

QUESTIONS LODGED PURSUANT TO STANDING ORDER NO.16 FOR REPLY AT THE MONTHLY MEETING OF DUBLIN CITY COUNCIL TO BE HELD ON MONDAY, 6th APRIL 2020

Q.1 COUNCILLOR CRÍONA NÍ DHÁLAIGH

To ask the Chief Executive if there is a time frame for ensuring all windows in **(details supplied)** are upgraded, as the ones that have been reallocated in past few years.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Housing Maintenance carried out a cost survey last year on changing all the windows in details supplied. However, the cost of this was in the region of €2.7m. We are now concentrating on carrying out this upgrade through the Voids Programme.

Q.2 COUNCILLOR DERMOT LACEY

To ask the Chief Executive if there can be a reduction in the quite excessive charge being levied on these residents for the removal of a parking bay at **(details supplied)**

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

In the granting of planning permission for this driveway at **(details supplied)**, the following text is included in respect of application no 2034/19 Decision Order P3276:

4. The developer shall comply with the following Transportation Planning requirements of the Planning Authority:
 - a) Prior to the commencement of construction, the developer shall contact the Council's Traffic Advisory Group to alter the line markings associated with the removal of one accessible car parking space outside **(details supplied)** and relocate the accessible parking space to the nearest suitable location as agreed with the Council's Traffic Advisory Group. All works shall be at the developer's expense.
 - b) Prior to the commencement of construction, the developer shall contact the Council's Parking Enforcement Division regarding the fees associated with the removal of one accessible car parking space outside **(details supplied)**.
 - c) Gates shall not open onto the adjoining public footpath.
 - d) The footpath and kerb shall be dished and the new entrance shall be provided in accordance with the requirements of the Area Engineer, Roads Maintenance Department.
 - e) All costs incurred by Dublin City Council, including any repairs to the public road and services necessary as a result of the development, shall be at the expense of the developer.
 - f) The developer shall be obliged to comply with the requirements set out in the Code of Practice for the Roads, Streets and Traffic Department. Reason: To ensure a satisfactory standard of development.

The policy and pricing for the removal of parking bays was approved by the Transportation SPC in 2005.

Q.3 COUNCILLOR MARY FITZPATRICK

To ask the Chief Executive to provide a report on the following: what actions will DCC take to make **(details supplied)** safer for pedestrians and cyclists?

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Richmond Road is very narrow. In some cases, there are very narrow footpaths. Many cars park on the footpaths, which may be an indication that there is a shortage of parking for the houses. It is also heavily trafficked and there will be no space for any form of protected cycle lane and wider footpaths unless a one-way system is introduced. **Details supplied** is a secondary route on the GDA Network and may

therefor become eligible for funding under the Sustainable Transport Measures Grants Programme in future, depending on NTA priorities. Appropriate interventions along this road would be a project undertaking on its own and would require to be included in future capital budgets. Consideration may be given to this when the current major projects that include the Clontarf to City Centre and Royal Canal have been delivered.

The Area Office and the Transport Advisory Group have been engaging with the Councillors of the North Central Area and have held a number of workshops on this matter with a particular focus on the Western end between Grace Park Road and the Drumcondra Road.

The current status is that Councillors are discussing the findings of our workshops with local residents. It is anticipated that the local area office will organise another workshop in the coming weeks (subject to Government guidelines on Covid 19) to agree and finalise measures to be installed. These measures will put the safety of vulnerable road users first.

Q.4 COUNCILLOR JOHN LYONS

To ask the Chief Executive for an itemised breakdown of the costs involved in the temporary Liffey Cycle route.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The estimate of €800,000 is an order of magnitude cost. An itemised breakdown of the essential elements of the scheme will be provided on completion of the preliminary design. It is estimated that a preliminary design of the entire interim scheme will be completed by end May 2020. However, in order meet the target of completion by August 2020, implementation of elements of the scheme will be commenced earlier.

Q.5 COUNCILLOR CHRISTY BURKE

To ask the Chief Executive that DCC clear and clean the over growth for the new tenant **(details supplied)**.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Maintaining front and back gardens including hedges and trees, boundary walls/fences and keeping them in a tidy condition falls under tenant's responsibility. Housing Maintenance are not in a position to take on this responsibility.

Q.6 COUNCILLOR CHRISTY BURKE

To ask the Chief Executive if DCC's roads section would include Reinstatement of **(details supplied)**.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

(Details supplied) will not feature on the 2020 Works Programme. This will be considered as part of the 2021 Works Programme.

Q.7 COUNCILLOR CHRISTY BURKE

To ask the Chief Executive if DCC is about to make a decision on what the future is for the Ready mix site at **(details supplied)**.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

It is proposed to develop this land for a social housing scheme and for it to be done under the Terms of the Government's P.P.P. Social Housing Programme (Two such schemes underway a Scribblestown and at Clongriffin), at this state there are no design plans or detail in relation to density or height etc. We will update Councillors when initial plans are formulated.

Q.8 COUNCILLOR CHRISTY BURKE

To ask the Chief Executive what process is being made on the redevelopment of **(details supplied)**? Has the DOE granted any approval and funding for the complex?

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Dublin City Council (DCC) applies for social housing capital funding from the Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government (DHPLG).

The Housing and Community Services Department is engaging with the Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government (DHPLG) with regard to securing stage 1 approval for the regeneration of details supplied.

Q.9 COUNCILLOR NIAL RING

To ask the Chief Executive if there is a system in place to record the cost processing Freedom of Information requests (including direct and indirect staff costs, overhead such as scanning, copying, redacting etc.) and, if not, would the Chief Executive consider introducing such a recording system and further to include the cost of processing each request in an additional information column in the FOI report section of the Monthly Management report.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

There is no such system in place in Dublin City Council. The Information Management Unit is not aware of the availability of any such system in the public sector at this time.

Q.10 COUNCILLOR NIAL RING

To ask the Chief Executive for a report on the dedicated maker space (facilities, cost, usage etc.) in Coolock Library and to ask if it anticipated that this facility will be extended to all city libraries in due course and, if so, is a timeline available for each rollout.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Coolock library's dedicated makerspace was officially launched on National Libraries day on February 29th. A curated programme of activities/workshops, including hardware programming; children's coding workshops; activities for Transition Year students; taster workshops; 3D printing; sewing; video production, and animation will take place throughout 2020.

Coolock Makerspace will offer opportunities to learn about and use new tools in design and creation through a range of workshops in an accessible library setting, welcoming the community to widen their skills by engaging in maker activities, to innovate, and to meet and share skills with other makers.

The full list of equipment in the makerspace is available here:

<http://www.dublincity.ie/main-menu-services-culture-and-amenities-dublin-city-public-libraries-and-archive-using-your-21>

The dedicated space for the makerspace was delivered as part of the overall Coolock Library refurbishment project. Fit-out and equipment costs were €36,000 (€20,000 of this funding was provided by Department of Rural and Community Development ICT funding for libraries).

The 6-month curated programme of events, which will commence when libraries reopen, has been funded by DCC's creative Ireland fund.

A pop-up maker space is in planning for Pearse Street Library to be rolled out later in 2020. Resources allowing, further makerspaces will be available throughout the branch network where space allows maker activities to take place.

Q.11 COUNCILLOR NIAL RING

To ask the Chief Executive, in relation to Planning Fees, to detail the income received from such fees in 2019 and 2018 together with the refund amounts in each year. Also, can the Chief Executive detail the number of planning applications each figure represents and finally, can the Chief Executive indicate the cost (staff plus overhead) incurred in processing such applications and refunds.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

2018

No of Applications received: 3,485

Fees received: €2,738,105.61

Refunds issued: €240,689.89

2019

No of applications received: 3,628

Fees received: €3,118,413.71

Refunds issued: €202,209.91

It is not possible to give a breakdown of the costs involved as the processing of applications & refunds forms only part of the duties carried out by the staff in the section.

The cost of the planning service in 2018 was €15.8M.

The cost of the planning service in 2019 was €16.8M.

Q.12 COUNCILLOR NIAL RING

To ask the Chief Executive to indicate how many premises will need to be inspected for compliance with the Advertising Boards licencing requirements, how many have been inspected to date, how many were in compliance and how many warning notices were issued. Also, in relation to the answer to the first part of the question, is the Chief Executive satisfied that the Ad Board Unit is and will be adequately staffed to carry out its function fully.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Premises throughout the City are being continuously monitored to ensure compliance with licensing requirements. Prior to commencement of the licensing system (1st September 2019) information circulars issued to over 800 businesses which had Ad Boards outside their premises. 701 official warning notices have issued to 10/03/2020. 172 Ad Boards have been seized from 151 businesses. 21 Ad Boards have been recovered by owners. There have been 62 referrals to planning enforcement (this refers to Ad Boards placed on private property which require planning permission). 43 Applicants have been invited to make a formal application after assessment. 7 Licence applications have been received of which 7 were incomplete applications with 4 complete. 4 Licences have been granted to date. I am satisfied that there are adequate staff resources to carry out current and future functions under the Ad Board licensing policy.

Q.13 COUNCILLOR DERMOT LACEY

To ask the Chief Executive if Dublin City Council has any representative on the Board of the St. Patrick's Festival, what structures exist for consultation between Dublin City Council and the St. Patrick's Festival organisers and what opportunities exist for the elected representatives of the people of Dublin City to engage with the St. Patrick's Festival organisation.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

St. Patrick's Festival is a company limited by guarantee to produce, operate and deliver a programme of events to celebrate the national holiday of St. Patrick's Day in Dublin City. Elected members of the council can engage with St. Patrick's Festival by utilising the following existing structures. The City Council is a stakeholder of the festival company and has a representative on the festival board. The festival also engages with the Executive of Culture, Recreation and Economic Services Department. Members of the council can engage with St. Patrick's Festival by contacting chair of Arts Culture & Recreation Strategic Policy Committee.

Q.14 COUNCILLOR KEVIN DONOGHUE

To ask the Chief Executive the number of applications received to allow for short terms lettings in Dublin City, the number of full time equivalent staff allocated towards assessing applications and investigating complaints and the source of funding for those staff.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

20 planning applications lodged referring to Short Term Lets

- 12 applications were refused planning permission (1 x granted by ABP- 3064/19)
- 3 applications were withdrawn.
- 3 applications declared invalid.
- 2 applications awaiting decisions.

Exemption notifications received to date:

2019

A total of 246

67 related to homesharing

123 to short term lets

56 to both homesharing and short term lets

2020

A total of **100** notifications received to date, of which

31 relate to homesharing

23 to short term lets

46 to both homesharing and short term lets

Staffing of the short term letting unit to date include the following:

- Senior Staff Officer
- 2 Assistant Staff Officers
- 5 Planning Enforcement Officers
- Executive Planner
- 1 title researchers
- Overseen by A/Planning Enforcement Manager

The Department of Housing, Planning and local Government fully fund the cost of these staff.

Contact : John Downey, A/Planning Enforcement Manager, 222 3465

Q.15 COUNCILLOR KEVIN DONOGHUE

To ask the Chief Executive what is the number of reports made of improperly operating short-term lets in the city and the number of investigations carried out on foot of those complaints.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Files opened for investigation: **551**

2019 cases opened 295

2020 cases opened 256 (up to 6/3/2020)

Cases resolved (from Jan 2020) x 131

21 x Enforcement Notices issued since July 2019

1 x Prosecution initiated.

Q.16 COUNCILLOR KEVIN DONOGHUE

To ask the Chief Executive how many social housing units have been provided within the city in the last four years, the cost to the city of building or acquiring those units, the funding mechanism used and if there are outstanding monies owed to local authorities for their provision and if so how much is owed and by whom is it owed?

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

New build construction by Dublin City Council

From 2016 to date a total of 402 social units have been constructed by Dublin City Council at a cost of €104m. The Department of Housing Planning and Local Government (DHPLG) are providing the bulk of the funding at €101.5m; Dublin City Council have funded the balance of €2.5m. Of the €101.5m being provided by DHPLG there is an outstanding amount of €7m still due; in accordance with standard procedures this will be recouped by the City Council from the Department once the City Council has concluded and agreed final accounts with various contractors on multiple construction projects.

Acquisitions Programme:

709 residential units have been acquired through the Acquisition Programme from 2017 to 2019 (records available at time of reply). These acquisitions are 100% funded by the DHPLG through the Social Housing Investment Programme. The total expenditure over this period is €212,825,000 and these monies have been recouped from the Department.

DCC also acquired two turnkey projects which delivered 108 units at a cost of €39,470,000. These monies have been recouped from the Social Housing Investment Programme through the DHPLG.

Part V

Year	Part V acquisitions	Cost to DCC	Funding Mechanism
2016	25	€4,089,435	SHIP
2017	56	€23,115,666	SHIP
2018	38	€10,311,742	SHIP
2019	34	€8,375,008	SHIP
Total	170	€45,891,851	

Mortgage to Rent / Repossessions

Year	Mortgage to Rent	Cost to DCC	Funding Mechanism
2016	114	€23,680,815	DHPLG / MARP
2017	52	€10,830,819	DHPLG / MARP
2018	26	€ 6,095,046	DHPLG / MARP
2019	31	€ 5,740,247	DHPLG / MARP
Total	223	€46,346,927	

Year	Repossessions	Cost to DCC	Funding Mechanism
2016	15	€2,903,326	DHPLG / MARP
2017	7	€1,425,362	DHPLG / MARP
2018	3	€ 600,972	DHPLG / MARP
2019	4	€ 816,102	DHPLG / MARP
Total	29	€5,745,762	

Q.17 COUNCILLOR KEVIN DONOGHUE

To ask the Chief Executive if money was borrowed by Dublin City Council for the provision of social or affordable housing in the city in the last 4 years and how much, if any, interest is being paid on it.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

No money was borrowed by Dublin City Council for the provision of social or affordable housing in the City over the last four years. Social housing provision is funded by the department of Housing, Planning & Government. Affordable housing schemes which will involve borrowing are not yet in place.

Q.18 COUNCILLOR DERMOT LACEY

To ask the Chief Executive what assistance can be given to this Street Trader (**details supplied**) who is find it increasingly difficult to earn a living in the City.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The Casual Trading Bye-Laws set the fees and location for designated trading. The street trader referenced in the question is a long standing trader and his designated trading area is on (**details supplied**) at a cost of €2,000 per annum. He has indicated in his letter that he hasn't started trading yet for 2020. When he is ready to trade he can contact me directly at the number below and I will ensure that his trading area is correct and marked accordingly.

Q.19 COUNCILLOR CRÍONA NÍ DHÁLAIGH

To ask the Chief Executive to request TAG to consider a Zebra crossing and other traffic calming measures at **(details supplied)**.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The junction of **(details supplied)** has been put forward for the 2020 works program (subject to funding). This junction will be fully redesigned to calm traffic and will include upgraded crossing facilities for vulnerable road users.

Q.20 COUNCILLOR CRÍONA NÍ DHÁLAIGH

To ask the Chief Executive why illegally parked cars without residents/visitors permits are not being addressed at **(details supplied)**. Residents have reported some of the vehicles parked there are abandoned and have been parked for long periods with no permit and in cases without tax or insurance.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

There was an abandoned vehicle reported at the above mentioned location. On inspection the vehicle was found to have current insurance and was registered on the road. This criteria deemed the vehicle not to be abandoned. The matter was referred on to Parking Enforcement as it is in a disc area and had no parking disc displayed.

The Dublin Street Parking Services will be notified of this location for parking enforcement against illegal parking.

Q.21 COUNCILLOR CRÍONA NÍ DHÁLAIGH

To ask the Chief Executive if DCC can assist communities to set up neighbourhood text alerts.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Neighbourhood text alert systems are generally administered by An Garda Síochána. If the Councillor indicates which areas are interested we can follow up with An Garda Síochána.

Q.22 COUNCILLOR TINA MACVEIGH

To ask the Chief Executive to conduct a deep clean of the streets in the Pimlico area so as to remove broken glass from the road and footpaths. In particular near details supplied.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Waste Management Services had the above mentioned area thoroughly cleaned on the 16th March 2020. We will ensure that this area is kept as clean as possible.

Q.23 COUNCILLOR TINA MACVEIGH

To ask the Chief Executive to remove the rubbish from their unit in the Pimlico area

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The waste has been removed from the above location.

Q.24 COUNCILLOR TINA MACVEIGH

To ask the Chief Executive to conduct a deep cleanse of Brabazon St, Watkins buildings and Pimlico cottages.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Waste Management Services had the above mentioned streets thoroughly cleaned on the 16th March 2020. We will ensure that this area is kept as clean as possible.

Q.25 COUNCILLOR ANTHONY CONNAGHAN

To ask the Chief Executive how many planning applications have breached the heights set out in the City Development Plan and how many have DCC sought Judicial Review against?

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The experience of the Planning Department is that significant number of planning applications have exceeded the heights set out in the Development Plan 2016 to various degrees. All planning applications must now be assessed in accordance with the criteria set down in the DHPLG Height Guidelines 2018, which include a mandatory requirement not to apply blanket height policies such as the 16 metre height limit for large parts of the city suburbs in the current Development Plan. It is also the case that applications with over 100 units are determined by An Bord Pleanala under SHD legislation, again in accordance with the national height guidelines. In relation to Judicial Reviews, the City Council has taken a Judicial Review in one case only in relation to height policy against An Bord Pleanala's decision issued in relation to a development known as Block 2, Spencer Dock Dublin 1, as the decision issued contravened the height policy in the North Lotts Grand Canal Dock Strategic Zone Masterplan. Other Judicial Reviews have been initiated by developers and environmental groups, rather than DCC.

Q.26 COUNCILLOR ANTHONY CONNAGHAN

To ask the Chief Executive to provide an update for the upgrading of Ratoath Road (between Westwood Road and Ratoath Avenue/Dunsoghly). At present there are no footpath facilities on this stretch and we had previously allocated funding to have railings removed but this won't be done until upgrade is complete.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

A preliminary design for a road improvement scheme on Ratoath Road was progressed prior to the economic crash in 2008 but it has not advanced since due to resource constraints. This scheme will require major infrastructural interventions including retaining walls and utility diversions and will therefore need significant government funding. As it is not included in the current Capital Programme 2020-2022, there are no current plans to advance the scheme.

Q.27 COUNCILLOR ANTHONY CONNAGHAN

To ask the Chief Executive if he will consider placing extra support on poles in the city centre for locking bicycles to. At present people lock bikes to solitary poles/lampposts and they can be knocked down and block footpaths if not picked back up. The extra supports which are already seen in some areas can prevent this.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Some years ago Dublin City Council trialled the installation of blue pole clamps on a number of sign poles in the city centre. This was a fast and easy way of providing additional support to bicycles locked to them. However it has been noted that these clamps do not provide the same level of stability to parked bicycles as Sheffield Stands and in certain cases the bicycle can fall causing a hazard to pedestrian and motorists. In recent years DCC has tried to discourage the locking of bikes to solitary poles/lampposts and has greatly increased the provision of Sheffield bike stands.

Q.28 COUNCILLOR ANTHONY CONNAGHAN

To ask the Chief Executive when the last review of anti-social policy in Dublin City Council was carried out? Can the Chief Executive provide details of actions pursued where DCC tenants are involved in serious anti-social activity and/or criminality? Does the Chief Executive believe that this policy needs to be strengthened?

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Dublin City Council's Anti-social Behaviour Strategy is currently the mechanism to deal with all complaints, it details all options open to us, from warnings to eviction.

The Strategy is currently under review and we have engaged in a lengthy process with staff and relevant agencies to produce a new Strategy, Policy and Procedure. This process is near completion, a draft document will be presented to the SPC and Area Committees for their input, and a final document will go to the City Council for adoption.

Q.29 COUNCILLOR DEIRDRE HENEY

To ask the Chief Executive to refer to the ongoing problem with serious blockages occurring in public sewer and particularly refer to my constituents at **(details supplied)** whose property is continuously being used by Dublin City Council to access/unblock the public sewer and

- (a) Provide a detailed account of the number of occasions this problem has arisen which necessitated my constituent's property being used to access public sewer.
- (b) Give details of what promises were made over recent years to my constituents in terms of finding alternative solutions to accessing public sewer.
- (c) Say if he is aware that a commitment was given to my constituents in or around 2008 (the last time the problem occurred) that the situation would be carefully monitored from then onwards in order to avoid a recurring situation which has manifested again in recent days.
- (d) Say if there is now a plan which will avoid their property being used as an access point going forward.
- (e) Give a detailed account of what occurred in recent days, in terms of what caused the blockage the damage same caused, solutions found and how same was communicated by the City Council to my constituents.
- (f) Say if he is aware of the trauma and anxiety caused to my constituents as a result of the ongoing recurrence of the use of their property with large plant and numerous operatives to access the public sewer for days to unblock same.
- (g) Say what options are available to my constituents going forward and if he can make a detailed statement on the matter.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

A detailed report will be issued to the Councillor soon.

This issue was only resolved just before the COVID 19 outbreak.

Further investigations need to be carried out and we have not had time to do so with all that is happening at present.

Q.30 COUNCILLOR DEIRDRE HENEY

To ask the Chief Executive to refer to the noise problem at location **(details supplied)** where a local business is putting multiple large industrial bins out at 5am (an unacceptable time to be making noise in a residential area) several times a week, continuously disturbing nearby residents. Please say what efforts he can/will make to arrange to have the business owners in question, desist from this practice and have them agree to put their bins out the night before (as other neighbouring businesses do) in order to reduce upset and reduced quality of life issues for local residents

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The issue identified is not an offence under either the primary legislation or bye- laws relating to waste or litter. The Waste Management Services Division will ensure that contact is made with the premises identified in order to seek to find a solution to the issue so that the premises may operate their business appropriately and that local residents do not continue to be inconvenienced by the issues created by the presentation of waste.

Q.31 COUNCILLOR DEIRDRE HENEY

Can the Chief Executive please refer to email at (B) and letter at (C) from my constituent, at (A) details attached, who continues to be unable to obtain house insurance despite the fact that Dublin City Council has provided her with a letter of comfort for her insurance company and say

- (a) if all relevant works funded by the OPW have been carried out by Dublin City Council
- (b) what efforts the CE can now put in place to enable/assist my constituent and other nearby residents to obtain house insurance
- (c) if he can make a full statement on the matter and in particular refer to
 - (i) the apparent misinformation given to a prospective purchaser of her property by DCC (as per (B) detailed attached)
 - (ii) the slow progress of remedial works by Dublin City Council;
 - (iii) failure of insurance companies in the Irish market to reinstate flood cover;
 - (iv) difficulty in selling some properties in the area due to banks not allowing mortgage drawdown on properties lacking full insurance and;
 - (v) prospective long term negative financial impact on some property owners in details attached.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Following the flood storage works at Harmonstown Road Bridge which were carried out in 2013, **details supplied** is estimated by OPW flood maps to be outside of the 100 year fluvial flood zone (flood zone A). Following an independent level survey carried out on behalf of the owners combined with the most recent OPW mapping, as can be seen on the OPW web-site www.mapinfo.ie, the dwelling at **details supplied** is also estimated to be above the 1,000 year fluvial flood level (Flood Zone B).

It is up to each insurance company to take its estimate of the flooding risk to each property into account when making an insurance evaluation, Dublin City Council can only direct the property owner to the relevant latest flood risk information and assist with its interpretation.

As all of the proposed flood works between the Howth Road and Main Street, Raheny are on private land, discussions have been progressing with the many landowners as well as one potential new landowner in order to agree a proposed scheme; before going to a Part 8 planning procedure, An updated Appropriate Assessment is currently being procured to limit any potential impact of construction works to nearby environmentally protected sites. While these works will further reduce flood risk to **details supplied** this house is estimated to be at a very low risk of fluvial flooding.

As a result of the works carried out upstream of Harmonstown Road Bridge all buildings nearby to **details supplied** are at a significantly lower level of flood risk. Information on the flood risk of any of these properties can be acquired by emailing gerry.oconnell@dublincity.ie

Q.32 COUNCILLOR DEIRDRE HENEY

To ask the Chief Executive to please refer to footpaths along road as per details attached and say what health and safety he can introduce, particularly for vulnerable users/pedestrians to include

- (a) improved lighting and
 - (b) earlier removal of leaves from late Autumn to Spring
- as these footpaths are constantly covered in wet leaves, are very slippery and dangerous from late autumn to spring where a large number of vulnerable people use this route.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

- a) There is a line of closely spaced trees sandwiched between the road and footpath on **details supplied** that is preventing the light reaching the footpath. Pruning these trees would have little effect to the lighting on the footpath as the trees are heavily overgrown. Unfortunately the cost of providing additional lighting is prohibitive and there are no plans at present to improve the lighting along this section.
- b) Waste Management Services operates a leaves removal programme throughout the city over the autumn and winter months. Priority is given to tree-lined streets with heavy pedestrian use and areas particularly prone to flooding. We will ensure that the above mentioned location is included as often as possible during the course of this programme.

Q.33 COUNCILLOR RACHEAL BATTEN

To ask the Chief Executive to provide the amount of permits that were issued and applied for in 2019 under the new "Air B & B" regulations?

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

247 notifications were received on Form 15 to avail of Planning Exemptions for short term lets under the new regulations in 2019.

Q.34 COUNCILLOR RACHEAL BATTEN

To ask the Chief Executive to provide the figure of how many inspectors have been hired for governing and "Air B and B rules and how many inspections have taken place since the rules commenced?

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The Short Term Letting Unit has 5 inspectors dealing with the new Short Term Letting Legislation. Dublin City Council have dealt with 598 complaints since the new legislation came into force. Investigations have been initiated and Warning letters issued in all cases. 21 Enforcement Notices have been issued in respect of these cases. 151 cases have been resolved and 1 Prosecution has been initiated.

Q.35 COUNCILLOR RACHEAL BATTEN

To ask the Chief Executive how much was spent on short-term (Non- permanent residence, such as hotels, B and B's and family hubs) emergency accommodation for homeless families in 2019, If this can be broken down into total cost and the amount of people this cost was covered.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The total amount paid out to hotels and B&B's in 2019 for provision of Emergency Accommodation to families is as follows.



There are currently 1178 families residing in the above emergency accommodation, 1720 adults and 2663 children. –

Q.36 COUNCILLOR RACHEAL BATTEN

To ask the Chief Executive what was the cost per person in 2019 of those that sought housing needs and moved from short-term (Non- permanent residence, such as

hotels, B and B's and family hubs) emergency accommodation to permanent accommodation in 2019.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

All expenditure incurred by the Dublin Region Homeless Executive in 2019 is published by the Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government at www.housing.gov.ie or on the DRHE website at www.homelessdublin.ie. Unfortunately, a breakdown of expenditure, as requested by the Councillor is not available.

Q.37 COUNCILLOR DANIEL CÉITINN

To ask the Chief Executive why could road resurfacing works carried out at allocation (**details supplied**) not be done during the day when the streets are empty of traffic all day and why is there such short notice given on such an impactful job?

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

(**Details supplied**) is categorised as an Impact 4 road in the 'Directions for the Control and Management of Roadworks in Dublin City' and therefore has restricted working times. This is to avoid major roadworks being carried out during times of high volume traffic flow around the city centre. Under the current circumstances (COVID-19 Public Health Emergency) DCC's Roadworks Control Unit has advised that no relaxation to working hours (i.e. allowing these roadworks to be carried out during the day) is allowed as roads are required to be kept clear as much as possible for emergency service vehicles to move freely around the city. Residents' cooperation with these works was greatly appreciated and we sincerely apologise for the disruption caused by the works. Our contractor carried out a letter drop on **details supplied** on Friday 13th March 2020 to all residents and businesses advising that works were starting on Sunday 22nd March 2020. However, they could not gain access to Dock Mill Apartments. They returned on Thursday 19th March 2020 and posted the notice to the entrance to Dock Mill Apartments. The Dock Mill Apartments residents therefore received short notice of the works and we apologise for this.

Q.38 COUNCILLOR DANIEL CÉITINN

To ask the manager if, in light of the Covid-19 pandemic, further measures (such as public notices or closure) are to be taken, in cooperation with other relevant bodies (such as Waterways Ireland), regarding public spaces (such as the plaza in Portobello and the relevant sections of the Grand Canal).

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Currently there is a much reduced footfall in the city and measures have already been taken by Dublin City Council and other relevant agencies to erect public notices and/or restrict access to public spaces and other locations where considered necessary. At present we have not identified any additional areas where measures such as public notices or closure are needed. However, we are monitoring the situation with other relevant agencies, including An Garda Síochána and if there is a requirement for us to take additional measures then we will do so, in conjunction with other agencies where appropriate.

Q.39 COUNCILLOR DANIEL CÉITINN

To ask the Chief Executive to clarify what happens to new HAP contracts when landlords are waiting on payment but local authorities are not processing so the tenant is in default, what measures are being put in place to safeguard vulnerable tenants and to ensure landlords are receiving payments.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Dublin City Council is continuing to process HAP applications. The timescale for processing valid and complete HAP applications is currently 10 days. The earliest date from which a HAP payment can be made is the date a valid and complete HAP application is received. Once HAP applications are approved payments are made to landlords on the last Wednesday of every month, in arrears. We will continue to review our processes during COVID-19 to ensure that all applications continue to be processed in a timely manner. Tenants who experience a change in their financial circumstances on foot of COVID-19 should contact the Department of Employment Affairs and Social Protection to apply for the relevant supports - <https://www.gov.ie/en/publication/cb3726-jobseekers-payments/>

The government has also put in place measures to support mortgage holders impacted by COVID-19 which may be of assistance to landlords <https://www.gov.ie/en/news/eaad55-government-announces-new-covid-19-income-support-scheme/#measures-in-place-for-mortgage-holders>

Q.40 COUNCILLOR DANIEL CÉITINN

To ask the Chief Executive if he can confirm what measures are being taken to ensure that homeless individuals and families will be able to self-isolate if/when they are required to and can the manager ensure that resources are put in place to allow homeless hostels be accessible 24 hours a day, 7 days a week so that homeless service users do not need to attend day services, which would make self-isolation easier if required.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

I attach herewith a briefing report which issued from the Assistant Chief Executive and the Director of the DRHE which contains the most up to date information on plans in place and being put in place to deal with COVID-19.

Q.41 COUNCILLOR DAITHÍ DOOLAN

To ask the Chief Executive for any update on Labre Park?

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

A revised Flood Risk Analysis has been received by Dublin City Council and is currently being assessed by Flood Projects and Water Framework Directive Division. Further decisions and actions will be based on the results of this assessment.

Q.42 COUNCILLOR DAITHÍ DOOLAN

To ask the Chief Executive what is the expected decline in funding to DCC from downturn in commercial rates, and what financial supports are available from the Department to compensate for this decline in funding?

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The table below outlines the current position re the charge for the year, payments to date and the balance outstanding. Those sectors significantly impacted are retail, hospitality and leisure. It is not possible at this time to determine the financial impact on cash flow as this is subject to the length of time businesses remain closed or trade is restricted, the financial position of each business post Covid-19 and the economy. However the position to date on cash flow for March 2020 compared to March 2019 would indicate that receipts for the month are down approximately €20M. The position is being monitored on a daily basis as the categories of ratepayers impacted by the COVID-19 may change over time.

Ratepayer category	Sum of 2020 Charge	Sum of 2020 Balance	Sum of 2020 Payments
Fuel/Depot	€ 2,309,865.20	€ 729,531.89	€ 1,580,333.31
GLOBAL	€ 31,336,770.72	€ 30,297,655.00	€ 1,039,115.72
HEALTH	€ 3,036,649.04	€ 2,505,553.08	€ 531,095.96
HOSPITALITY	€ 30,200,163.42	€ 24,596,614.97	€ 5,603,548.45
INDUSTRIAL USES	€ 36,467,287.83	€ 30,553,660.66	€ 5,913,627.17
LEISURE	€ 8,878,932.73	€ 6,678,266.59	€ 2,200,666.14
MISC	€ 19,413,693.00	€ 12,236,169.55	€ 7,177,523.45
N/A	€ 11,540.08	€ 9,422.85	€ 2,117.23
OFFICE	€ 138,817,606.48	€ 76,179,157.58	€ 62,638,448.90
RETAIL	€ 77,616,014.16	€ 61,684,173.58	€ 15,931,840.58
UTILITY	€ 9,357,625.75	€ 4,817,438.55	€ 4,540,187.20
Grand Total	€ 357,446,148.41	€ 250,287,644.30	€ 107,158,504.11

The Government has agreed with the County and City Management Association that local authorities should defer rates payments due from businesses most immediately impacted by COVID-19, primarily in the retail, hospitality, leisure and childcare sectors, for at least a 3 month period.

It is acknowledged that flexibility around rates deferral will have implications in terms of cash flow. In order to help mitigate the impacts, the Department has put in place arrangements to advance elements of the 2020 allocations from the Local Government Fund in the short term, rather than over the course of the year as would ordinarily be the case. These arrangements will be kept under review. Local Authorities experiencing difficulties with cash flow, following the advance allocations, have been requested to can contact the Department immediately.

Local authorities receive LPT allocations in six staged payments. Two of these payments have already been made; the first in January 2020 and a second payment earlier this month. Dublin City Council will now receive a combined third and fourth instalment of LPT payments within the next fortnight. These payments are not additional funding allocations, but are being advanced in order to assist local authorities with cash flow during this exceptional period.

Q.43 COUNCILLOR DAITHÍ DOOLAN

To ask the Chief Executive was extra funding provided by the Department to assist with extra homeless services needed during current COVID-19 crisis?

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government has given a commitment to provide funding to assist with extra homeless services during the current COVID-19 crisis. At this stage, it is too early to say what funding may be needed as the DRHE continues to put measures in place to ensure there is adequate and suitable accommodation, including food provision, available for all who need it.

Q.44 COUNCILLOR DAITHÍ DOOLAN

To ask the Chief Executive for an outline of the extra emergency beds and homeless services that were provided during the current COVID-19 crisis, please include any hotel rooms, B&Bs or other accommodation accessed by DRHE?

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

I attach herewith a briefing report which issued from the Assistant Chief Executive and the Director of the DRHE which contains the most up to date information on plans in place and being put in place to deal with COVID-19.

Q.45 COUNCILLOR VINCENT JACKSON

To ask the Chief Executive to bring forward new bye laws with the objective of increasing fines to €500 for successful prosecution in order to try and deal with the ongoing scourge of fly tipping of waste all over our City and Suburbs. Dumping in our City and Community is one of the most unsociable behaviours some members of our community practice a strong message needs to go out if you are prepared to undertake such behaviour we will respond in a pro-active manner.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The maximum financial penalty that may be applied by way of fixed penalty notice issued under the bye-laws relating to litter and waste is €150. This amount is set out as the maximum penalty allowable in primary legislation. It is not possible to increase this amount further through the making or amendment of a bye-law. The maximum fine that may be applied by the judiciary upon successful prosecution is €4000. The extent of the financial penalty that is imposed where a successful prosecution is obtained is at the discretion of the court and is not a matter for Dublin City Council.

Q.46 COUNCILLOR VINCENT JACKSON

To ask the Chief Executive to investigate the use of cheaper mobile cameras, signage, deterrents etc. to reduce & deter fly-tipping of waste in our community. Not a day goes by that I don't have recourse to contact DCC to remove such waste.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Dublin City Council has in place a contract for the provision of mobile CCTV for the purposes of enforcement. The use of such cameras is ongoing in addressing illegal dumping in blackspots and at city council facilities such as bottle banks and bring centres. Signage is widely used to warn against the penalties for illegal dumping and is installed regularly at locations where dumping occurs. Signage associated with the presence of CCTV and its purpose to identify and prosecute those dumping illegally is used in all cases where CCTV is installed.

Other methods used to deter and detect illegal dumping are investigations of dumped waste, compliance campaigns, social media awareness, anti-dumping initiative funding projects and local campaigns facilitated or supported by Dublin City Council.

The Waste Management Services Division will continue to support these activities and work with all groups or stakeholders to develop innovative new projects to address the issue of dumping and fly tipping.

Q.47 COUNCILLOR VINCENT JACKSON

To ask the Chief Executive for a breakdown of the current housing waiting lists and time on the list for people in the Chapelizod Area of Dublin 20 and can the chief executive indicate if some of the new units on the Springvale site will be made available to those from the local area.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Chapelizod falls under Area J (Housing Area). There are 1,598 households on the Housing List and 1,293 households on the Transfer list. The 71 units are due for completion in Q2 2021. Allocations will be made in accordance with the scheme of Lettings and we will be able to give more detailed information closer to the time.

Q.48 COUNCILLOR VINCENT JACKSON

To ask the Chief Executive to look at the possibility of improving the visual offering along the Kylemore Road, Ballyfermot, Dublin 10. It is a busy commercial district with many retail units, supermarket etc. Some visual improvements of tree planting, footpath repairs, etc. can aid the entry into Ballyfermot.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The Northern 900 metres of the Kylemore Road is replete with trees including a direct 500m frontage onto a public open space. The stretch of the road most central to Ballyfermot, between Ballyfermot Road and Landen Road currently has thousands of daffodils bulbs blooming under a Lime tree avenue, extending for approximately half a kilometre. The remaining 500m between the railway line and the Canal is largely privately owned industrial/commercial land without grass verges and the scope for tree planting is very limited. The Kylemore Road is not included in the original Urban Renewal Scheme proposed for Ballyfermot Road.

Q.49 COUNCILLOR MANNIX FLYNN

To ask the Chief Executive to initiate a full examination and investigation and repair program for the roadway and pathways at the entrance to Arran Street East. The roadway here and the footpaths on the western side are now seriously dilapidated and water and debris are pouring into the basement area which is aligned to the footpath of 18 Ormond Street Upper and Arran Street East.

Further, Equity House building which is on the Eastern corner of Arran Street East is constantly being impacted and struck by heavy goods vehicles - 40 ft trucks that take this illegal turn into the market. Given the volume of water that is now coming into the basement of 18 Ormond Quay, the serious damage to the pavement and roadway, it is only a matter of time before this whole cellar area and road area collapses. It is important to note that this corner into Arran Street for heavy good vehicles is illegal (vehicles over 3 tonnes) but none this less the sign is not a deterrent. Can I ask the CEO as a matter of urgency to immediately investigate this matter.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

In terms of the weight restriction, from inspection it is noted that there is one 3.5 Tonne Limit sign in place at the entrance to Arran Street East from the Quays on the right side of the street.

Please note that as per the Road Traffic (Traffic and Parking) Regulations, Section 17. The weight restriction does not apply where it is necessary for a vehicle to enter a road solely for the purpose of gaining access to or egress from a premises accessible only from that road.

Vehicles breaking the ban are in breach of statutory measures and as such should be reported to An Garda Siochana. The Transport Advisory Group will raise this issue with an Gardaí at the next Transport Advisory Group Meeting, of 28 April 2020. An additional sign will be recommended for the left side of the street to further enhance visibility of the restriction. Road Maintenance will carry out an inspection on the above mentioned areas when the current work restrictions have been lifted. A report will issue to the Councillor in due course.

Q.50 COUNCILLOR MANNIX FLYNN

To ask the Chief Executive to publish a full update and report of the ongoing investigation into alleged unlawful payments for security work on construction sites in the Cherry Orchard area and other areas of Dublin. This report to include all investigations initiated by DCC. All terms of reference and the progress so far.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

On 17 October 2019, the Chief Executive advised Elected Members that he had appointed a Team to conduct an internal review of the incidents in question and of City Council systems and processes generally around the management of its building sites.

Subsequent to that decision, the Government appointed Mr Patrick Butler S.C. on 9 November 2019, as an authorised person, under Section 224 of the Local Government Act, 2001, to prepare a report into the role of Dublin City Council and/or individual employees of the Council in the matter. Mr Butler completed his report and submitted it to the Minister on 18 December 2019. The Department has indicated that Mr Butler's report *'is under consideration and that a number of issues have to be finalised before the process will be fully completed.'*

Members will also be aware that these matters are subject to an on-going Garda investigation.

The Team appointed by the Chief Executive has been stood down, pending completion of the Garda investigation.

The Chief Executive is not in a position to give any further information on this matter.

Q.51 COUNCILLOR MANNIX FLYNN

To ask the Chief Executive to issue a full report with regard to what progress has been made with the consideration of the roll out of a considerate construction program for the whole of the Dublin area.

A program of this nature given the level of construction vehicles and construction activity in the city centre particularly is badly needed.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

A developers requirements in respect of construction activity are set out under conditions attached to the Planning Permission associated with the development. Conditions relating to developments, apart from those to existing residential dwellings in the City require the submission of and approval of a construction management plan associated with the proposed development. This plan is considered by our service departments who either approve it or make recommendations for amendment to it. The developer is then required to comply with the approved plan. Any breaches or complaints received relating to the development are investigated by the Planning Enforcement Section and appropriate action under the Enforcement provisions of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended) is taken where breaches are observed/proven following investigation.

In addition to this the Planning Department in consultation with the Environmental Health Section of DCC has drafted a detailed construction protocol document that requires and encourages more engagement between developers and locals and applies to all development in the Docklands and surrounding areas. This document will be rolled out to all medium and large scale developments in the City during the course of this year and for future developments beyond this period.

Q.52 COUNCILLOR MANNIX FLYNN

Can the CEO initiate a full impact assessment on the proposed pilot scheme/temporary measures for the proposed Liffey cycle route. This pilot scheme is a major change for road users and pedestrians and cyclists who use the routes along the Liffey to exit and enter the city.

The size and scale of the works even as a temporary measure or pilot scheme constitute in planning law an entire material change. The manner in which this vote was taken in DCC chambers without prior consultation with the Traffic SPC and its Chairperson raised serious questions. It is important that DCC initiate a full impact assessment given the concerns that were raised at the special meeting of the Traffic and Transport SPC which was rather badly attended by the many councillors who voted in favour of this pilot scheme.

It was deemed at the Traffic and Transport SPC that this hurried and unthoughtout process would create a reckless endangerment to motorists cyclists and pedestrians and should not proceed under the present guise. There appears to be no input whatsoever from Garda Traffic management in relation to the workings of this pilot scheme. The least DCC could do to give some confidence and to allay fears is to initiate a full impact assessment not only on the health and safety aspects of this pilot scheme but also the potential negative impact on the city and business economy.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The interim scheme was prepared at the request of the full City Council and the report setting out what was proposed was agreed at the March meeting of the full City Council. A Transportation SPC meeting was held on the 11th of March 2020 and it was agreed that this meeting complies with the requirement of Report No. 70/2020 of the City Council on the 2nd of March.

Q.53 COUNCILLOR KEITH CONNOLLY

To ask the Chief Executive to arrange for the installation of no dumping signage at (details supplied below)

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The Public Domain Officer has arranged for this request to be carried out when waste Management resume full service.

Q.54 COUNCILLOR KEITH CONNOLLY

To ask the Chief Executive can he provide an updated timeline on the insulation/retrofit of Dublin City Council properties?

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

We are currently in the tender evaluation stage of Phase 2 of The Energy Efficiency/Retrofitting programme. We had targeted recommencing the programme in Q2 of 2020. We are proceeding with the tender evaluations at present and still hope to meet this targeted timeframe however we cannot confirm with certainty in light of the current unprecedented situation.

Q.55 COUNCILLOR KEITH CONNOLLY

To ask the Chief Executive to arrange for a review of the decision not to install ramps on (details supplied) a number of adjoining roads have ramps and as a result this is being used as a rat run with constant speeding.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

With respect to the request for ramps, the Transport Advisory Group Funds for Capitol works for 2020 have been fully allocated as presented at the discretionary funds meeting earlier this year.

TAG are working with the area office to assess if funding can be made available from another source. Failing this, the request will be re assessed with a view to implementation on the 2021 works program.

Q.56 COUNCILLOR KEITH CONNOLLY

To ask the Chief Executive to arrange the inspection of the boiler at (**details supplied**).

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Housing Maintenance will arrange an inspection of the boiler and if deemed in need of repair/replacement, all necessary works will be carried out.

Q.57 COUNCILLOR JOE COSTELLO

To ask the Chief Executive if DCC will review its policy and its implementation of that policy on control of dogs in City Council complexes in view of the recent mauling to death of an 8-year-old boy by two Rottweilers in Tallaght.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

In July 2007, Dublin City Council made an addendum to the Tenancy Agreement, which included a Ban Dogs List. This list includes several breeds of dog, which are banned from all Dublin City Council complexes and housing estates, Clause 34 of the Tenancy Agreement reads as follows;

"The following dogs are banned from Dublin City Council estates;

American Pit Bull Terrier, Bull Mastiff, Dobermann Pinscher, English Bull Terrier, German Shepard (Alsatian), Japanese Akita, Japanese Tosa, Rhodesian Ridgeback, Rottweiler, Staffordshire Bull Terrier, and every dog of type known as a Ban Dog (or Bandog) and every other strain or cross of every breed or type of dog legislated under the Control of Dog Regulations 1998, and the tenant, or any member of the household shall not keep, or permit to be kept, any of the above, in the dwelling or in any common areas of the dwelling.

Failure to comply with the terms of this section will be deemed to be in breach of your tenancy agreement and will result in a review of the said agreement and the initiation of court proceedings with the potential loss of your home.

The term "dog" includes a bitch of any age or any dog of any age. "

Dublin City Council will be reviewing its current tenancy agreement and Clause 34 will form part of that review.

Q.58 COUNCILLOR JOE COSTELLO

To ask the Chief Executive to outline measures he has put in place across all Departments to combat COVID-19.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

DCC has closely followed HSE and Government guidelines in relation to staff safety while endeavouring to keep essential services operational. All departments including public counters remain open albeit with managed access and controls. Over 1500 staff have the capacity to work remotely. Staff who are required to come to work are operating flexible arrangements such as staggered starting times, revised shifts and crew splitting while maintaining social distancing and observing all safety protocols. These arrangements apply to all staff working in DCC premises and are subject to constant review.

Q.59 COUNCILLOR JOE COSTELLO

To ask the CE if he will outline the timescale for processing housing/HAP applications and if he will put measures in place during COVID-19 to ensure that the applications of all those entitled to social housing and HAP are processed in a timely manner.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The timescale for processing complete and valid HAP applications is currently 10 days. Arrangements have been put in place to ensure that HAP applications continue to be processed in a timely manner during COVID-19. As a result of the restrictions on travel

recently announced by the government, final meetings, which are the final step in the application process, are now being held between staff and applicants by telephone. To ensure there are no unnecessary delays the relevant HAP documentation, to be signed by applicants for submission to the HAP Shared Services Centre for approval, may be returned to the HAP Section either by email or in the prepaid envelopes provided. We will continue to review our processes during COVID-19 to ensure that all applications continue to be processed in a timely manner.

Q.60 COUNCILLOR JOE COSTELLO

To ask the CE to give a full account of the East Link Bridge community grant fund for each of the last three years including the total budget, the amount disbursed to each beneficiary, and to outline the criteria for the allocation of funds and procedures for making an application to the 2020 fund.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

A reply will issue to the Councillor within 2 weeks.

Q.61 COUNCILLOR JAMES GEOGHEGAN

To ask the chief executive further to question 42 on the 2nd of March 2020 to list the Community and Voluntary groups in tabular form and corresponding monies distributed to them from the €1 million grant from the department of Rural and Community Development; if he could outline the process for the allocation of these monies and how community and voluntary groups can apply to receive this funding.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The €1 million grant referred to in Q42 to the City Council Meeting on 2nd March, 2020, referred to a grant allocation from the Department of Rural and Community Development (the Department) under the Dublin City Community Enhancement Programme 2018.

In May 2018, the Department allocated €212,306 to the Dublin City Local Community Development Committee (LCDC) for the awarding of capital grants to local community and voluntary groups, not for profit organisations and state departments or agencies. At its meeting on 17th May, 2018, the LCDC nominated a Community Enhancement Programme sub-committee to oversee the process. In July, a further €33,334 was allocated to Dublin City to be ring-fenced for small-scale capital grants for Men's Sheds within the Dublin City administrative area. On 5th September, 2018, the Department announced a further €1,117,518 under the Community Enhancement Programme for Dublin City bringing the total amount of funding available to €1,363,158. In early October, the LCDC Community Enhancement Programme sub-committee, having previously considered the guidelines as issued by the Department, carried out a full assessment of applications received under the criteria for selection - potential to contribute to Goal 5 of the Dublin City Local Economic and Community Plan, geographical balance, prioritise projects or facilities located in disadvantaged areas or working to promote social inclusion, demonstrated need for the project and number of people that will benefit and demonstrated collaboration with other organisations. The recommendations of the Sub-Committee were approved by the full LCDC at its meeting in October. Details of the Programme were noted and approved by the City Council meeting in November 2018.

Attached is the list of groups who received funding under this Programme. In 2019, the Department's allocation under the Programme was €212,306 and €39,267 which was ring-fenced funding for Men's and Women's Sheds. To date there has been no announcement from the Department in relation to a 2020 allocation.

Q.62 COUNCILLOR JAMES GEOGHEGAN

To ask the chief executive if the Parks Department or any other relevant department within Dublin City Council could assist in identifying additional playing fields for Ranelagh Gaels GAA team which previously had access to playing fields in Herbert Park.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

If Ranelagh Gaels wishes to make contact with the Parks and Landscaping Services on the email below and provide current information on the number of teams/players and existing facilities we will consider their request, please note there are no new playing pitches in the area.

Q.63 COUNCILLOR JAMES GEOGHEGAN

To ask the chief executive if there could be engagement with commercial Landlords in Ranelagh village that currently have no tenants with a view to re-establishing the Ranelagh Arts Centre or similar Ranelagh Community Centre even on a temporary basis in a location in the village following the passage of Covid-19 restrictions with the support of Dublin City Council.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The City Arts Office has engaged with members of the Ranelagh Arts Centre over the past year and also with a new theatre company that is actively seeking premises in Ranelagh. It is more advisable for the Groups involved to engage directly with the Landlords concerned and seek advice and support from the Arts Office and Property section than for DCC to engage directly. This approach has worked well in other areas of the City such as Phibsboro leading to favourable short-term lettings and rents.

Q.64 COUNCILLOR JAMES GEOGHEGAN

To ask the Chief Executive if Donnybrook village can be considered for a village improvement plan in the new Dublin City Development Plan that will succeed the Dublin City Development Plan 2016–2022, noting that the village has never received a local environmental improvement plan, village improvement plan or village design statement in the past three development plans between 2005 and present day.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The current 2016-22 City Development Plan contains (at para 2.2.8) a list of 31 localities in the city with the aim of preparing up to 3 Local Environmental Improvement Plans (LEIPs), Village improvement Plans (VIPs), or other appropriate plans, in so far as priorities and resources permit. It is acknowledged that Donnybrook is not on this extensive list.

The review of the next (2022-28) City Development Plan will commence this autumn, and this will provide the opportunity to review and prioritise all our urban villages for LEIPs etc. as appropriate.

Q.65 COUNCILLOR CATHERINE STOCKER

To ask the Chief Executive what measures will the Council take to improve the area at the entrance to Kilbarrack Dart Station from Grange Park Crescent?

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The area beneath the over bridge was enclosed by a railing last year to try and limit the dumping and fire setting that was taking place. The area behind the railings has been extensively planted with wildflowers which will greatly improve the look of area with a colourful display and sequence of flowering from late spring/early summer until late in the year.

Work was carried out in December and early January 2020, (railings installed, solar lights were put in at the pedestrian walkway. This work was funded through the 2019 Discretionary budget.

I would like to continue with works this year if funding is available to do so. I am hoping to make an application for funding under the Anti-Dumping Initiative. The application for this funding is due to open in March. This date may change due to the COVID 19 restrictions.

Q.66 COUNCILLOR CATHERINE STOCKER

To ask the Chief Executive what stock of fully wheelchair accessible social housing the council and AHB's have at their disposal and what active efforts are being made to acquire more of same?

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Part M of the Building Regulations 2010 makes it mandatory for all new housing to be fully wheelchair accessible including the provision of accessible toilets for visitors.

DCC have developed and are developing a number of schemes (set out below) which go beyond the above minimum standards and meet compliance with Universal Design Standards, Universal Design Plus and the standards set out by the Irish Wheelchair Association for "wheelchair liveable" homes. In developments for older persons, it is normal practice to provide 5%-10% of units that are "wheelchair liveable". The number being based on the assessment of need in the local area.

DCC's City Architects are liaising with the Disability Steering Group, the Irish Wheelchair Association, and Occupational Therapists in developing templates which will be presented to the DHPLG which it is hoped will cater for the wide diversity of needs encountered by DCC in building homes for persons on our housing list.

Schemes:

Inchicore Housing with Supports: This collaboration between DCC, HSE and Circle/Alone Housing Association will provide 52 units of accommodation for older persons with specific needs who wish to live independently and remain in their homes for as long as possible. These units will be wheelchair liveable.

Cherry Orchard (Rapid Build) – 3 x bungalows designed in accordance with the universal design guidelines. The size of the units will allow for future adaptation to be carried out to the particular needs of the occupants.

Bunratty Road (volumetric apartments) – 4 x 2 bed accessible units designed to universal plus design.

Cork Street/Chamber Street (volumetric) – 2 x 2 bed accessible universal design plus apartments

Springvale : 3 x 2 bed accessible universal design plus units

Glin Court: 36 units (these units are designed above the minimum regulation and the size of the unit will allow for future adaptation works to be carried out)

St. Finbar's Court : 46 homes (these units are designed above the minimum regulation and the size of the unit will allow for future adaptation works to be carried out)

Infirmary Road: 6 x 1 bed accessible apartments - Part M compliant

Cornamona Court : 6 x fully accessible units. The remaining 23 units designed to meet Part M compliance with level access shower facilities in each unit.

North King Street: 2 x 1 bed accessible units – Part M compliant

Dominick Street: 3 x 2 beds and 3 x 1 beds accessible units with apartment layouts being Part M compliant.

Delivery by AHBs has seen 19 units of “wheelchair liveable” units being provided at Beechhill Terrace, Donnybrook, Dublin 4, by the Royal Hospital Donnybrook and Respond have recently provided 6 “wheelchair liveable” units in their development at Martana House, Drumcondra, Dublin 9. Where AHBs are developing new schemes and where planning permission has not been granted, DCC would require a percentage of units to be provided which are future proofed subject, to the need in that area.

In addition, DCC also has a scheme of disabled person’s adaptation grants which can be applied for subject, to a medical report, to existing housing stock.

Q.67 COUNCILLOR CATHERINE STOCKER

To ask the Chief Executive to mandate in new contracts being issued for coffee/tea provision in public parks – such as the new coffee pavilion near the playground in St Anne’s park and the new tearooms in Fairview park - a co-cup scheme, similar to that in use in the civic offices coffee shop and to prohibit use of single use cups. It is vital we take measures to tackle single use cup generation and although many outlets are using compostable/biodegradable cups the reality is that these are not being disposed of appropriately.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE’S REPLY:

Tearooms in Dublin City Council Parks adhere to best practice standards with regard to the quality of fresh artisan produce on offer and environmental standards with regard to eliminating single use plastic, promoting the use of compostable cups and the use of re-usable cups.

In any future licenses for tearooms we will include a requirement for the operator to sign up to the conscious cup campaign which seeks to reward customers for using reusable cups.

Q.68 COUNCILLOR CATHERINE STOCKER

To ask the manager to outline the situation at present for individuals and families in emergency accommodation in light of the current crisis. Have any additional support measures been put in place? Are there ongoing efforts to secure own door accommodation for those experiencing homelessness?

CHIEF EXECUTIVE’S REPLY:

I attach herewith the briefing document which recently issued to Councillors which sets out in detail the most up to date information on homeless accommodation/facilities at this time.

Q.69 COUNCILLOR HAZEL DE NORTÚIN

To ask the Chief Executive what measures have been put in place for DCC staff and their safety?

What is the situation for agency staff?

What departments that deal directly with members of the public have been kept open and what are the precautions for those staff that have been put in place?

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

DCC has closely followed HSE and Government guidelines in relation to staff safety while endeavouring to keep essential services operational. All departments including public counters remain open albeit with managed access and controls. Over 1500 staff have the capacity to work remotely. Staff who are required to come to work are operating flexible arrangements such as staggered starting times, revised shifts and crew splitting while maintaining social distancing and observing all safety protocols. These arrangements apply to all staff working in DCC premises and are subject to constant review.

Q.70 COUNCILLOR HAZEL DE NORTÚIN

To ask the Chief Executive - are registrations for homeless individuals and families still open?

What systems have been put in place in Parkgate Street to accommodate that service? What measures have been put in place to facilitate families in emergency accommodation to be able to cook and if needed to self-isolate? Are we acquiring accommodation to enable us to house people out of hubs and hotels?

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

I attach herewith the briefing document which recently issued to Councillors which sets out in detail the most up to date information on homeless accommodation/facilities at this time.

Q.71 COUNCILLOR HAZEL DE NORTÚIN

To ask the Chief Executive has management put any steps in place to purchase the short term rental accommodation that has recently become available?

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

There is a significant Acquisitions Programme (Housing Apartments) in place and relevant resources attached to it. The recent adjustment in the property market will likely give us enhanced opportunities to purchase units for use as Social Housing and at better cost value than was the case up to a few weeks ago.

While we do need to be conscious of other particular buyers in particular First-Time Buyers, it is intended to maximise as much as possible the number of acquisitions in 2020.

It is important to remember that these Short Term Rental properties are in private ownership and they may not be interested in selling but rather continuing to rent.

However, this may provide opportunities for the City Council Long Term Leasing to create HAP tenancies or indeed to lease emergency accommodation.

Q.72 COUNCILLOR HAZEL DE NORTÚIN

To ask the Chief Executive what precautions have been put in place for DCC cleansing and Waste Management staff in relation to COVID 19?

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Staff in Waste Management services are operating revised work schedules and shift regimes without overlapping shifts. These arrangements allow for social distancing while providing contingency in the event that staff become unavailable for work. Enhanced hygiene and safety protocols are being followed in line with HSE guidelines with all arrangements under constant review.

Q.73 COUNCILLOR TINA MAC VEIGH

To ask the Chief Executive whether he will consider the purchase of some of the short term rental accommodation that has recently become available on the housing rental so as to increase our stock of housing.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

There is a significant Acquisitions Programme (Housing Apartments) in place and relevant resources attached to it. The recent adjustment in the property market will likely give us enhanced opportunities to purchase units for use as Social Housing and at better cost value than was the case up to a few weeks ago. While we do need to be conscious of other particular buyers in particular First-Time Buyers, it is intended to maximise as much as possible the number of acquisitions in 2020.

It is important to remember that these Short Term Rental properties are in private ownership and they may not be interested in selling but rather continuing to rent. However, this may provide opportunities for the City Council Long Term Leasing to create HAP tenancies or indeed to lease emergency accommodation.

Q.74 COUNCILLOR JOHN LYONS

To ask the Chief Executive to explain in detail how individuals, couples and families currently residing in our temporary emergency accommodation facilities can practise the physical distancing, self-isolation and self-quarantining recommended by the WHO and HSE in response to the outbreak of the corona virus COVID-19 and to request that he move immediately to transfer all families, couples and individuals in emergency accommodation to own-door accommodation.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

I attach herewith the briefing document which recently issued to Councillors which sets out in detail the most up to date information on homeless accommodation/facilities at this time.

Q.75 COUNCILLOR JANE HORGAN JONES

To ask the Chief Executive, in the reply to Q.30 February NCAC, I have been informed that contradictory evidence was submitted in respect of the metal cages fixed in the footpath of **details supplied**.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Dublin City Council is not indicating that anybody is claiming adverse possession at this location. There is conflicting evidence/statements relating to the length of time that the area concerned has been used for storage of goods in metal cages. The area is not in charge of DCC and is a private footpath/parking area in front of a row of commercial premises. DCC are of the view that if we take a case relating to the display cages that we are not in a position to state that the area has not been used in excess of seven years given the evidence we have. It is open to the complainant in this case to take their own action under Section 160 of the Planning and Development Act 2000 if they consider it appropriate. Dublin City Council do not consider that there is a sustainable case relating to this matter.

Q.76 COUNCILLOR JANE HORGAN JONES

To ask the Chief Executive, Re Q31 February NCAC, the reply states that the costs amounted to €2,686.60. Can you clarify whether this is inclusive of VAT?

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

€2686.60 was the overall total costs including VAT

Q.77 COUNCILLOR JANE HORGAN JONES

To ask the Chief Executive re Q32 February NCAC, I note the Valuation Office was contacted in November 2019 regarding the applicable ratings for (**details supplied**). Have you received any update from the Valuation Office, and if so what update? If you received no reply of the Valuation Office, when will a gentle reminder be issued?

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The position remains unchanged. We are still awaiting an update from the Valuation Office. It should be noted that due to Covid 19 they are not carrying out inspections for the foreseeable future.

Q.78 COUNCILLOR JANE HORGAN JONES

To ask the Chief Executive Re Q34 February NCAC, I asked you how many inspections were carried out by the planning enforcement office for (**details supplied 1**).

You advised that there have been approximately thirty (30) inspections carried out, which suggest that there was an inspection at (**detailed supplied 1**) every single day. Is this correct?

How many of those daily inspections concerned (**detailed supplied 2**)? Of those that concerned (**detailed supplied 2**), how many visits were unannounced?

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

That is the overall total number of inspections that were carried out by the Planning Enforcement Officer for the (**detailed supplied 1**) area within her area (North Central) at the time the reply issued for Q34 February NCAC. It does not refer to the number that were carried out specifically relating to **details supplied 2**. The wording of the question was broader than just inspections relating to **details supplied 2**.

Three inspections were carried out since January 2020.

Q.79 COUNCILLOR SÉAMAS MCGRATTAN

To ask the Chief Executive can Dublin City Council consider using the fenced off grassland area immediately outside the Cabra vehicular entrance to the Phoenix Park, as a community allotment for local residents.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The Assistant Area Community Officer is working with a local group of residents in the Blackhorse Ave area. They are at a very early stage in discussing whether the site could be used as a community garden. The Area Community Officer will report back to the Councillor as soon as any developments arise.

Q.80 COUNCILLOR SÉAMAS MCGRATTAN

To ask the Chief Executive to consider extending the hours of the school traffic warden at the Kinvara Ave/Park junction to include the students that leave at 2.15pm. Also could a second warden be added to cover the second set of traffic lights here.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The Road Safety Unit has adjusted the time of the School Warden on Kinvara Avenue/Park junction from 2.20pm start to 2.15pm start to attend to the needs of students finishing at 2.15. The request for an additional School Warden at this junction has been added to the system for the attention of the Traffic Advisory Group.

Q.81 COUNCILLOR SÉAMAS MCGRATTAN

To ask the Chief Executive to put a camera into the sewerage pipes outside (**details supplied**) to establish why sewerage has constantly spilled over here for many years.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Housing Maintenance will arrange for a camera to inspect the sewage pipes at this address and all necessary works will be carried out.

Q.82 COUNCILLOR SÉAMAS MCGRATTAN

To ask the Chief Executive if an emergency budget can be called for by Dublin City Council in the light of the current economic crisis due to the likely fall off of commercial rates and housing rents.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Dublin City Council is closely monitoring its budget at this time, in terms of cash flow, income and expenditure. The Rates Office team is working with businesses impacted by the Covid 19 pandemic. Our focus is on engaging with each business in a sympathetic and supportive manner. In this evolving situation businesses are contacting us on a daily basis. It is expected to be some weeks before an accurate financial assessment of the situation can be made. In the interim, a thorough review of all income and expenditure has commenced.

Q.83 COUNCILLOR NAOISE Ó MUIRÍ

Can the CEO please deal with the following (**details supplied**)

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

If the resident wishes to make contact with the Parks Service on the email below a copy of the Memorial Bench and Tree Policy will be forwarded.

Policies are also available on Dublin City Council website at the following location : <http://www.dublincity.ie/main-menu-services-recreation-culture-dublin-city-parks/policies>

Q.84 COUNCILLOR NAOISE Ó MUIRÍ

Can the Chief Executive please deal with the following (**details supplied**).

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The Property Disposals Section is in correspondence with the property owner in question and once he has identified the exact dimensions of the plot in which he is interested the matter will be progressed.

Similar applications are regularly made in respect of plots of ground in the Marino area which are landlocked and surplus to requirements. While the Council is agreeable to such disposals in principle the terms and conditions must be agreed with the applicant and then are subject to the statutory consent of the Elected Members.

Q.85 COUNCILLOR NAOISE Ó MUIRÍ

Can the Chief Executive please organise for road repairs to be carried out at the following locations (**details supplied**):

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Road Maintenance Services has logged repairs at this location. These will be completed when a works crew is next available at this location.

Q.86 COUNCILLOR NAOISE Ó MUIRÍ

Can the Chief Executive confirm that a resolution is in progress in relation to changes to public litter bin arrangements for Bram Stoker Park as set out in the correspondence below (**details supplied**).

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The Big Belly Bins have been trialled in a number of locations around the city and have proved to have been more than successful. These smart bins have a greatly increased capacity and allow for monitoring of bin usage and provide alerts when the bins are approaching capacity to avoid overflowing bins a recognised contributor to littering.

Bram Stoker Park is a small urban park with 3 bins and an ongoing litter issue. Unfortunately it is recognised internationally that the provision of bins alone is not enough to encourage habitual litterers to modify their behaviour and a communication strategy is also required. The installation of these modern bins will act as a 'nudge' tactic to remind park users that using the bin is the right thing to do. Also these bins allow for branded messages on the side to encourage their usage which can be regularly changed.

While it was intended to replace the 3 existing bins with 1 bin in the centre of the park it has been since decided that 2 of these bins located at the junction of the paths at each side of the park will be sufficient for a park of this size. This will move the bins into the park by some meters away from the inappropriate usage and dumping that regularly occurs on the western side of the park. The 2 new bins will be clearly visible and all visitors to the park will have to pass by one of these bins both on the way in and the way out of the park.

Q.87 COUNCILLOR DONNA COONEY

To ask the Chief Executive if temporary ways of increasing physical distancing could be facilitated by DCC by increasing pavement width in places taking some space from roads that are much emptier, increasing phasing and frequency of pedestrian lights, preference to cyclists and pedestrians/active transport to facilitate crossing over quicker and separate and not waiting in groups at crossings, or on traffic islands, explore the use of zebra crossings on popular walks example crossing the causeway at Dollymount and any other useful ways to increase physical outdoor distancing and permeability in our City and communities”

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Currently there is a much reduced footfall in the city as well as a significant reduction in traffic volumes and so at present we have not identified any areas where additional measures to ensure social distancing are needed. However we are monitoring the situation and if there is a requirement for us to take additional measures then we will do so. Also if there are any areas that at present are a cause for concern please let us know and we can investigate if any action is needed.

A number of pedestrian crossing in the city centre area are now on permanent demand from 07:00- 19:00 which allows them to operate more frequently and reduces any issues with pedestrians waiting. . As there has been a decrease in traffic the overall cycle time (the time between each movement being called) has reduced which has resulted in a reduction of wait times for pedestrian crossings. We continue to monitor the situation and if there are any locations which cause concern please let us know and we can investigate. In an effort to assist with promoting the public health safety message in relation to the Covid 19, Parks and Landscaping Services installed a number of social distancing signs on the footpaths in over 40 Dublin City Council Parks on Thursday 26th March 2020.

Q.88 COUNCILLOR DONNA COONEY

To ask the Chief Executive if he is confident that we will maintain adequate supply of drinking water and what contingency plans are in place should there be a shortfall in place.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

As this issue is a matter for Irish Water it should be referred directly to Irish Water.

Please call the Lo-Call telephone number 1890 278 278 and identify yourself as an Elected Representative. You will be put through to the Local Representative Support Desk in Irish Water's Customer Contact Centre who will deal with you directly. Alternatively, there is a specific e-mail address at Irish Water for Councillors: LocalRepSupport@water.ie.

The Local Representative Support Desk at Irish Water operates from 9.00am – 5.30pm, Monday to Friday.

The following are the contact details for Irish Water:

Telephone: 1890 278 278 (Lo-Call)
Web: www.water.ie
Twitter: @IrishWater
Postal Address: Irish Water, PO Box 860, South City Delivery Office, Cork City.

Q.89 COUNCILLOR DONNA COONEY

To ask the chief executive if an online plebiscite similar to beta projects can be used to engage with Dublin Citizens on Covid 19 on building resilient communities and ideas, solutions they may like to share on how to work together through this crisis, offers of free online talks, advice, activities, also targeted engagement with 12-18 year olds encouraging positive home activities, maybe competitions, social games, challenges with rewards.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Your Dublin Your Voice

A Your Dublin Your Voice (YDYV) survey will be carried out in the coming weeks in relation to the COVID-19 pandemic and how it is impacting on citizen's lives. It will also capture suggestions or experiences of how individuals are contributing to and availing of supports within their communities that are assisting them at this difficult time. The demographics of the panel will show how the effects of COVID-19 are impacting on different age groups and household types. The findings which will be disseminated through the Economic and Enterprise SPC, to Councillors and Senior Management and more widely once the survey is concluded and the reporting is completed.

Previous Your Dublin Your Voice survey findings can be found on the Dublin City Council website at:

<http://www.dublincity.ie/main-menu-services-business-economic-development-local-enterprise-office/your-dublin-your-voice>

Comhairle na nOg

Dublin City Comhairle na nOg are focusing on having a positive youth voice online through their social media platforms on Instagram and Twitter during the current crisis.

Comhairle will be using their Young Dublin online platform, developed last summer in partnership with the Communications Unit in Dublin City Council, to share positive information, record daily video dairies and share information from the HSE on Covid-19. They will also be opening up a self-care survey for young people to complete.

Twitter @DCCComhairle Instagram: @youngdublincity @dublincitycomhairle

DCC BETA

A series of COVID-19-related conversations have already been taking place with the community of 11,000 followers of the Dublin City Council BETA initiative on social media and some of the suggested topics can be encompassed in further discussions.

Q.90 COUNCILLOR CAROLYN MOORE

To ask the Chief Executive to provide a full list of planned road upgrades scheduled for 2020.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Please find attached the Road Maintenance Services' Works Programme for 2020

Q.91 COUNCILLOR CAROLYN MOORE

- To ask the Chief Executive, in light of the recent announcement to bring on-street recycling bins to Dublin City Centre:
- What is the anticipated roll-out in terms of number and placement of bins?
- Where and how will the collected recyclable materials be recycled?
- Noting that this scheme is part of the #CircleCity initiative, can the Chief Executive say if there are any plans to provide compost bins in the city centre, given the large number of operations switching to compostable plastics

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The commencement of this project has been delayed due to the ongoing Covid 19 crisis. It is planned to commence with the project as soon as is possible thereafter. The project plans for the provision of up to 70 recycling bin locations in the core city centre and docklands areas.

Recyclable material will be collected and processed through the normal procedure for material that is collected in household kerbside collections. The material will be processed through existing waste industry infrastructure through a recyclables material recovery facility. It is planned that as part of the project that a number of compostable units will also be trialled to assess the success of separating this waste stream 'on-the-go'.

Q.92 COUNCILLOR CAROLYN MOORE

To ask the Chief Executive if, in light of the volume of sanitising wipes being used during the Covid 19 crisis, Dublin City Council has any plans for an awareness campaign around the flushing of wipes to safeguard against future blockages due to the incorrect disposal of wipes.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Since 2014, Irish Water have assumed responsibility for the foul and combined network. It would be their responsibility to launch an awareness campaign concerning wipes in the sewage network. I'll contact Irish Water to reinforce the well-founded concerns of the Councillor.

Q.93 COUNCILLOR CAROLYN MOORE

To ask the Chief Executive if, in light of the Covid 19 crisis and overcrowding in recreational public spaces, some consideration could be given to the temporary pedestrianisation of selected roads to allow for better social distancing.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Currently there is a much reduced footfall in the city as well as a significant reduction in traffic volumes and so at present we have not identified any areas where additional measures to ensure social distancing are needed. However we are monitoring the situation and if there is a requirement for us to take additional measures then we will do so. Also if there are any areas that at present are a cause for concern please let us know and we can investigate if any action is needed.

Q.94 COUNCILLOR JANET HORNER

To ask the chief executive to postpone the eviction of residents of the Ashford garden allotments until such a time as an alternative site can be provided for them or until they are granted permission to stay on the current site. Particularly during the current pandemic response, the allotments provided a much needed and constructive reprieve from stress.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The space occupied (the allotment at the end of Ashford Place) is within the O'Devaney Gardens development site. The issue has been discussed at a number of the community forum meetings on the basis that this space could not be used by third parties (ie parties other than DCC and the developer), for any purpose, as there is simply no scope to gift the land to those third parties. The allotment occupiers were aware of the fact that this space was part of O'Devaney Gardens site and therefore could not be used long term for any other purpose.

The City Council does, of course, try and support community growers wherever possible and will try and identify another suitable location in the immediate area for a legally constituted group who could demonstrate certain levels of governance (capable of entering into some sort of licence or leasing arrangement, insurances, etc). There may be scope to share space on the Infirmary Road site or indeed in one of the many landscaped open spaces planned for the O'Devaney Gardens site (eventually). In any case these possibilities remain to be explored with the allotment group and the developer and will be facilitated by our local area office and the O'Devaney Gardens Project team. In the meantime, the process of ensuring empty possession of the entire site, will have to continue, as this space is part of the site and, as such, is part of the legally binding Development Agreement between the City Council and the developer.

The phasing of the development of the site sees the new homes being built starting with the northern tip of the site (adjacent to the spaces in question) and moving progressively south towards Montpelier over the four to five years of the build. It would not be considered reasonable, in the midst of a housing shortage, to allow the building of new homes to be delayed, especially in the context of this land being specifically zoned for new homes.

Q.95 COUNCILLOR JANET HORNER

To ask the Chief Executive to provide assurance to Councillors that increasing the housing stock of the city will be prioritized in decisions that are made in response to the rapidly changing housing and rental market and to provide assurance that timely updates will be provided to Councillors in relation to long-term leasing, HAP and purchase of residential properties over the coming months as the market adjusts to the COVID-19 crisis?

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

We will continue to present a comprehensive Housing Delivery Report to each monthly meeting of the City Council, a similar report will be presented at the monthly meeting of the Housing SPC. We have been actively pursuing Acquisitions, HAP and Long

Term Leases in the private property market and this work will continue. The recent adjustment in the property market should assist us in gaining enhanced opportunities to maximise the above-mentioned schemes and we aim to grasp as many of these opportunities as possible.

Q.96 COUNCILLOR JANET HORNER

To ask the Chief Executive for a details of the costs for installing pedestrian crossings (with and without the use of the SCATS system) and for a speed ramp?

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The cost for a pedestrian crossing can vary significantly from site to site. The main factors to consider include:

- Number of arms,
- Buildout / change of kerb line required,
- Drainage need to be modified,
- Distance to the nearest surface water drain for connection,
- Distance to the nearest power supply,
- Width of road,
- Utilities to be relocated, and
- And other similar issues

For a rule of thumb, a simple one arm pedestrian crossing for a road width of 6-8m without any complications would cost in the region of €80,000 including all civil and electrical costs.

A four arm junction, for a major route of say 12m in width (2traffic and 2 bus lanes or similar) would cost in the region of €220,000 - €280,000 including all civil and electrical costs. Similarly the cost of a ramp can vary, the main variable being the width of the road and whether it is a bus route or not. If it is a bus route, a 10m long ramp would be used, otherwise a 5m ramp would can be used.

For a rule of thumb, a 5m ramp for a road of 6-8m would be circa €6k while a 10m ramp would cost circa €12k.

Q.97 COUNCILLOR JANET HORNER

To ask the Chief Executive to prepare a report examining the data from the traffic control centre on road traffic accidents which can be made publicly available while complying with the legal parameters in relation to data protection?

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The traffic control centre currently records accidents which either cause traffic issues, require diversions etc. They do not record all accidents nor do they record anything other than an accident has occurred. An Garda Síochána and the Road Safety Authority are the bodies charged with the collection of data regarding accidents and would be the appropriate bodies to seek this information from.

Q.98 COUNCILLOR DARCY LONERGAN

To ask the Chief Executive if there are any plans to install temporary/trial cycle routes in the areas which are experiencing a decrease in traffic volume at the moment.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

There are currently no plans to install temporary/trial cycle routes in response to decreased traffic volumes resulting from the Covid19 restrictions. These would be considered exceptional times and the outcomes of any trials at this time would be of limited value as they would likely be very different once normal conditions return.

Q.99 COUNCILLOR DARCY LONERGAN

To ask the Chief Executive to provide a full list with costings of events supported by the council for International Women's Day on March 8th.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The Local Enterprise Office and the Economic Development Office supported two International Women's Day events as part of the programme of events supporting start up and scaling businesses for Local Enterprise Week – 2nd to 7th March 2020.

WhyDesign 2020

The Economic Development Office supported this event to promote gender balance in the creative industries. IDI (Irish Design Institute) held an event entitled *WhyDesign 2020*, which aims to strike a 50:50 balance in the Design sector. The event was held in Liberty Hall on 4th March and the sponsorship contribution was in the amount of €5,000.

Event Overview:

Internationally renowned keynote speakers, Natalie Maher, founder Kerning the Gap, and Jonathon Colman, Senior Design Manager Intercom, striking a 50:50 balance – WhyDesign's aim in the sector. They will share their stories and talk on why gender equity is simply better. Following the inspiring talks, a topical discussion from key stakeholders proving that balance works for creative business

Full Details on WhyDesign available on Event Brite at: <https://www.eventbrite.ie/e/whydesign-2020-tickets-92196611547>

International Women's Day Networking Event – Collaboration with LEO Dublin City and Dublin Chamber. For the tenth year the Local Enterprise Office Dublin city Women in Business Network collaborated with Dublin Chamber on and International Women's Day event which was held on 5th March in the Davenport Hotel. This event showcased a number of LEO clients who spoke about their journey in creating and developing their businesses and they were joined in a panel discussion by key note female speakers from industry. The Deputy Head of Economic Development and Enterprise gave the welcome address on behalf of the LEO's and the event was attended by staff from the Local Enterprise Office who provided information on the evening. It was also attended by 90 members of the Women in Business Network and the Network Co-ordinator. The event received very positive feedback from those in attendance and the cost of sponsorship was €1,700.

Q.100 COUNCILLOR DARCY LONERGAN

To ask the Chief Executive to examine the possibility of temporarily suspending parking on the Ormond and Inns Quays to facilitate social distancing for pedestrians by providing additional walking space.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Due to the dramatic reduction in both footfall by pedestrians and the number of vehicles parked on the Ormond and Inns Quays at this time, there does not seem to be a need for suspending parking on these quays. There is sufficient space for social distancing by pedestrians who walk along these quays given the very low numbers of pedestrians at this time. This will be carefully monitored and if any additional measures are required to allow for social distancing then they will be implemented.

Q.101 COUNCILLOR DARCY LONERGAN

To ask the Chief Executive to report on progress towards the provisions of the Irish Sign Language Act 2017 including providing a sign language interpretation.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Since October 2018 the Equality Office has arranged for the Irish Sign Language Association to deliver a series of 10 week courses in Irish Sign Language to Dublin City Council employees from various departments and sections. The ISL classes started in October 2018, three have been held and 32 staff have taken part and the courses are continuing.

In addition, the Equality Office also keeps those who have completed the course informed of regular conversation opportunities to encourage people to maintain and develop their level of competence.

Q.102 COUNCILLOR JOHN LYONS

To ask the Chief Executive for a detailed update on the proposals for each of the following sites included in the 2019-2024 Traveller Accommodation Programme: Northern Close, Tara Lawns, Cara Estate, Grove Lane, St. Dominica's Park, Belcamp Lane/Newton Court; to request a report on the procedure one must follow to install a sanitation unit beside a traveller-specific residential unit and to request an update on the status of the units currently vacant in Cara Park.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The following table shows the current proposals for the above named sites under the Traveller Accommodation Programme 2019-2024. The Traveller Accommodation Unit currently has no proposals for the sites at Belcamp Lane/Newtown Court.

TAP 2019-2024					
Capital appraisals submitted to the Department - Stage 1					
Project Ref	Provider	Schemes	Funding	No of	Status
N29/70/146	DCC	Stage 1 submitted to Department on revised Grove Lane Project	TAP	6	Stage 1 approval granted. Project stalled due to aggressive behaviour on site from resident. Illegal occupants removed and barriers to further incursions in place. Working with Security and Dog Warden to remove unlicensed dogs due to incidents with public. Have initiated new consultation with mediator. Mediator has refused to work with this family. Other options being considered.
Schemes at Preliminary Planning/Design					
Project Ref	Provider	Schemes	Funding	No of	Status
	DCC	Rebuild: 1 Northern Close	TAP	1	Beginning process of identifying residents prior to regularising tenancies and beginning redevelopment plans.
N29/70/141	DCC	St. Dominic's Park - refurbishment of 23 bays and electrical works.	TAP	23	Stage 1 application information to be compiled. New design being compiled in consultation with residents. Awaiting final approval on fire wall designs from DFB for Part VIII submission.
	DCC	Cara Park	TAP	8	Stage 1 application information to be compiled. New design being compiled.
N29/70/149	DCC	Tara Lawns - Refurbishment of bays and electrical works	TAP	10	Stage 1 application information to be compiled. New design being compiled in consultation with residents.
	DCC	Temporary site between Tara Lawns and St. Dominics Park to facilitate moves during refurbishment	TAP	12	Stage 1 application information to be compiled. New design being compiled. Site clearance costs to exceed €1million. Residents on site to be regularised. Commitment from families to move when needed.

Sanitation Units are only used on unauthorised sites. There is no provision for placing such units on the curtilage of Traveller Specific Accommodation such as Group Housing Schemes all have access to running water and electricity.

The VOID Units in Cara Park are currently being renovated and once completed will be allocated under the Scheme of Lettings 2018.

Q.103 COUNCILLOR JOHN LYONS

To request an update on the current number of vacant city council properties, both residential and commercial, and a report on the number of residential properties acquired by the city council since 2015, the cost of each one and general location.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**Buy & Renew Scheme:**

There are currently 27 number long term vacant residential properties acquired under the Buy and Renew Scheme that are in the current process of being refurbished and returned to use as housing stock in the near future.

The Total cost of acquisition of these units is **€3,982,620**.

Many of these properties are in a poor state of repair and are undergoing extensive construction works to return them to use and at present the cost of these refurbishment works cannot be determined until all of the works are completed.

The properties are located in the following areas:

Central	North Central	North West	South Central	South East
13	2	4	5	3

The housing acquisition programme has delivered 1,041 units for residential use since 2015. Due to the volume of units, the information requested has been broken down by area and average cost per unit for each year.

	Central	North Central	North West	South Central	South East	Total	Average cost per unit
2015	20	47	26	50	1	144	€205,000
2016	10	46	32	54	3	145	€245,000
2017	20	50	45	46	1	162	€248,000
2018	30	90	53	84	8	265	€290,000
2019	22	111	85	101		319	€280,000
2020	0	3	1	2		6	€258,000

The following are the vacant residential properties in the Dublin City Council Administrative Area:

Current Voids

Status	Central	North Central	North West	South Central	South East	Total
For or with Framework	76	46	65	85	65	337
Direct Labour	20	41	35	24	17	137
Total	96	87	100	109	82	474

The properties above represent approximately 1.90% of available housing stock. In the period to the middle of March 2020 a total of 223 properties had been re-let following refurbishment by Housing Maintenance.

The majority of the Council's commercial property portfolio is currently occupied under lease but a small number of premises are currently vacant as follows:

Status	Central	North Central	North West	South Central	South East	Total
Requiring refurbishment				2	2	4
Lettings or Disposals imminent	1		3			4
Available for letting			4		1	5
Total	1		7	2	2	13