrative area with street furniture licences with a total of 1333 tables. Each of these licences expire at some stage in 2024. The fee per table licence is €125 each. The Government decision taken in 2024 to waver the street furniture table fees amounts to a total reduction of revenue of €166, 625.

Q.49 **COUNCILLOR JOHN STEPHENS**

To ask the Chief Executive when exactly the footpaths on Hollybank Road are going to be repaired? These footpaths are in extremely bad condition and need immediate attention

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

A number of footpath repairs have been carried out on Hollybank Road recently by a RMS direct labour crew. Also, Hollybank Road footpaths will be considered for inclusion in the 2025 works programme.

Q.50 **COUNCILLOR JOHN STEPHENS**

To ask the Chief Executive for a complete report on the tree pruning schedule for the Ashington/Priory Area.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The Ashington area has been recently surveyed by our independent qualified tree arborist and any recommendations made in this report will inform our Tree Care Programme for the area. A report will be issued to all local reps detailing tree works scheduled for 2025, by the end of the year.

Q.51 **COUNCILLOR JOHN STEPHENS**

To ask the Chief Executive if a Yellow Box be placed outside St. Vincent's on the Navan Road. It is impossible for motorists to enter and leave this building

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

St. Vincent's has three entrances, one of which already has a yellow box installed. Additional details on the exact location are needed to assess the installation of another yellow box.

Q.52 COUNCILLOR JOHN STEPHENS

To ask the Chief Executive to set up a Task Force to tackle the whole development of the Phibsborough/Dalymount Area.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Phibsborough Key Urban Village is 1 of 15 plans identified in Table 2-14 of the Dublin City Development Plan 2022-2028 in a schedule of other LAPs / VIPs to be progressed over the lifetime of the Plan in line with a prioritisation programme to be agreed as part of the implementation of the development plan, subject to the availability of resources.

In February 2024, a Part 8 Planning Application was granted for the Dalymount Park redevelopment. The plan for the redevelopment is to construct a four-sided enclosed stadium with a capacity of circa 8,000. The development will also include a new public community facility for Phibsborough, and significant improvements to the public domain. The redeveloped stadium will house Bohemian FC.

An application for funding from LSSIF stream 2 was submitted on 1st July 2024. The completion and construction of the project is dependent on significant funding being allocated under Stream 2 of the LSSIF.

The Cabra Glasnevin Area Office will examine the proposal for a task force in the Phibsborough / Dalymount area and will revert to the Councillor in this regard.

Q.53 COUNCILLOR GAVIN PEPPER

To ask the Chief Executive, I refer to all my unsatisfactorily answered questions from July to last Month regarding an ongoing Electrical / ETCI matter to with the ESB confirmed to me on Monday 14th, that a supply referred to is overloaded despite referrals to the RTB & Environmental Health going back many years. Can the Chief Executive now advise best course?

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

An inspection of the private rented property referred to can be arranged to check compliance with the Housing (Standards for Rented Houses) Regulations 2019. To do this, please provide the property address, and, if available, the tenant and landlord contact details.

Alternatively, the tenant can contact the Environmental Health Section directly at 012226500 or privaterented@dublincity.ie to request an inspection.

Q.54 COUNCILLOR GAVIN PEPPER

To ask the Chief Executive to advise if DCC & Fingal can co-operate to solve the ongoing problems at St Joseph's Horse & Pony Club, a much need facility for the local community

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

St. Joseph's Horse and Pony Club does not fall under the remit of Dublin City Council. However in March 2024 DCC Traveller Accommodation Unit arranged for the gullies and drain-lines to be unblocked as a gesture of goodwill. DCC are not aware of any

ongoing problems as the area is under the administrative remit of Fingal County Council and DCC TAU have contacted Fingal County Council in relation to this query

Q.55 COUNCILLOR GAVIN PEPPER

To ask the Chief Executive any plans to erect signs throughout the City to make the public aware of pickpockets especially for tourists and those most vulnerable Members of our Society

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The City Council has worked with An Garda Síochána, Transport providers and various state agencies /retail representative groups in the past on campaigns to promote community safety and pro social activities in Dublin City.

The Garda Síochána have been running a crime prevention operation (Táirge) in an effort to reduce the detrimental impact on retail businesses, customers and their staff when criminals are involved in theft.

The Transport providers also use in transport messaging to warn passengers of the possibility of pick pockets operating on the Network.

Dublin City Council will continue to work with these partners on messaging around public safety and the prevalence of criminal behaviour by a minority of individuals in the City.

Q.56 COUNCILLOR GAVIN PEPPER

To ask the Chief Executive any plans to install CCTV in parks in Finglas and Ballymun especially Mellows park and the Northway estate park, and to hire park rangers due to the open drug use and anti-social behaviour.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

In general, Parks Services do not install CCTV in our Parks/Open spaces, we do not have the resources or infrastructure in place at these locations to monitor or maintain such systems. There are no current plans to introduce a ranger or warden service to the above mentioned parks. Parks regularly liaise with local Gardai and offer our assistance where possible. It is our understanding that regular patrols of these parks are undertaken and Gardai are generally onsite for the Sunday Park run event.

Q.57 COUNCILLOR RORY HOGAN

To ask the Chief Executive why Dublin City Council painted over a mural on the exterior wall of Shaku Maku restaurant in Rathmines; how many exterior murals have been removed in the past year; and if he could outline if there are any further plans to remove similar murals around the city.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Dublin City Council did not paint over the mural on the exterior wall of Shaku Maku restaurant in Rathmines.

Dublin City Council Planning Enforcement Section are aware of the publication of recent media reports relating to a mural on Shaku Maku Restaurant on Rathmines Road Lower, and the associated social media outcry from some quarters relating to the removal of the mural concerned. It is important to make you aware of the actual facts in respect of this matter.

- Dublin City Council did not remove the mural concerned.

- Dublin City Council did not issue an enforcement order or notice, or initiate legal action, requiring its removal.
- Nobody from Dublin City Council proactively brought this mural to the attention of, or made a complaint relating to it to the Planning Enforcement Section within this Department.

A complaint was received from a third party local resident to the Planning Enforcement Section of Dublin City Council relating to the provision of a mural on the gable wall of Shaku Maku Restaurant, 192 Rathmines Road Lower, Dublin 6, in the absence of a prior grant of planning permission.

As required under Part 8 of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended) a Section 152 Warning Letter was issued to the Owner and Manager of the restaurant on the 1st of October 2024 outlining the allegation made in the complaint concerned.

This warning letter outlined that the matter was under investigation. It did not order the removal of the mural. It also importantly outlined in **bold that submissions or observations in writing to Dublin City Council could be made within 4 weeks of service of the letter regarding the subject matter of the letter.** Direct contact details including the mobile phone number of the Planning Enforcement Case Officer were also provided should the restaurant owner or manager wish to discuss the matter. The latest date for submissions or observations was the 28th of October 2024.

No contact was made to the Planning Enforcement Case Officer, or to the A/Planning Enforcement Manger by anybody from, or representing the restaurant following the issuing of the Warning Letter concerned. No submission or observation was made on foot of the letter sent.

As a point of clarity murals on the façade or gable wall of a premises require planning permission, regardless of their content. The owner of the restaurant had a number of options following receipt of the warning letter, including making a planning application to retain it. The restaurant owner chose to remove it.

This matter was dealt with in a fair and balanced manner by the Planning Enforcement Section, in compliance with our statutory requirements. The actions of the owner of the restaurant in this instance pre-empted any consideration by Dublin City Council to issue an Enforcement Notice, or seek an order relating to this matter.

Q.58 COUNCILLOR RORY HOGAN

To ask the Chief Executive if he expects additional funding to Dublin City Council from the Department of Housing on foot of the report from the Dublin City Taskforce; and if he could outline what he would hope to achieve in the next 12 month period if additional funding is provided

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The Department of An Taoiseach has established an Inter Departmental working Group to assess the recently published Taskforce report. The group is tasked with reporting back to Government by mid -December on the possible areas that could be actioned, the respective timelines and what are the resourcing implications going forward.

An update will be provided to members once the Department has carried out its processes.

Q.59 COUNCILLOR RORY HOGAN

To ask the Chief Executive how many derelict properties have been purchased by the council by way of CPO in the last 12 months; whether these derelict properties were commercial or residential; and if he could outline any intentions to purchase derelict properties by way of CPO in the coming 12 months; both commercial and residential.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Section 14 of the Derelict Sites Act 1990 empowers a Local Authority to acquire by agreement or compulsorily any derelict site situated within their functional area. Since August 2023, the Derelict Sites unit have acquired ten derelict properties, nine of which were acquired compulsorily under the legislation and one by agreement following the issue of notices by the unit. The type of properties is broken down as follows -

- 1 residential property by agreement.
- 7 residential properties compulsorily (2 in 2023) (5 in 2024)
- 2 commercial properties.

Regarding how many sites the Unit intends to acquire for the next year it is impossible to say as acquiring properties under S.14 the Derelict Sites Act 1990 is used as a last resort in circumstances where all efforts to secure the carrying out of improvement works by property owners have been exhausted.

Currently Derelict Sites have one site with An Bord Pleanála seeking consent to the Council's acquisition and one with the City Valuer's regarding acquiring by agreement.

Q.60 COUNCILLOR RORY HOGAN

To ask the Chief Executive if he could provide an update on the playing fields study that was outlined as an objective of the council in Chapter 10 (GIO46) of the Dublin City Development Plan 2022-2028; and if this study is complete, if he could outline the level of pitch provision required as a result of planned population growth

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The objective in Chapter 10 (GIO46) followed on from discussion and a webinar which was held as part of the Development Plan review in the preparation of the City Development Plan. As part of that engagement the councillors were advised that Dublin City Council is experiencing increasing demand from clubs for more playing fields, however there is little spare capacity on existing pitches and there is little likelihood of new playing fields being achieved through the planning process as residential development in the city are now almost exclusively high density on relatively small sites.

Historically, in the 1960/70's/80's when open spaces were being planned in the city suburbs (outside the canals), 10% of the site area was required to provide green space (public open space) and in most cases the landscape design was minimised in favour of levelling the open space to create playing fields and kickabout space. Today public open space in any new development is planned for a more diverse range of habitat for biodiversity other than amenity grassland and open spaces now incorporate sustainable drainage and other such features. This combination of factors inevitably means that space for active recreation and playing fields is not being achieved through the development control planning process.

Based on population growth, the assumption that more people are playing sport, people are playing to a later age in life and female participation is increasing, the demand for playing fields will increase. While the 2022 – 2028 Dublin City Development Plan provides increased protection of existing and established sport and recreational facilities in the city (Policy GI49 refers) if the quantity of playing fields is to increase this can only be achieved by gaining access to under-utilised recreational grounds in the City or acquisition of lands outside of the City.

The only information which is required for the completion of the study in question is a Geographic Information System survey of lands within the city which are suitably zoned and which could be considered under-utilised for recreational playing fields and the location and usage of all-weather training facilities in schools, colleges and other institutional zoned lands. This work will be carried out in the next couple of years in

time for the next Development plan review. Consideration is also being given to the acquisition of lands outside of the city in the medium to long term.

With regard to playing field provision relating to planned population growth the most relevant standard is the UK Fields in Trust guidance for outdoor sport which recommends a standard of 1.15 hectares per 1,000 population for playing pitches in urban areas and a 15 minute walk to be a reasonable distance for people to walk to a playing field, which equates to a 1.2km distance.

Using this buffer distance for each playing pitch Dublin City is reasonably well catered for as regards proximity to playing fields, however, there are unique circumstances that relate to Dublin such as the prevalence of GAA games (the size of a senior GAA pitch is almost twice the size of a senior soccer pitch) so the UK standards are not exactly transferrable.

Q.61 COUNCILLOR CIAN FARRELL

To ask the Chief Executive In relation to homelessness accommodation currently being provided by the DHRE, how many units are being engaged via the private market (as opposed to owned by a charity or by DCC). What is the total cost of this annually to the council, and what is the average cost per private unit in comparison to the cost of a public/DCC owned unit.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The annual cost for the provision of both PEA & NGO homeless accommodation through the DRHE in 2023 is set out below.

Cost of provision of accommodation and operation of PEA Facilities in 2023 was €120,106,678.74

Currently there are 8926 PEA Beds available to the DRHE.

Cost of provision of accommodation and operation of NGO Facilities in 2023 was €82,300,432.54

Currently there are 3870 NGO Beds available to the DRHE.

Q.62 COUNCILLOR CIAN FARRELL

To ask the Chief Executive How many derelict sites are under consideration of being added to the derelict sites register. What is the average review time from when a site is reported to the council, and being added to the register?

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

There are currently 127 Derelict Sites included on the Register. There are approx.450 active files - made up of new complaints due for inspection, files under investigation, or files being monitored for works to be completed to render the site non-derelict. In October there were 15 Section 8(2) notices of intention to add to the Derelict Sites Register issued. The owners of these properties have one month from date of receipt of S8 (2) to make representations to the Council.

Timeline from complaint to entry on the Derelict Sites Register is subject to many factors, as there are a series of procedures to follow and these can take a considerable amount of time to complete. Files are opened following receipt of complaints / queries regarding the condition of a site. Inspections are arranged and the site assessed to determine what action, if any, is warranted under the Derelict Sites Act 1990. The public's view of what constitutes a derelict site can be very varied and not always in accordance with the legislative definition set out in the Derelict Sites Act 1990. For a site to be determined derelict it must meet the criteria set out in the Act. Sites are viewed from the public road / footpaths as we do not have the authority to enter privately owned properties.

Definition of derelict site.

3.—*In this section “derelict site” means any land (in this section referred to as “the land in question”) which detracts, or is likely to detract, to a material degree from the amenity, character or appearance of land in the neighbourhood of the land in question because of—*

(a) the existence on the land in question of structures which are in a ruinous, derelict or dangerous condition, or

(b) the neglected, unsightly or objectionable condition of the land or any structures on the land in question, or

(c) the presence, deposit or collection on the land in question of any litter, rubbish, debris or waste, except where the presence, deposit or collection of such litter, rubbish, debris or waste results from the exercise of a right conferred by statute or by common law.

If the site is deemed derelict within the above, a reference of ownership is obtained from the Law Department. Then follows a process of engagement with the owner to secure the carrying out of necessary improvement works to render the site non-derelict. Engagement with owners can prove successful but if not, then formal procedures under the Derelict Sites Act are invoked which can culminate in the site being entered on the Derelict Sites Register.

Q.63 COUNCILLOR CIAN FARRELL

To ask the Chief Executive How many applications, approvals, commencements and completions have taken place across the:

1. Living city initiative
2. Buy and renew scheme
3. Repair and lease scheme
4. Vacant property refurbishment grant

What is the total funding available across these 4 schemes, and how much has been deployed since their inception. A yearly breakdown would be appreciated from their inception until now.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

1. Living City Initiative

The Living City Initiative (LCI) is a tax incentive scheme to assist and encourage people to live in the historic inner city areas of Dublin City. It allows owners and investors to claim tax relief for money spent on refurbishment and/or conversion of residential property either as tax relief or capital allowances.

The total No. of Approved Applications (since 2015 to date) is 225 and 131 Letters of Certification have issued. These can be broken down further:

Residential applications (Owner Occupier) 128

Rented residential applications received 97

Total valid applications received 225

Year All Residential Property Applications

2015 10

2016 15

2017 15

2018 25

2019 34

2020 35

2021 24

2022 39

2023 21

2024 7

Total 225

2. Since its inception in 2018 DCC has taken on 108 properties under the Buy and Renew Scheme. We have completed 61 units. We are currently at the construction stage on 9 projects and we are at various design stages with the remaining 38 projects. The Buy and Renew Scheme is fully funded by the Government and funding must be sought and approved at the design stage.

3. Under the repair and Lease scheme we have 6 projects completed with another 6 currently being worked on. These projects are again Government funded.

4. Under the Vacant Property Refurbishment Grant (Which began in November 2022) we have had 597 applications of which 381 have been approved, 30 have been rejected, 5 have been withdrawn, 412 have been finalised, 29 have been closed out and grants issued and 152 are in progress. The funding available on this scheme is a grant of up to €50,000 or €70,000 if the property is derelict. The grant is subject to specific works being carried out on the property and the property has to meet certain conditions such as being uninhabitable for 2 years.

Q.64 **COUNCILLOR CIAN FARELL**

To ask the Chief Executive How many homes has the vacant homes officer inspected and referred to the register since the role was created. A yearly breakdown would be appreciated.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The Vacant Homes Officer was appointed by the City Council in late November 2027. The role of the Vacant Homes Officer is to meet the City Council's Objective under the Government's and the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage's (DHPLH) strategic objectives under the Rebuilding Ireland and or subsequent Housing For All Initiative.

The Housing Department through the Vacant Homes Officer has identified a potential of 1585 Long term vacant Residential Properties over the period 2017-2024 (October 2024).

The properties recorded by the Vacant Homes Officer are for the processing of data by the Housing Department and are independent of the Derelict Sites register which is administer by the Planning Department and available online by members of the public. A total of 417 files pertaining to the reporting of long term vacant residential properties have been closed as upon investigation and or site inspections they were not deemed to be long term vacant as per the above Departmental Initiatives.

The following is a breakdown of the identification of active properties from 2017-2024.

2017: 307.

2018:146.

2019:109.

2020: 70.

2021:107.

2022:319.

2023: 90.

2024: 20.

The Vacant Homes Unit continues to engage with the owners of these properties to return them to use as per the Rebuilding Ireland and Housing for All Initiatives

The process of reducing the level of long term vacancy in the built environment is also supported through the administration of subsequent schemes that the DOHLGH has implemented since 2017 namely:

Repair and Lease Scheme.

Buy and Renew Scheme.

Croi Conaithe Scheme.

Q.65 COUNCILLOR FIONA CONNELLY

To ask the Chief Executive the following:

Congratulations on the successful launch of the new bin shelf in the city centre. Is there a date for the completion of the trial? Is there a plan to roll this scheme out beyond the city centre? If so could Rathgar village be considered for inclusion of this excellent scheme.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Waste Management Services have an initial trial review planned for early Q1 2025 on the bin shelves. The current trial is based in the core city centre where the density and majority of issues have been identified.

There are currently no roll out or expansion plans of the shelves until a review of the trial. Any expansion plan will be based on funding, need and appropriate locations as the city council has circa 3500 public litter bins.

Rathgar Village will be included for consideration for any potential expansion.

Q.66 COUNCILLOR FIONA CONNELLY

To ask the Chief Executive With the rise of commercial bike rental companies using public bicycle parking facilities would there be the possibility of increasing the capacity of the bike parking around the city centre and urban villages? People are regularly in contact seeking an increase in the availability of bicycle parking including the availability of cargo bike parking which if installed correctly would encourage more people to use active travel and not hinder footpath users.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Dublin City Council with the support of the National Transport Authority provides on-street cycle parking across its administrative area. The number of on-street cycle parking spaces increased considerably from 2018 onwards in direct response to the anticipated demands from bike rental companies. DCC will continue to respond to requests for bike parking in the city centre and urban villages and install them subject to the identification of suitable locations and the funding being available.

Q.67 COUNCILLOR FIONA CONNELLY

To ask the Chief Executive Regarding the use of laneways for parking and access to the rear of properties – what are the legal requirements for parking on laneways? Often residents are blocked from turning into their private parking space due to cars parking too close to their entrance. This is becoming more challenging as the cities laneways are being developed with muse houses. Are there laneway markings available to residents to enhance the usability of the laneways? This could be a way to promote good parking and maintain access for emergency vehicles.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Parking enforcement can only enforce illegal parking in laneways that are in DCC charge. Most laneways would have unrestricted parking and therefore we would not be able to enforce. The enforcement of vehicles blocking access would only be possible if the laneway allows for the size of the enforcement vehicle.

Q.68 COUNCILLOR FIONA CONNELLY

To ask the Chief Executive what is the demand for playing pitches from sports clubs in this season? Has this increased from last year or has the availability of pitches increased? I understand that the potential of some grounds were identified previously and would like to know if there is any update on these potential solutions to the shortage of pitches.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

There is an increased demand for juvenile teams and the available playing fields in public parks are fully allocated. Unfortunately, there is little likelihood of new playing fields being achieved through the planning process as residential development in the city are now almost exclusively high density on relatively small sites.

Historically, in the 1960/70's/80's when open spaces were being planned in the city suburbs (outside the canals), 10% of the site area was required to provide green space (public open space) and in most cases the landscape design was minimised in favour of levelling the open space to create playing fields and kickabout space. Today public open space in any new development is planned for a more diverse range of habitat for biodiversity other than amenity grassland and open spaces now incorporate sustainable drainage swales and other such features. This combination of factors inevitably means that space for active recreation and playing fields is not being achieved through the development control planning process.

Based on population growth, the assumption that more people are playing sport, people are playing to a later age in life and female participation is increasing, the demand for playing fields will increase. While the 2022 – 2028 Dublin City Development Plan provides increased protection of existing and established sport and recreational facilities in the city (Policy GI49 refers) if the quantity of playing fields is to increase this can only be achieved by gaining access to under-utilised recreational grounds in the City or acquisition of lands outside of the City.

The only information which is required for the completion of the study in question is a Geographic Information System survey of lands within the city which are suitably zoned and which could be considered under-utilised for recreational playing fields and the location and usage of all-weather training facilities in schools, colleges and other institutional zoned lands. This work will be carried out in the next couple of years in time for the next Development plan review. Consideration is also being given to the acquisition of lands outside of the city in the medium to long term.

Q.69 COUNCILLOR GAYLE RALPH

To ask the Chief Executive to provide a right turn filter light (**details supplied**)

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

It was noted that this item is on our programme of works for 2024. For your reference, please see our full previous response copied in (**Details supplied**)

Q.70 COUNCILLOR GAYLE RALPH

To ask the Chief Executive as to when CCTV will be rolled out across litter blackspots (**Details supplied**) in the Cabra-Glasnevin Ward ?

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The Circular Economy and Miscellaneous Provisions Act 2022 amended the Litter Pollution Acts 1997 to allow for the use of CCTV schemes to facilitate the deterrence, prevention, detection and prosecution of offences. The Local Government Management Agency (LGMA) produced a Code of Practice for the Operation of CCTV that sets out the processes which must be undertaken before CCTV schemes can be deployed. These processes include establishing the need for and necessity for the

use of CCTV, the completion of site specific Data Protection Impact Assessment (DPIA), the preparation of a Business Case and a number of Standard Operation Procedures (SPO's) for the deployment of CCTV cameras. Local consultation must also be undertaken before a CCTV Scheme is implemented.

To form a CCTV Scheme the DPIA must be approved by the Data Protection Officer (DPO) and all documentation (and consultations) must be completed and submitted to the Executive Manager for their approval. Once approved, the CCTV Scheme is then presented to the Oversight Board for consideration and approval. When approved, the Oversight Board will recommend the CCTV Scheme to the Chief Executive who must sign off on the Scheme in order for it to be implemented.

There is significant work in preparing the documentation for a CCTV Scheme to ensure compliance with all the stages and all the documents as required under the Code of Practice. It is planned to roll out CCTV Schemes on a phased basis initially. At present work is ongoing with Phase 1 "**NIC CCTV Scheme Project 1.**" A draft DPIA and Business Case are being reviewed by the Law Department prior to submission to the Executive Manager. A number of SoP's are also being drafted to be included as appendices to the scheme.

We plan to arrange information and consultation sessions with stakeholders and a walkabout the area with elected representatives before the scheme is submitted. It is hoped that we will be in a position to submit the CCTV Scheme to the Executive Manager by quarter 4 for his approval.

Phase 2 of the scheme will be "**Bottle/Textile Banks CCTV Scheme Project 2**". Sites must be identified to establish the necessity to deploy CCTV cameras. Preparation of the CCTV Scheme includes, site inspections, surveys of illegal dumping, retrieving records of requests/complaints received, consultation with stakeholders and information sessions with Councillors, preparation of DPIA and Business cases and then submit for approval as above.

Area Based CCTV Scheme Project 3

Some sites have already been identified for **Phase 3** of the scheme. There is now a need to establish the necessity to deploy CCTV cameras at specific sites. Preparation of the CCTV Scheme includes, site inspections, surveys of illegal dumping, retrieving records of requests/complaints received, consultation with stakeholders and information sessions with Councillors, preparation of DPIA and Business cases and then submit for approval as above.

Meanwhile, a procedure which contains details of how to request the deployment of CCTV will be available. This procedure will enable Councillors and other stakeholders to understand the rationale and necessity for the deployment of CCTV cameras and the criterion that must be followed before a request is submitted. The procedure will be forwarded to all Councillors, Senior Management Team, Area Office staff and the Communications Unit in DCC.

A contract is nearly complete for the provision of CCTV services by the successful tenderer.

Q.71 COUNCILLOR GAYLE RALPH

To ask the Chief Executive to respond and take action regarding the following traffic issue.

The amount of through traffic through Cabra is ever increasing and needs to be addressed, but in ways that take residents and businesses needs into account.

However, the increasing traffic on (**details supplied**) needs urgent action.

We have:

1. The road used as a free Luas parking area.
- 2 the road used as a free bus and commercial lorry area.
3. Some patrons of the school making it a no-go area for residents between 8am to 8.40am and 12.30pm and 3pm daily. You cannot get in or out of your drive due to drive ways being blocked by cars. It's very upsetting to residents. You have to stand on the road to keep your gate clear if you're getting anything done or if someone is expected, that's if you have an exact time of arrival.

Can someone from traffic or area engineer please examine the above major traffic issue immediately

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

After the assessment on (**details supplied**) the area engineer concluded that this is a residential and industrial area, and the traffic team suggests implementing:

Parking Restrictions: Implement Pay & Display permit parking to prevent the road from being used as an informal Luas park-and-ride area, and include resident-only parking permits or time-limited parking to discourage commuter parking.

Additionally, regular monitoring and enforcement are recommended to conduct ongoing assessments, enforce parking and traffic regulations, and apply fines for infractions to ensure compliance.

Any instances of illegal parking should be reported to the Gardaí or Dublin Street Parking Services (DSPS) 01-602-2500 or Email: info@dsps.ie, as it is a matter for enforcement under the Road Traffic Regulations.

Q.72 COUNCILLOR GAYLE RALPH

To ask the Chief Executive to respond and take action re the following major traffic issue (**details supplied**)

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

(**details supplied**) has been added to Transport Advisory Group's Minor Works programme for an upgrade of both mini-roundabouts, new uncontrolled crossings and a speed ramp/raised table.

Dublin City Council (DCC) generally does not provide signage to restrict access on public roads.

Q.73 COUNCILLOR VINCENT JACKSON

To ask the Chief Executive That Dublin City Council please look at the following **Details Supplied**

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The above person does not hold an active housing application with Dublin City Council. Their previous housing application, ref 124285, was cancelled in 2017 as they were not linked in with homeless services or accessing emergency accommodation.

Allocations have provisionally booked the next available appointment for the individual on Tuesday the 12th of November at 2pm to submit a new housing application. If this appointment does not suit, he is advised to phone Allocations on 01 222 2201 to reschedule to a more suitable time.

When Allocations have confirmed the individual's eligibility for social housing supports, we can discuss his housing options and make a suitable recommendation.

Q.74 COUNCILLOR VINCENT JACKSON

To ask the Chief Executive the following (**details supplied**)

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The matter will be referred to the Local Area Housing Office to engage with the tenant with a view to addressing any nuisance caused for the adjoining property.

Housing Maintenance will arrange for pest control services to attend in response to the reported vermin. Remedial action will be taken as appropriate.

It is open to the resident at Clifden Rd. to make a formal request to acquire the plot in question for incorporation into their garden. The application will be processed through the normal channels.

Q.75 COUNCILLOR VINCENT JACKSON

To ask the Chief Executive That I be given a full report on the housing request of **(details supplied)**

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The above applicant is on the Housing List, with an application date of 15/10/2013, the applicant holds the following position on this list;

Area	Bedsize	Position
J	3	56

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. I have noted the applicant's interest in Cleggan Road.

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.

Furthermore, the applicant may also wish to make an application for HAP which would provide financial assistance towards the cost of renting a property.

Q.76 COUNCILLOR VINCENT JACKSON

To ask the Chief Executive Can Dublin City Council please ensure that **(details supplied)**

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 inadequate 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.**

We have not received a completed Application Form in the Home Grants Section from the above named.

I wish to confirm an Application Form has been forwarded by post to the above named.

If the above named requires any further information in relation to the Housing Adaptation Grants, please contact the Housing Adaptation Grants Section at 01 222 2195.

I have also 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.77 COUNCILLOR JESSLYN HENRY

To ask the Chief Executive to repaint the double yellow lines in Kilmore West. The new footpaths along this road are very welcome but unfortunately the construction work has left the double yellow lines either gone completely or patchy at best. The area already has significant traffic management issues and the lack of double yellow lines is causing increased difficulty for residents.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The location will be inspected in the coming days. Any requirement for repainting will be carried out within the next 30 working days of the Council Meeting of the 4th November 2024.

Q.78 COUNCILLOR JESSLYN HENRY

To ask the Chief Executive to install a pedestrian crossing at the junction of Greencastle Road and Barryscourt Road, Coolock, Dublin 17 (at Stardust Memorial Park). A number of residents have been in touch to request this due to some serious incidents in the last months.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

This request (Enquiry Ref: 7042651) 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.79 COUNCILLOR JESSLYN HENRY

To ask the Chief Executive to install speed ramps on Mask Road, Dublin 5. The road in question is used frequently for rat running and with a primary school located very close by residents feel this would assist in slowing down motorists and keeping children safe.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

This request (Enquiry Ref: 7042653) 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.80 COUNCILLOR JESSLYN HENRY

To ask the Chief Executive to look at pruning trees along Clonshaugh Avenue, Dublin 17. The trees in question are blocking light from street lighting which has resulted in a number of accidents and injuries. A number of residents have reported slips and trips due to poor lighting, particularly those from the Coolock Running Club who have now altered their route. For many others this is not possible.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

An inspection was recently carried out and 3 number street trees were identified that were obscuring the street lights to an excessive degree. As these trees are planted far too close to the street light it is felt that heavy pruning is not an effective solution to ensure the proper functioning of the lighting as this will merely result in a lopsided tree and an ongoing maintenance demand. Rather these 3 number trees have been listed for appropriate replacement planting and will be removed when local schedules and resources allow. Locations for replacement planting have been identified on the same road further down the road.

Q.81 COUNCILLOR KOURTNEY KENNY

To ask the Chief Executive can he arrange for the tree at **(details supplied)** to be cut back as a matter of urgency.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Housing Maintenance will have the trees located at the rear of **(details supplied)** inspected and followed up with any pruning works required.

Q.82 COUNCILLOR KOURTNEY KENNY

To ask the Chief Executive can he arrange for the property at **(details supplied)** to be inspected with a view to carrying out insulation works on the property.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The property, **(details supplied)**, is a red brick house and, due to the external construction material unsuitable for external insulation. Housing Maintenance do not have an internal insulation programme at present. However we can confirm the tenant was provided with a heating upgrade in 2021 receiving a new energy efficient condensing boiler, modern heating controls and a new higher efficiency hot water cylinder. Additionally the boiler was serviced in 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023, July 2024 and is due for servicing again next year.

Q.83 COUNCILLOR KOURTNEY KENNY

To ask the Chief Executive can he arrange for the property at **(details supplied)** to be inspected and can he arrange for the council to carry out any improvements that they can to make the place more liveable for the tenant.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Housing Maintenance has carried out an inspection of this dwelling and due to the extent of works required we are liaising with the area housing office to find alternative accommodation for the tenant within Mercer House. We would envisaged that we will have something available over the next 3 to 4 weeks.

Q.84 COUNCILLOR KOURTNEY KENNY

To ask the Chief Executive can we please be given information on why medical and exceptional social grounds applications are taking longer to be processed and approved or denied? Can we be given up to date numbers for the amount of applications for medical and exceptional social grounds that have been

1. Applied for and approved for area M in 2024.
2. Applied for and denied for area M 2024.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The current wait time for decisions to issue on applications for Priority on Exceptional Medical Grounds is due to the high volume of applications being received on an ongoing basis. It takes 12-16 weeks generally for applications to be processed.

Applications for Priority on Exceptional Medical Grounds:

1. applied for and awarded in 2024 Area M – 49
2. applied for and denied in Area M in 2024 – The IT system in place does not currently capture this data. However an updated IT system is being developed to improve several areas. It is intended that the new IT system will be in place during 2025

Q.85 COUNCILLOR MAIRE DEVINE

To ask the Chief Executive that a dedicated council official be appointed to coordinate and lead the implementation of the Social & Economic aspects of our Regeneration projects which are essential for creating sustainable communities

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Per Circular N11/2007 Policy for Regeneration of Local Authority Estates, funding is available from the Department of Housing, Local Government, and Heritage for social, educational and economic initiatives. All funding submissions are made through the Housing Regeneration Programme Manager. Submissions are usually made at gateways through the 4-Stage Approval Process, however separate submissions can also be made throughout the project stages.

Dublin City Council has been successful in applying and receiving funding through Circular N11/2007 under social initiatives for the appointment of Community Development Officers for our Dolphin House and Oliver Bond Regeneration projects.

Q.86 COUNCILLOR CAT O'DRISCOLL

To ask the Chief Executive to install road safety signage on Beresford Lawn Dublin 9, similar to the signs in neighbouring estates, to promote safer driving and to protect children playing in the area

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

This request (Enquiry Ref:7042654) 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.87 COUNCILLOR CAT O'DRISCOLL

To ask the Chief Executive in recognition of the dearth of childcare facilities in Drumcondra and Glasnevin, to commit to an audit of any council owned properties in these areas to establish if any such properties are suitable for future use as childcare facilities.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Presently Dublin City Council does not have vacant units at market or tender in the above areas. Most DCC owned properties are occupied by tenants who have established tenancy rights under various occupancy agreements.

Dublin City Council's Property Management Section in conjunction with the Local Area Office will review DCC owned buildings excluding residential to determine if there are any vacant properties in the designated areas.

Q.88 COUNCILLOR CAT O'DRISCOLL

To ask the Chief Executive to review the Parking Permit policy to address the challenges faced by residents who share or part own a vehicle. Residents sharing vehicles with friends or family, living at different addresses, support our ambition for less car use but rules about min days parked are exclusionary

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Permit Parking for residents are issued under the Dublin City Council Parking Control Bye-Laws 2024, Part III, 16 (2) which states:

A resident's parking permit may be issued by the Council or its agents subject to the provisions of paragraph 5 of this Bye-Law in respect of one vehicle where the Council are satisfied, following production of acceptable evidence, that the applicant is a resident on the residential parking permit road to which the permit will relate and that the vehicle is normally kept at the resident's normal dwelling place on that road. The resident's parking permit shall be granted for a period of either one year or a period of two years from the date of issue in respect of that vehicle and for the residential parking permit road to which the permit relates.

Therefore the sharing of parking permits with friends and family is prohibited as each permit is specific for each property and vehicle.

Dublin City Council will be carrying out a review of the Parking Control Bye-Laws in 2025 and this will be brought to the mobility and public realm SPC and then through the statutory process.

Q.89 COUNCILLOR CAT O'DRISCOLL

To ask the Chief Executive to provide an update on the road safety measures requested for Richmond Road. High speed traffic, rat running and rising traffic volumes are putting pedestrians and cyclists at risk

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

A number of requests for traffic calming on Richmond Road are currently with the North Central Area Engineer for assessment. The councillor will be notified of any recommendations following the completion of the assessment.

Q.90 COUNCILLOR DANIEL ENNIS

To ask the Chief Executive the legal basis on which Croke Park and the Gardaí are operating to restrict residents' access to their homes in this residential area during commercial events. Additionally, what measures does Dublin City Council have in place to engage with the local community regarding these impacts, and how will the council address the concerns about noise and litter during such events.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Waste Management Services are engaged by Croke Park to supply a clean-up team before, during and after events hosted in the stadium. Croke Park management, the Croke Park Community Team and An Garda Síochána are in contact with our duty inspector to report/request any waste/litter issues to be completed by our team regularly during the shift. Should residents need to report any issues, the free phone

number 1800303593 is the Community team who will in turn pass it on to our duty inspector.

For all outdoor concerts that take place in Dublin City a music noise level of 75 decibels averaged over a 15 minute period must not be exceeded at the nearest noise sensitive premises.

This level is prescribed in the UK Guidance “the Noise Council Code of Practice on the Control of Noise from Concerts”.

This is a condition of the licence (where applicable) and a pre-emptive Section 107 Environmental Protection Agency Act Notice served on the Concert Promoter.

For all outdoor concerts to ensure compliance, monitoring is carried out by Dublin City Council Environmental Health Officers.

In addition an Acoustic Consultant employed by the promoter monitors noise levels and advises the sound engineer accordingly to ensure that the noise limit is not exceeded”.

For all concerts that took place in Croke Park for 2024 the monitoring carried out by the EHOs and the Acoustic Consultant, indicated that the music noise level was not exceeded at the nearest noise sensitive premises.

Q.91 COUNCILLOR DANIEL ENNIS

To ask the Chief Executive to consider hosting a reception in the Mansion House to honour the Shelbourne Women's Team for their recent FAI Cup victory, recognising their contribution to women's sports and their achievements in representing Dublin at a national level.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The hosting of events in the Mansion House is at the discretion of the Lord Mayor of the day. Requests should be e-mailed to lordmayor@dublincity.ie and they will be brought to the Lord Mayor for his/her consideration.

Q.92 COUNCILLOR DANIEL ENNIS

To ask the Chief Executive In recognition of the dearth of childcare facilities in Dublin 7, will the Chief Executive commit to an audit of any council owned properties in these areas, to establish if any such properties may be suitable for future use as childcare facilities.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Presently Dublin City Council does not have vacant units at market or tender in the above areas. Most DCC owned properties are occupied by tenants who have established tenancy rights under various occupancy agreements.

Dublin City Council's Property Management Section in conjunction with the Local Area Office will review DCC owned buildings excluding residential to determine if there are any vacant properties in the designated areas.

Q.93 COUNCILLOR DANIEL ENNIS

To ask the Chief Executive to intensify street cleaning and waste management enforcement in the Stoneybatter and Aughrim Street areas. Residents have consistently raised the issues of illegal dumping in the area and the issue seems to only be getting worse.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Waste Management Services regularly clean and remove dumped waste from the above mentioned area. We will monitor the cleaning of this area to see what improvements can be made.

The litter wardens attend Aughrim Street and the Stoneybatter area regularly to investigate illegally dumped waste but are struggling to find any evidence within the bags to issue fixed penalty notices to offenders. Ongoing enforcement with the takeaways in Stoneybatter has seen a slight improvement with one business but the other is continuously dumping. Waste Enforcement is involved and is taking appropriate action. Fines have been issued in Stoneybatter for illegally dumped waste over the past six weeks to two months. The litter wardens will continue to monitor the area and investigate dumped waste to try and resolve the problem going forward.

Q.94 COUNCILLOR MAIRE DEVINE

To ask the Chief Executive to implement, as a matter of urgency, traffic calming and illegal parking deterrent measures at the entrance to Rutland Grove, D12. The present situation is seriously compromising pedestrian and driver safety due to haphazard parking that results in poor visibility of oncoming traffic and pedestrians forced to walk on the road

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Parking Enforcement will request that DSPS continue their patrols of this area and enforce all illegal parking.

Following a preliminary assessment by the Transport Advisory Group (TAG) area engineer at Rutland Grove, Dublin 12, it was noted that the site currently has 7 speed ramps and a "School Ahead" sign (W 141) as traffic calming measures. To further improve safety, 2 'SLOW DOWN CHILDREN PLAYING' signs will be upgraded to Children Crossing W142. 'RAMP' signs and 30 km/h road marking roundels will be installed at the entrance to Rutland Grove.

Additionally, a request will be sent to the lining team to repaint missing double yellow lines (RRM 008) at the bend opposite to Eamonn Ceannt Park gate on Rutland Grove / Clogher Road to deter illegal parking and improve visibility. It was also observed that vehicles are parking on the pavements TAG recommends sending parking enforcement to inspect for any illegal parking. However, instances of illegal or obstructive parking should be referred to Dublin Street Parking Services, DSPS (email info@dps.ie or tel. no. 01 602 2500) or an Garda Síochána for enforcement.

Q.95 COUNCILLOR ALISON FIELD

To ask the Chief Executive about the sandbags placed along the seafront in Clontarf. The residents are looking for a date as to when they will be removed. They informed me that they have been visually destroying the seafront for the past 12 years. I fully understand that they are there for protection of flooding. When can we move forward on this issue as the residents are not one bit happy.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The sandbags form a significant flood defence for businesses and residents in the area and must remain in place until more substantial permanent tidal flood barriers can be installed. We have looked at a large number of alternative options suggested by residents and Councillors but none to date have proved to be feasible. Dublin City Council continue to liaise with Clontarf Residents and Business Associations towards the provision of permanent flood defences. Once these are in place, the temporary measures can be removed.

Q.96 COUNCILLOR ALISON FIELD

To ask the Chief Executive to remove a Tree (**details supplied**)

The resident has engaged an engineer regarding their concerns about the tree outside their home.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

An inspection will be arranged in the coming weeks as local schedules allow and any works deemed necessary will be listed for inclusion in the prioritised tree care programme for the area.

Q.97 COUNCILLOR ALISON FIELD

To ask the Chief Executive to survey with a view to a plan to possibly remove a Tree, (details supplied) this iconic gorgeous little Lodge is living in a protected structure and at risk of severe damage from the tree. The owners have been requesting DCC to address this issue, but nobody has done anything. If that tree falls, it's not just their wall that will come down but will cause catastrophic damage to their home.
Picture provided

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The Parks Service does not maintain the green and planted areas in this small estate where this tree is growing. The matter should be referred to the management entity responsible for the maintenance of these landscaped areas.

Q.98 COUNCILLOR ALISON FIELD

To ask the Chief Executive to look at installing more Sensory play areas, for example like one in the Sean O'Casey Park, it has a Sensory tower and a Dendrophone playgarden. This would be fantastic for families struggling on CDNT waiting lists. This would be something that would really help with their lives. This could be placed in several locations for easy access for families. I can discuss this further with you.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

We can consider the provision of more sensory play areas in parks and it would be useful if the councillor could meet with the Parks team to impart their knowledge on this matter. A meeting will be arranged.

Q.99 COUNCILLOR FELJIN JOSE

To ask the Chief Executive if he will publish the Maher report into allegations of improper practices at Dublin Street Parking Services; what steps he has taken to ensure such practices are prohibited in any future tender for parking enforcement in Dublin.

Q.100 COUNCILLOR FELJIN JOSE

To ask the Chief Executive whether Dublin Street Parking Services still operates an early-leave incentive scheme or similar, and if so what the details of this scheme are.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Dublin City Councils Service Level Agreement with DSPS have Key Performance Indicators which have to be met in order for services to be completed. Any incentive Scheme that DSPS have with their employees would be a private arrangement which DCC is not party to.

Q.101 COUNCILLOR FELJIN JOSE

To ask the Chief Executive for a list of active Dublin bikes stations that were removed between 2015 and 2024, reasons for removal and whether they were replaced

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Table of dublinbike stations removed, re-installations and comments;

Bike Station	Removal Date	Re-Installation Date	Comments
Barrow Street	18.07.2019	September 2024	Station was removed to accommodate works on this street, re-instatement began in September 2024
Strand Street Great	29.05.2019	N/A	Station was removed to accommodate a development on Abbey Street Upper, development on Strand Street Great itself is holding up its re-instatement
St James Hospital	14.12.2020	N/A	Station removed as requested by St James Hospital due to the pandemic

Q.102 COUNCILLOR FELJIN JOSE

To ask the Chief Executive if polystyrene is accepted at Dublin City Council's bring centres and whether this material is recycled or not

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Polystyrene is accepted at Dublin City Council's Civic Amenity Sites in Ballymun, North Strand and Ringsend, where it is dealt with as bulky waste and as such is recovered for use as solid recovered fuel for use in the cement making industry. Polystyrene is not accepted in our network of neighbourhood bring centres.

Q.103 COUNCILLOR KEITH CONNOLLY

To ask the Chief Executive to arrange for a full inspection and prune of the trees at (details supplied)

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The above area has been listed for consideration and inclusion in our tree survey programme 2025/26. All our tree works are carried out on a prioritised basis. A report will be issued detailing program for 2025, by the end of the year.

Q.104 COUNCILLOR KEITH CONNOLLY

To ask the Chief Executive if a full review of the medical housing adaptation application for (Details supplied) could be 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.

We have not received a completed Application Form in the Home Grants Section from the above named.

I wish to confirm an Application Form has been forwarded by post to the above named.

If the above named requires any further information in relation to the Housing Adaptation Grants, please contact the Housing Adaptation Grants Section at 01 222 2195.

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.105 COUNCILLOR KEITH CONNOLLY

To ask the Chief Executive for a report on the Council's contract and relationship with Clothes Pod and if there is any remuneration involved.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Textile Recycling Limited (TRL), T/A Clothes Pod, has provided a textile collection service to Dublin City Council since approximately the mid-1990s, as the successful tenderer in a series of competitive tender competitions, which are typically held every four years. On foot of each tender competition, a two year contract is typically awarded with provision for two, 1 year extensions, subject to review. A new tender is currently in preparation and it is anticipated that a new framework will be established, and a new contract awarded in late Q1 2025.

Waste Management Services has a very good business relationship with TRL. TRL respond quickly to any requests for additional collections, reports of overflowing banks, replacement of damaged clothes banks and removal of graffiti. TRL also provide reports to DCC on illegal dumping of non-textile items at DCC bring bank locations.

In terms of remuneration, TRL pays DCC a set price per tonne of textiles collected from DCC sites each month, as specified in the tender submission for each new framework agreement.

Waste Management Services acknowledges that in recent years, illegal dumping, scavenging of clothes and discarding of unwanted items in the surrounding areas has risen to unmanageable levels at many locations across the city.

Textile and glass bottle banks at Dublin City Council's network of bring bank facilities are serviced multiple times per week, with clothing collections at many sites taking place six to seven days per week, and in some cases twice per day. Additional cleaning and removal of illegal dumping by DCC Cleansing operatives is also undertaken every day, either by the pilot north city Bring Bank Maintenance Team (BBMT), or by area based Cleansing staff who attend to sites on the days they are not scheduled for cleaning by the BBMT. However, these activities typically only occur once per day, usually in the morning, and it may be up to 24 hours, or longer, before Cleansing personnel return, leaving ample opportunity for illegal dumping, and scavenging and scattering of clothes to take place. However, within this time period, should WMS receive reports of illegal dumping or overflowing banks, Cleansing staff are deployed or the contracted service provider is notified to take the relevant action.

Q.106 COUNCILLOR KEITH CONNOLLY

To ask the Chief Executive to provide an update on the reinstatement of the double yellow lines at (**details supplied**)

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The location will be inspected in the coming days. Any requirement for the reinstatement of DYL's will be carried out within the next 30 working days of the Council Meeting of the 4th November 2024.

Q.107 COUNCILLOR SUPRIYA SINGH

To ask the Chief Executive What steps is the Council taking to ensure that the City Council Community Grants Scheme is sufficiently funded to meet the growing needs of senior citizen groups like the one in Grange Woodbine? Are there plans to increase the budget or introduce new funding streams for community groups in the upcoming fiscal year

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The revenue budget is being presented to full council by the end of November 2024. After this meeting the Community Grants Scheme allocation for 2025 will be confirmed.

Q.108 COUNCILLOR SUPRIYA SINGH

To ask the Chief Executive Can the Council outline any available funding or grants that could support the renovation and expansion of community spaces, such as the Grange Woodbine Club? What assistance can be provided to help secure government grants for this project?

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The Department of Rural and Community Development (DRCD), through the Dublin City Local Community Development Committee (LCDC), funds a Local Enhancement Programme (previously called the Community Enhancement Programme).

The aim of the LEP fund is to support non-profit, community-based and/or voluntary sector organisations or groups who are seeking funding for capital costs.

It is expected the DRCD will announce funding for the LEP 2025 in the New Year.

Q.109 COUNCILLOR SUPRIYA SINGH

To ask the Chief Executive With ongoing concerns about dog waste in public areas, what is the Council's strategy to improve signage and enforce regulations? Are there plans to increase the visibility of signage?

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

In recent years, Dublin City Council have put a number of initiatives in place to create awareness that dog owners and dog walkers have a responsibility to immediately clean up after their dog or face a fine of €150. Some of the initiatives included signage, audio visual messages and stencils. If the Councillor wishes to contact the Litter Management Office by emailing LMO@dublincity.ie with a list of locations where signage is required, arrangements will be made to have the signage put in place.

Q.110 COUNCILLOR SUPRIYA SINGH

To ask the Chief Executive Given the concerns raised by residents about traffic safety, particularly in residential areas, what traffic calming measures are currently being considered or implemented? How can the community have a say in prioritizing these efforts

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The Transport Advisory Group (TAG) assesses locations throughout the city for traffic measures in accordance with the relevant Road Traffic Acts, traffic standards and guidelines.

In practice, TAG conducts assessments of various sites raised by the community, Councillors or identified by the Area Engineer. After this assessment, some recommendations can be implemented straight away, whilst others may require further design input and procurement of contractors.

The community can play a role in this process by submitting requests for traffic calming measures via the Citizen Hub or by raising concerns through their local representatives.

The input from Councillors and residents is valuable to the engineers during the TAG assessment process, as it helps to clarify the issues involved and develops solutions.

Q.111 COUNCILLOR DARRAGH MORIARTY

To ask the Chief Executive to outline Dublin City Council's understanding of HSE plans to deliver a Primary Care Centre in Drimnagh

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

There is an existing planning permission for a primary care centre at the existing HSE Health Centre, Mother McCauley Community Centre, Curlew Road, Dublin 12 granted permission under Register Reference 3571/13.

This permission was extended in 2019 and is due to expire on the 31st January 2025.

There is currently no new planning application on this site.

It is policy of Dublin City Council (QHSN52) to support the HSE and other agencies in the provision of appropriate healthcare facilities and the Planning Authority will assess any future planning application in accordance with the 2022-2028 City Development Plan.

Q.112 COUNCILLOR DARRGH MORIARTY

To ask the Chief Executive to confirm the status of its plans to prepare drawings of the Marrowbone Lane depot site, which will include a consolidated DCC depot and a full-size playing pitch adjacent to St. Catherine's Sports & Community Centre. Can the CE confirm when this drawing will be made public?

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The City Council issued a request for quotation to a number of planning/urban design consultants for the preparation of a masterplan for the redevelopment of the lands. The master planning exercise will assess the feasibility of providing:

· A South City Operations Depot – facilities needed to meet the operational requirements of the City Council for the south city and consolidate operations into shared facilities on the site

· New outdoor sporting and recreational facilities – the feasibility of providing a new allher pitch (FAI/IRFU specifications are desired) and ancillary facilities

· Opportunities for improved public realm – proposals for improved public realm, active travel and greening along the boundary of the lands

· The feasibility of accommodating a continuing presence for Uisce Eireann on a portion of the site is also to be considered

The consultants will engage with relevant City Council departments, local Elected Representatives and community stakeholders as part of the work.

The deadline for submission of quotations was 20th September. Submissions are now being assessed and once a consultant is appointed, the local Area Committee will be advised of the proposed timeline and programme for engagement.

Q.113 COUNCILLOR DARRAGH MORIARTY

To ask the Chief Executive the following with respect to Dolphin House – please respond to each item below in turn:

- confirm who, if anybody, is the current Project Manager of the Dolphin House Regeneration on behalf of Dublin City Council;
- confirm when plans will be lodged for ‘Phase 1B’ of the Dolphin House Regeneration;
- commit to ensuring that all single-glazed windows within the existing and dilapidated Dolphin House complex will be replaced as a matter of urgency and accept it is intolerable to continue to leave residents living with single-glazed windows with no clear end in sight for the regeneration to be completed;
- commit to allocate funding through the Area Office for landscaping and delivery of an interim playing pitch surface adjacent to Dolphin House Community Centre
- to provide his Housing Department’s best guess at when the Dolphin House regeneration will be completed?

CHIEF EXECUTIVE’S REPLY:

We are currently reviewing the resourcing requirements of the Dolphin House project and while the Housing Delivery Project Manager assigned to the project has had to step away recently, the Programme Manager for Housing Regeneration Projects is continuing to progress the proposals alongside the DCC City Architect and Quantity Surveyor project teams. In the interim, the Dolphin House Regeneration forum is attended by DCC staff members from sections including the local area office, housing maintenance and others as available.

Following concerns received from the Dolphin House Regeneration Forum on the Dolphin 1B proposals, the project has been paused in order to review design and delivery options. The prompt delivery of homes remains an important objective and will inform our decision making. The Regeneration Forum, Dolphin House tenants and local elected members will be kept updated on all proposals.

As part of the Standards for Rented Houses, Dublin City Council are working through a list of our properties that have single glazed windows. Staff from our Housing Maintenance team recently met representatives from Dolphin House in order to examine the possibility of adding the windows to next year’s window replacement project.

The Area Office are responsible for the day to day running of the Dolphin House estate. Funding for new landscaping proposals and an interim playing pitch surface needs to be examined in terms of how it fits in with the overall Dolphin House Masterplan proposals.

The regeneration of Dolphin House is a major investment in housing delivery and requires the examination of all options available to DCC in leading out the project and probing how best to deliver the regeneration project in terms of project success and value for money. The need for due diligence around the delivery of quality, mixed tenure homes, within a reasonable timeframe while also ensuring the necessary funding is available are matters that the current housing delivery team are working on. The internal team is currently being reviewed in terms of resourcing requirements and while this exercise is taking place, it would be prudent not to provide timelines that we may not be able to deliver upon. However, I wish to assure you that all is being done to expedite the delivery of the Dolphin House Masterplan.

Q.114 COUNCILLOR DARRAGH MORIARTY

To ask the Chief Executive to confirm, in light of the recent recommendations of the Taoiseach’s Dublin City Taskforce, if it will consider the purchase of the Dublin Central Mission, 9c Abbey Street Lower, which is currently for sale. Can the CE confirm what

consideration the City Council has given to purchasing this historical building and utilising the space for community use?

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The acquisition of this building was considered but it has been decided not to pursue at this time. The recommendations of the Taoiseach's Dublin City Taskforce report are being assessed by the Council's City Co-Ordination Office.

Q.115 COUNCILLOR NAOISE O'MUIRI

To ask the Chief Executive the following:

Problems with overgrowth of trees is a very common issue in the Foxhill estate in Donaghmede; residents have been in touch with me raising issues with trees outside/near the following locations: **(Details Supplied)**

Can the CEO organise for inspection of the trees at the above 3 locations. Can the CEO also confirm if Foxhill can be included on a broader programme for assessment as these issues are widespread and will only become more acute for local residents?

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Consideration will be given to the inclusion of part or all of this area in the annual recorded inspection of significant trees in 2025. However there are a number of such mature areas within the North Central area with very large trees. In the meantime an inspection will be arranged in the coming weeks as local schedules allow and any works deemed necessary will be listed for inclusion in the prioritised tree care programme for the area.

Q.116 COUNCILLOR NAOISE O'MUIRI

To ask the Chief Executive organise for the tree obscuring the public lighting to the front of **(details supplied)** to be pruned as it currently results in the immediate surroundings being very dark at night.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

This tree is not directly obscuring the street light located at the end of the cul-de-sac. An inspection will be arranged in the coming weeks as local schedules allow and any works deemed necessary will be listed for inclusion in the prioritised tree care programme for the area.

Q.117 COUNCILLOR NAOISE O'MUIRI

To ask the Chief Executive to organise for tree outside (1.**details supplied**) to be pruned so that the public lighting across the road casts better local light as (2.**details supplied**)

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

As highlighted in the question above the nearest street light is located on the opposite side of the road. Such lighting is designed to cast light onto the public road for road and as such pruning of this tree would have a negligible effect on the light cast on the pavement. An inspection will be arranged in the coming weeks as local schedules allow and any works deemed necessary will be listed for inclusion in the prioritised tree care programme for the area.

Q.118 COUNCILLOR NAOISE O'MUIRI

To ask the Chief Executive organise for the reinstatement of ramps on Ardlea Road to be adjusted to take account of the issue raised in the correspondence below (**details supplied**):

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The speed cushions outside 135 Ardlea Road shall be relocated. These works will be completed in November 2024.

Q.119 **COUNCILLOR PATRICIA ROE**

To ask the Chief Executive to look at the parking situation at (**details supplied**). Most children attending the school next door arrive by walking along the footpath at this location. There are 4 car park spaces in front of (**details supplied**) and frequently, at drop off and collection time, cars reverse out of these spaces, across the footpath the children are running by on. It is only a matter of time before a child is seriously injured.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The school warden service is provided for unaccompanied children, over the age of 8, crossing a road to and from school. School wardens are not provided to direct traffic. Applications for a school warden must be made by the school by emailing schoolwardens@dublincity.ie

The parking spaces outside the property in question appear to be on private property and therefore we are unable to enforce or remove these spaces.

Contact: Suzanne Lacey, Administrative Officer, Parking Enforcement

Tel: 01 222 7075

Email: suzanne.lacey@dublincity.ie

Q.120 **COUNCILLOR PATRICIA ROE**

To ask the Chief Executive why, during the current open call for artist's residences, leases are only for an eleven month period?

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The initial offering of 11 month leases at Artane Place and Chatham Row is for trial period reasons. This has been recommended by the City Arts Office for good reasons. A small but significant percentage of Artists' Studios have historically not been used by the occupier to full capacity. In a shortage of such spaces such as a sought after resource has to be effectively managed. For new occupants in the spaces referred to above a one year trial Licence is used to make sure the space is used. Thereafter a three year Licence will be offered if all is in order.

Q.121 **COUNCILLOR CONOR REDDY**

To ask the Chief Executive to provide a report on the number of maintenance requests for new doors and windows in the Ballymun area in the last 5 years. There is a serious problem with rotten window frames and doors installed during the Ballymun Regeneration and this has led to further issues with mould and damp in people's homes. Has any consideration been given to a programme for replacement of windows and doors across the area as this seems to be a recurrent issue.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Maintenance requested on properties in the Ballymun area over the last 5 years. We would need to go into every address individually in the Ballymun area and check the repair requests that mentioned windows and doors. This would not be possible due to resources available.

Dublin City Council has number of single glazed windows throughout the city. As part of the standards for rented houses we are upgrading all single glazed windows to double glazed in the first instance. The windows fitted in Ballymun under the regeneration programme are double glazed.

Can the councillor supply specific addresses and Housing Maintenance will arrange for any defects will be inspected and repaired.

Q.122 COUNCILLOR CONOR REDDY

To ask the Chief Executive for the Housing and Community Development Section to comment on the extent of overcrowding in HAP rentals in Dublin City and to provide an account of any proposals to address this growing problem. Currently HAP tenants experiencing overcrowding are told to find new HAP tenancies but given current rental market conditions this is proving almost impossible.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The HAP office does not approve HAP where it will result in overcrowding. However, household size may change over time. The Hap scheme is a tenant led scheme and applicants are expected to source their own properties; where families seek to move due to overcrowding, this is facilitated by approval to source another property.

Q.123 COUNCILLOR CONOR REDDY

To ask the Chief Executive for Housing and Community to outline criteria used to assess Medical Grounds Priority Applications involving people with Autism, neurodevelopmental and intellectual disabilities.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

All decisions to award a medical priority, including those involving people with Autism, neurodevelopmental and intellectual disabilities, having regard to the Scheme of Lettings Priorities Section 7.4, are made on the grounds that an applicant has demonstrated that their current accommodation is unsuitable by reason of a household member's disability or illness *and* that the medical circumstances and housing conditions are exceptional *and* that the management of the course of the illness will be significantly helped by a change in housing. Dublin City Council can also seek medical opinion from the medical examiner when assessing an application on medical grounds.

Q.124 COUNCILLOR CONOR REDDY

To ask the Chief Executive if a compulsory purchase order has been considered for the long term derelict house at 14 Lorcan Crescent and if not, to provide a reason for this.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The property at 14 Lorcan Crescent has been acquired by the Council following engagement with the owner, the sale closed on the 9th September 2024 and will be brought back to use through the Buy and Renew section of Housing.

Dublin City Council have purchased this property and we have a crew working on it at present to bring the property onto our social housing portfolio.

Q.125 COUNCILLOR SEAMAS MCGRATTAN

To ask the Chief Executive what consultation was had with residents in (**Details supplied**) before the installation of bike bunkers there.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

There were no bike bunkers installed in **(details supplied)**.

Q.126 **COUNCILLOR SEAMAS MCGRATTAN**

To ask the Chief Executive when was the continuous white line installed on **(Details supplied)** and what consultation was done with residents in advance

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

There was a service request (SR no.7013402) submitted by Councillor Mary Fitzpatrick requesting the installation of a stop sign associated with a continuous white line road marking, which was recommended back in April 2020.

Engineers Reply:

"It is recommended to install a STOP sign and associated road markings on **(details supplied)** to ensure vehicles stop before proceeding through the junction. The associated continuous white line road marking will also serve as a parking restriction to prevent parked vehicles from obscuring driver/pedestrian visibility."

The installation of Stop Road marking and associated Stop Sign does not require a public consultation.

Q.127 **COUNCILLOR SEAMAS MCGRATTAN**

To ask the Chief Executive when the new boiler and immersion switch will be installed for the tenants in **(details supplied)**

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Housing Maintenance has no record of these maintenance requests. Contact has been made with the tenant and jobs have now been logged for inspection with a view to having any necessary works carried out as soon as possible.

Q.128 **COUNCILLOR SEAMAS MCGRATTAN**

To ask the Chief Executive what is the status of the inter transfer application of **(details supplied)**

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

There is no record of a transfer application having been received by Housing Allocations in respect of **(details supplied)**.

Q.129 COUNCILLOR NIAL RING

To ask the Chief Executive to detail the Lump Sums paid on retirement in 2023 and 2024 to date. I note that just under €5m was paid in the second quarter this year and would ask the Chief Executive to detail the number of staff involved and to also ask how much is budgeted for the full year

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Year	Total	No. of Employees
Lump sums paid in 2023	18,181,076	233
Lump sums paid to Oct 2024	13,881,652	189
Lump sums Budget Year 2024	16,455,964	200

Q.130 COUNCILLOR NIAL RING

To ask the Chief Executive In noting that Section 42 of the Irish Human Rights and Equality Commission act 2014 requires a public body, in the performance of its functions, to have regard to the need to, inter alia, eliminate discrimination ... and protect the human rights of its members, staff and a person to whom it provides services, can the Chief Executive give assurances that Dublin City Council will not discriminate against any citizen who does not have access to the Internet or is unable to use same in dealing with DCC at any level?

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Ensuring access to services is a fundamental part of the City Council's approach to customer service. Our objective is that the public can access our services how, where or when they need them, with options that give access for all.

We will continue to offer digital and non-digital channels, as long as there is a citizen demand for this.

The constructive and valued feedback from Elected Members with regards the draft Digital Transformation Strategy has been incorporated and assimilated into our thinking.

Accordingly, an overarching commitment and principle to 'leave no-one behind' will permeate the draft Digital Transformation Strategy.

We are actively working with our teams and stakeholders to ensure our platforms and digital initiatives meet diverse needs, recognising the variety of backgrounds, abilities and perspectives within Dublin City.

With providing more online services, we anticipate freeing up some of our staff resources to concentrate on assisting people with more complex queries and tasks who require and/or prefer to interact with us in person.

Q.131 COUNCILLOR NIAL RING

To ask the Chief Executive for a progress report on the refurbishment works being carried out on the Fruit and Vegetable Market in Smithfield (St. Mary's Lane) to include works done to date, planned works and completion date, budgeted amount and amount spent to date

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Dublin City Council received Part 8 approval for the redevelopment of the Wholesale Fruit and Vegetable Market in 2014 and vacant possession Q3 of 2019. Tender documents were prepared for a Design Build Finance and Operate model of delivery. However, the Covid Pandemic and associated impact on Markets in particular made this approach unattainable, as providers in the industry were not in a position to invest. Dublin City Council advanced the first phase of the project, which was delivery of a Multi-use Games Area, improved public realm to St Michan's Street and St Mary's Lane and a car park with high-density cycle parking. The redevelopment of the former Fish Market site and the upgrade to public realm was delivered while awaiting the outcome of grant funding to implement the Building Refurbishment Phase.

Grant funding was secured in 2022 and tender issued for an Integrated Design Team who were appointed in February 2023 to develop the design detail, Fire cert and Disabled Access Cert applications and bring forward construction tender documents. Design Team lead is Louise Cotter of Cotter Naessens Architect's. Design detail completed summer 2024 and approval secured to tender for construction/conservation works.

Works to date include topography, measurement, ground penetrating radar, drainage surveys, utility assessment, survey of adjoining properties and archaeological investigations, which included sample and opening up works, application for Fire Cert and DAC Cert, both granted. All of these were required to inform the detailed design and specification for conservation and construction.

Amount spent to date on the Fish Market redevelopment, new boundaries, car park, Multi Use Games Area and public realm improvements €1.799m and on the Wholesale Market Building refurbishment €903,292. The Budget amount is financially sensitive until tenders are received. The final contract price will not be available until tender assessment is complete.

The Construction Tender issued to a Dublin City Council Framework in August 2024. There have been several queries and requests for extension of time due to the complexity and scale of the project. Tenders are due back November 5th. A separate tender will issue in 2025 for Operation and fit out.

The timeline thereafter is expected to be as follows:

Tender Assessment – 5 weeks

Standstill and authorisation period - 4 weeks

Contract Assignment and mobilisation – Q1 2025 (dependent on winning tender)

Construction Phase - 26 weeks (dependent on winning tender, DCC estimate)

Q.132 COUNCILLOR NIAL RING

To ask the Chief Executive to detail the URDF projects DCC have been funded for, including amounts received, pending claims and future amounts which can be claimed

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The URDF was established to support compact and sustainable development through the regeneration and rejuvenation of cities and towns. To date, the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage has issued three calls for funding under URDF.

Under Call 1 the DHLGH approved six projects for Dublin City Council – these projects contribute to compact sustainable growth and improve the liveability of our capital city.

Projects	Approved URDF Funding	Amounts received	Total Future Amounts	Pending Claims
Refurbishment and Redevelopment of Rutland St School	21,135,864	5,151,577	15,984,287	-
Santry River Greenway Restoration feasibility study	750,000	455,817	294,183	-
Artists Workspaces (Merchants Quay & Bridgefoot Street) feasibility study	200,000	200,000	-	-
Inchicore - St Michael's Estate & Environs Regeneration feasibility study	150,000	150,000	-	-
Study - Naas Road LAP lands	200,000	200,000	-	-
Park West/Cherry Orchard Industrial Lands Analysis	150,000	150,000	-	-
TOTAL	€22,585,864	€6,307,394	€16,278,470	€ -

As part of Call 2 of the URDF, the Department approved two major projects DCC – the North Inner City Concept Area and the South Inner City Concept Area with multiple projects under each. The aim of these projects is to achieve economic and compact urban growth, enhance connectivity and mobility, build social and cultural amenities and ensure climate resilience and sustainability.

North Inner City Concept Area:

North Inner City Projects	Approved URDF Funding	Amounts received	Total Future Amounts	Pending Claims
Markets & Public Realm Study & Works	14,535,750	-	14,535,750	-
Fruit & Veg Markets	5,625,000	441,449	5,183,551	-
Ryders Row	1,875,000	71,112	1,803,888	-
Parnell Sq Public Realm Works	14,187,041	-	14,187,041	-
Parnell Sq Cultural Quarter	56,634,459	3,325,026	53,049,826	259,607
Mountjoy Sq Conservation	2,625,000	148,354	2,476,646	-

Five Lamps Public Realm	4,826,850	44,280	4,782,570	-
Moore St Public Realm	1,350,000	-	1,350,000	-
41 Parnell Sq	2,250,000	665,056	1,584,944	-
Uilleann Piping Centre	9,366,561	68,626	9,297,935	-
TOTAL	€ 113,275,661	€ 4,763,902	€ 108,252,152	€ 259,607

South Inner City Concept Area:

South Inner City Projects	Approved URDF Funding	Amounts received	Total Future Amounts	Pending Claims
Liberties Greening Strategy	412,500	217,933	194,567	0
Francis Street EIS	300,000	300,000	0	0
Newmarket Square EIS	3,375,000	0	3,375,000	0
Dolphins Barn EIS	1,387,500	0	1,387,500	0
Cork Street EIS	225,000	0	225,000	0
Meath Street EIS	2,842,500	0	2,749,223	93,277
Exchange Street	1,312,500	318,750	993,750	0
Public Lighting Upgrade	721,027	0	721,027	0
Werburch St Ship Street/ Gateway Site	3,900,000	2,287,500	1,612,500	0
	787,125	0	773,772	13,353
Rindgsend - Library Sq	5,250,000	148,913	5,101,087	0
Ringsend Prk	75,000	0	75,000	0
Ringsend - Sean Moore Roundabout	12,114,962	159,494	11,955,468	0
Iveagh Markets	9,017,438	0	8,697,249	320,189
Pear Tree Crossing/ Digital Hub	3,400,275	906,725	1,629,543	864,007
TOTAL	€ 45,120,827	€ 4,339,316	€ 39,490,685	€ 1,290,826

Call 3, as issued by the DHLGH is a dedicated revolving fund to address the financial barrier and risk faced by local authorities in seeking to tackle long term vacant and derelict buildings and sites. DCC has been allocated €10M of which with 20% has been prefunded i.e. €2M. There are 16 potential properties identified, of which actions have commenced in relation to 5.

In Summary:

Summary	Approved URDF Funding	Amounts received	Total Future Amounts	Pending Claims
Call 1	22,585,864	6,307,394	16,278,470	0
Call 2	158,396,488	9,103,218	147,742,837	1,550,433
Call 3	10,000,000	2,000,000	8,000,000	0
Total	190,982,352	17,410,612	172,021,307	1,550,433

Q.133 COUNCILLOR DEIRDRE HENEY

To ask the Chief Executive to please refer to tree at (**details supplied**) and say if it possible to say when same will be replaced as agreed previously.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

This tree was not listed for replacement in the multi-annual phased replacement programme of problematic tree in the area agreed with the residents association. The tree does not appear to be a fruiting pear tree. An inspection will be arranged in the coming weeks as local schedules allow and any works deemed necessary will be listed for inclusion in the prioritised tree care programme for the area.

Q.134 COUNCILLOR DEIRDRE HENEY

To ask the Chief Executive please refer to seriously broken and dangerous footpath at (**details supplied**) and say if he can arrange to repair same as local person fell and seriously injured herself at this point.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

An enquiry (ref. 11167526) has been created and passed on to the Area Inspector who will carry out an inspection and add this to a works list for repair.

Q.135 COUNCILLOR DEIRDRE HENEY

To ask the Chief Executive to please refer to area at (**details supplied**) and say if he can clear same of weeds.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

An inspection of this location will be carried out with a view to having necessary works completed as resources allow.

The open space is maintained by way of contract which includes bi-annual strimming of such peripheral weeds. The weeds inside the wall of the open space have been referred to the contracts manager to bring to the attention of the contractor to schedule a maintenance visit to attend to same.

Q.136 COUNCILLOR DERIDRE HENEY

To ask the Chief Executive to install a yellow junction box at (**1.details supplied**) as traffic is backing up since the installation of new traffic lights as (**2.details supplied**)

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

This request (Enquiry Ref: 7042655) 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.137 COUNCILLOR PATRICK KINSELLA

To ask the Chief Executive if double yellow lines can be put on Ravensdale Park Road opposite the KCR as all the houses there have driveways.

Allowing cars park there means that large trucks and vans move to the wrong side of the road to pass the parked cars and as a result making exiting the industrial estate very hazardous.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

This request (Enquiry Ref: 7042626) 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.138 COUNCILLOR PATRICK KINSELLA

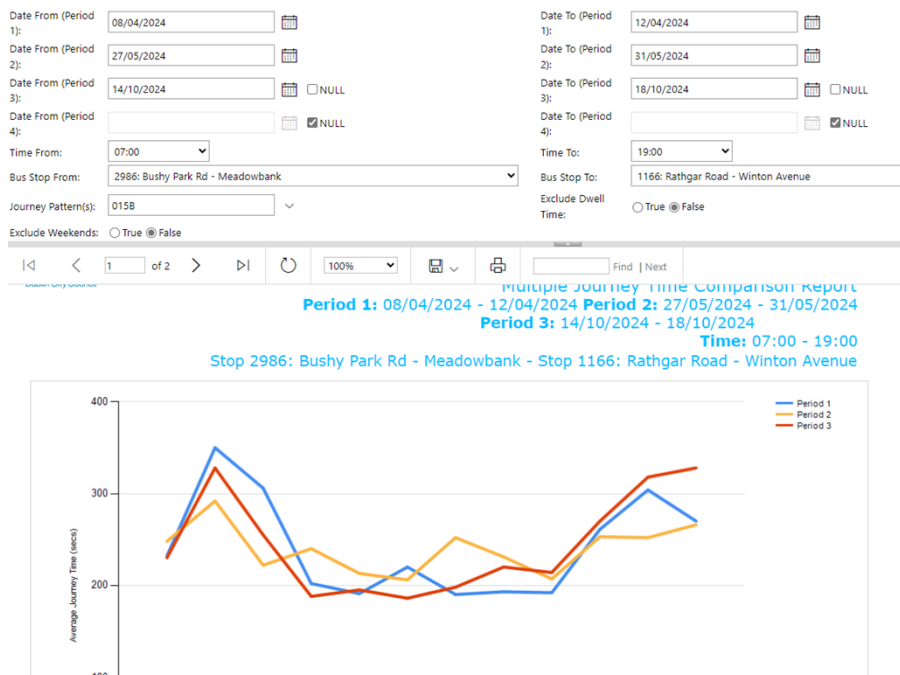
To ask the Chief Executive if there has been review of the temporary bollards that were put in at the end of Zion road outside Stratford College?
 And if no review has been done can the manager under take one to access the success or otherwise of the bollards.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The removal of the left slip road and installation of bollards on Zion Road formed part of the measures included in the School Zone for Stratford National School and Stratford College, as part of the Safe Routes to School Programme which is funded by the National Transport Authority. Stratford Schools applied for the School Zone in order to improve safety for their students on their journey to school. The School Zone was designed in consultation with the schools and a non-statutory public consultation took place on the design from 12-26th October.

The yellow pencil bollards were installed to prevent cars parking on the footpath in order to improve the safety for students walking to school and to increase the visibility of the school. The slip road was removed to facilitate safe passage of children from the island to the school gate. Bus Connects plans also include the removal of this slip road.

The team has been monitoring the bus times along this stretch of road before and after the removal of the slip road. The graph below shows in blue the bus journey times before the removal of the slip road and the red and orange show bus journey times after the removal of the slip road. The journey times since the removal of the slip road are in line with those beforehand, with decreased journey times during some parts of the day. We are in regular contact with Dublin Bus and no further issues have been reported to us from them on this location.



Q.139 COUNCILLOR BARRY HENEGHAN

To ask the Chief Executive if the contract for the toilets at Dollymount Beach was broken by the contractor, why the Council could not change to another contractor to ensure the much-needed toilets, including accessible facilities, are created as a matter of urgency

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The automatic public convenience on Bull Island is on a long term lease from JC Decaux and this contract has not been broken. Lease is on review within contract terms and conditions”

Q.140 COUNCILLOR BARRY HENEGHAN

To ask the Chief Executive if the lights at Stiles Court could be urgently upgraded to modern LED lighting, as the current lights are continuously breaking, causing ongoing issues for residents

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

It is planned to upgrade the street Lighting on Stiles Court before the Christmas break. In the meantime the existing street lighting will continue to be maintained in accordance with current maintenance regimes.

Q.141 COUNCILLOR BARRY HENEGHAN

To ask the Chief Executive to urgently address the incoming housing application of (**details supplied**), given the housing situation she is facing.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

There is no record in Housing Allocations of having received a housing application in respect of (**details supplied**), upon receipt of same it will be processed accordingly.

Q.142 COUNCILLOR BARRY HENEGHAN

To ask the Chief Executive to request that Dublin Port clean up and maintain the area around the Clontarf slipway, which is continuously being dumped on and left in an unsafe condition, with trip hazards and waste from the sea accumulating regularly.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Dublin Port has no role in the maintenance of this area. The entire promenade is subject to regular inundations due to high tides and storm surges and the Parks Service does remove excessive detritus deposited after such events. With regard to the area at the slipway the Parks Service has met with the yacht club and agreed to carry out a temporary tidy up and resurfacing of the area to present the location at its best for the clubs anniversary celebrations next year. As previously discussed there is a major piece of water infrastructure to be installed along the prom which will have a significant impact on the site. A permanent reinstatement will be sought after these essential works.