



**MINUTES OF THE CENTRAL AREA COMMITTEE MEETING  
HELD ON 14<sup>th</sup> January 2025**

- 1 **With reference to the minutes of the meeting held on 10th December 2024.**

ORDER: Agreed

- 2 **With reference to the questions to the Area Managers.**

ORDER: Noted

- 3 With reference to motions to the Area Managers.

**The following motions to the Area Managers were tabled.**

**Motion 1 from COUNCILLOR CHRISTY BURKE Submitted: 17/12/2024**

That this Central Area Committee agrees that DCC take stock of boilers in the Senior Citizens Complexes, in the Central area, and if any boilers need to be replaced that the work be carried out urgently, with new boilers put in their place

**Reply:**

Dublin City Council currently maintain a stock of approximately 22,500 domestic gas boilers. In addition to servicing and repairs, we also operate a Boiler Replacement Programme with an annual capital expenditure budget of €4 Million. Since 2017, we have replaced 6,055 boilers with high energy efficient condensing gas boilers which represents approximately 27% of our stock to date. The programme extends citywide to all areas and complexes including Senior Citizen Complexes in the Central Area where any boilers that are in need of replacement are being replaced.

**Contact:**

Ursula Donnellan, Senior Executive Officer, Housing Maintenance Tel: 01 222 2095  
Email: [ursula.donnellan@dublincity.ie](mailto:ursula.donnellan@dublincity.ie)

ORDER: Agreed.

**Motion 2 from COUNCILLOR DANIEL ENNIS Submitted: 18/12/2024**

I call on this Central Area Committee to meet with the Parks Department, local residents and representatives from the Liberty Park Working Group to expedite the plans for Liberty Park. As a matter of urgency- better lighting and electricity points need be installed in the park. Emergency services, when called upon to provide assistance, were in fact, fatally hampered by the lack of adequate lighting

**Reply:**

Parks Services will conduct a thorough review of the current lighting situation, including the previous complaints and their justifications. This assessment will also consider the safety and security needs of the park users, including emergency responders. A lighting study will be carried out in the park to assess the needs of all stakeholders – residents, park users and emergency services. Following the assessment, options will be proposed for improving lighting in the park while minimising any potential disturbances to nearby residents. Any review carried out will be done in consultation with the Area Office.

**Contact:** Deirdre Prince, Acting Senior Executive Landscape Architect/Parks Officer Email: [deirdre.prince@dublincity.ie](mailto:deirdre.prince@dublincity.ie)

ORDER: Agreed.

**Motion 3 from COUNCILLOR FELJIN JOSE Submitted: 18/12/2024**

This Area Committee calls on the Manager to refurbish and reopen the skatepark in Cabra Parkside

**Reply:**

Pre Covid the skate park was closed on health and safety grounds due to metal structure failure. A decision to replace the existing skate park with a Muga ( Multi use Games Arena) was agreed and A grant of €27,217 was approved and provisionally allocated under the 2018 Sports Capital Scheme for the development of this project **to replace the existing skate park in Cabra Parkside Community Sports Centre.** These works were due to start in October 2020 but subsequently delayed due to the pandemic. With inflation and escalating building costs the original quotations for the works have more than Doubled. We are currently seeking extra funding from the Programme to secure the completion of this Project and have engaged with a consultant to devising an action plan for the future development of this area.

**Contact:** Stephen Kealy / Leisure Services Manager, CRES Email: [stephen.kealy@dublincity.ie](mailto:stephen.kealy@dublincity.ie)

ORDER: Not Agreed, report to issue.

**Motion 4 from COUNCILLOR NIAL RING Submitted: 19/12/2024**

Motion in the names of Cllrs. Nial Ring and Cieran Perry In noting that the Medically Supervised Injection Facility at Merchant's Quay Ireland's Riverbank Centre has now opened for an 18 month pilot period and that an evaluation group is being established to monitor and evaluate this facility, this committee agrees that two members from both the Central and South East committees should be co-opted onto the evaluation committee

**Reply:**

The Medically Supervised Injection Facility monitoring and review committee are the responsibility of the HSE.

Should be motion by approved by Members, the Area Office will correspond with the HSE to request co-opting of Dublin City Councillors to the evaluation committee.

**Contact:** Marie Kavanagh, North Inner City Area Office

ORDER: Agreed.

**Motion 5 from COUNCILLOR NIAL RING    Submitted: 19/12/2024**

Having regard to the various questions and motions submitted in relation to the inbound and outbound bus stops on North Strand Road (number 617 and number 4384) and, also noting that following motions unanimously passed at this central area committee, the NTA decided to reinstate those bus stops. This committee subsequently unanimously passed my motions requesting that ALL inbound and outbound buses stop at these particular stops notwithstanding the fact that the NTA somehow decided that only one route (the very infrequent route 130) will be available at these stops.

This committee now asks the NTA to again review this decision and, having already taken the views (through my unanimously passed motions) of this area committee in relation to the reinstallation of the stops into account, and further asks that they now make the correct equitable and fair decision to have all buses along the route stopping at stops 617 and 4384. We also ask the NTA to note that this is being requested as a result of the numerous complaints, in particular from elderly residents of North Strand and Ballybough, who cannot get to the alternative bus stops for many reasons.

**Reply:**

The following response has been received from the NTA in respect of the Central Area Committee question.

A fundamental objective of the Clontarf to City Centre Scheme is to provide safe, fully segregated cycling facilities. However, fitting in bus stops along North Strand Road whilst also maintaining segregated cycling arrangements, is very challenging in terms of space requirements. This is made even more difficult by the level of planned bus services under BusConnects, requiring implementation of double length bus stops.

These requirements and the space constraints along the corridor, has resulted in the bus stop arrangements which have been constructed along the project. In the original design, there was no inbound bus stop planned adjacent to the junction with Strandville Avenue. However, following various representations received, the NTA and Dublin City Council reviewed the arrangements in the section of North Strand Road between its junctions with Strandville Avenue and Northbrook Avenue Lower.

In this section, the distance between the relevant inbound bus stops (at the Fire Station and at James Larkin House) is just under 600 metres, which was acknowledged as exceeding the desirable spacing for bus stops. However, this layout was driven by the

lack of available space to accommodate the required arrangements in terms of double length bus stops plus segregated cycling.

Following further analysis, it was identified that a shorter bus stop arrangement could be accommodated in this section of North Strand Road, while still maintaining the required segregated cycling provision. As it is a shorter length of bus stop, it would not be able to facilitate all of the bus services using the road and a more limited bus stopping pattern is required.

Accordingly, it was decided to add one additional inbound bus stop (adjacent to the junction with Strandville Avenue) and one additional outbound bus stop (under the railway bridge) on North Strand Road. Because of the reduced layout, both of these new stops will be served by Route 130 only, which operates approximately every 10 to 12 minutes during weekday daytime hours. Other bus routes can continue to be accessed from the adjacent bus stops.

In the inbound direction, the new stop required the conversion of an already constructed car parking bay (two car spaces in front of North Strand Floors/North Strand Beds and Furniture) into a bus stop equipped with a bus shelter, and the consequential loss of these two car parking spaces. At the outbound stop at the railway bridge, a bus stop has been provided but there isn't space to provide a bus shelter. However, the bridge structure does provide some level of weather protection.

I trust that the above is of assistance.

Yours Sincerely,

**Contact:** Richard Kelly, HEO NTA, richard.kelly@nationaltransport.ie

ORDER: Agreed.

**The following emergency motion to the Area Managers was tabled.**

**Emergency Motion in the name of Cllrs Cat O'Driscoll, Feljin Jose, Seamus McGrattan and John Stephens**  
**Submitted 13/01/25**

This Central Area Committee agrees to engage residents in Pelletstown and the relevant Developers and Management companies to devise a solution for the gritting of Royal Canal Avenue roadway and local footpaths in freezing conditions. While the area is not in the Council's charge it is a busy footpath and roadway beside a train station and used to access schools, childcare, employment and shops. Residents are paying their Local Property Tax but are denied safe public realm. Countless trips; falls; bikes and cars skidding have been reported in the January cold snap.

ORDER: Agreed. Michelle Robinson to issue report to members on process.

- 4 **With reference to the proposed grant of a short term business letting of the Ground Floor, 53 Dorset Street, Dublin 1 to North Dublin Money Advice and Budgeting Services CLG. Liam O'Connor**

ORDER: Agreed - Recommend to City Council

- 5 **With reference to Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended) Planning and Development Regulations 2001 (as amended) - Part VIII. Proposed amendment of approved Part 8 application under Reg.Ref. 3196/19 to facilitate necessary upgrades and alterations to Hugh Lane Gallery, a Protected Structure (RPS no. 6382)**

ORDER: Noted

- 6 **With reference to a Naming and Numbering proposal for a development at former Des Kelly Site' a site of 0.262Ha. bounded by 364-374 North Circular Road, Royal Canal Bank, and 168-169 Phibsborough Road, Dublin 7.**

ORDER: Agreed

- 7 **With reference to the draft greening strategy for Fassaugh Avenue**

ORDER: Noted

- 8 **With reference to The Area Management reports.**

ORDER: Noted

- 9 **With reference to the Traffic Advisory Group minutes.**

ORDER: Noted

- 10 **With reference to Sports in the Central Area.**

ORDER: Noted

**Cllr. Janet Horner**  
**Chairperson**  
**14<sup>th</sup> January 2025**

#### **Attendance**

#### **Councillors**

Janice Boylan, Christy Burke, Daniel Ennis, Janet Horner, Feljin Jose, Ray McAdam, Séamas McGrattan, Cat O'Driscoll, Colm O'Rourke, Cieran Perry, Gayle Ralph, Nial Ring, Malachy Steenson, John Stephens.

**Officers**

Brendan Doggett, Marie Kavanagh, Michelle Robinson, Gráinne O'Grady, Maria Browne, Liam O'Connor, Sharon Griffin, Debby Clarke, John McPartlan, Sean Walsh, Paul White, Jennifer Murphy, Cathal Loftus, Vinicio Boaretto, Máire Nic Reamoinn, Deirdre Prince, Gareth Toolan, Iva Geci, Elaine Butler, Marcella Murphy, Roisin Byrne, Damian Magaharan