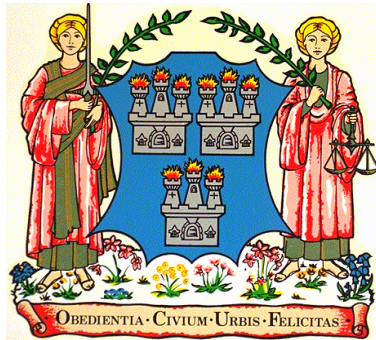


## COMHAIRLE CATHRACH BHAILE ÁTHA CLIATH



Miontuairiscí Chruinniú Míosúil a tionóladh ar **14 MEÁN FÓMHAIR 2020** sa Seomra Cruinn ag Teach an Ardmhéara, Sráid Dhásain, Baile Átha Cliath ag 6.15 i.n.i láthair an tArdmheara Hazel Chu sa chathaoir

### **Comhairleoir:**

Daryl Barron  
Tom Brabazon  
Danny Byrne  
Anthony Connaghan  
Deirdre Conroy  
Daniel Céitinn  
Tara Deacy  
Anne Feeney  
Mary Freehill  
Deirdre Heney  
Dermot Lacey  
Briege MacOscar  
Declan Meenagh  
Críona Ní Dhálaigh  
Claire O'Connor  
Colm O'Rourke  
Michael Pidgeon  
Patricia Roe

### **Comhairleoir:**

Racheal Batten  
Dearbháil Butler  
Mary Callaghan  
Keith Connolly  
Donna Cooney  
Hazel de Nortúin  
Daithí Doolan  
Terence Flanagan  
James Geoghegan  
Janet Horner  
Darcy Lonergan  
Tina MacVeigh  
Carolyn Moore  
Sophie Nicoulaud  
Cat O'Driscoll  
Larry O'Toole  
Noeleen Reilly  
Catherine Stocker

### **Comhairleoir:**

Janice Boylan  
Claire Byrne  
Hazel Chu  
Caroline Conroy  
Joe Costello  
Daithi De Roiste  
Pat Dunne  
Mannix Flynn  
Alison Gilliland  
Vincent Jackson  
John Lyons  
Seamas McGrattan  
Darragh Moriarty  
Naoise Ó'Muirí  
Damian O'Farrell  
Cieran Perry  
Nial Ring  
Michael Watters

### **Oifigigh**

Oliver Douglas  
Owen P. Keegan  
Brendan O'Brien  
Kathy Quinn

Ruth Dowling  
Yvonne Kelly  
John O'Hara  
Richard Shakespeare

John Flanagan  
Brendan Kenny  
Eileen Quinlivan

### 1 Lord Mayor's Business

The Lord Mayor opened the meeting by calling for a moments silence to remember the following politicians who had recently died:

- John Hume, Architect of the Northern Ireland peace process who died on 3<sup>rd</sup> August.
- Former Councillor Ger Dorgan died Monday 10<sup>th</sup> August. He was co-opted to Dublin City Council in July 2003 in the Local Electoral Area of Clontarf and served on the Council for 7 months.

- Former Councillor Eamonn O'Brien who died on 19<sup>th</sup> August 2020. He was a member of the Labour Party and represented the Ballymun area from 1985 to 2004.

The Lord Mayor and Members offered their congratulations to Councillor Mannix Flynn for his documentary aired on national television on 27<sup>th</sup> August and for being the voice of children and adults who have been the victims and are still suffering because of institutional abuse in Ireland.

Due to Covid19, the Lord Mayor's Awards will be held monthly and will be acknowledging those who have worked during the Covid19 pandemic. The Lord Mayor also updated Members that she is working with the Parks Department to create a Memorial to remember those who have died from Covid 19.

The Lord Mayor announced that Councillor Críona Ní Dhálaigh will be resigning from 20<sup>th</sup> September, she paid tribute to Councillor Ní Dhálaigh for all the work that she has done in the 15 years that she has been a Councillor. Representatives from all the political groups on the Council paid tribute to Cllr. Ní Dhálaigh.

It was proposed by Councillor Donna Cooney and seconded by Councillor Deirdre Heney that the meeting adjourn at 8.15 p.m. and reconvene on Monday 21<sup>st</sup> September 2020 at 6.15 p.m. to deal with Item Nos 7, 8 & 10.

The Lord Mayor then requested permission of the City Council to take Emergency Motions. Accordingly, the City Council suspended Standing Orders to agree the following **emergency motions:**

**Emergency Motion 1:**

Dublin City Council calls on the Chief Executive to seek legal advice on the recent An Bórd Pleanála decision to approve a 12 storey block in Santry Dublin 9 against the City Council Recommendation, with a view to taking Judicial Review that there was an error in law by the inspector not concerning the health and Safety regulations and with specific reference to the risk of fire safety concerns of our local fire services not being able to provide proper safe service in an event of a fire.

**Submitted by Councillor Racheal Batten.**

**Emergency Motion 2:**

"This City Council expresses grave concern at the flooding of communities throughout the City with illegal fireworks. Communities across Dublin are reporting widespread fear at the use of these illegal fireworks, often to directly attack people on the streets and in their homes. The nightly explosions are causing to terror to many people, especially vulnerable people including the elderly, as well as family pets.

- We call on the Garda Síochána to use the full powers at their disposal to combat this crime, including laws on possession of illegal fireworks and their use to commit assault.
- We call on the Commissioner and Assistant Commissioner for the Dublin Metropolitan Region to release adequate resources, including overtime, to ensure Gardaí can respond swiftly and appropriately to calls from the public.

- We agree to the urgent establishment of a joint task force with Gardai, City Councillors and City Officials to address this critical situation as we approach Halloween 2020.”

**Submitted by Cllr. Mícheál Mac Donncha, Cllr. Larry O'Toole, Cllr. Críona Ní Dhálaigh, Cllr. Séamas McGrattan, Cllr. Daithí Doolan, Cllr. Daniel Céitinn, Cllr. Janice Boylan. Cllr. Anthony Connaghan.**

**Emergency Motion 3:**

“That Number 40 Herbert Park, Ballsbridge, Dublin 4, be added to the list of protected structures. This was the family home of 1916 leader Mícheál Ó Rathaille (The O’Rahilly) and closely associated with key figures in the Irish Volunteers, the 1916 Rising and the War of Independence.”

**Submitted by Councillor Mícheál MacDonncha.**

**Emergency Motion 4 :**

That the CE give a report on the review and renewal of the contract to operate a dog pound facility at Ashton to Mr. M. Stone, if no review being carried out that he agree to review same now and in the meantime, if he will agree to make provision that no further placement of dogs into the pound will occur until such time as the CE can ensure that no unnecessary suffering is inflicted on any dog the City Council causes to be placed there.

**Submitted by Councillor Deirdre Heney.**

**Emergency Motion 5 :**

That the CEO urgently convene working groups of Senior Management and appropriate elected representatives to put together proposals for projects for EU Recovery Funds (which is 700 billion euros). Furthermore that senior staff and Cllrs area involved in planning for 2021-2027 European funding including ERDF, ESF, EMFF, JTF, AMIF, BMVI, ISF funds. That Dublin Agreement proposals be included. As the European Office has been run down that the Council buy in expertise to put this proposal together.

**Submitted by Cllr. Mary Freehill, Cllr. Dermot Lacey, Cllr. Kevin Donoghue.**

2 Ceisteanna fé Bhuan Ordú Úimhir 16

13 - 71

It was moved by Councillor Anthony Connaghan and seconded by Councillor Keith Connolly “That Dublin City Council approves the Dublin Chief Executive answering the questions lodged”. The motion having been put and carried, written answers to the 153 questions lodged for the City Council meeting were issued. The Questions and Answers are set out in **Appendix A** attached.

3 Correspondence

- (a) Letter dated 2nd March 2020 from the Department of Health regarding an update on their first year implementing the Sláintecare Programme.

It was moved by Councillor Tom Brabazon and seconded by Councillor Vincent Jackson “That Dublin City Council notes the contents of this letter”. The motion was put and carried.

- (b) Letter dated 28th February from Cork County Council conveying the terms of a resolution passed at their recent meeting that Cork County Council write to the appropriate Departments calling on the Government to implement the recommendations of the Report on Reform of the Family Law System October 2019.

It was moved by Councillor Tom Brabazon and seconded by Councillor Vincent

Jackson "That Dublin City Council notes the contents of this letter". The motion was put and carried.

- (c) Letter dated 15th May from Sligo County Council conveying the terms of a resolution passed at their recent meeting proposing that all Local Authorities be funded by the Government in order to maintain the services to make good the rates shortfall with regard to COVID19 payments.  
It was moved by Councillor Tom Brabazon and seconded by Councillor Vincent Jackson "That Dublin City Council notes the contents of this letter". The motion was put and carried.
- (d) Letter dated 16th June from Kerry County Council conveying the terms of a resolution passed at their recent meeting that Kerry County Council write to the Department of An Taoiseach and the Department of Tourism asking that the VAT rate on the tourism industry be reduced to 0% to try alleviate the pressure on related businesses and attempt to avoid decimation of this sector.  
It was moved by Councillor Tom Brabazon and seconded by Councillor Vincent Jackson "That Dublin City Council notes the contents of this letter". The motion was put and carried.
- (e) Letter dated 24th June from Westmeath County Council conveying the terms of a resolution passed at their recent meeting that Westmeath County Council recognising the stress, uncertainty and worrying of the Leaving Certificate Class of 2020 discuss possible options of assisting these students pursue their chosen career this autumn.  
It was moved by Councillor Tom Brabazon and seconded by Councillor Vincent Jackson "That Dublin City Council notes the contents of this letter". The motion was put and carried.
- (f) Letter dated the 25th June from Roscommon County Council conveying the terms of a resolution passed at their recent meeting calling on the Government to financially support all Tidy Towns 7 Voluntary Groups in County Roscommon to ensure maintenance of all public areas not under the remit of the Local Authority. The good work of many volunteers Nationwide needs to be supported.  
It was moved by Councillor Tom Brabazon and seconded by Councillor Vincent Jackson "That Dublin City Council notes the contents of this letter". The motion was put and carried.
- (g) Letter dated the 8th July from Limerick City and County Council conveying the terms of a resolution passed at their recent meeting that Limerick City and County Council write to the Minister for Trade, Enterprise and Employment Leo Varadkar to fund and immediately implement the findings and recommendations of the National Small Business Recovery Plan.  
It was moved by Councillor Tom Brabazon and seconded by Councillor Vincent Jackson "That Dublin City Council notes the contents of this letter". The motion was put and carried.
- (h) Letter dated the 13th July from Sligo County Council conveying the terms of a resolution passed at their recent meeting that Sligo County Council write to the Minister of Agriculture and the Minister of Justice to amend the legislation to permit the Property Registration Authority .  
It was moved by Councillor Tom Brabazon and seconded by Councillor Vincent Jackson "That Dublin City Council notes the contents of this letter". The motion was put and carried.

- (i) Letter dated the 13th July from Waterford City and County Council conveying the terms of a resolution passed at their recent meeting calling on the Government to fully support the “Big Start Campaign” which demands adequate investment to make it affordable, accessible with high quality with professional pay for childcare workers.  
It was moved by Councillor Tom Brabazon and seconded by Councillor Vincent Jackson “That Dublin City Council notes the contents of this letter”. The motion was put and carried.
  - (j) Letter dated the 14th July from Limerick City and County Council conveying the terms of a resolution passed at their recent meeting that Limerick City and County Council totally reject the National Planning Framework policy regarding once-off rural housing based on social and economic need.  
It was moved by Councillor Tom Brabazon and seconded by Councillor Vincent Jackson “That Dublin City Council notes the contents of this letter”. The motion was put and carried.
  - (k) Letter dated the 14th August from Kerry County Council conveying the terms of a resolution passed at their recent meeting that County Council County write to the Minister for Finance and request that a state pension public service fund be put in place for public service workers as a matter of urgency.  
It was moved by Councillor Tom Brabazon and seconded by Councillor Vincent Jackson “That Dublin City Council notes the contents of this letter”. The motion was put and carried.
  - (l) Letter dated the 20th August from Louth County Council conveying the terms of a resolution passed at their recent meeting that Louth County Council establishes a special taskforce with the relevant stakeholders and the local community in light of the impact COVID19 is having and will continue to have on peoples mental health and well being.  
It was moved by Councillor Tom Brabazon and seconded by Councillor Vincent Jackson “That Dublin City Council notes the contents of this letter”. The motion was put and carried.
  - (m) Letter dated 21st August 2020 from Fermanagh & Omagh District Council to the Northern Ireland Health Minister calling for Care Homes to be brought into public ownership in the context of an all-island health care service, free at the point of entry.  
It was moved by Councillor Tom Brabazon and seconded by Councillor Vincent Jackson “That Dublin City Council notes the contents of this letter”.  
The motion was put and carried.
- 4 To confirm the minutes of the Annual City Council Meeting held on the 29th June 2020, the City Council Monthly Meeting held on the 6th July 2020 and the Adjourned Monthly City Council Meeting held on the 13th July 2020.

The minutes of the Annual City Council Meeting held on 29<sup>th</sup> June 2020, the minutes of the City Council Monthly Meeting held on the 6<sup>th</sup> July and the adjourned Monthly City Council Meeting held on 13<sup>th</sup> July having been printed, certified by the Meetings Administrator, circulated to the Members and taken as read, were signed by the Lord Mayor.

5 To fill vacancies on the following committees and outside bodies:

- (a) One vacancy on the Board of the Dublin City BID Company trading as Dublin Town (Social Democrats).

It was proposed by Councillor Catherine Stocker and seconded by Councillor Deirdre Heney that Councillor Cat O'Driscoll be appointed as a member of the Board Dublin City BID Company trading as Dublin Town.

- (b) One Vacancy on the Dublin City Council Audit Committee (Fianna Fáil).  
It was agreed that this item be deferred.

- (c) Two vacancies on the Moore Street Advisory Group (Fianna Fáil and one other).

It was proposed by Councillor Deirdre Heney and seconded by Councillor Daithí de Róiste that one vacancy be deferred. The Lord Mayor agreed to write to the Minister to request that four Councillors be on the Moore Street Advisory Group.

Two Councillors were proposed to fill one vacancy, It was proposed by Councillor Deirdre Heney and seconded by Cieran Perry that Councillor Nial Ring be appointed as a member of the Moore Street Advisory Group.

It was proposed by Councillor Seamas McGrattan and seconded by Councillor Janice Boylan that Councillor Mícheál MacDonncha be appointed as a member of the Moore Street Advisory Group.

Councillor Nial Ring received 33 votes and Councillor Mícheál Mac Donncha received 16 votes. Councillor Nial Ring was appointed as a member of the Moore Street Advisory Group.

- (d) One Vacancy on the Dublin City Joint Policing Committee (Fianna Fáil).  
It was proposed by Councillor Daithí de Róiste and seconded by Councillor Keith Connolly that Councillor Deirdre Heney be appointed as a member of the Dublin City Joint Policing Committee.

- (e) One Vacancy on the National Maternity Hospital (Social Democrats).  
It was proposed by Councillor Catherine Stocker and seconded by Councillor Cat O'Driscoll that Councillor Patricia Roe be selected as Dublin City Council's nominee to the Board of the National Maternity Hospital.

- (f) One Vacancy on the Housing Strategic Policy Committee (Fianna Fáil).  
It was proposed by Councillor Deirdre Heney and seconded by Councillor Keith Connolly that Councillor Racheal Batten be appointed as a member of the Housing Strategic Policy Committee.

- (g) One Vacancy on the Protocol Committee (Independent).  
It was agreed to defer this item.

- (h) Appointment of Chairperson of the Dublin City Joint Policing Committee.  
Pursuant to the Garda Síochána Act 2005 Joint Policing Committees Guidelines August 2014, the elected members of the JPC should elect the chair. This matter was referred to the Dublin City Joint Policing Committee.

- 6 Report No. 219/2020 of the Head of Finance (K. Quinn) - Monthly Local Fund Statement and reports as submitted under the EU/IMF Framework.

It was proposed by Councillor Vincent Jackson and seconded by Councillor Keith Connolly that Dublin City Council notes the contents of Report No. 219/2020. The motion was put and carried.

- 7 Report No. 217/2020 of the Head of Finance (K. Quinn) - Budget 2021 Public Consultation Process.

This item was deferred to the adjourned meeting on 21<sup>st</sup> September 2020.

- 8 Report No. 216/2020 of the Head of Finance (K. Quinn) - Draft Budget Strategy for Financial Year 2021 in compliance with the Local Government (Financial and Audit Procedures) Regulations 2014.

This item was deferred to the adjourned meeting on 21<sup>st</sup> September 2020.

- 9 Report No. 243/2020 of the Chief Executive (O. Keegan) - With Reference to Temporary Overdraft Accommodation on Capital and Revenue Accounts for the Period from 1st January to 31st December 2021.

It was proposed by Councillor Naoise Ó Muirí and seconded by Councillor Vincent Jackson that Dublin City Council notes the contents of Report No 243/2020 and hereby approves the borrowing requirement as set out therein, subject to the sanction of the Minister for Housing, Planning and Local Government. The motion was put and carried.

- 10 Report No. 218/2020 of the Chief Executive (O. Keegan) - Consideration of the Local Property Tax Local Adjustment Factor in respect of the financial year 2021.

This item was deferred to the adjourned meeting on 21<sup>st</sup> September 2020.

- 11 Report No. 224/2020 of the Traffic & Transport Strategic Policy Committee - With reference to Report on the Public Consultation on Dublin City Council's Special Speed Limit Bye-Laws 2020 (Covid 19)

The following amendment was proposed by Councillor Naoise Ó Muirí and seconded by Councillor Damien O'Farrell "propose to amend Report 224/2020 to insert the following text after the third paragraph (paragraph ending in "advising of higher speed limits" in the Recommended Section : A revised speed limit of 40 km/h for suburban roads will be implemented on specific designated roads outside the canals as follows:

"Roads to be considered for designation include Griffith Avenue, Collins Avenue, & Collins Avenue East, Oscar Traynor Road and Malahide Road (Ardlea Road junction to Fairview). Final designated roads by area to be agreed in consultation with each Area Committee. Once the Area Committee consultation is complete the 40km/h proposal should be put on display for a further round of public consultation."

The amendment to the report was put to a vote and carried. There were 32 votes in favour and 18 against. As this is a change to the scheme as advertised, Dublin City Council is required to go back out to public consultation.

The report was referred back to the Traffic and Transportation SPC for reconsideration in light of the motion that was agreed.

- 12 Report No. 240/2020 of the Chief Executive (O. Keegan) - with reference to Variations 28 - 30 of the City Development Plan 2016-2020.

It was proposed by Councillor Vincent Jackson and seconded by Councillor Daithí Doolan that Dublin City Council adopts Report No.240A/2020 and makes Variation (No.28) to the Dublin City Development Plan 2017 – 2022 as outlined in the report”.  
The motion was put to a vote and carried.

It was proposed by Councillor Anthony Connaghan and seconded by Councillor Daryl Barron that Dublin City Council adopts Report No. 240B/2020 and makes Variation (No.29) to the Dublin City Development Plan 2017 – 2022 as outlined in the report”.  
The motion was put to a vote and carried.

It was proposed by Councillor Keith Connolly and seconded by Councillor Anthony Connaghan that Dublin City Council adopts Report No. 240C/2020 and makes Variation (No.30) to the Dublin City Development Plan 2017 – 2022 as outlined in the report”.  
The motion was put to a vote and carried.

- 13 Report No. 211/2020 of the Chairperson (Cllr. M. Fitzpatrick) of the Dublin City Joint Policing Committee - Annual Report of the Joint Policing Committees 2019.

It was proposed by Councillor Vincent Jackson and seconded by Councillor Mannix Flynn “That Dublin City Council notes the contents of Report No. 211/2020.” The motion was put and carried.

- 14 Report No. 226/2020 of the Assistant Chief Executive (B. Kenny) - Community Grants Scheme 2020.

Councillor Dermot Lacey declared an interest in one of the items in this report and withdrew from the meeting for the duration of this discussion and decision.

It was proposed by Councillor Anthony Connaghan and seconded by Councillor Daryl Barron “That Dublin City Council notes the contents of Report No 226/2020 and hereby approves the community grants as set out therein.” The motion was put and carried.

- 15 Report No. 239/2020 of the A/Executive Manager (H. McKenna) - With reference to the disposal of the Fee Simple Interest under the Landlord and Tenant (Ground Rents) (No. 2) Act, 1978 in 22 premises.

It was proposed by Councillor Antony Connaghan and seconded by Councillor Janice Boylan “That Dublin City Council notes the contents of Report No 239/2020 and assents to the proposal outlined therein” The motion was put and carried

- 16 Report No. 227/2020 of the A/Assistant Chief Executive (A. Flynn) - With further reference to the proposed disposal of four apartments in New Priory, Hole in the Wall Road, Dublin 13.

It was proposed by Councillor Antony Connaghan and seconded by Councillor Janice Boylan “That Dublin City Council notes the contents of Report No 227/2020 and assents to the proposal outlined therein” The motion was put and carried



- 17 Report No. 228/2020 of the Senior Executive Officer (H. McNamara) - With further reference to the proposed disposal of a plot of land to the rear of 65 St. Mary's Road North, East Wall, Dublin 3.

It was proposed by Councillor Antony Connaghan and seconded by Councillor Janice Boylan "That Dublin City Council notes the contents of Report No 228/2020 and assents to the proposal outlined therein" The motion was put and carried

- 18 Report No. 229/2020 of the Senior Executive Officer (H. McNamara) - With reference to a proposed lease of a substation site & wayleave at Bonham Court, Bonham Street, Dublin.

It was proposed by Councillor Antony Connaghan and seconded by Councillor Janice Boylan "That Dublin City Council notes the contents of Report No 229/2020 and assents to the proposal outlined therein" The motion was put and carried

- 19 Report No. 230/2020 of the Executive Manager (P. Clegg) - With reference to a proposed lease of a substation site at Dominick Hall, Dominick Place, Dublin 1.

It was proposed by Councillor Antony Connaghan and seconded by Councillor Janice Boylan "That Dublin City Council notes the contents of Report No 230/2020 and assents to the proposal outlined therein" The motion was put and carried

- 20 Report No. 231/2020 of the Executive Manager (P. Clegg) - With reference to a proposed disposal of a substation site at Sackville Avenue, Dublin 3.

It was proposed by Councillor Antony Connaghan and seconded by Councillor Janice Boylan "That Dublin City Council notes the contents of Report No 231/2020 and assents to the proposal outlined therein" The motion was put and carried

- 21 Report No. 232/2020 of the Senior Executive Officer (H. McNamara) - With reference to the proposed grant of a lease of offices, plus four basement car parking spaces, on the Third Floor North, Ballymun Civic Centre, Ballymun, Dublin 9 to the Eastern and Midland Regional Assembly.

It was proposed by Councillor Antony Connaghan and seconded by Councillor Janice Boylan "That Dublin City Council notes the contents of Report No 232/2020 and assents to the proposal outlined therein" The motion was put and carried

- 22 Report No. 233/2020 of the Senior Executive Officer (H. McNamara) - With reference to the proposed grant of a further licence of Unit 6, Liberty Corner, James Joyce Street, Dublin 1 to (Acts of Compassion Ministries) Voice of New Communities Drugs & Alcohol Network CLG (formerly Acts of Compassion Project Limited).

It was proposed by Councillor Antony Connaghan and seconded by Councillor Janice Boylan "That Dublin City Council notes the contents of Report No 233/2020 and assents to the proposal outlined therein" The motion was put and carried

- 23 Report No. 234/2020 of the Senior Executive Officer (H. McNamara) - With further reference to the proposed grant of a lease of a site for a substation in a Block E, Thornton Heights, St. Michael's Estate, Inchicore Dublin 8 to the Electricity Supply Board.

It was proposed by Councillor Antony Connaghan and seconded by Councillor Janice Boylan "That Dublin City Council notes the contents of Report No 234/2020 and

assents to the proposal outlined therein” The motion was put and carried.

- 24 Report No. 235/2020 of the Senior Executive Officer (M. Igoe) - With reference to the disposal of a plot of ground to the rear of No.21 Broadstone Avenue, Phibsborough, Dublin 7.

It was proposed by Councillor Antony Connaghan and seconded by Councillor Janice Boylan “That Dublin City Council notes the contents of Report No 235/2020 and assents to the proposal outlined therein” The motion was put and carried

- 25 Report No. 236/2020 of the Senior Executive Officer (M. Igoe) - With reference to the disposal of a plot at Golden Lane, Dublin 8 to Gas Networks Ireland.

It was proposed by Councillor Antony Connaghan and seconded by Councillor Janice Boylan “That Dublin City Council notes the contents of Report No 236/2020 and assents to the proposal outlined therein” The motion was put and carried

- 26 Report No. 241/2020 of the Chief Executive (O. Keegan) - Monthly Management Report.

It was proposed by the Councillor Vincent Jackson and seconded by Councillor Anthony Connaghan “That Dublin City Council notes the contents of Report No. 241/2020.” The motion was put and carried.

- 27 Report No. 223/2020 of the Assistant Chief Executive (B. Kenny) - Social Housing Supply and Delivery Monthly Update Report

It was proposed by the Councillor Vincent Jackson and seconded by Councillor Anthony Connaghan “That Dublin City Council notes the contents of Report No. 241/2020.” The motion was put and carried.

- 28 Report No. 209/2020 of the Arts, Culture, Leisure and Recreation Strategic Policy Committee - Breviate of the meeting held on the 29th June 2020, Councillor Cat O'Driscoll, Chairperson.

It was proposed by the Councillor Larry O'Toole and seconded by Councillor Séamas McGrattan “That Dublin City Council notes the contents of Report No. 209/2020.” The motion was put and carried.

- 29 Report No. 212/2020 of the Housing Strategic Policy Committee - Breviate of the meeting held on the 10th June 2020, Councillor Alison Gilliland, Chairperson.

It was proposed by the Councillor Larry O'Toole and seconded by Councillor Séamas McGrattan “That Dublin City Council notes the contents of Report No. 212/2020.” The motion was put and carried.

- 30 Report No. 221/2020 of the Housing Strategic Policy Committee - Breviate of the meeting held on the 29th July 2020, Councillor Alison Gilliland, Chairperson.

It was proposed by the Councillor Larry O'Toole and seconded by Councillor Séamas McGrattan that Dublin City Council notes the contents of Report No. 221/2020. The motion was put and carried.

- 31 Report No. 225/2020 of the Planning and Urban Form Strategic Policy Committee - Breviate of the meeting held on the 25th February 2020, Councillor Ray McAdam, Chairperson.

It was proposed by the Councillor Larry O'Toole and seconded by Councillor Séamas McGrattan "That Dublin City Council notes the contents of Report No. 225/2020." The motion was put and carried.

- 32 Report No. 237/2020 of the Central Area Committee - Breviate of the meeting held on held on the 14th July, 2020, Councillor Janice Boylan, Chairperson.

It was proposed by the Councillor Larry O'Toole and seconded by Councillor Séamas McGrattan "That Dublin City Council notes the contents of Report No. 237/2020." The motion was put and carried.

- 33 Report No. 238/2020 of the Central Area Committee - Breviate of the Special meeting held on held on the 27th July, 2020, Councillor Janice Boylan, Chairperson.

It was proposed by the Councillor Larry O'Toole and seconded by Councillor Séamas McGrattan "That Dublin City Council notes the contents of Report No. 238/2020." The motion was put and carried.

- 34 Report No. 210/2020 of the North Central Area Committee - Breviate of the Strategic Housing Development meeting held on 26th June 2020, Councillor Deirdre Heney, Chairperson

It was proposed by the Councillor Larry O'Toole and seconded by Councillor Séamas McGrattan "That Dublin City Council notes the contents of Report No. 210/2020." The motion was put and carried.

- 35 Report No. 220/2020 of the North Central Area Committee - Breviate of the meeting held on the 20th July 2020, Councillor Donna Cooney, Chairperson.

It was proposed by the Councillor Larry O'Toole and seconded by Councillor Séamas McGrattan "That Dublin City Council notes the contents of Report No. 220/2020." The motion was put and carried.

- 36 Report No. 214/2020 of the South Central Area Committee - Breviate of the meeting held on the 15th July 2020, Councillor Vincent Jackson, Chairperson.

It was proposed by the Councillor Larry O'Toole and seconded by Councillor Séamas McGrattan "That Dublin City Council notes the contents of Report No. 214/2020." The motion was put and carried.

- 37 Report No. 213/2020 of the South East Area Committee - Breviate of the meeting held on the 13th July 2020, Councillor Dermot Lacey, Chairperson.

It was proposed by the Councillor Larry O'Toole and seconded by Councillor Séamas McGrattan "That Dublin City Council notes the contents of Report No. 213/2020." The motion was put and carried.

- 38 Report No. 215/2020 of the North West Area Committee - Breviate of the meeting held on the 22nd July 2020, Councillor Caroline Conroy, Chairperson.

It was proposed by the Councillor Larry O'Toole and seconded by Councillor Séamas McGrattan "That Dublin City Council notes the contents of Report No. 209/2020." The motion was put and carried.

- 39 Report No. 242/2020 of the Protocol Committee - Breviate of the meeting held on 23rd July 2020, Councillor Anne Feeney, Chairperson.

It was proposed by the Councillor Larry O'Toole and seconded by Councillor Séamas McGrattan "That Dublin City Council adopts Report No. 242/2020." The motion was put and carried.

- 40 No Topical Issues were submitted.

- 41 Motions on Notice

The meeting adjourned at 8.15 until Monday 21<sup>st</sup> September at 6.15 p.m.

**Correct.**

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**LORD MAYOR**

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**MEETINGS ADMINISTRATOR**

**QUESTIONS LODGED PURSUANT TO STANDING ORDER NO.16 FOR REPLY AT THE MONTHLY MEETING OF DUBLIN CITY COUNCIL TO BE HELD ON MONDAY, 14<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2020**

**Q.1 COUNCILLOR TINA MACVEIGH**

To ask the Chief Executive to conduct a drainage survey of the properties at **(details supplied)** Captains Road Crumlin Dublin 12. We have tenants in two of these properties and there appears to be a recurring issue with sewerage/drain blocking.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The Choke Car attended at **(details supplied 1)** Captains Road in June this year, choke caused by grease and paper. Previous to that the Choke Car attended in April 2018, and this would not warrant a survey of the drains. **(details supplied 2)** Captains Road is not a Dublin City Council property.

**Q.2 COUNCILLOR JOHN LYONS**

To ask the Chief Executive for the housing list figures for each of the past ten years, 2010-2019, the number of social housing units provided by the city council in each of these years, the number of HAP tenancies created for each of these years since the introduction of HAP in 2014, and the homeless figures for each of the ten years.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

**1. housing list figures for each, 2014-2019,**

The Housing Allocations section holds housing statistics from 2013; the gradual decrease from 2016's peak is reflective primarily of the uptake of Social Housing Support in the form of HAP and an increase in the properties available for letting.

Year	Housing Waiting List
Jan-14	17,138
Jan-15	21,015
Jan-16	22,355
Jan-17	18,946
Jan-18	19,390
Jan-19	17,445
Jan-20	16,705

**2. the number of social housing units provided by the city council in each of these years,**

**Annual Lettings 2013 -2019**

Year	Annual Lettings
2013	1,140
2014	1,425
2015	1,402
2016	1,177
2017	1,637
2018	1,462
2019	2,131

**3. the number of HAP tenancies created for each of these years since the introduction of HAP in 2014,**

**Mainstream HAP Tenancies Created**

Year	Number of new HAP tenancies	Transfer from Rent Supplement	Total
2017 (1/3/17)	1,040	310	1,350
2018	1,325	325	1,650
2019	1,610	645	2,255
2020	931	293	1,156
Total	4,906	1,573	6,479

**Homeless HAP Tenancies Created 2016 -2019**

Year	Number of new HAP tenancies	Total
2017 (1/3/17)	1,040	1,350
2018	1,325	1650
2019	1,610	2,255
2020	931	1,156
Total	4,906	6,479

Of the tenancies created, approximately 2/3 of these tenancies are located within the City Council and 1/3 are located in the other 3 Dublin Local Authority areas.

**4. and the homeless figures for each of the ten years.**

The number of Homeless Households for the years 2014 to 2019.

Year	Total Single Adults	Total Number of Families	Total Households (Single and Family)
Dec - 14	1,403	331	1,734
Dec - 15	1,567	683	2,250
Dec - 16	1,780	1,028	2,808
Dec – 17	2,150	1,121	3,271
Dec – 18	2,411	1,252	3,663
Dec – 19	2,586	1,162	3,748
June – 20	2,897	871	3,768

**Q.3 COUNCILLOR CHRISTY BURKE**

To ask the Chief Executive what amount of funding DCC provide per year to the dog pound in Ashtown. Could the CEO confirm if regular checks are carried out on the pound? When visits from the vet take place. What staff are on duty at weekends?

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Following a tendering process Ashton Pound were awarded the contract for the provision of a dog pound and dog warden service at a cost of €277,198.24 plus VAT per year. Dublin City Council's contracted vet carries out monthly unannounced inspections. Senior staff members from Dublin City Council also carry out a number of unannounced inspections with the most recent one taking place in July 2020. None of the inspections have raised any significant concerns. There are two dog wardens on duty from 9 am to 3 pm every Saturday and 9 am to 1 pm every Sunday. There are

also two Kennel hands on duty in the pound between the hours of 9am and 12 noon at weekends.

**Q.4 COUNCILLOR CHRISTY BURKE**

To ask the Chief Executive when the new CCTV and improved lighting will be put in place at the Luke Kelly bust on Guild street Dublin 1.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

A new CCTV camera has been installed on the existing camera pole and is focused permanently on the Luke Kelly statue.

An order has been placed for a flood light that will light up the area around the statue. The flood light will be fitted as soon as it is delivered.

**Q.5 COUNCILLOR CHRISTY BURKE**

To ask the Chief Executive if DCC would put in place a system to empty litter bins in the North Inner City, as most bins are in overflow condition on weekends.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Waste Management Services will ensure that the litter bins in the North Inner City are emptied on a regular basis, including at the weekends.

**Q.6 COUNCILLOR CHRISTY BURKE**

To ask the Chief Executive that letters be circulated to shops in Parnell Street not to leave waste bags out on the pavements overnights before collection as the bags are being opened by gulls and the streets are full of rubbish on any given day.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Parnell Street is inside the Central Commercial District which means bags/containers can only be left out at 5pm on the collection day and removed by 10am the following morning. While rubbish may be left out overnight it's really to ensure there's no bags on the street during the daytime.

**Q.7 COUNCILLOR DERMOT LACEY**

To ask the Chief Executive if he will discuss with the OPW and the other developers of the area in and around the former Hawkins House but more importantly the site of the former Theatre Royal to have the principal road within the complex named "Theatre Royal Way" as previously requested in several motions agreed by this Council.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Condition 12 of DCC Reg. Ref: 3637/17, ABP Ref: PL29S.30070 - the parent permission for the redevelopment of College House, Nos. 2-3 Townsend Street, Dublin 2 & the former Screen Cinema, Nos. 16-19 Hawkins Street, Dublin 2 requires the following:

*12. Details of a proposed development name, and associated signage shall be submitted to, and agreed in writing with, the planning authority prior to commencement of development.*

*Reason: In the interest of urban legibility.*

This would offer scope to meet this request. Compliance in relation to the above condition is a matter for the Local Area Office.

**Q.8 COUNCILLOR LARRY O'TOOLE**

To ask the Chief Executive to respond to this request: to have inspection for dampness and carbon monoxide carried out at this premises **(details supplied)** and the necessary remedial works carried out.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Cluid Approved Housing Body will arrange for an inspection of this property and carry out any necessary works as required.

**Q.9 COUNCILLOR LARRY O'TOOLE**

To ask the Chief Executive to have the back door at this premises replaced **(details supplied)**.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Housing Maintenance will arrange to have the back door in this property inspected. If deemed in need of replacement/repair all necessary works will be carried out.

**Q.10 COUNCILLOR LARRY O'TOOLE**

To ask the Chief Executive to give an update on the window replacement at this property **(details supplied)**.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Housing Maintenance will arrange to have these windows inspected for the tenant. If they are deemed in need of replacement/repair all necessary works will be carried out.

**Q.11 COUNCILLOR LARRY O'TOOLE**

To ask the Chief Executive to respond to this request: to have a speed ramp erected at **(details supplied)**. Traffic is coming around this corner at speed and there have been a number of accidents and near misses.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

**(details supplied 1)** is currently traffic calmed with two speed ramps close to the junction with **(details supplied 2)** (approx. 14 meters in in an East direction and approx. 35 meters in a West direction). A speed ramp is located on **(details supplied 2)** at a distance of about 40 meters from the junction with **(details supplied 1)**.

These traffic calming measures are placed at the appropriate distances apart for optimum traffic calming.

The existing ramps are provided as a traffic calming measure to reduce speed and danger to pedestrians. The factors taken into consideration in locating ramps include, spacing between ramps, street lighting, location of driveways and proximity of junctions.

It is good practice to space vertical deflections as regularly and frequently as practicable. Introducing additional ramps would not comply with current design standards and would encourage harsh braking and consequent heavy acceleration.

It is therefore, not recommended to introduce an additional speed ramps as the warrant has not been met.

**Q.12 COUNCILLOR DERMOT LACEY**

To ask the Chief Executive to clarify why Dublin City Council - through IPB - is denying liability for flood damage to **(details supplied)** given that the damage was caused by a leak from a pipe, the tenant reported the incident but due to Christmas Holidays the



repairs were not carried out quickly and given the limited resources of the tenant and indeed the very limited amount of claim that she is seeking the Chief Executive will agree to favourably respond to this matter before this Question is reached for reply.

It should be noted that while IPB is denying liability on the basis that no prior report had been made about the pipe no average tenant would be able to report a leak from a pipe that cannot be seen - yet is the ultimate responsibility of the landlord - Dublin City Council.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

I confirm that we are still waiting on further details from IPB in relation to this query and will furnish a reply as soon as possible in relation to same.

**Q.13 COUNCILLOR ANTHONY CONNAGHAN**

To ask the Chief Executive to arrange for the footpath between **(details supplied)** Kildonan Road to be resurfaced. This section of road is well used by pedestrians as part of a busy thoroughfare taking people to and from local shops, schools and church etc.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Road Maintenance Services informs that this section of footpath will be reconstructed as part of 2020 annual works programme. It is envisaged to be completed by the end of 2020, subject to contractor's works programme and contingencies.

**Q.14 COUNCILLOR ANTHONY CONNAGHAN**

To ask the Chief Executive to provide CCTV in Mellows Park to monitor the area for anti-social activity, in particular around playground which has been damaged several times in recent months.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The Parks Service does not install cctv in parks or public open spaces as there is no parks location to which to run the feed nor any staffing resources available to monitor same.

**Q.15 COUNCILLOR ANTHONY CONNAGHAN**

To ask the Chief Executive to assign more staff from Civic Offices to Area Offices. Not only will this assist in cutting vehicles from City Centre but it will enhance the great work done locally by DCC for which great credit is always received.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The City Council has a duty of care to its employees to ensure that all working arrangements are in line with Government and HSE recommendations in relation to the management of Covid-19. This has required the implementation of control measures across all areas of DCC consistent with the Government's 'Return to Work Safely' protocol, and all ancillary documentation, in order to mitigate the risk of spread of Covid-19. This can and does impact on the numbers of staff able to work from any one area or office.

In the broader scheme of things however the Human Resources Department is continually engaged in strategic workforce planning to ensure that decisions are aligned to corporate objectives.

We recognise the importance of sustainable staff travel and support the actions identified in the Climate Action Plan: developing the SMART Mobility Hub, promotion of the Cycle-to-Work Scheme and completion detailed studies on staff modal transport.

Likewise, the Corporate Plan outlines the need to adopt a 'user-focus' in service delivery. It stresses the importance of connecting services with citizens, ensuring that the public can easily access the services they require. In some cases, this may require an increased staff deployment within the Area Offices. It may also however involve the use of technology to broaden our communication channels and improve engagement with customers.

**Q.16 COUNCILLOR ANTHONY CONNAGHAN**

To ask the Chief Executive to arrange for a railings to be placed along the wall at **(details supplied)** where young lads are sitting on and jumping across. There is an elderly lady living alone here.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Housing Maintenance does not install railings as this would fall under the tenant's responsibility. In the past tenants have addressed this issue by planting bushes or shrubs in the said area.

**Q.17 COUNCILLOR TINA MACVEIGH**

To ask the Chief Executive whether the design team for the Constitution Hill flats regeneration has been appointed - in the Regeneration Report presented to the July meeting of the Housing SPC it stated it was expected to appoint a design team in Q3 2020. If the design team has not been appointed, when can we expect that they will be?

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Dublin City Council (DCC) applies for social housing capital funding from the Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government (DHPLG) in accordance with its 4 stage approval process.

In June 2020 DCC received Stage 1 approval for 130 apartments as part of the regeneration of Constitution Hill.

The procurement of the design team for the redevelopment of Constitution Hill has commenced and it is anticipated that an appointment will be made in Q3 2020 as previously stated at the Housing SPC.

Upon the appointment of the design team it is envisaged that the local area housing staff will facilitate a collaborative consultation and information sharing process (compliant with government Covid 19 guidelines) with local elected members and residents.

**Q.18 COUNCILLOR TINA MACVEIGH**

To ask the Chief Executive to investigate a leaking water tank which is causing internal damage to the home of our tenants **(details supplied)**. Our tenants believe the ball cock is not functioning properly and therefore water is leaking down the side of the building and it is this that is causing damage to the interior of their home.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Housing Maintenance cleared all the gullies in this block which was the cause of the leak in the apartments. All necessary works have been carried out.

**Q.19 COUNCILLOR JOHN LYONS**

To ask the Chief Executive for a detailed report on the mental health supports offered to people temporarily residing in emergency accommodation. The report must include

detail of the changes, if any, to the provision of mental health supports over the past ten years.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The Dublin Region Homeless Executive (DRHE) together with the Health Service Executive (HSE) has joint responsibility to provide a coordinated and integrated response to delivering support services to the homeless population.

All NGO operated facilities provide full wrap around supports to service users. Since the pandemic, the collaborative approach between the DRHE and the HSE has intensified and there has been an increased emphasis on the provision of health supports to clients in Private Emergency facilities.

In addition, the DRHE and HSE CHO9 Social Inclusion Addiction services have collaborated to provide addiction supports to residents of homeless accommodation via the Ana Liffey Drug Projects team. The Ana Liffey teams are providing clinics in a number of Privately Operated Hostels aimed at:-

- Minimising the harms of drug use on the person and the environment in which they are living.
- Ensuring people accessing the service are aware of how to avoid and how to manage overdose.
- Providing structured addiction supports to enable people to stabilise their use.
- Providing progression pathways for individuals who wish to access treatment programmes.

Responsibility for the development and provision of mental health services rests with the Department of Health and the delivery of such services is managed through the HSE. See: <https://www.hse.ie/eng/services/list/4/mental-health-services/>

Homeless Mental Health supports are provided by HSE Mental Health teams in the Dublin Region and in addition Mental Health Services provide resource officers for suicide prevention when a service user is at risk of suicide. The Resource Officer for Suicide Prevention will attend the service to provide the support required.

Both the DRHE and the HSE continue to work together to develop a deeper insight into mental health supports needed and to identify any gaps in services. The Ana Liffey special clinics will be expanded over the coming weeks, with a particular emphasis on harm reduction.

**Q.20 COUNCILLOR CRÍONA NÍ DHÁLAIGH**

To ask the Chief Executive to report on the following for the past 5 years:

- Number of applications received for medical priority housing and transfer lists
- Number of applications received for welfare priority housing and transfer lists
- How many medical and welfare priorities were awarded for both housing and transfer lists.
- What was the average length of time it took to make a medical and welfare decision?
- Once awarded a med or welfare priority what was average length of time it took to be reached for allocation?

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The table below illustrate both the number of applications under the "Exceptional Medical Grounds Scheme" and the number of medical priorities awarded.

YEAR	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Applications made for Medical Priority	2904	3812	2897	3215	1110 (to date)
Medical Priority awarded	170	215	174	209	54 (to date)*

The average waiting time for assessment of a medical priority is between 10 - 12 weeks.

It is not possible to indicate accurately how long after an applicant is awarded a priority, they will be reached for an offer of alternative housing.

As Dublin City Council is dependent on suitable units becoming available in the applicants areas of preference, which meet the Households needs.

2020 figures; these figures are for applications submitted from Jan – June 2020.

**Q.21 COUNCILLOR CRÍONA NÍ DHÁLAIGH**

To ask the Chief Executive how do residents go about getting residents only parking if it's a public Road? What do we need to do to try and change the fact that communities who have to park on public roads cannot apply for residents only parking.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

It is not possible for a public road to be changed to a residents only usage as this in effect changes the road to a private road for those who reside on that road. All roads that have paid residential permit parking also have pay and display parking provided for visitors to that road. The altering of this to a resident's only usage is not permitted.

**Q.22 COUNCILLOR JANE HORGAN-JONES**

To ask the Chief Executive to arrange for a general clean-up of the Richmond Avenue area. Residents report there is a lot of general litter in the area which is causing vermin. Residents also report a number of abandoned cars near the junction with Richmond Road – can these also be investigated and their removal arranged?

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Waste Management Services had a clean-up carried out in the above mentioned area on the 17th August 2019. Our Abandoned Vehicles Officer will visit this area and arrange the removal of any vehicles there deemed to be abandoned.

**Q.23 COUNCILLOR JANE HORGAN-JONES**

To ask the Chief Executive to review the following: there is an ongoing issue in the Brookwood Area, particularly on Brookwood Rise, in relation to 'Dart' parking. This issue has been an issue for many years. Cars are parked on the road, on the footpath etc. Attempts to address it have included:

- Double yellow lines
- Speed bumps

Issues caused by this included the withdrawal of a bus service and poor visibility afforded by this illegal parking.

In response to the recent set of concerts in St Anne's Park a traffic management plan was put in place to address the errant parking.

The Parking laws were enforced, AND it was successful. Can the Chief Executive undertake to direct enforcement to proceed on this basis going forward so that residents are not impeded by illegal parking?

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The Traffic Management Plans put in place during events held in St Anne's Park are specifically designed as a short term intervention when an unusually large volume of extra traffic volumes of pedestrians and motorists use St Ann's Park for special events. These traffic management plans are devised by An Garda Síochána and involve a large number of members of that force to implement, manage and co-ordinate these plans. This is only possible for them to do for specific short term situations. Such plans are not designed for implementation for a medium or long term traffic management intervention. The resources are not available from An Garda Síochána for such traffic management plans to be implanted on a permanent basis.

**Q.24 COUNCILLOR JANE HORGAN-JONES**

To ask the Chief Executive if I can be provided with a further update in relation to the repair request referenced in my November 2019 NCAC Question 6. This repair was originally requested in 2017 (Q73 NCAC November 2017) and a repair was promised when a crew was next in the area. Resident advises it has gotten worse over the last three years and has not been repaired.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Road Maintenance Services have a works crew scheduled to carry out works in this area in the coming 8 weeks. The repair at this location will be completed within this timeframe.

**Q.25 COUNCILLOR JANE HORGAN-JONES**

To ask the Chief Executive if there are plans to replace the trees that have recently been removed on Collins Avenue East (Ref. Q51 City Council Meeting September 2019).

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Trees cannot be replaced in the same location until the roots and rootplate have degraded sufficiently to allow for replanting. Depending on ground conditions and the size of the previous tree this can take a number of seasons. As the trees have been recently felled it is most likely that replacements will not be affected for a season or two at the minimum. The Parks Service will continue to monitor the planting locations and will include them in a future tree planting programme once conditions allow.

**Q.26 COUNCILLOR MÌCHAÈL MAC DONNCHA**

To ask the Chief Executive when flood relief measures on the Santry River below Raheny will be commenced.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

As previously pointed out in my reply to the residents of Watermill Lawn on the 31st July last, only two of the 28 buildings estimated to be at significant flood risk in the 100 year fluvial flood event on the Santry river in the Dublin City Council area are downstream of Raheny, therefore the priority is to develop a scheme, if possible, for Raheny village.

It will be 2-5 years before schemes south of this, if feasible, can be constructed. These will probably require Part 10 planning permission from An Bord Pleanála due to Environmental concerns.

Mr. Gerard O'Connell, Senior Engineer, Flood Projects and Water Framework Directive Division, would also be happy to explain matters further to you or any of your constituents.

**Q.27 COUNCILLOR COLM O'ROURKE**

To ask the Chief Executive to liaise with Waterways Ireland to erect signage between Lock 6 and Lock 7 to remind cyclists and pedestrians that residents live here, that cars use this stretch of the Royal Canal and that the residents of the cottages have a right of way to drive on the towpath.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

This section of the Royal Canal forms part of the Royal Canal Phase 4 Cycle Scheme which is being managed by DCC and funded by the NTA. The project is currently at design stage. The design will be finalised in the coming months and it is estimated that construction works will commence in 2021. The DCC Project Team managing the scheme are in liaison with Waterways Ireland, and will arrange for the appropriate signage to be installed during the construction works and as part of the final design for the scheme. This will also be complimented by a promotional campaign to promote appropriate behaviour.

**Q.28 COUNCILLOR COLM O'ROURKE**

To ask the Chief Executive to ensure that improvements are made to the upkeep of the area **(details supplied)** and takes action not limited to:

- A. That the grass at green areas and verges are cut regularly and cut to a satisfactory standard
- B. That overgrown trees are pruned
- C. That the bins in the area are emptied regularly and that illegally dumped litter is removed promptly
- D. That Dublin City Council liaise with An Garda Síochána to tackle the ongoing anti-social behaviour **(details supplied)** and take the appropriate measure including installing CCTV
- E. Due to the ongoing anti-social behaviour issues in **(details supplied)** could the overgrown bushes be pruned to prevent hiding places.
- F. Considering that a contractor has recently been appointed to remove the weeds from the road network, that this area be prioritised

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

- A. The verges in this location are cut under contract and while there were some issues with the contractor earlier this summer due to Covid restrictions these have now been resolved and the contractor is meeting the requirements of the contract. If there are any further issues these should be reported to [parks@dublincity.ie](mailto:parks@dublincity.ie) where the matter will be raised with the contractor by the contracts manager.
- B. Dublin City's Tree Policy; 'Dublin City Tree Strategy 2016-2020' adopted by the full council in 2016 identifies pruning as weakening trees and opening potential sites for infection by disease and decay causing organisms and requires pruning work on trees to be carried out only when absolutely necessary. This policy also states that 'trees are not dangerous just because they are perceived as tall, too big for their surroundings or move in the wind'.

Objective 3.7.10 'Tree considered too big/ too tall' states 'The Council will not prune or fell a Council owned/managed tree because it is considered to be 'too big' or 'too tall'. Requests for such tree pruning are dealt with on a case by case basis.

- C. All litter bins in that location get emptied Monday to Friday daily from **(details supplied)** on the 6am shift.

Waste Management Services will ensure that the litter bins in **(details supplied)** are emptied on a regular basis. We will continue to remove illegally dumped rubbish from this area when necessary to do so.

- D. The Parks Service does not install CCTV in parks or public open spaces as there is nowhere to run the feed nor any staff available to monitor same.
- E. The shrubberies will be examined for possible inclusion in the autumn winter shrubbery maintenance programme.
- F. Weed removal for **(details supplied)** is scheduled for foam stream weed removal within the next two weeks.

**Q.29 COUNCILLOR COLM O'ROURKE**

To ask the Chief Executive if Local Authorities have sufficient powers to tackle nuisance caused by lack of control over trees and hedges?

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The local authority can use the Section 70 of the Road Act 1993 to remind the owners of his/her duty of care and notify him/her to carry out work in order to remove the hazard. See below the first 2 paragraphs of the Section 70.

70.—(1) (a) The owner or occupier of any structure and the owner or occupier of any land on which a structure is situated shall take all reasonable steps to ensure that the structure or the use of the structure is not a hazard or potential hazard to persons using a public road and that it does not obstruct or interfere with the safe use of a public road or the maintenance of a public road

(b) Where a structure or the use of a structure is a hazard or potential hazard to persons using a public road or where it obstructs or interferes with the safe use of a public road or with the maintenance of a public road, a road authority may serve a notice in writing on the owner or occupier of the structure or on the owner or occupier of any land on which the structure is situated to remove, modify or carry out specified works in relation to the structure within the period stated in the notice.

**Q.30 COUNCILLOR COLM O'ROURKE**

To ask the Chief Executive to address the increase in traffic using Glenbeigh Road in Dublin 7. The speed ramps at this location are currently in a dangerous condition due to the amount of traffic using the road. Could traffic calming measures be considered at this location, including chicanes or a give-and-go system?

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The Area Traffic Engineer has reported that the request for further traffic calming measures on Glenbeigh Road will be investigated with an on-site visit in due course. A request has been created under Ref: 7016602.

I wish to advise you that it has been necessary to, temporarily suspend all non-essential work in relation to Transport Related Service Requests until further notice and unfortunately, your query cannot be processed at this time. Priority is being given

to ensure the necessary resources are in place to implement urgent temporary emergency Covid19 Mobility interventions.

**Q.31 COUNCILLOR MICHAEL WATTERS**

To ask the Chief Executive if it is possible to remove/relocate the traffic information sign/speed limit pole from the corner of Cornwellsfort Road and Moeran Road. A very bus Centra is located at this location and the owner has reported that the sign is damaged regularly as a result of its location.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Dublin City Council's priority is with Covid-19 Mobility measures at present but the Area Engineers will assess this and will respond in due course.

**Q.32 COUNCILLOR DEIRDRE CONROY**

To ask the Chief Executive the following:

- a) How many derelict properties and vacant sites has Dublin City Council levied since the enactment of the legislation, per year?
- b) How much payment in fines has the Council received from the owners.
- c) How will Council speed up the investigation of ownership in vacant land and property hoarding?

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

**A) – Vacant Sites:**

No. of sites levied	Year levied
32	2018 – Demand issued 2019
35	2019 – Demand issued 2020

**A) – Derelict Sites:**

Outlined below are levy details from 2008 to date. Please note that all unpaid levies automatically become a charge on the land and remain a charge until all outstanding levies have been fully discharged.

No. of sites levied	Year
24	2008
22	2009
24	2010
24	2011
30	2012
29	2013
35	2014
49	2015
53	2016
47	2017
52	2018
61	2019
66	2020

**B) – Vacant Sites:**



<b>Amount paid to date (Vacant Sites):</b>	€868,450
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**B) Derelict Sites:**

<b>Amount paid from 2008 to date :</b>	€ 2,525,683
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**C) Vacant Sites / Derelict Sites :**

The Council's Property Register Section in the Property Development Department provides details immediately in respect of Council owned property. For all other sites, the Council's Property & Title Research Section in the Law Department provides an excellent and efficient service in supplying owners' details of registered sites and searching the Registry of Deeds for non-registered sites.

Due to Covid-19 restrictions the Property Registration Authority of Ireland has been closed to the public and therefore it has been difficult to obtain ownership details since mid-March 2020.

**Q.33 COUNCILLOR DEIRDRE CONROY**

To ask the Chief Executive that all local residents on Belgrave Square, Palmerston Road and its environs are consulted and a plebiscite set out for the proposal from the Mount Pleasant Upper, Gulistan Terrace and Richmond Place Residents Group (MGR), that bollards should be erected so as to prevent through-traffic by motor vehicles in Upper Mount Pleasant Avenue in either direction, as the road is not simply a route for Mount Pleasant Avenue. As I am advised this is a normal route for local residents, not a 'rat-run' and not all elderly residents are cyclists.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The area engineer is not aware of any plans or proposals by Dublin City Council to carry out a plebiscite in order to prevent through traffic on Upper Mount Pleasant Avenue in either direction.

**Q.34 COUNCILLOR DEIRDRE CONROY**

To ask the Chief Executive that Dublin City Council co-ordinate with Health Service Executive on Dublin City parking fees to be removed for Frontline Medical staff who are taking on so much work for the population due to COVID19. It is understood that the hospital grounds have parking spaces, and if there are not enough on the hospital grounds, then the car spaces on main roads nearby, charged by DCC, should be free to Frontline medical staff, or they need to have remuneration for parking by the HSE or a specific screen disc that prevents them from being clamped by DCC.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The non-enforcement of paid parking restrictions in respect of vehicles owned by frontline hospital staff parked in the vicinity of hospitals was always intended to be a temporary measure. At the time it was introduced it was not a major issue in the various locations where it applied, as there was limited other demand for on-street parking. However, with the resumption in economic activity, there has been a significant recovery in traffic volumes and in on-street parking demand. This has led to a situation where residents with Residents Parking Permits, living in the vicinity of major hospitals, are having difficulty accessing on-street parking. A very large number of complaints have been received from residents who cannot park near their own homes on the streets where they live. This has given rise to many complaints from residents who have paid for this parking.

In view of this it was decided, with considerable regret, that the enforcement concession in respect of frontline hospital staff parking in the vicinity of hospitals, could not be sustained. The concession will end on 31 August, after which a full parking enforcement service will operate in the vicinity of hospitals.

However, in an effort to assist frontline hospital staff after 31 August 2020, the City Council has allocated 400 parking spaces in the ILAC car park and a total of 100 spaces in the Drury Street and Dawson car parks (all car parks are owned by the City Council) for frontline staff in nearby hospitals. The spaces will be made available at a very affordable cost (up to a max €5 per day), which is well below the current market rate for secure off-street car parking in the city centre. The Council is satisfied that there will still be plenty of spaces available in these car parks for motorists wishing to park in the city centre for shopping, leisure and business purposes.

The detailed arrangements for accessing these spaces has been worked out between relevant hospital management and the car park operators. The arrangement will be reviewed after 6 months. The chief executives of the different hospitals have been communicated with in respect of this arrangement.

**Q.35 COUNCILLOR CRÍONA NÍ DHÁLAIGH**

To ask the Chief Executive how many bins there are in **(details supplied)** now and in 2015. Residents are requesting that additional bins be installed in the area but in particular at the green near the benches.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Waste Management Services have three litter bins in the residential **(details supplied)** which would be similar to the position in 2015. One of these litter bins is sited at the green in **(details supplied)**. There are no plans to install additional litter bins in this area at this time.

**Q.36 COUNCILLOR DANIEL CÉITINN**

To ask the Chief Executive to arrange to have the astro pitch in **(details supplied)** resurfaced as there has been many injuries due to individuals tripping on the uneven surface.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The matter will be investigated and a reply issued to the Councillor in due course.

**Q.37 COUNCILLOR DANIEL CÉITINN**

To ask the Chief Executive what are his plans for the Temple Bar area regarding walkways, expanded footpaths, and the flattening of cobblestones, if works will be carried out this year, if works could be carried out this year on flattening, and if he will make a statement on the matter.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Routine maintenance of the pavements in charge to DCC Road Maintenance Services will continue as and when required. Road Maintenance Services has no plans to expand footpaths or to replace setts with asphalt.

**Q.38 COUNCILLOR DANIEL CÉITINN**

To ask the Chief Executive arrange for repair works to be carried out at **(details supplied)**. The gutter at the front and rear of the property is broken and requires fixing.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Housing Maintenance have cleaned the gutters at the front and at the back of this property. We have replaced the porch timber fascia and the guttering around the porch.

**Q.39 COUNCILLOR DANIEL CÉITINN**

To ask the Chief Executive to arrange to have the foot paths on **(details supplied)** repaired as a matter of urgency as they have become a major trip hazard.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

These footpaths will be inspected and arrangements will be made for any necessary repairs to be carried out.

**Q.40 COUNCILLOR DARRAGH MORIARTY**

To ask the Chief Executive to reverse DCC's decision to end free parking for frontline healthcare staff. Given we are still very much in the middle of this pandemic, and these essential frontline workers are no less essential, and given the public health advice remains to avoid public transport, where possible, could DCC also explain its decision to re-impose charges in the first place?

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The non-enforcement of paid parking restrictions in respect of vehicles owned by frontline hospital staff parked in the vicinity of hospitals was always intended to be a temporary measure. At the time it was introduced it was not a major issue in the various locations where it applied, as there was limited other demand for on-street parking.

However, with the resumption in economic activity, there has been a significant recovery in traffic volumes and in on-street parking demand. This has led to a situation where residents with Residents Parking Permits, living in the vicinity of major hospitals, are having difficulty accessing on-street parking. A very large number of complaints have been received from residents who cannot park near their own homes on the streets where they live. This has given rise to many complaints from residents who have paid for this parking.

In view of this it was decided, with considerable regret, that the enforcement concession in respect of frontline hospital staff parking in the vicinity of hospitals, could not be sustained. The concession will end on 31 August, after which a full parking enforcement service will operate in the vicinity of hospitals.

However, in an effort to assist frontline hospital staff after 31 August 2020, the City Council has allocated 400 parking spaces in the ILAC car park and a total of 100 spaces in the Drury Street and Dawson car parks (all car parks are owned by the City Council) for frontline staff in nearby hospitals. The spaces will be made available at a very affordable cost (up to a max €5 per day), which is well below the current market rate for secure off-street car parking in the city centre. The Council is satisfied that there will still be plenty of spaces available in these car parks for motorists wishing to park in the city centre for shopping, leisure and business purposes.

The detailed arrangements for accessing these spaces has been worked out between relevant hospital management and the car park operators. The arrangement will be reviewed after 6 months. The chief executives of the different hospitals have been communicated with in respect of this arrangement.

**Q.41 COUNCILLOR DARRAGH MORIARTY**

To ask the Chief Executive to list the number of community creches DCC is involved in, such as the Crumlin Childcare Centre. Could how long DCC has been involved with such creches also be included in the list?

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Crumlin Childcare facility was awarded €25,000 from Discretionary funding in 2018 and were awarded a licence extension in January 2020. The crèche has opted not to proceed with this extension but the funding will be used for other enabling works in order that the new licensed space can be utilised by the children.

The Area Manager in conjunction with our Parks Section are assisting the crèche management with these enabling works. However Dublin City Council has no involvement in the day to day running of the facility.

Liberty Park Crèche, Foley Street, Dublin 1 has been in operation since May 2007.

**Q.42 COUNCILLOR DARRAGH MORIARTY**

To ask the Chief Executive to liaise with community groups and businesses in Inchicore/Kilmainham, which so far have not been subject to DCC's Covid Mobility Plans. As the virus continues to be with us, and as we begin to enter the autumn/winter period where a more pronounced second wave is possible, it is essential that DCC engages with communities and villages outside of the city centre to make them more accessible and safe for local residents. Inchicore Community Development Group's '[To It, Not Through It](#)' plans for Inchicore village offer an imaginative starting point for consultation with the community.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

*"Enabling the City to Return to Work, Interim Mobility Intervention Programme for Dublin City"*, addresses the new and urgent needs which have emerged as a result of the Covid-19 Public Health Emergency. The programme initially priorities key radial routes into the city, the city core and a number of interventions in urban villages but is very much a "live" programme and a citywide approach is being taken. To date, we have received in excess of 3,600 requests for measures across the city and work is underway on assessing feasible locations for interventions. The submission made by Inchicore Community Development Group is being reviewed by the Covid Mobility Technical Team to determine what interim measures could be safely and effectively introduced. Due to the volume of requests, it is not possible at this time to consult with each community individually.

**Q.43 COUNCILLOR DARRAGH MORIARTY**

To ask the Chief Executive the status of derelict houses **(details supplied)**. Are they on the derelict sites register, what action has been taken by DCC to bring them back into use and if he could make a statement on the matter?

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

**(details supplied 1)**, has been declared a derelict site and was entered on the Derelict Sites Register on 8<sup>th</sup> July, 2019 in accordance with the Derelict Sites Act, 1990.

This property is currently being considered for acquisition by DCC.

**(details supplied 2)** will be inspected by the Derelict Sites Section and a reply will be forwarded directly to the Councillor.

**Q.44 COUNCILLOR KEITH CONNOLLY**

To ask the Chief Executive to arrange a detailed inspection of the drainage with cameras if possible at **(details supplied)**. There have been numerous calls out here by choke cars and the problem is still ongoing.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

There is no issue with the public sewer.

DCC drainage understand the issue pertains to the private drainage network local to the properties, which is not part of DCC drainage remit.

DCC drainage understand DCC housing maintenance have resolved the issue (once off basis) that arose towards end of July 2020.

**Q.45 COUNCILLOR KEITH CONNOLLY**

To ask the Chief Executive to arrange a detailed inspection of the drainage with cameras if possible, at **(details supplied)**. There have been numerous calls out here by choke cars and the problem is still ongoing.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

There is no issue with the public sewer.

DCC drainage understand the issue pertains to the private drainage network local to the property, which is not part of DCC drainage remit.

**Q.46 COUNCILLOR KEITH CONNOLLY**

To ask the Chief Executive to prioritise clearing/removing the shrubbery at **(details supplied)**. The shrubbery is being used for anti-social behaviour and drug taking.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The shrubbery will be examined with a view to including same in the autumn winter shrubbery maintenance programme.

**Q.47 COUNCILLOR KEITH CONNOLLY**

To ask the Chief Executive to prioritise the weeding of **(details supplied)**.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The Public Domain Team are directing the Weed Control Contractor that is currently working in the North West Area. **(details supplied)** is due to be complete by week ending 30<sup>th</sup> August. Under the contract the Weed Control Contractor will be working outside the park area only. The weed control in the park falls under the remit of Parks Department

Parks service has ceased the use of Glyphosate for weed control at **(details supplied)**. The area will be kept under review in our ongoing engagement with contractors to progress effective alternatives, in accordance with best ecological practices and available resources.

**Q.48 COUNCILLOR ALISON GILLILAND**

To ask the Chief Executive to a) clearly outline the status of the construction that has taken place to date on the site pertaining to planning permission 3245/15 which has now expired as of 14/6/2020 and relating to the following planning permissions: 3563/09/X2, 2620/20, 3245/15, 3301/19 and 2620/20 and b) how the current in train development can be completed so as to prevent a gapping, unfinished site becoming a long term eyesore for the local residents in Coolock village.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

A response will be prepared for the Councillor in the next 3 weeks as there will be a decision on the current Extension of Duration planning application for Chanel College by then.

**Q.49 COUNCILLOR ALISON GILLILAND**

To ask the Chief Executive to indicate the derelict site fines or other penalties applied and collected from **(details supplied)**, to indicate any work done by DCC on **(details supplied)** and to outline progress to date on acquiring **(details supplied)**. This house has been unoccupied since it was built more than 8 years ago and was first reported to DCC for dereliction some years ago.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The City Council is continuing to monitor the status of this vacant property. It has issued a number of correspondences between 2017 and 2020 to the owner who has failed to engage with the Housing Department and the matter has been referred to the Planning & Property Development Department for appropriate action under derelict sites legislation.

This site was declared derelict in 2013 in accordance with the Derelict Sites Act, 1990 and was first entered on the Derelict Sites Register on 7/11/13. The site was rendered non derelict and removed from the Register on 22/06/15. The site became derelict again and was re-entered on the Register on 2/06/16. Sites entered on the Derelict Sites Register attract a Derelict Sites Levy of 7% of the site's market value; prior to 1/1/20 the levy was 3%. The market value entered on the Derelict Sites Register is €260,000. Unpaid levies also attract interest at the rate of 1.25% per month. Levies demanded to date remain outstanding. In accordance with Section 24 of the Derelict Sites Act, 1990 all unpaid levies automatically become a charge on the land; the charge in this case was registered by the Council with the Property Registration Authority on 25/11/15.

Acquisition proceedings under Section 15 of the Derelict Sites Act were initiated in 2017 and a Notice of Intention to acquire the site was served on the owner on 19/7/17. The acquisition did not proceed following representations from the owner's Solicitors that the site would be rendered non-derelict. Further representations were received from the owner's Solicitors in August, 2018 stating the owner's intention to rent the property. No improvement works were ever carried out and the site has remained entered on the Derelict Sites Register. Following a recent review of the case it was decided to recommence acquisition proceedings and the owner has now been informed of same.

**Q.50 COUNCILLOR ALISON GILLILAND**

To ask the Chief Executive to indicate what proportion of the recently received allocation of €12,065,000 funding from the NTA will be allocated to the progression of the Santry Greenway?

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The Santry Greenway is not included on the projects to be implemented as part of the programme financed by the recently announced allocation of €12,065,000. The announcement is part of the Government Stimulus package and provides funding for projects that can be designed and implemented by November 2020. Such a time frame would not be feasible for the Santry Greenway.

**Q.51 COUNCILLOR ALISON GILLILAND**

To ask the Chief Executive to indicate progress to date with regard to consultation with residents to improve access safety along **(details supplied)**.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The request to investigate safety access along the **(details supplied)** is listed with the Area Engineer for assessment and report to the Transport Advisory Group for their consideration.

The Councillor will be given an update at or before the October Area Committee meeting.

**Q.52 COUNCILLOR RACHEAL BATTEN**

To ask the Chief Executive if as part of the improved cycling infrastructure he reviews the attached photo and seek that re-marking the road to ensure that safety can be protected.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The location will be inspected in the coming days and re-marking will be considered.

**Q.53 COUNCILLOR RACHEAL BATTEN**

To ask the Chief Executive if he could provide an update on the weeding program in the Dublin 5 area and when will the **(details supplied)** be attended?

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The areas as per detailed supplied were sprayed last week as part of 2020 weed spraying contract.

**Q.54 COUNCILLOR RACHEAL BATTEN**

To ask the Chief Executive to review the 2018 response to works on the **(details supplied)** location, as there was confirmation that wrap round lights would be provided for safe crossing. This is a very busy junction with two large estate on either side with no crossing.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

As discussed with Councillors in early 2020 the budget for capital works for 2020 has been fully allocated. This request will be reassessed when more funds come available in 2021. The draft works program will then be presented to Councillors for discussion and feedback before it is finalised.

**Q.55 COUNCILLOR RACHEAL BATTEN**

To ask the Chief Executive to improve the cycling lane from the two very busy junctions at **(details supplied)** and confirm if this is included in the cycling and walking fund.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The above mentioned section on the **(details supplied)** is part of the Bus Connect Project. This project includes cycle lane and footway improvements.

**Q.56 COUNCILLOR SEAMUS MCGRATTEN**

To ask the Chief Executive details to consider employing more local area rent collectors to work in each area office to deal specifically with rent arrears in that area.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

There currently 22 Executive Housing Officers assigned to the prevention, minimisation and reduction of Rent Arrears, this includes 8 newly recruited staff who

commenced in May 2020. Each Officer is accountable for a geographical area consisting of approximately 1300 accounts.

There are currently three Executive Housing Officers based in the Ballymun Area Office and one in Ballyfermot with the remainder based in Civic Offices. Regardless of their base, EHOs spend a significant amount of time in their area making house calls (house calls are currently suspended due to Covid19 but are due to recommence shortly). All meetings with tenants are by appointment only and are facilitated in the local area office or Civic Offices, whichever is more convenient for the tenant. This ensures that an area based service is available.

Workforce planning is an ongoing process within the Human Resources Department, and management are committed to responding appropriately to the present situation.

The current situation is that Executive Housing Officers are assigned to the specific duty of addressing Rent Arrears across the City Council. These individuals are assigned a designated caseload within one of the local areas Central, North Central, North West, South Central and South East. They operate within their specific area only. Rent arrears in the main are addressed through Arrears Agreements made between the Executive Housing Officers and the individual in arrears to address a way forward through a payment plan. The Executive Housing Officers are predominantly working on the ground within their specific Area's visiting tenants and working closely with the area offices.

The Human Resources Department are reviewing vacancies across the entire organisation and will be progressing recruitment, subject to government sanction and in keeping with Covid-19 protocols, across identified priorities in conjunction with the management team.

**Q.57 COUNCILLOR SEAMUS MCGRATTEN**

To ask the Chief Executive how many basketball courts are located in DCC parks and if the Chief Executive feels there is a need for more courts in certain areas.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

There are at least eight basketball courts located in Parks throughout the city. I think there is a need for additional courts and plans for the upgrading of parks do include either a Multi Use Games Area (MUGA) or stand along basketball court. If there is a demand for a basketball facility in any part of the city this is something that we would consider providing subject to a suitable space and funding.

**Q.58 COUNCILLOR SEAMUS MCGRATTEN**

To ask the Chief Executive details to arrange to have the bridges and walls of the Liffey Quays cleaned. The River is a tourist attraction in the City but the walls need to be cleaned as this has not been done for many years.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

We will arrange for the treatment of vegetation growth on Liffey bridges and Quay walls and cleaning of the some of the Liffey bridges.

**Q.59 COUNCILLOR SEAMUS MCGRATTEN**

To ask the Chief Executive to urgently address the overgrown weeds on many City Roads and Streets and to put annual plans in place to prevent it getting out of control again.



**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Dublin City Council has appointed a contractor (Greentown Environmental) for the purpose of removing weeds from the road network. Due to Covid 19 restrictions the contractor only commenced works on 30<sup>th</sup> July 2020. The contractor is using an innovative process/ product called '*Foamstream*'. This involves the application of hot water, sugar and natural oils to the weeds and is an alternative to the use of 'Glyphosate' based products. Note in 2019 only 10-15% of the road network was treated.

This work will be supplemented by a programme of manual weed removal, which will be carried out by crews from the Waste Management Services' Division.

The contractor's schedule of works is currently being managed by the Public Domain Officers based in the respective Area Offices.

**Q.60 COUNCILLOR DEIRDRE HENEY**

To ask the Chief Executive in relation to the Council's dog pound facility at Ashton Kennels, River Road, Castleknock, Dublin 15,

- 1) Can the Chief Executive say if the contract to provide the dog pound service was renewed in June 2020 with the same contractor and if so, can he advise for how many years this service has been provided by the same contractor/operator and what the cost of same has been to the city in the same number of years;
- 2) Can the Chief Executive say if the contractor is tax compliant and if he has provided to the Council, an up to date tax clearance certificate;
- 3) Can the Chief Executive say what evidence if any the contractor has provided to the CE of necessary staff training in order that staff are competent to undertake the work required in the operation of a dog pound and dog warden facility and if no such evidence has been provided, what action the CE took/will take to ensure that such training is provided as per the contract of 1 July 2017 between **(details supplied)** and Dublin City Council;
- 4) Can the Chief Executive say what evidence if any the contractor has provided to the CE of the provision of continuous staff training in order that staff are competent to undertake the work required in the operation of a dog pound and dog warden facility and if no such evidence has been provided, what action the CE took/will take to ensure that such training is provided as per the contract of 1 July 2017 between **(details supplied)** and Dublin City Council;
- 5) Can the Chief Executive specify, in relation to the provision of sufficient shelter facilities for animals seized or abandoned under the law, what requirements were required/specified by the Council's appointed veterinary inspector and can the CE provide me with details of said requirements/specifications;
- 6) Can the Chief Executive give details of the number of dogs that were euthanized by the contractor since July 2017 to date and say what method of euthanasia was approved by the Council's veterinary inspector and if this method differs from that which applied to contracts that applied prior to 2017;

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

1. The contract was renewed until 30<sup>th</sup> June 2021. The same contractor has been operating the pound for approx. 19 years following a number of procurement processes in this time. The current contract commenced on the 1<sup>st</sup> July 2017 and is for a Dog Warden and Dog Pound service at a cost of €277,198 plus VAT per annum.
2. Yes the contractor is tax compliant and has provided the Council with an up to date tax clearance certificate.
3. Ongoing training for Pound staff and Council staff is provided through a number of sources which include attending training seminars/conferences arranged by the Department of Agriculture with updates on legislative changes/procedures and through liaison with other Local Authorities Dog Warden services and with training and information sessions with the D.S.P.C.A.
4. Council staff have participated in the above training together with Pound staff.
5. Ashton Pound provides Dublin City Council with a Dog Warden Service and Dog Pound Service. The Council is continuing in its ongoing review of Pound operations as part of its contract management and oversight. These reviews address operational issues and procedures to ensure contract compliance and are carried out together with review/inspections of the premises and kennels ensuring adequate supplies of bedding, food and water, cleanliness and animal care. Senior Council staff carry out regular inspections of the pound and in addition the Council's Veterinarian carries out regular unannounced inspections of the Pound (at a minimum monthly) as do Vets for Fingal and South Dublin County Councils. None of these inspections have revealed any issues regarding the welfare of dogs in the Pound. Policies and procedures are regularly reviewed and improvements to facilities have been carried out over the past couple of years. These have been documented and a library of photographs of improvements together with photographs of active and alert dogs compiled. In addition to regular inspections all new staff are brought to the Pound as part of their induction training. Over the last 3 years (2017-2019 incl.) the Pound have achieved a 96-97% success rate in rehoming dogs. The Pound Service has an excellent working relationship with the D.S.P.C.A. and any dogs taken into the Pound which require veterinary care are treated by the D.S.P.C.A. 24 hour access to veterinary care is provided for all dogs in the Pound. An Garda Síochána are currently carrying out an investigation in relation to allegations made in relation to certain aspects of Pound Operations and the Council is not therefore in a position to comment on specifics in relation to Pound operations which may prejudice these investigations. All recommendations made in relation to improvements in the Pound as requested by the Council's Veterinarian have been implemented since 2018 and these have been overseen by senior council staff and comply with contractual arrangements.
6. 2017 -510 dogs were surrendered/seized of which 14 were euthanised.  
2018- 364 dogs were surrendered/ seized of which 9 were euthanised.  
2019 - 405 dogs were surrendered/ seized of which 17 were euthanised.  
Over these years the rehoming rate for dogs in the Pound has been between 96-97%. It should be noted that the figures for euthanised dogs includes those ordered by Court orders.

**Q.61 COUNCILLOR DEIRDRE HENEY**

To ask the Chief Executive please refer to tree at location as per **(details supplied)** and say if he can agree to seriously prune same as resident fears the tree growth is so large it will damage his property.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The **Dublin City Council Tree Strategy 2016-2020** adopted by the Full Council as policy in 2016 identifies pruning as weakening trees and opening potential sites for infection by disease and decay causing organisms and requires pruning work on trees to be carried out only when absolutely necessary.

The policy further states that '*trees are not dangerous just because they are perceived as tall, too big for their surroundings or move in the wind*'.

**Objective 3.7.10 'Tree considered too big/ too tall'** states '*The Council will not prune or fell a Council owned/managed tree because it is considered to be 'too big' or 'too tall*'.

An inspection will be arranged at **(details supplied)** in the coming weeks and any works deemed necessary will be included on the tree care programme for 2021 .

**Q.62 COUNCILLOR DEIRDRE HENEY**

To ask the Chief Executive please in relation to laneway as per **(details supplied)** arrange to have same cleared of dumped materials, litter etc.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Waste Management Services had the above mentioned laneway cleaned on the 27<sup>th</sup> August 2020.

**Q.63 COUNCILLOR DEIRDRE HENEY**

To ask the Chief Executive in relation to **(details supplied)**, say what his chances of being accommodated with a City Council dwelling in the short-term are and if the Chief Executive is aware of the numerous health difficulties of **(details supplied)**, and if same will have an impact on when he will be accommodated.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The above applicant is on the Transfer Older Housing List with an application date of 15/05/2017, and the applicant holds the following positions on this list:

Area	Bedsizes	Position
Area E	1	130
Area H	1	94

Based on the applicant's current position for each area of choice, it may be some time before the applicant is reached for an offer of housing.

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

Should the applicant have an illness/condition that is greatly impacted on by his current housing, he can make an application for consideration for a Medical Priority by completing the Medical Priority application form and submit it with supporting documentation for review to Housing Allocations. If the applicant is successful in obtaining a medical priority it may decrease his waiting time.

**Q.64 COUNCILLOR DERMOT LACEY**

To ask the Chief Executive if he is aware of the threat to the UNESCO endorsed Icon Factory and The Icon Walk in Temple Bar and if he will request the relevant staff in Dublin City Council - including the various cultural arms to work with the centre to secure their permanent presence in the area as one of the few unique and artist led projects remaining in what was intended to be a major Cultural area.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The City Arts Office has engaged with the Icon Factory and will support them in the difficult challenge of finding a new premises. It should be noted that many Arts organisations are seeking a building or accommodation to support their work at below commercial rates and demand for such buildings far exceeds supply.

**Q.65 COUNCILLOR NOELEEN REILLY**

To ask the Chief Executive for the immediate plans for **(details supplied)** once Demolition is completed in December 2020.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Having regard to the objectives set out in the Local Area Plan for this important site and to the various reports that have been commissioned, it is our intention to liaise with the Area councillors to agree a process and programme for the future development of this site.

**Q.66 COUNCILLOR NOELEEN REILLY**

To ask the Chief Executive for an update on **(details supplied)**.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

There is no significant update on the project to provide this club with a piece of land in that area. The feasibility study has been assessed and costed. The publishing of the Metro route has provided some clarity but there is still some uncertainty with regard to the actual land take required during construction and the timeframes for construction.

**Q.67 COUNCILLOR NOELEEN REILLY**

To ask the Chief Executive for a date when the bushes will be cut and the playground deep cleaned at **(details supplied)**.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Parks and Landscape Services have a program of works scheduled to maintain **(details supplied)** within the coming weeks.

**Q.68 COUNCILLOR NOELEEN REILLY**

To ask the Chief Executive for an update on the works for **(details supplied)**.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

DCC Parks and Landscape Services are developing proposals for further public consultation. However such consultations will need to be reimagined due to the current social distancing requirements. It was envisaged that a formal Part 8 planning application would be initiated by the end of this year however it is unclear at this time

precisely what effect the current Covid situation may have on this timeline but no doubt the Part 8 will be delayed by a number of months.

**Q.69 COUNCILLOR VINCENT JACKSON**

To ask the Chief Executive that Dublin City Council please have a good look at Park West Ave in Cherry Orchard Dublin 10 in relation to the poor visual state of the area with waste, weeds a feature of the area residents from Park Point & Cedarbrook have told me they have never seen the road cleaned by foot-staff or mechanical vehicle. Could I ask for a report and a regular cleaning schedule.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Waste Management Services had the road sweeping machine in Park West Avenue on week beginning the 17<sup>th</sup> August 2020 and back in there on the 26<sup>th</sup> August 2020. Arrangements have been made to have a deep clean carried out there in the near future.

**Q.70 COUNCILLOR VINCENT JACKSON**

To ask the Chief Executive that Dublin City Council please look into the ongoing problem of fly-tipping of domestic waste in the vicinity of O Hogan Road, Lally Road next to Markiewicz Park Ballyfermot Dublin 10. Residents were promised that signage would be erected over 1 year ago, CCTV was to be considered to deter this anti-social behaviour. Residents are fed up with our lack of action one resident told me her reported an address of one of those responsible without hearing anything back. I am asking we try and catch those responsible.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

A number of complaints have been received regarding illegal dumping in the vicinity of O'Hagan Road next to Markiewicz Park, Ballyfermot, Dublin 10 and on each occasion the waste was removed. We have been in communication with the complainant on the matter.

Arrangements have been made to put signage in place at three locations in the vicinity of O'Hogan Road, and letters will be forwarded to residents seeking details of their waste disposal arrangements.

It is not considered that there would be any benefit in installing CCTV at this location given the difficulties with identification.

**Q.71 COUNCILLOR VINCENT JACKSON**

To ask the Chief Executive to please have the ongoing traffic issues on Thomas Moore Road Walkinstown Dublin 12 looked at as a matter of urgency residents have told me that they have traffic speeding up the road at approx. 80 KM per hour they urgently needs Ramps, Traffic signs and enforcement from An Garda Siochana, it's only a matter of time before someone is seriously injured or killed in this busy area.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The Area Traffic Engineer has reported that the request for traffic calming measures will be investigated with an on-site visit in due course. A request has been created under Ref: 7016623.

I wish to advise you that it has been necessary to temporarily suspend all non-essential work in relation to Transport Related Service Requests until further notice and your query cannot be processed at this time. Priority is being given to ensure the necessary resources are in place to implement urgent temporary emergency Covid19 Mobility interventions.

**Q.72 COUNCILLOR VINCENT JACKSON**

To ask the Chief Executive to please have the following looked into. Over the past few weeks residents from Drimnagh have contacted all the Cllr's from the South Central area in relation to the serious level of anti-social behaviour with bangers, fire-works etc with youths in the vicinity of the take-aways, shops in the Drimnagh Area. Residents are frightened that these issues normally associated with Halloween area happening 2 months earlier this year. I am asking we with An Garda Siochana try and address this serious anti-social behaviour which is ruining the quality of life for many in the community.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The Ballyfermot-Drimnagh area office has been in contact with the local Community Sergeant regarding this issue. He has informed us that Gardaí are increasing patrols of the area. The CCTV feed from the area that goes into the Garda Station was down, so DCC is having this fixed.

**Q.73 COUNCILLOR ANNE FEENEY**

To ask the Chief Executive to extend the provision of public toilets throughout the city centre and particularly at places of high footfall and with cultural attractions e.g. College Green, O'Connell Street, Merrion Square, etc. I welcome the DCC facility at St. Stephen's Green as do many visiting the city centre to shop and meet up. Given the Covid 19 environment which we are likely to be living with for some time, the provision of public toilets is absolutely essential. These essential facilities are important for visitors to the city and make sense as part of the DCC campaign 'Make a Day of it'.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

As part of its response to Covid 19 and the reopening of the city centre Dublin City Council installed two temporary toilet facilities at St Stephens Green and Wolfe Tone Square that remain in place. Additionally the city council also made available toilets in City Hall and at St Patricks Park. The automated units at Clontarf and Sandymount have since been brought back into service also.

At that time few other facilities were available in the city. Currently all of the major shopping centre locations and department stores in the city have reopened their facilities for customers.

Further to this the city council is currently in discussions regarding the provision of an additional public facility in the city centre.

**Q.74 COUNCILLOR ANNE FEENEY**

To ask the Chief Executive to enter into negotiations with Ben Dunne Gyms to lease or buy the swimming pool on Kimmage Road West for use by the public. This gym and pool have remained closed post the lifting of lockdown despite the fact that swimming is regarded as one of the safer environments for exercising during Covid. This pool was heavily used by many pensioners and locals in Dublin 12 and Dublin 6W because it was local and affordable as with DCC's own facility in Crumlin and also at the Swan Leisure Centre in Rathmines.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Dublin City Council will contact Ben Dunne Gyms with a view to arranging a meeting to discuss the proposal that Dublin City Council would lease or purchase the Ben Dunne gym on Kimmage Road west (Carlisle Gym).

**Q.75 COUNCILLOR SOPHIE NICOULLAUD**

To ask the Chief Executive to erect sign post in parks and in all public areas to ask people to bring their waste back at home to adhere to the reduce reuse and recycle policy.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Waste Management Services will work with the Parks Dept. to put in place "Leave no Trace" signage in parks and public places.

We will examine locations such as Sandymount and Clontarf promenades and canal walks to trial in the first instance.

**Q.76 COUNCILLOR SOPHIE NICOULLAUD**

To ask the Chief Executive how many empty poles were removed last year following the 2019 Sign Cleaning Contract, and many poles this year. How many in total have been identify that have yet to be removed?

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The 2019 Sign Cleaning & GPS Asset Management Survey commenced in July 2019. It was fully completed in June 2020.

The Survey identified 653 vacant Sign Poles in the DCC Area.

The list was furnished to the newly appointed Single Party Small Scale Works Contractor in July 2020.

Whilst undertaking the daily maintenance and installation duties required under this contract, they have managed to remove 74 vacant poles to date and this work is ongoing.

**Q.77 COUNCILLOR SOPHIE NICOULLAUD**

To ask the Chief Executive when will Greentown Environmental start treating Dublin South Central. Will this company replace Redlough contractor?

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Greentown Environmental will be starting in South Central area Mid-September and will begin treating nominated roads in initially in Ballyfermot/Drimnagh.

Greentown have been awarded the tender to treat weeds across the city, which is funded by E& T Roads Department. Redlough are the appointed contractor for maintenance of grass verges and green spaces for Parks Department. This includes weed treatment. The current contract expires at the end of 2020.

**Q.78 COUNCILLOR SOPHIE NICOULLAUD**

To ask the Chief Executive for an update on the neighbourhood mobility schemes. When will councillors hear back from submission they sent?

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

All areas for consideration in the South Central Area for Neighbourhood Transport Schemes have been assessed/ranked accordingly and a Phase 2 report compiled. However all works on this project has ceased at present. The Neighbourhood Transport Engineers focus is solely on Covid Mobility Measures due to the current pandemic. An update will be given to all Councillors once works recommence on Neighbourhood Transport Schemes. The report will also be distributed to all Councillors at that time.

**Q.79 COUNCILLOR KEVIN DONOGHUE**

To ask the Chief Executive if an inspection could be carried out on the speed bumps on South Lotts Road. The bumps are disintegrating and pose a hazard to bicycle users in the area in particular.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

These speed bumps will be inspected and arrangements will be made for any necessary repairs to be carried out.

**Q.80 COUNCILLOR KEVIN DONOGHUE**

To ask the Chief Executive what can be done about seagulls creating a nuisance in the inner city area. In addition to ripping open bags they are problematic due to the amount of noise they make in some areas and can keep residents awake all night. Is there a procedure for dealing with this and how can residents engage with it?

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Seagulls, or gulls, have become a very visual component of Dublin City's biodiversity. Gulls are a protected species under the Wildlife Acts (1976 to 2018), which is enforced by the National Parks and Wildlife Service.

Seagulls are under pressure due to declining fish stocks and marine pollution, and many of their traditional nesting sites have also declined. Herring gull and Black-Headed gull numbers have dropped dramatically nationally, and they are both now red-listed species in Ireland.

Seagulls are omnivorous in their diet and will forage for food in areas where refuse and dumping are problematic. Gulls have learnt that the city can provide good sources of food throughout the year, as well as nesting sites in the summer months.

Dublin City Council does not have a role in the control of gulls. However, it strongly advises people not to feed the gulls as this influences the interactive behaviour between birds and humans. Refuse should be stored so as to avoid access by wildlife.

**Q.81 COUNCILLOR KEVIN DONOGHUE**

To ask the Chief Executive to provide an update on the Portobello Plaza and cabbage patch redesigns.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

**Portobello Plaza:** Portobello Harbour Square was redesigned in 2005 under the Urban & Village Renewal Programme 2000 – 2006, but was beset by low level anti-social problems such as graffiti and skateboarding from the outset. In recent years the South East Area Office has used this public space for local cultural events: Canalaphonic Music and Culture Festival, Portobello Harbour Festival, occasional markets and farmers markets, fun days and Christmas events. However, in terms of day-to-day usage, the same negative issues continue to prevail and these have been exacerbated in the summer time by localised public drinking, littering and other consequent antisocial activity.

An Bord Pleanála granted permission (Reg. Ref. 4284/17) for a six storey hotel on 21<sup>st</sup> January 2019 on the western side of the square and demolition works commenced on the site in early 2020. There is some concern among local residents that the hotel development and its future use may have a negative impact on the public space going forward. Following meetings with the developer they have agreed to work in partnership with Dublin City Council to achieve a much needed enhanced public realm



space in Portobello Harbour Square, not only improving public safety, security and overall enhanced aesthetics but also integrating with Waterways Ireland to achieve a coordinated landscaped amenity scheme for the locality that will benefit both local residents, businesses and the hotel and also take advantage of the special waterways location to create an artistic, interesting and functional space. The newly designed square will reflect the needs of the local community, both residents and businesses, and there will be a comprehensive local consultation process coordinated by the South East Area Office in order to achieve consensus on the design.

Meetings were held on site with the hotel developer in March and July 2020 to discuss site area and future plans for the redesign of the public square. However, the developer has recently notified us of some delays to the project with commencement of works likely to be delayed for 5/6 months. In the meantime we will engage with City Architects Department to make a plan for public engagement in relation to the redesign of the square and to consider some of the issues that might emerge during consultation, taking into consideration such factors as the site being along the proposed Grand Canal Cycle route and it being an existing location for a well-used Dublin Bikes station. It is our aim to work with City Architects Department and the developer to commence local consultations and to put forward proposals for a draft redesign of the square in late 2020, with a view to delivering a redesigned public square to coincide with the completion of the hotel development. We feel this is a rare opportunity to secure huge community gain and to successfully redesign this public space for the benefit of the wider community.

In relation to the Cabbage Patch, the Parks Division has recently issued tenders for the refurbishment of the football pitch to a 3G standard. These tenders are returnable by mid-October.

**Q.82 COUNCILLOR MANNIX FLYNN**

To ask the Chief Executive to urgently address the major issues that have arisen for businesses at Camden Street Upper due to the Covid 19 measures and the implementation of a new cycling lane and road layout.

This new road layout was done without any consultation with the local residents or businesses in this area and as a result people are finding it extremely difficult if not impossible to exit and enter their homes and their business premises. There are many elderly people here. There are many people from the community that use the chemist. There is now no longer a place for a loading bay and there is also no place to park and fill out prescriptions at the local chemist. This situation arose in other parts of Dublin and was quickly resolved. I would urge the CEO to give his utmost attention to this particular location. Local people have already submitted a possible working solution plan for the road layout here that has been forwarded to Mr Brendan O'Brien.

This situation here for people's homes and livelihoods cannot continue with the present layout.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

No new layout was put in place in Camden Street, instead the existing cycle lane was protected to prevent illegal parking in the cycle track and this was implemented over four months ago. There was no loading bays in this section and there never was any space to pull in and park legally.

To reiterate the Covid mobility measures in this area was to install a series of bollards to protect the cycle track, everything else is as it was previously. As part of our Covid Mobility team there is a section who engage with businesses and they will meet with the various premises who are raising concerns.

**Q.83 COUNCILLOR MANNIX FLYNN**

To ask the Chief Executive to issue a full update and report with regards my motion for a plebiscite on the retention or not of the title of Lord Mayor. This plebiscite was promised almost two years ago on the issue of the appropriateness in this day and age and in this Irish republic the continuing use of the title 'Lord Mayor'. It is time now that this issue was put to the public by way of plebiscite to address this issue in this centenary decade.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The following motion was initially submitted by Councillor Flynn to the Protocol Committee in 2015 and was subsequently referred to the full City Council by the Protocol Committee for consideration:

*"In keeping with best practice and mindful of the connotations of the word 'Lord' in 'Lord Mayor' that this Council agrees to decommission the title 'Lord Mayor' and replace it with much more civic and inclusive title of 'Civic Mayor'. This would be in keeping with a much more democratic description and title. The days of Lords go back to a time when Ireland was under foreign rule and in many respects, it is an alien, colonialist term. Dublin, the Capital of the Irish Republic, should assert itself and strike a new title and description for the elected chairperson and Civic Mayor of Dublin City and Council. Perhaps a plebiscite and a ballot among City Councillors could be considered here".*

The City Council at its meeting on 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2016 discussed the proposal and agreed the following amended motion:

*"In keeping with the traditional understanding of the term "Lord Mayor of Dublin" by Dubliners and supporting the wish to involve the people of Dublin in having their voice heard on the issue of a possible title change, as provided for in the Local Government (Reform) Act 2014, agrees to request the City Council's Public Participation Network to place the matter on their agenda and consult with their member organisations and to report back to the Council through the Local Community Development Committee and Protocol Committee. The Council furthermore resolves to invite the public to suggest a new motto for the City to replace Obedientia Civium Urbis Felicitas (The Obedience of the citizens produces a happy city)".*

The matter was referred to the City Council's Public Participation Network to place the matter on their agenda and consult with their member organisations. The Secretariat of the PPN met on 11th September 2016 and reported back to the Protocol Committee that they would be happy to consult with PPN members on the amended motion. However, they felt that the wording of the motion was unclear and requested that Dublin City Council compile a short questionnaire based on the motion which could be sent to the 633 groups currently registered with the PPN.

At the meeting of the Protocol Committee on 28<sup>th</sup> September 2018 the Members considered the request for a questionnaire from the PPN. Following a discussion on the matter it was agreed not to move forward with the process at that time as the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage had indicated that he was considering proposals in relation to a directly elected mayor for Dublin. The Members felt that it would be judicious to see these proposals before proceeding with the consultation with the PPN.

Subsequently, the government introduced The Local Government Act 2019 which provided for plebiscites for directly elected mayors for Cork City Council, Limerick City

and County Council and Waterford City and County Council alongside the May 2019 Local Elections. However, the government decided not to include Dublin in the plebiscites as the complexities of local government in Dublin County and City required a more detailed and informed public discourse on the matter. It is envisaged that a "Dublin Citizens' Assembly" will be established in 2021 as a forum to consider the type of directly elected mayor and local government structures best suited for Dublin.

The holding of a plebiscite requires primary legislation which is not currently in place and in light of the plans to facilitate a citizens assembly it would premature to proceed with any proposals in advance of the outcome of these discussions.

**Q.84 COUNCILLOR MANNIX FLYNN**

To ask the Chief Executive to reinstate as a matter of urgency further meetings for the Dublin City Council Contracts Committee. Either physical meetings or online zoom meetings. This committee was set up a number of years ago to examine governance issues and practice and give transparency to Dublin City Council contracts etc. It has never been stood down and it now needs to get on with its work.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

There is no statutory requirement to have a contracts committee in place. Local Government Legislation places the obligation on the executive to award contracts. This is done in an open and transparent fashion, Manager's orders are prepared for the awarding of contracts and Councillors are furnished a monthly report on the Manager's order signed the previous month.

All contracts are advertised and awarded in line with EU Procurement guidelines.

**Q.85 COUNCILLOR MANNIX FLYNN**

To ask the Chief Executive to advise whether there are any internal charges levied by the Law Department of Dublin City Council for the provision of legal services to the various operational departments within Dublin City Council. If so, then;

1. What are these charges and how are they calculated?
2. What are the costs of each grade (i.e. equivalent of Partner, Associate, Solicitor, Assistant solicitor) of Dublin City Council in-house solicitors including any attributable overhead?

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

No such internal charges are applied.

**Q.86 COUNCILLOR JOE COSTELLO**

To ask the Chief Executive if he will write to the Government urging them to implement Government policy immediately and abolish the Strategic Housing Development process which has distorted the housing landscape, undermined the planning system and failed to contribute to the housing cohort and if he will take steps to ensure that third party submissions on SHDs are available online as currently they are only available to inspect at An Bord Pleanála offices.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

At the meeting of the Protocol Committee on 23<sup>rd</sup> July the Members discussed the issue of Strategic Housing Developments and agreed to forward this matter to the Planning and Urban Form SPC. Accordingly the matter was brought to the attention of the Chair of the Planning and Urban Form SPC. However as the Planning Authority has a duty to comply with the SHD legislation it is not appropriate for the Chief

Executive to prepare a report as described for the SPC meeting. The Chair has indicated that a paper on the SHD experience of the Elected Members may be prepared and brought as a matter of information to the SPC or the views of the SPC Members collated and forwarded to Central Government. Any decision regarding whether to make a submission to Central Government should also be brought to elected members of the City Council.

**Q.87 COUNCILLOR JOE COSTELLO**

To ask the Chief Executive if he is aware that approximately 50% of food in Irish urban shopping baskets is processed and if he has any plans to improve the diet of the City's residents.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The issue of nutrition and dietary health is not within the remit of Dublin City Council. It is a matter for National Government. The Councillor would be best advised to direct his enquiries to the Department of Health.

**Q.88 COUNCILLOR JOE COSTELLO**

To ask the Chief Executive to cease using tropical palm trees (or Cordelyne) in planters and to use traditional Irish trees like Ash or Rowan instead.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

DCC Landscape and Parks are currently reviewing the city planters and the planting species/combinations, with a view to creating a planting palette which is more appropriate for Dublin City.

**Q.89 COUNCILLOR JOE COSTELLO**

To ask the Chief Executive if he will review the free parking for Mater Hospital staff in the residential streets surrounding the hospital and ask the hospital to provide such a service for frontline workers in their 400-500 space car park which has available spaces and is still charging the same fees.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The non-enforcement of paid parking restrictions in respect of vehicles owned by frontline hospital staff parked in the vicinity of hospitals was always intended to be a temporary measure. At the time it was introduced it was not a major issue in the various locations where it applied, as there was limited other demand for on-street parking.

However, with the resumption in economic activity, there has been a significant recovery in traffic volumes and in on-street parking demand. This has led to a situation where residents with Residents Parking Permits, living in the vicinity of major hospitals, are having difficulty accessing on-street parking. A very large number of complaints have been received from residents who cannot park near their own homes on the streets where they live. This has given rise to many complaints from residents who have paid for this parking.

In view of this it was decided, with considerable regret, that the enforcement concession in respect of frontline hospital staff parking in the vicinity of hospitals, could not be sustained. The concession will end on 31 August, after which a full parking enforcement service will operate in the vicinity of hospitals.

However, in an effort to assist frontline hospital staff after 31 August 2020, the City Council has allocated 400 parking spaces in the ILAC car park and a total of 100 spaces in the Drury Street and Dawson car parks (all car parks are owned by the City Council) for frontline staff in nearby hospitals. The spaces will be made available at a

very affordable cost (up to a max €5 per day), which is well below the current market rate for secure off-street car parking in the city centre. The Council is satisfied that there will still be plenty of spaces available in these car parks for motorists wishing to park in the city centre for shopping, leisure and business purposes.

The detailed arrangements for accessing these spaces have been worked out between relevant hospital management and the car park operators. The arrangement will be reviewed after 6 months. The chief executives of the different hospitals have been communicated with in respect of this arrangement.

**Q.90 COUNCILLOR CAROLINE CONROY**

To ask the Chief Executive can we have different types of safe & secure bike parking racks be put in place around our City, in parks and local shopping centres. There is a need to accommodate all types of bikes e.g. Tricycles, Cargo Bikes etc. which need more space. These need to be put in place urgently so that we are catering for those who may have mobility issues and use these different type of bikes.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The Sustainable Mobility and Projects section intends to install cycle parking for cargo bikes in some of the locations in the next Batch of cycle parking and locations will also be considered in future batches of cycle parking. It is encouraged that members forward any locations for consideration to [smp@dublincity.ie](mailto:smp@dublincity.ie)

**Q.91 COUNCILLOR CAROLINE CONROY**

To ask the Chief Executive while we are waiting for the wider bike racks for the larger/wider bikes can we put in signs at existing bike parking racks asking people to leave the end spots for these users.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Dublin City Council intends to install some wider bike racks as part of the next batch of cycle parking and to consider further installations in future batches. These installations will hopefully start to give us an understanding of the demand that exists for such facilities and what would be a reasonable percentage of space to set aside for wider bike racks.

We would not recommend incurring the expense of erecting signage in multiple locations across the city until we have a clear idea of the demand we are seeking to address. In the short term if any Councillors or members of the public would like to see extra wide cycle stands installed in particular locations, they can send the details to [traffic@dublincity.ie](mailto:traffic@dublincity.ie) and the locations will be considered for future cycle parking installations.

**Q.92 COUNCILLOR JANET HORNER**

To ask the Chief Executive if he is aware that many children swim in the Royal Canal adjacent to the National Conference Centre at Sheriff Street during the summer months and can he work in tandem with Waterways Ireland to:

- test the water quality on a regular basis during the bathing season
- work to remove floating rubbish from this section of the canal more regularly?

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

This question should be referred to Waterways Ireland who have responsibility for the Royal Canal.

**Waterways Ireland:**, 2 Sligo Road, Enniskillen, Co. Fermanagh, BT74 7JY .

**Q.93 COUNCILLOR JANET HORNER**

To ask the Chief Executive to liaise with An Garda Síochána to develop a strategy for improving enforcement in relation to illegal parking - particularly where it is blocking footpaths and cycle lanes and report on same to the city council.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The Parking Policy and Enforcement Unit does liaise with An Garda Síochána in relation to enforcement against illegal parking. The Transport Advisory Group also encompasses the involvement of An Garda Síochána in their periodic meetings that decide on traffic management for the city, including those that impact on enforcement against illegal parking. During COVID 19 priority has been given to assisting the provision of safe spaces for pedestrians around our city by both the creating of pedestrian zones on a trial basis, the implementation of School zones and widening of spaces for use by pedestrians to facilitate social distance as well as new and improved cycle lanes.

The enforcement of illegal parking on footpaths and cycle lanes is ongoing in support of these policies. Enforcement against illegal parking on footpaths and cycle lanes is carried out by the Dublin Street Parking Services on behalf of Dublin City Council.

**Q.94 COUNCILLOR JANET HORNER**

To ask the Chief Executive what progress has been made in relation to development of a new Road Safety Strategy for Dublin City Council given that the current one is set to expire in 2020.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The Dublin City Council Road Safety Strategy reflects the Government strategy objectives by including clear targets for reducing both fatalities and serious injuries. Dublin City Council is always basing its Road Safety Strategy on the national policy.

There is a delay in getting the Road Safety Authority Strategy for 2021 – 2028 until middle of 2021. Dublin City Council will extend the existing strategy by another year until a national strategy is drafted. The plan is to produce Dublin City Council Road Safety Strategy by the end of 2021.

**Q.95 COUNCILLOR JANET HORNER**

To ask the Chief Executive to identify ways to make urgent progress in relation to the Bike Bunkers project. The project has been stalled since March due to the COVID crisis but the bunkers which were installed but not made operational have caused frustration for residents and have had to be removed in at least one case. As we are focused on increasing cycling in the city we need to urgently increase the amount of safe bike parking and this project urgently needs acceleration.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The Bike Bunkers team continued to work throughout the Covid pandemic. There were delays due to pandemic and other circumstances beyond our control but the team continue to work on the bike bunker project with absolute dedication.

At present, the team have been working in the background to ensure a seamless operation when the scheme does become operational. Currently we are working on a trial run of the bike bunkers taken as a customer of the service amongst other aspects of the project.

Dublin City Council is committed to the project, and a roll out of the initial number is continuing. There is an intention to go to tender for the provision of the bike storage and service provision later in 2020 to enable a further expansion of the scheme.

**Q.96 COUNCILLOR BRIEGE MACOSCAR**

To ask the Chief Executive to outline the number of inspections carried out and fines issued broken down geographically under the waste management bye laws requiring households to have their waste collected by an approved collector or disposed of at an approved facility.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

A full report detailing the requested information will issue directly to the Cllr within the next fortnight.

**Q.97 COUNCILLOR BRIEGE MACOSCAR**

To ask the Chief Executive to arrange for repair of the pavement at **(details supplied)** which has been on the list for repair for over 5 years.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

According to Road Maintenance Services records, a complaint about the uneven condition of the footpath at this address (and other locations on this road) was received on 5/9/2017, following which the area inspectorate determined that the footpath at this particular address did not present notable defects.

Road Maintenance Services has carried out an inspection at this address recently and determined that the footpath is even and the only minor defect is the rough edge of vehicular dishing.

Road Maintenance Services has added this defect to the work list and it will be scheduled for repair subject to a priority order and the availability of a crew in the area.

This service request is rated Priority 8 and it should be noted that a service request ranges from Priority 1 (high) to Priority 8 (low). As this is a low priority service request, we cannot give a definite timeline as to when these works will be carried out.

**Q.98 COUNCILLOR BRIEGE MACOSCAR**

To ask the Chief Executive to confirm if the funding recently announced by the NTA for walking and cycling projects is additional funding from central Government or is it funding previously allocated to projects?

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The funding recently announced by NTA is additional to the funding announcement made earlier in the year. The additional funding will finance carriageway and footpath renewals, upgrade of pedestrians crossing push buttons, protections of and installation of coloured surfacing on cycle lanes as well as road safety and other mobility initiatives.

**Q.99 COUNCILLOR CAROLINE CONROY**

To ask the Chief Executive what payments were made to Ashton Pound for services carried out on behalf of DCC. Does this include vet expenses as well and any other extra expenses associated with this business.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Ashton Pound are contracted to provide a dog warden and pound service to Dublin

City Council at an annual cost of €277,198 plus VAT. This includes Ashton Pound's veterinary expenses and all other expenses in providing Dublin City Council with a Dog Pound facility and Dog Warden Service.

**Q.100 COUNCILLOR CAROLYN MOORE**

To ask the Chief Executive to install CCTV on Benbulbin Road, Drimnagh, where residents have been subjected to increasing levels of anti-social behaviour and suspected drug dealing, which are expected to reach a peak at Halloween. Residents have met with the Gardaí in an attempt to formulate a plan to tackle the the growing incidents of anti-social behaviour at Benbulbin Road and Brickfield Park, and strongly feel that CCTV would both act as a deterrent and help Gardaí respond quickly to unfolding incidents. In the past elderly and vulnerable residents have been terrorised their homes due to an increase in such activities at Halloween.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

An upgraded CCTV system was installed at Benbulbin Road last year. The camera was attacked and damaged on a number of occasions and was completely destroyed as a result of the last attack. A new, more robust camera was then installed, along with additional security measures.

This camera has not been attacked and has continued to operate since it was installed. On occasion strong winds have caused movement to the radio which transmits the signal and this can result in a "broken" picture being transmitted to the server and monitor. On the occasions that this has happened the problem has been resolved quickly.

It should be noted that the system has proved most effective as a deterrent and as a means for the Gardaí to monitor the immediate area and any issues which have occurred have not affected the effectiveness of the system in this regard.

**Q.101 COUNCILLOR CAROLYN MOORE**

To ask the Chief Executive if areas suitable for short-stay parking could be identified, with a view to trialling a new form of 15-minute short-stay parking in appropriate areas?

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The Parking Policy and Enforcement unit see that there would be enforcement issues for us were we to implement a 15 minutes short stay parking. However, if the councillor wishes to suggest a suitable location for a pilot, we will certainly engage to determine the feasibility of implementing such a short term parking stay for some locations in the city. Any suggestions could be investigated for suitability for consideration for implementation on a trial basis.

**Q.102 COUNCILLOR CAROLYN MOORE**

To ask the Chief Executive for a record of the industrial activity of LEO PHARMA, Cashel Road, Crumlin, including environmental emissions and waste disposal, and an account of how and with what frequency Dublin City Council monitors this activity.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Dublin City Council monitors a number of activities at Leo Pharma at their site on Cashel Road and three pieces of legislation pertain to their activities in that regard, namely;

- Local Government (Water Pollution) Act 1977, as amended;
- the Air Pollution Act 1987, and;
- The Waste Management Act 1996.



**In relation to the Local Government (Water Pollution) Act;**

Leo Pharma are authorised to discharge trade effluent to the foul sewer in accordance with a discharge licence granted under Section 16 of the Water Pollution Act. This trade effluent licence was granted in 2010 by Dublin City Council. The Water Pollution Control Section (on behalf of Irish Water) monitor Leo Pharma's compliance with this trade effluent discharge license. This includes attending their facility on a monthly basis to sample the effluent being discharged into Irish Water's drainage network. These samples are analysed at the DCC Central Laboratory at Marrowbone Lane. In parallel, as a condition of their license, Leo Pharma monitor the effluent and report the monitoring results to our Water Pollution Control section and Irish Water on a quarterly basis.

**In relation to the Air Pollution Act;**

Since 2010, Leo Pharma is subject to the general provisions of the Air Pollution Act 1987 relevant to non-licensable facilities. Previously, they were licenced under by the Environmental Protection Agency. This licence was surrendered in 2010 due to the cessation of penicillin production and only physical processes occurring on site. At that time Leo Pharma were also notified that under Article 29 of the Air Pollution Act 1987, the occupier of any premises shall as soon as practicable after the occurrence of any incident which may cause air pollution notify the relevant local authority of the incident. In this section, 'incident' includes an accidental emission. Air quality monitoring is not required to be undertaken on a scheduled basis as per trade effluent. A number of complaints have been received by Air Quality Monitoring and Noise Control Unit in recent years pertaining to air emissions at the Cashel Road facility, as follows;

1. On 30 May 2019 a complaint was received by Dublin City Council in relation to vapour emissions emanating from the Leo Pharma facility. On investigation it was determined this was caused by steam from the plant due to a faulty valve, did not constitute an air pollution incident and the fault was rectified. It was also confirmed the processes on site for formulating product did not require a licence.
2. On 2 July 2019 a complaint was received in relation to noise emanating from the facility. An investigation of the complaint was undertaken, including site inspection. Construction works was taking place at the time and it was determined these works were only being carried out during the times specified in the planning conditions set by Dublin City Council. Leo Pharma also had systems in place to monitor the construction noise including two monitors on neighbouring dwellings and had completed an operational noise survey for the site in 2018.

Written procedures for site deliveries were in place which had communicated to all drivers and companies entering or working on the site. The outcome of this investigation was that best practicable means as provided for in the Environmental Protection Agency Act 992 in respect of noise control measures were in place.

3. In 2020 Leo Pharma introduced production methods involving the use of solvents that required them to apply for a Certificate of Compliance under Regulation 18 of the

European Union (Installations and Activities Using Organic Solvents) Regulations 2012.

The process for making this application involves applying to Dublin City Council, and the application must be accompanied by an Approved Assessor Compliance Report. Approved Assessors for the purposes of these Regulations are registered with the Environmental Protection Agency. The compliance report is an exhaustive description of the processes and stages of solvent use throughout the plant with stringent mandatory EU limits set in respect of emissions. Dublin City Council issued a Certificate of Compliance to Leo Pharma on 4 March 2020 and this will expire and require renewal on 4 March 2023.

During this period Leo Pharma have enhanced responsibilities in terms of reporting on any matters related to their Certificate of Compliance including any conditions set and may be subject to spot checks by the Approved Assessors, Dublin City Council and/or the Environmental Protection Agency.

**In relation to the Waste Management Act;**

All premises generating waste are required to dispose of that waste in an appropriate manner using waste collectors that are appropriately licensed for the removal and disposal of the specific waste stream generated.

Dublin City Council Waste Enforcement Unit carry out yearly targeted inspections on selected premises producing waste.

The Waste Enforcement Unit also investigate any complaints made in reference to premises producing waste under the Waste Management Act 1996 and ensure that premises are managing waste in an authorised manner.

Our records indicate that Waste Enforcement Unit have not carried out any targeted waste related inspections at Leo Pharma to date. Similarly the Waste Enforcement Unit has not been notified of any complaints relating to waste at Leo Pharma.

**Q.103 COUNCILLOR MICHAEL PIDGEON**

To ask the Chief Executive if Dublin City Council has performed any form of race equality audit for staff, to monitor staff demographics, career progression, discrimination, seniority, and job satisfaction for BAME council staff, including traveller and migrant workers. Are there plans for the council to seek accreditation to a diversity inclusion standard, such as Investors in Diversity Ireland?

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Dublin City Council is committed to a policy of equal opportunity in line with the Employment Equality Act 1998. The act prohibits discrimination under nine grounds, including race and applies to all recruitment competitions.

The City Council, however, has not conducted a Race Equality Audit. We are however investigating opportunities to develop a BAME (Black and Minority Ethnic) network in the Council.

The experience gained from ongoing collaboration with a similar network for LGBT+ colleagues has proven very beneficial and much progress has been made in addressing equality on this ground. It is anticipated that a similar 'staff-led' approach would give BAME employees a voice and provide them with an opportunity to identify and discuss issues of interest which can guide future diversity and inclusion strategies in line with the Council's Public Sector Duty.

**Q.104 COUNCILLOR CAT O'DRISCOLL**

To ask the Chief Executive to prioritise a farmers and artisan market for the St. Michan's fruit market site and to provide a timeline on the project. The need for large, open and safe shopping areas will be with us into the future and providing such a space for locally sourced produce in the North City will benefit the area.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The Part 8 Planning Permission in place for the redevelopment of the Wholesale Fruit and Vegetable Market allows for the works needed to conserve the Victorian building and the necessary infrastructure needed to introduce a retail food market in 50% of the building.

The vision for this market is that it will be direct producers, with low miles to market and a sufficient mix of fresh produce to enable shoppers to do a weekly shop. It is the intention to grow this market to a 7 day per week offering

The Members Advisory Group which has a representative from each of the political parties nominated by the Group Leaders are working with the Executive to bring the project to tender as soon as possible.

**Q.105 COUNCILLOR CAT O'DRISCOLL**

To ask the Chief Executive for details on the support available to community groups and sports clubs who have lost access to the use of school halls and pitches due to school safety measures.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Parks Service are happy to consider applications from sports clubs for a pitch letting subject to usual conditions and an available location.

Club officers can email [parks@dublincity.ie](mailto:parks@dublincity.ie) and we will arrange for an application form to be forwarded to them.

**Q.106 COUNCILLOR DECLAN MEENAGH**

To ask the Chief Executive for a report on how current disability regulations apply to swimming pools. What is the requirement for building a new swimming pool and what requirements will be applied to the proposed floating pool on the Liffey.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

There are a number of regulations which may apply to the provision of leisure facilities, particularly by a public body, so as to ensure active participation regardless of age, size or disability. While the Sea Pool proposal is at a very early stage of project development it would be envisaged that the project would be required to comply with all of the following regulations.

As per the report given to the Central and South East Area Committees in July, the intention for the Sea Pool (if the members agree that it should proceed) would be to carry out an international expressions of interest competition to find a suitable firm or consortium to Design, Build, Operate and Finance the project. The International call

would set the requirements that would have to be met by a prospective bidder and would likely include all of the below requirements along with potentially other specific requirements set by the City Council. During the Planning stage of any project other specific requirements in relation to Appropriate Assessment and Environmental Impact Assessment will also have to be met.

**Building Regulations:** An objective of Part M of the Building Regulations 1997 to 2019 is to ensure that all facilities within a building are accessible to and useable and that they are designed and constructed to facilitate active participation where appropriate. These requirements apply to swimming pools within buildings but not necessarily to pools in other locations.

**Equal Status Acts 2000 to 2018:** These acts protect people with a disability from discrimination in the workplace and in wider society. It is required by law to make 'reasonable accommodation' for people with a disability who may be users, employees or volunteers. 'Reasonable accommodation' means providing specific treatment or facilities to make sure that people with a disability can avail of particular goods, services, housing, and so on.

**Disability Act 2005:** This Act places a statutory obligation on public service providers to support access to services and facilities for people with disabilities.

**United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities**

**(UNCRPD):** The Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) is a human rights treaty adopted by the United Nations in 2006 which exists to protect and reaffirm the human rights of disabled people. The Irish Government signed the Convention in 2007 and in March 2018 the Convention was ratified.

Article 30.5 states "With a view to enabling persons with disabilities to participate on an equal basis with others in recreational, leisure and sporting activities, States shall take appropriate measures:

- a. To encourage and promote the participation of persons with disabilities in mainstream sporting activities at all levels;
- b. To ensure that persons with disabilities have an opportunity to organise, develop and participate in disability-specific sporting and recreational activities and, to this end, encourage the provision, on an equal basis with others, of appropriate instruction, training and resources;
- c. To ensure that persons with disabilities have access to sporting, recreational and tourism venues;
- d. To ensure that children with disabilities have equal access with other children to participation in play, recreation and leisure and sporting activities, including those activities in the school system;
- e. To ensure that persons with disabilities have access to services from those involved in the organisation of recreational, tourism, leisure and sporting activities.

**Q.107 COUNCILLOR DECLAN MEENAGH**

To ask the Chief Executive for a report on the number of beach wheelchairs and other beach accessibility features available in the city and to ask if there are plans to provide more.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

There are 4 beach wheelchairs of 2 designs available for public use at Dollymount Strand. There are no current proposals to provide more.

There are 8 number dedicated disabled parking spaces at the end of the causeway road in close proximity to the beach.

**Q.108 COUNCILLOR CLAIRE BYRNE**

To ask the Chief Executive: in regard to the Ringsend District Heating Scheme can the Chief Executive advise on whether a detailed appraisal on the project in compliance with DCC's Capital Project Governance Guidelines, and the Department of Public Expenditure and Reform's Public Spending Code has been done; whether a technical advisor and a legal advisor have been appointed, provide me with details of same, and give an update on the project?"

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The project has been subject to a number of appraisals to date and the Project Team are currently finalising an update Business Case for the Project in line with the revised DPER Public Spending Code, published in Dec 2019. This work is being undertaken in conjunction with the National Development Finance Agency (NDFA) as the Projects Financial Advisors.

The Project Team is currently comprised of the NDFA as Financial Advisors, Ramboll as Technical Advisors and McCann FitzGerald as Legal Advisors. It is noted that Dublin City Council is in the process of procuring a new Technical Advisor to assist with the Project Delivery and to obtain the Projects necessary Statutory Consents.

**Q.109 COUNCILLOR CLAIRE BYRNE**

To ask the Chief Executive can he clarify whether awnings & heaters outside shops, cafes & licences premises require planning permission, and if so are there plans to review this to remove any barriers to allowing premises to erect awnings & heaters to facilitate social distance queuing in the winter time'

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

**Awnings**

The erection or installation of canopies / awnings over a shopfront requires planning permission. Any proposal to provide for an exemption from the requirement to obtain planning permission would require an amendment to the Planning Regulations which would be a function of the Minister / Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government.

In respect of introducing temporary regulations to respond to the Covid-19 pandemic, it is worth noting that temporary exemptions were introduced for restaurants to operate a service to enable the temporary sale of food for consumption off premises (i.e. takeaway/ delivery) was facilitated for a limited period specified in Regulations made in March by the Minister.

**Heaters**

The provision of wall mounted mobile heaters outside a premises may also require planning permission, unless the operator can demonstrate that they are exempt by virtue of Section 4 (1) (h) of the Planning Act i.e.

*4(1)(h) development consisting of the carrying out of works for the maintenance, improvement or other alteration of any structure, being works which affect only the interior of the structure or **which do not materially affect the external appearance of the structure so as to render the appearance inconsistent with the character of the structure or of neighbouring structures;***

This exemption will not apply to a protected structure.

The provision of mobile heaters outside a premises on a private landing may be exempt from the requirement to secure planning permission but will be assessed on a case by case basis. The provision of mobile heaters on the public footpath may require a licence under Section 254 of the Planning Act 2000 which is issued by the City Council.

**Q.110 COUNCILLOR CLAIRE BYRNE**

To ask the Chief Executive can he please investigate complaints about unacceptable noise levels around Pigeon House Road due to P&O ferries loading and unloading freight during the night. There is a new ferry service which lands at midnight causing excessive noise late into night which is causing huge disturbance to the residents. Can the CEO arrange a noise pollution assessment please and to contact the relevant authorities in relation to this?

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The Air Quality Monitoring and Noise Control Unit had received complaints regarding noise from the loading and unloading of one of the P&O ferries and there has been ongoing liaison with the ferry operator and Dublin Port Company in respect to the matter. A noise assessment was carried out on the 7<sup>th</sup> August and it was determined that the precise source of the noise is due to the impact of vehicles on the ship loading ramp during embarkation and disembarkation.

The ferry operator has to date carried out a number of measures to address this. They are as follows-

- a) Repositioned the vessel on the berth to improve the transition between the ramp and vessel
- b) Ballasted the pontoon again to improve the transition from the vessel to the ramp
- c) Placed rubber mats under the stern door of the vessel to deaden out the noise of the trucks transitioning from the vessel to the ramp
- d) Changed all reversing buzzers on the tugs to smart buzzers, the current reversing buzzers are 108db while the smart one will operate at between 77db & 90db
- e) Reconfigured the loading of the vessel in Liverpool so that reversing on to the vessel will be reduced by at least 50% reducing the need for the reversing buzzers to be used in Dublin
- f) Reconfigured the back loading of the vessel in Dublin; Load the Starboard side of the vessel on weather deck first to create a wall to block the noise

While the acoustic matting in particular had led to a decrease in noise, further matting is required to improve noise levels from the use of the ramp. An order has been made for additional matting and they are awaiting delivery. When these measures are in place a follow up noise survey will be carried out by Dublin City Council. Contact is being maintained with local residents to keep them updated on developments.

**Q.111 COUNCILLOR CLAIRE BYRNE**

To ask the Chief Executive whether the new public toilets on Grafton Street & Wolf Tone Square are permanent, are there plans to install further public toilets in the near future.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The current installations in St Stephens Green and Wolfe Tone Square are temporary in nature and not designed or intended to be permanent installations. There is however no current plan to remove these facilities.

The city council is currently exploring opportunities regarding the provision of further public toilet facilities within the city centre.

**Q.112 COUNCILLOR DAMIAN O'FARRELL**

To ask the Chief Executive to report on the laneway located to the rear of / between properties at **(details supplied 1)**. This laneway also has a pedestrian entrance to **(details supplied 2)**. Can the CEO confirm that this laneway is 'in charge' by DCC and separately that there is a public right of way through this laneway. The laneway has been blocked on occasion, most probably in error and local residents would appreciate clarification please.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Below is a mapping extract of the Road Maintenance Records.

Laneways coloured red were closed by Managers Order.

Laneways coloured Blue are maintained (taken in-charge) by Roads Maintenance.

Laneways coloured green are not maintained by Roads Maintenance.

The status of taken in-charge does not automatically grant a public right of way.

**Q.113 COUNCILLOR DAMIAN O'FARRELL**

To ask the Chief Executive for a report on the house located in St. Anne's Park at James Larkin Road. What are DCC's intentions for this property i.e. will a family be living in it etc.?

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Sealawn Lodge one of a small number of surviving gate lodges associated with St. Anne's demesne was restored as a historic feature of the park. The building itself is a very small property with only one small bedroom located in the attic space of the building and would not be suitable for family accommodation. It is intended to have the building occupied by a member of staff on a caretaker arrangement.

**Q.114 COUNCILLOR DAMIAN O'FARRELL**

To ask the Chief Executive for a report on Dublin Bikes please include plans to expand the service to the Dublin North Central Area.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Any further growth of the Just Eat dublinbikes scheme in the city is dependent on the identification of additional sustainable funding for capital and operational costs. This work is ongoing and is in addition to measures to finance the existing bike scheme in its current format.

A further factor that must be considered is the impact of stationless bike hire on the Just Eat dublinbikes business and operational model. There is therefore no definite timeline in place for the delivery of stations extension outside the current catchment to Dublin North Central or nearby areas.

In the interim to the identification of additional funding or operational models for the scheme, the alternative bike share schemes in the area are 'Bleeperbikes' and 'Moby'.

**Q.115 COUNCILLOR NIAL RING**

To ask the Chief Executive in relation to the figures produced on Homeless accommodation can the Chief Executive detail the movement from contracted hotel

accommodation to self-accommodation year on year and indicate the positive cost implication of this move away from contracted hotel accommodation.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

A reply will issue to the Councillor within 2 weeks of meeting.

**Q.116 COUNCILLOR NIAL RING**

To ask the Chief Executive to detail rent credit/clear/debit status by number of tenancies, percentage of total tenancies and broken into monetary categories viz: clear or in credit, less than €500 arrears, €500 to €2,000, €2,000 to €7,000, €7,000 to €11,000, €11,000 to €19,000, €19,000 to €27,000 and €27,000+.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Amount of Arrears €	Number of Accounts	% of Total Number in Arrears
01 – 500	6437	25.92%
500 – 2000	3663	14.75%
2000 – 7000	3407	13.72%
7000 – 11000	790	3.2%
11000 – 19000	505	2%
19000 – 27000	94	0.38%
27000+	37	0.15%

Tenancies in Credit/Clear/Debit	Number of Tenancies	% in Credit/Clear/Debit
Tenancies in Credit	9609	38.7%
Tenancies Clear	286	1.1%
Tenancies in Arrears	14933	60.14%

There are currently 98 rent arrears cases with the Law Department awaiting court dates to seek Orders for Possession and a further 28 cases awaiting rescheduling following adjournment due to Covid. House calls were suspended due to Covid however; Executive Housing Officers will resume house visits on 14th September 2020 with a view to reinforcing the importance and necessity for tenants to adhere to their tenancy agreement by maintaining a clear rent account.

**Q.117 COUNCILLOR NIAL RING**

To ask the Chief Executive to detail any provisions in either the Dublin City Development Plan or national legislation which address the issue of Build to rent developments i.e. how is it allowable, can it be refused etc.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The Dublin City Development 2016-2022 was adopted on 23<sup>rd</sup> September 2016 following extensive consultation over a two year period. The residential design standards set out in the Dublin City Development Plan were based on the Design Standards for New Apartments Guidelines for Planning Authorities published by the Department of the Environment, Community and Local Government in 2015. Since these Guidelines and the City Development Plan both pre-dated the emergence of the Build to Rent model on any significant scale, they provided limited guidance for the Build to Rent model.



Following a further review of apartment developments, the Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government updated the Design Standards for New Apartments in 2018. It was a specific aim of these amended Section 28 Guidelines to address the emerging 'build to rent' sector. Accordingly, a new chapter was incorporated into the 2018 Guidelines for Build to Rent apartment schemes, hence it is the Guidelines and more specifically Chapter 5 that provides the relevant policy context and design standards. The Guidelines set out two Specific Planning Policy Requirements (SPPRs) for 'Build to Rent', it should be noted that Specific Planning Policy Requirements take precedence over any conflicting policies and objectives in the development plan, local area plans and strategic development zone planning schemes.

The Guidelines define 'Build to Rent' as 'Purpose-built residential accommodation and associated amenities built specifically for long-term rental that is managed and serviced in an institutional manner by an institutional landlord,' and go on to state that a key aspect of the BTR is its potential to accelerate the delivery of new housing at a significantly greater scale than at present..... With BTR, once constructed, the overall scheme is available to the rental sector over a much shorter timescale on completion and the investment model is therefore capable of delivering a much higher volume of housing than traditional models. This potential for accelerated housing construction through BTR can make a significant contribution to the required increase in housing supply nationally, identified by Rebuilding Ireland, and the scale of increased urban housing provision envisaged by the National Planning Framework ..... The potential to augment existing housing delivery models by attracting new investment into the sector will assist in achieving additional housing output. Specific BTR Developments 5.9 The promotion of BTR development by planning authorities is therefore strongly merited through specific BTR planning and design policies and standards.....

The Guidelines also set out the following 2 SPPRs:

#### **Specific Planning Policy Requirement 7**

BTR development must be:

- (a) Described in the public notices associated with a planning application specifically as a 'Build-To-Rent' housing development that unambiguously categorises the project (or part of thereof) as a long-term rental housing scheme, to be accompanied by a proposed covenant or legal agreement further to which appropriate planning conditions may be attached to any grant of permission to ensure that the development remains as such. Such conditions include a requirement that the development remains owned and operated by an institutional entity and that this status will continue to apply for a minimum period of not less than 15 years and that similarly no individual residential units are sold or rented separately for that period;
- (b) Accompanied by detailed proposals for supporting communal and recreational amenities to be provided as part of the BTR development. These facilities to be categorised as:
  - (i) Resident Support Facilities - comprising of facilities related to the operation of the development for residents such as laundry facilities, concierge and management facilities, maintenance/repair services, waste management facilities, etc.
  - (ii) Resident Services and Amenities – comprising of facilities for communal recreational and other activities by residents including sports facilities, shared TV/lounge areas, work/study spaces, function rooms for use as private dining and kitchen facilities, etc.

### **Specific Planning Policy Requirement 8**

For proposals that qualify as specific BTR development in accordance with SPPR 7:

(i) No restrictions on dwelling mix and all other requirements of these Guidelines shall apply, unless specified otherwise;

(ii) Flexibility shall apply in relation to the provision of a proportion of the storage and private amenity space associated with individual units as set out in Appendix 1 and in relation to the provision of all of the communal amenity space as set out in Appendix 1, on the basis of the provision of alternative, compensatory communal support facilities and amenities within the development. This shall be at the discretion of the planning authority. In all cases the obligation will be on the project proposer to demonstrate the overall quality of the facilities provided and that residents will enjoy an enhanced overall standard of amenity;

(iii) There shall be a default of minimal or significantly reduced car parking provision on the basis of BTR development being more suitable for central locations and/or proximity to public transport services. The requirement for a BTR scheme to have a strong central management regime is intended to contribute to the capacity to establish and operate shared mobility measures;

(iv) The requirement that the majority of all apartments in a proposed scheme exceed the minimum floor area standards by a minimum of 10% shall not apply to BTR schemes;

(v) The requirement for a maximum of 12 apartments per floor per core shall not apply to BTR schemes, subject to overall design quality and compliance with building regulations.

In summary, the provision of 'Build to Rent' is promoted by the Apartment Guidelines subject to compliance with the standards set down, including location and densities. A review of the City Development Plan will be commencing very shortly, as part of the review process, further consideration will be given to the matter of policy and standards as they relate to 'Build to Rent' developments.

#### **Q.118 COUNCILLOR NIAL RING**

To ask the Chief Executive if he has any information/update as to when Section 53 of the Housing (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 2014 will be enacted, the section which gives Local Authorities the power to deduct housing rents directly from Social Welfare Payments. Also, can the Chief Executive write to and request the minister to have this legislation enacted if not already in progress.

#### **CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Representations have been made regarding the enactment of Section 53 of the Housing (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 2014. There is no indication that section 53 is under consideration for enactment.

#### **Q.119 COUNCILLOR CAROLINE CONROY**

To ask the Chief Executive can all parks in DCC have at least one contactless water fountain to help reduce plastic waste.

#### **CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

There is no funding in place to install contactless water fountains in parks at the present time, however the provision of such facilities can be considered in the context of new

development work within the parks. Members of the public are urged to bring their water bottles home and put them in domestic recycling bins

**Q.120 COUNCILLOR JAMES GEORGHEGAN**

To ask the Chief Executive if he will detail when or what month the implementation of the 3 additional pedestrian crossings in Sandymount Green shall take place.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The plan is to install 2 No. Controlled Pedestrian Crossings, 1 No. Uncontrolled Pedestrian Crossing and a ramp around Sandymount Green. There will be 1 No. Controlled Pedestrian Crossing located at Bennetts Auctioneers between Gilford Road and Claremont Road. There will be another Controlled Pedestrian Crossing located at Borzas Takeaway between Seafort Avenue and Newgrove Avenue.

There will be an Uncontrolled Pedestrian Crossing located along Claremont Road at the junction of Sandymount Green / Claremont Road. There will also be a ramp located along the road between Newgrove Avenue and Gilford Road. These works are planned to begin in October 2020.

**Q.121 COUNCILLOR JAMES GEORGHEGAN**

To ask the Chief Executive if he will detail when or what month the implementation of A 'School Zone' at Star of the Sea, Leahy's Terrace, Dublin 4 replicating the recently announced School Zone at Francis Street CBS, John Dillon Street, Dublin 8 could be done.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Star of the Sea BNS is currently being assessed by the Covid Mobility Technical Team to determine the suitability of its location for the implementation of a School Zone. We have contacted a representative from the school to inform them of this and we will contact them again once a decision has been made.

**Q.122 COUNCILLOR JAMES GEORGHEGAN**

To ask the Chief Executive if he will detail an update on timelines for the Clonskeagh to City Centre cycle route.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The Options Selection Report will be presented by the consultant CSEA to the South East Area at the 14<sup>th</sup> September 2020 meeting. Upon approval by the Stakeholders including the NTA, the project will be progressed to the Preliminary Design Stage in Q4.

**Q.123 COUNCILLOR JAMES GEORGHEGAN**

To ask the Chief Executive if he will detail when or what month it might be possible to approve the applications submitted under the 'Covid Mobility Measure Request Form' by Dunnes & Crescenzi for outdoor seating area/parklet at their restaurant on 11 Seafort Avenue, Sandymount, Dublin 4 (response ID ANON-DGWM-VUKV-U) and from BuJo; 6A Sandymount Green, Sandymount, Dublin 4, D04XY70 (response ID ANON-DGWM-VUKV-U).

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

In order to assist with re-opening the city and to accommodate the needs of businesses, many of whom require additional space in the public realm to operate in the current Covid-19 environment, the Covid Mobility Section has been dealing with requests for mobility interventions to facilitate 'tables and chairs' applications.

Where the Covid Mobility Section approves the temporary re-purposing of public road space, such as parking bays or sections of public footpath for use as a 'tables and chairs' area, the request is then passed onto the Street Furniture Unit as part of their licensing system.

The process for approving parklets is still very much at a test phase as there is currently only one trial parklet in use on a public road across the city. For now, the request to re-purpose public road space for a parklet will similarly be dealt with by the Covid Mobility Section and where this is approved, it will then be passed onto the Local Area Office, who will deal with the next stage.

The Covid Mobility Section expects to review the two cases referred to within the next fortnight.

**Q.124 COUNCILLOR MICHAEL WATTERS**

To ask the Chief Executive if it is possible to have the footpaths resurfaced on South Circular Road, from James' Hospital to Bulfin Road, Kilmainham Dublin 8. Residents have reported that the surface is very uneven and is a tripping hazard.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Road Maintenance inspected the footpaths at this location and note that in general, the condition is reasonable, however there are some locations that require attention and these defects have been added to our works list for repair.

**Q.125 COUNCILLOR HAZEL DE NORTÚIN**

To ask the Chief Executive to confirm how many noise complaints have been submitted to Dublin City Council regarding the Durkin Site on Galtymore Road, Drimnagh since work has started on site?

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The Air Quality Monitoring and Noise Control Unit has received complaints on four occasions, which were lodged on behalf of the local residents group.

These complaints are followed up with the site developers, and results for the onsite monitoring carried out by them is available as required. This Unit will advise the Planning Enforcement Section as necessary on exceedances of noise limits, in order for them to take enforcement action as they deem appropriate.

**Q.126 COUNCILLOR HAZEL DE NORTÚIN**

To ask the Chief Executive for an update on the progression of the redevelopment on Labre Park. Specifically the delay on the part 8 process:

- what is going to be the completion date?
- is the full redevelopment still going ahead?
- regarding the delay due to drainage issue, has this been resolved?

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

A completion date for the Redevelopment of Labre Park cannot be given at this time due to the ongoing assessment of the revised Flood Risk analysis currently being carried out by Flood Projects and Water Framework Directive Division which also covers drainage issues. Any further decisions and actions will be based on the results of this assessment. It is expected that recommendations from this analysis will issue in the near future.

Dublin City Council is fully committed to the Redevelopment of Labre Park.

**Q.127 COUNCILLOR CAROLYN MOORE**

To ask the Chief Executive what the enforcement strategy is for the removal of cars parked illegally on pavements, and for a record from Parking Enforcement showing:

- how many times in 2020 measures have been used to remove cars illegally parked on pavements
- how many times in 2020 fines have been issued relating to illegal parking on pavements
- how many reports/complaints were received by Parking Enforcement in 2020 relating to cars parked illegally on footpaths

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

For the period 1<sup>st</sup> January to 31<sup>st</sup> August 2020:

- The total number of times a vehicle has been removed for illegally parking on a footpath is **184**
- The total number of times a vehicle has been clamped for illegally parking on a pavement is **1117**
- The total number of reports/complaints received by Parking Enforcement relating to illegal parking on footpaths is **75**

**Q.128 COUNCILLOR JOHN LYONS**

To ask the Chief Executive to provide this councillor with all the relevant information and documentation for each of the five recognized procurement models that could have been chosen for the Land Initiative developments and to provide the advice provided to the city council that resulted in the competitive dialogue model being used by the city council in relation to the O'Devaney Gardens and Oscar Traynor Road Land Initiatives.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Proposals for the development of the three Housing Land Initiative sites at O'Devaney Gardens, Oscar Traynor Road and St Michael's Estate, were presented to, and overwhelmingly approved, by the Joint Housing and Planning Strategic Policy Committees in December 2016 and by the full City Council, in January 2017.

Following this clear mandate given by City Councillors in January 2017, and the obvious need to respond to the housing crisis in the city, management (Housing Department) proceeded immediately to initiate the necessary Public Procurement Process for the development of these sites.

There is a National and EU obligation to use one of the five EU Procurement Procedures for projects of this size, and the Competitive Dialogue Process was identified as the most appropriate procedure.

The five relevant procurement models come under the headings of:

- Open Procedure
- Restricted Procedure
- Innovation Partnership
- Competitive Procedure with Negotiation
- Competitive Dialogue Procedure

Information on these procurement models is available on the website of the National Office of Government Procurement (OGP)

The Housing Land Initiative Project Team led by Mr Hugh McKenna considered and carried out an assessment of the various procurement options. The option of Competitive Dialogue Procurement provided Dublin City Council with the required flexibility to achieve the optimum solution to appoint a preferred bidder. The Project Team discussed these options with:

- Dublin City Council's Procurement Unit.
- Dublin City Council Valuers Division.
- Achilles Procurement Services , now Greenville Procurement
- Byrne Wallace, Law Firm
- Duff and Phelps, Property Consultants

The Project Team brought their recommendation to the Project Board in July 2017, and it was agreed that the Competitive Dialogue was the most suitable option to follow.

The membership of the Project Board consists of the following members and it approved each milestone for each project:

- Dublin City Council Deputy Chief Executive, Housing Department. (Chair)
- Assistant Chief Executive Planning and Development Department
- Representative from Department of Housing.
- Representative from the National Development Finance Nominees of NDFA
- Executive Manager Housing
- Executive Manager Planning
- DCC Head of Finance
- DCC Law Agent
- City Architect
- Chief Valuer
- City Planner

We are fully satisfied that the Competitive Dialogue procedure was the most suitable and best procurement option, it has delivered a positive outcome on the O Devaney Gardens Project and we believe it will do likewise for the Oscar Traynor Road Project.

**Q.129 COUNCILLOR DECLAN MEENAGH**

To ask the Chief Executive for a report on the planned extension of Mount Bernard Park and specifically if he would report on what the outstanding issues are, if any, that need to be resolved in order for the transfer to be effected.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The proposed extension to Mount Bernard Park into the adjacent TII lands did not go ahead as there were too many issues which could not be satisfactorily resolved.

This site is an old railway yard with industrial buildings, creosote pits and extensive contamination of the soil. The resultant health and safety restrictions on development of these lands would have made any development of a parkland with path network prohibitively expensive and severely limited the development and recreation potential of the site including planting. It certainly could not have been developed as a traditional park.

Till the owners of the site who offered to transfer the site for use as parkland reserved the right to reclaim the site at any time if it was required for transport infrastructure use for example to extend the Luas Network into Finglas.

There were legal issues that would have to be resolved regarding liability particularly historic liability with regard to the soil contamination and concerns regarding the structural integrity of the adjoining buildings and properties as the walls and foundations were at a much higher level than the lands and were right on the property boundary.

**Q.130 COUNCILLOR DECLAN MEENAGH**

To ask the Chief Executive to clarify if the Sisters of Charity religious order had guaranteed that council-backed homes on the St Mary's nursing home campus on Merrion Road would be retained to house vulnerable individuals and if Dublin City Council will undertake an assessment to determine the feasibility of taking these houses back into council ownership for this use and to give an update in a month's time on this matter.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

We understand that this nursing home campus plus some others owned by the Sisters of Charity are currently involved in a complex liquidation process.

As it stands, we do not know what is planned or proposed by the owners for the residential units (Previously funded by the state through Dublin City Council).

We have already requested information on this from the solicitors acting for the Sisters of Charity. We have not yet received answers to our questions.

**Q.131 COUNCILLOR DARCY LONERGAN**

To ask the Chief Executive if there are plans to remove the walls from the Croppies Acre Memorial Park. The original plan was to take away one of the walls. The park has become an area for anti-social behaviour and removal of the walls would make a positive difference to opening up the space/tone of the area.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

There are no plans at present to remove the walls around the Croppies Acre Memorial Park.

**Q.132 COUNCILLOR CRÍONA NÍ DHÁLAIGH**

To ask the Chief Executive to comment on the prominence of the Irish Language in the activities of the Dublin City Culture Company with reference to **(details supplied)**.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Go raibh maith agat as d'fhiosrúchán maidir le gníomhaíochtaí Gaeilge agus Culture Company Chomhairle Cathrach Bhaile Átha Cliath.

Tá láithreán gréasáin Gaeilge ag an Culture Company le haghaidh **Culture Company** ([dublincitycouncilculturecompany.ie](http://dublincitycouncilculturecompany.ie)) agus **14 Sráid Henrietta** ([14HenriettaStreet.ie](http://14HenriettaStreet.ie)), atá á oibriú aige agus tá príomhfhoilseacháin uile an Culture Company ar fáil, chomh maith, i nGaeilge. Tá roinnt cainteoirí Gaeilge i bhfoireann Culture Company agus spreagann siad an Ghaeilge a chur chun cinn i measc a gclár, pé áit ar féidir, turas Gaeilge san áireamh in 14 Sráid Henrietta. Tá an t-ábhar closamhairc go léir sa mhúsaem ar fáil freisin i nGaeilge, fothaidil i nGaeilge san áireamh do chainteoirí Gaeilge a bhfuil moill éistigh orthu. I dtaobh cláir imeachtaí, mar shampla, ghlac Culture Company páirt i Lá Idirnáisiúnta na Filíochta agus cuireadh imeachtaí Gaeilge

ar siúl i mbliana agus cuireann sé Clubanna Cultúir rialta ar fáil agus cuireann sé cláir eile chultúir ar siúl, ar nós tionscadal ealaíon Gaeilge, mar chuid den chlár An Chomharsanacht Náisiúnta (the National Neighbourhood). Thosaigh Culture Company le Dún Richmond a oibriú in Eanáir 2020. Athosclaíodh sinn laistigh de chomhthéacs na paidéime in Iúil 2020 agus beartaímid ár dturais agus ár láithreán gréasáin nuafhorbartha a aistriú go Gaeilge a luaithe a thugtar an obair go léir seo chun críche agus a luaithe a shannfar treoraí turais a labhraíonn an Ghaeilge don fhoirgneamh chun ullmhú dó seo.

Translation: Thank you for your enquiry in relation to Irish language activities and Dublin City Council Culture Company.

The Culture Company has an Irish language website for **Culture Company** ([dublincitycouncilculturecompany.ie](http://dublincitycouncilculturecompany.ie)) and **14 Henrietta Street** ([14HenriettaStreet.ie](http://14HenriettaStreet.ie)) which it operates and all of the main Culture Company publications are also available in the Irish language. The Culture Company has some Irish speakers in the team and encourage the promotion of the Irish language through its programmes wherever possible including an Irish language tour of 14 Henrietta Street, all of the audio visual content in the museum is also available in Irish including subtitles in Irish for hard of hearing Irish speakers. In terms of event programming for example the Culture Company participated in International Poetry Day with Irish Language events this year and it also offers regular Irish language **Culture Clubs** and runs other cultural programmes such as an Irish language arts project, as part of **The National Neighbourhood** programme. The Culture Company began operating **Richmond Barracks** in January 2020. We have re-opened within the context of the pandemic in July 2020 and we intend to translate our newly developed tours and website into Irish as soon as all of this work is complete and we have Irish speaking tour guide assigned to the building in preparation for this.

**Q.133 COUNCILLOR CIERAN PERRY**

To ask the Chief Executive in relation to the O'Devaney Gardens development, can the Chief Executive provide an update on discussions in relation to the purchase of units by an Approved Housing Body for a cost rental scheme? Can the Chief Executive also confirm whether the number of agreed Part V units will increase if the developer is granted an increased number of units as part of the final planning permission?

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Negotiations are ongoing between Bartra and the selected Approved Housing Bodies in relation to the Cost Rental proposal.

Any increase in the overall numbers of homes constructed on this site will result in a proportionate increase in both the social and the affordable homes made available (30% social and 20% affordable)

**Q.134 COUNCILLOR CIERAN PERRY**

To ask the Chief Executive to confirm whether any pre-planning discussions took place between the applicant and the Planning department in relation to planning application 2949/20?

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

A decision to grant planning permission for extensive works to the Old Library, the Berkeley Library and Fellows Square issued on the 24<sup>th</sup> August 2020. Given the architectural and historic significance of the two libraries together with the square, a number of formal pre-application consultations took place as well as site visits to



discuss and assess the proposed works and proposals to mitigate any potential impacts.

**Q.135 COUNCILLOR CIERAN PERRY**

To ask the Chief Executive to provide a report on the operation of Dublin City Council CCTV by An Garda Síochána for camera based enforcement for red light running and illegal use of bus lanes and the reason for the cessation of use?

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Dublin City Council does not use our CCTV system for camera based enforcement for red light running. Dublin City Council were responsible for procuring and installing a trial Red Light running system for two locations in Dublin with funding from the NTA. The NTA and TII were subsequently involved in the operation of the system at a junction along the Red Luas Line.

**Q.136 COUNCILLOR CIERAN PERRY**

To ask the Chief Executive provide an update on the Housing Insulation program and confirm budget and schedule of work?

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Dublin City Council has recently concluded a tender process on further Phase 2 Works for the Energy Efficiency Retrofitting Programme. Initial successful contractors have now been appointed and we are targeting works to commence as soon as possible. The programme will recommence when we are in receipt of Departmental funding.

**Q.137 COUNCILLOR JOHN LYONS**

To ask the Chief Executive how the estimated value of the Oscar Traynor Road Land Initiative project of "in the region of €147 million" was arrived at, information on the most recent valuation of the 17 hectare site and the cost of the entire O'Devaney Garden procurement process and the current cost and projected final cost of the Oscar Traynor procurement process.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

A reply will issue to the Councillor within 2 weeks of meeting.

**Q.138 COUNCILLOR DAITHÍ DOOLAN**

To ask the Chief Executive to please outline how does the current intake from commercial rates, development levies and parking levies compare to this time last year?

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The percentage cash collection of commercial rates for week 35 2019 was at 70% of the total net warrant. The percentage cash collection of commercial rates for week 35 2020 is at 51% of the total net warrant. The differential of 19% equates to a cash reduction of €72M. The 2020 cash position will be significantly improved following the application of the 6 months commercial rates waiver to the current year's debtor. This process is currently underway and will be completed within the coming weeks by the Rates Office.

The total incomes for parking levies received by Parking Policy and Enforcement are as follows:

Total income for on street parking to week ending 23 <sup>rd</sup> August 2020	€12,809,242.00 (64% of 2020)
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Total income for on street parking to week ending 25 <sup>th</sup> August 2019	€20,060,006.00
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A total of €13,719,951 Section 48 development levies have been collected to the end of August 2020 which is at 55% of what was collected for the same period in 2019 when €23,719,951 was collected.

**Q.139 COUNCILLOR DAITHÍ DOOLAN**

To ask the Chief Executive to outline how much is owed in commercial rates and how much is owed in development levies to DCC?

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Development Levies of €56.7M are currently due of which €23.8M have phasing agreements for payment in place.

The debtor outstanding for commercial rates at 31<sup>st</sup> August 2020 is €176.8M. The 2020 debtor position will be significantly improved following the application of the 6 months commercial rates waiver to the current year's debtor. This process is currently underway and will be completed within the coming weeks by the rates office.

**Q.140 COUNCILLOR DAITHÍ DOOLAN**

To ask the Chief Executive outline how much is owed in fines for illegal dumping and what was the total amount issued in fines for illegal dumping in years 2018, 2019 and so far in 2020?

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Below are details of fines issued, fines paid and amount owed relating to illegal dumping for years 2018, 2019 and 2020 to date. Also included, are details of amount due, amount paid and amount owed in relation to court fines and costs.

Year	Amount Due Fines €	Amount Paid Fines €	Amount Owed Fines €	Amount Due Court Fines and Costs €	Amount Paid Court Fines And Costs €	Amount Owed Court Fines And Costs €
2018	147,750.00	63,300.00	84,450.00	14,260.00	5,261.91	8,998.09
2019	60,900.00	29,400.00	31,500.00	7,967.00	6,974.00	993.00
2020 (to date)	48,800.00	12,600	28,200.00	0	0	0

**Q.141 COUNCILLOR DAITHÍ DOOLAN**

To ask the Chief Executive in recognising that it was only through working in partnership with Gardaí, community groups, youth services and local area offices has Halloween become a safer more enjoyable time for everyone, can you assure us the same resources and support will be given this year by Dublin City Council?

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Dublin City Council is very proud of and committed to the significant good work that has been done in recent years in making Halloween a safe and enjoyable community event. The networks and relationships that have been created between Dublin City Council, community groups, statutory agencies and youth services have reaped rewards and will continue to into the future.

As with a lot of things this year, COVID 19 has played a hugely disruptive role in our plans for Halloween 2020. We no longer have the ability to hold events and activities that attract crowds due to the necessity to maintain and manage social distance. The requirement to record attendance for contact tracing reasons would also add a significant complexity to these events.

We are fully committed to resourcing any community group, statutory agency or youth club which is organising alternative Halloween activities once these activities are compliant with public health guidelines.

We will also be working with An Garda Síochána to manage and remove bonfire materials we are made aware of as we have done in the past.

Additional resources will be made available by the Central Area Office in 2020 to meet the challenges of Halloween night and the lead in period.

The Public Domain Unit in the South East Area is working the Gardaí, contractors, Waste Management Services, Community Services and any other relevant Dublin City Council Departments to provide a safe and enjoyable Halloween however it is clear that our normal Halloween programme will be curtailed somewhat due to the impact of Covid-19.

The Public Domain Team in the North West Area will engage will all Sections in the Community from different agencies to our Community and Residents Groups to ensure the safety of our communities.

The Community & Social Development Section, Finglas are currently developing an alternative programme for Halloween. This includes linking in with local agencies, youth services, safety forums, community groups and An Garda Síochána.

**Q.142 COUNCILLOR NAOISE Ó MUIRÍ**

To ask the Chief Executive the following: Local residents have contacted me in relation to their concerns regarding the impact of a change in use of No 42 Fairview Strand from a Bridal Boutique to a Dance Theatre/Studio.

Can the CEO please confirm:

- If the current zoning allows this use or if a planning application for a change of use is required
- If the matter is currently being examined by DCC Planning Enforcement
- What options are open to local residents to seek a declaration in this regard?

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The Bridal Boutique building is zoned Z4 'To provide for and improve mixed-services facilities' in the Dublin City Development Plan 2016-2022. Cultural /recreational building and uses are permissible under the Z4 zoning objective.

An enforcement file has been opened in respect of this alleged change of use following receipt of a recent complaint file reference no E0659/20. A warning letter was issued

on the 24/08/2020 pursuant to Section 152 of the Planning and Development Act 2000(as amended) which amongst other things allows the owner/occupier of the premises 4 weeks to make a response to the alleged change of use. Once this 4 week period has expired an inspection will be carried out and consideration will be given as to whether further enforcement action is required at that time.

The investigation by Planning Enforcement is the most appropriate option to pursue at this stage in order to identify the nature and scale of any change of use.

**Q.143 COUNCILLOR NAOISE Ó MUIRÍ**

To ask the Chief Executive please provide a detailed response on all issues as raised in the correspondence below from the residents association **(details supplied)**:

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Waste Management Services will work in cooperation with the North Central Area office to identify solutions to the problems identified.

The removal of the litter from the flood defence bags has been carried out and will work with our colleagues in Flood Projects to ensure that these are maintained free of accumulations of litter.

Our maintenance team are examining whether the openings can be made larger in the existing bins – some may have restrictions on the openings.

Arrangements will be made to address the bye - law issues identified by carrying out a specific exercise focused on relevant premises in this area by the Litter Warden Service.

Waste Management Services previously examined the promenade as a location for the installation of Solar Compactor bins when first rolling out the units but a decision was taken not to proceed on the basis of concerns regarding the potential for flooding. We will re-examine this generally and in the context of the locations proposed within the correspondence.

Waste Management Services are examining the suggestion regarding covers/restricted openings for the barrels as this may present an opportunity to trial a solution that could be both beneficial and easy to implement.

It should be noted that there was an increase in complaints relating to the frequency of servicing and maintaining of bins during the period of reduced service delivery associated with Covid 19 restrictions. As Waste Management Services have now fully resumed scheduled services it is expected that the increased level of resources operating will address some of these issues.

**Q.144 COUNCILLOR NAOISE Ó MUIRÍ**

To ask the Chief Executive TO please confirm the following with respect to the following DCC housing applicant **(details supplied)**:

Confirm that they are on the DCC housing list  
Confirm their position on the housing list and areas of preference  
Confirm if they have been appointed medical priority

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The above applicant is on the Housing List, with an application date of 21/10/2013, and the applicant holds the following positions on this list:

Area	Bedsizes	Position
Area B	1	542
Area N	1	567

Based on the applicant's position for her area of choice, it may be a considerable time before the applicant is reached for an offer of housing.

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

The applicant may be eligible for the HAP scheme which will provide the applicant with financial support towards the cost of renting a property. Should the applicant wish to be considered for this scheme she can contact the Allocations Section and a Housing Advisor can provide information and advice on the scheme.

It is noted on the applicant's file that she previously applied for a medical priority in May 2019, in which she was unsuccessful. If the applicant wishes to appeal this decision, please advise her to submit new supporting medical evidence outlining the change in circumstances since the most recent decision.

**Q.145 COUNCILLOR NAOISE Ó MUIRÍ**

To ask the Chief Executive to please provide an update on the following kerb dishing request which is outstanding for over 2 years now (**details supplied**).

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Road Maintenance Services has scheduled footpath reconstruction on the 160m long footpath that runs along park side of the road at **details supplied** between the opposite side of house (**details supplied**) which is currently in a poor condition. These improvements should make a significant improvement to pedestrians along this route. These works are scheduled for completion in the coming 12 weeks.

Road Maintenance Services will investigate the complaint regarding non-standard dishings at driveways along **details supplied** and remove these where required.

**Q.146 COUNCILLOR JANICE BOYLAN**

To ask the Chief Executive for an update on the development at Park Shopping Centre, Dublin 7. Time frames are been requested in particular as locals are feeling like they haven't been consulted with or provided with the exact details of what's happening.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Planning permission was granted for the demolition of the existing shopping centre and construction of new shopping centre and student accommodation development on 26<sup>th</sup> July 2017 (Plan No. 2038/17). This permission expires on 8<sup>th</sup> September 2022. No compliance submissions have been received to date nor has the developer given any indication to the Planning Authority of his plans for construction. The Planning Department understands that an application for amendments to the approved scheme is currently being prepared but can confirm that no application for amendments has been submitted.

**Q.147 COUNCILLOR JANICE BOYLAN**

To ask the Chief Executive to provide more funding for tree pruning and weeding programmes. The vegetation seems to have grown so big over the last number of month. Some of my areas are over ran with weeds huge ones and trees are blocking sunlight.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Dublin City's Tree Policy; 'Dublin City Tree Strategy 2016-2020' adopted by the full council in 2016 identifies pruning as weakening trees and opening potential sites for infection by disease and decay causing organisms and requires pruning work on trees to be carried out only when absolutely necessary. Objective 3.7.5 - 'Shading' of the adopted tree policy states 'Tree works will not normally be carried out to address shading of direct sunlight'.. Requests for such tree pruning are dealt with on a case by case basis.

As a consequence of the Council's decision to end the use of Glyphosate in the public realm on health grounds and to protect native pollinators such weeds and native opportunistic plants will be more evident in the public realm. The Parks Service is responsible for weed control within parks and open spaces but not weeds at the edge of roads or paths.

**Q.148 COUNCILLOR JANICE BOYLAN**

To ask the Chief Executive to issue a news-letter in relation to the works on ODG, residents are not all in social media or email so a news-letter or leaflet will be required for the surrounding residents.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Dublin City Council will undertake to provide regular updates on the O'Devaney Gardens project and this will include the creation of news letters to reach all stakeholders.

**Q.149 COUNCILLOR CATHERINE STOCKER**

To ask the Chief Executive will the sensors or loops on traffic lights be changed so that they work for cyclists as well vehicles.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The inductive loops currently installed at most traffic signals work on the detection of metal from either a road vehicle or bicycle. The inductive field of the loop is strongest around the area marked in bitumen on the road surface. If there are no other vehicles on the road to call the traffic phase the cyclist should try to cycle over the bitumen line.

Dublin City Council are currently trialling a number of radar cycle detection, currently this has been installed on 15 sites and will be rolled out to more sites going forward.

**Q.150 COUNCILLOR DONNA COONEY**

To ask the Chief Executive what is the likely timeframe to implement the Eastwall road segregated cycleway.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The construction of segregated cycling facilities on East Wall Road is being delivered by the Point Junction Improvement Scheme (East Wall Road from the North Quays to the junction with Sheriff Street) and the East Coast Trail North Project (East Wall Road from the junction with Sheriff Street to Alfie Byrne Road). These projects are being managed by DCC and funded by the NTA.

These projects are currently on hold due to the unavailability of staff on the project team. It is not likely that construction of the scheme will commence before Q3 2022.

In the interim, the Covid Mobility Team is investigating if temporary protected cycle lanes can be installed along the East Wall Road. It is hoped that a northbound, segregated cycle track can be installed once works on the EXO Building have completed and land transfer to DCC is finalised. However, the extent of the works or when they might be completed cannot be confirmed at this time.

**Q.151 COUNCILLOR DONNA COONEY**

To ask the Chief Executive can Dublin City Council introduce contactless water fountains Similar to Fingal county council.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The installation of water fountains is being investigated and the Councillor will be informed of the outcome.

**Q.152 COUNCILLOR DONNA COONEY**

To ask the Chief Executive if the much celebrated Dublin Beta project that reached an anniversary in August has enough resources and staff to progress it's projects to a beta stage in particular water fountains, zebra crossings, trial solutions to illegal car parking and other projects that could have a very positive impact with a low cost.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Dublin City Council BETA is staffed by one full-time staff member and works with staff from the relevant sections in order to magnify the reach and to organically grow the approach throughout the organisation.

A review of the BETA ("design-led") approach, and how it could be mainstreamed, is currently ongoing. The intention is that this will help inform of options for how to best scale the approach, where to invest and what resources are needed.

The three projects that the Councillor specifically highlights are all on the backlog of 500+ BETA Projects that have come from citizens, businesses, councillors and staff to date, and we look forward to taking them on as soon as possible.

**Q.153 COUNCILLOR DONNA COONEY**

To ask the Chief Executive to report on plans for more covered indoor bicycle parking including for cargo bikes in the city centre and at public transport stations.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The Sustainable Mobility and Projects section intend to install cycle parking for cargo bikes in Batch 15. More locations are being considered in Batch 16 and future batches.

There is currently discussions with a number of off street car parks to determine if agreement can be reached on converting a number of car parking spaces to bicycle parking.