

**QUESTIONS LODGED PURSUANT TO STANDING ORDER NO.18 FOR REPLY AT THE MONTHLY MEETING OF DUBLIN CITY COUNCIL TO BE HELD ON MONDAY, 07<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2022**

**Q.1 COUNCILLOR DECLAN MEENAGH**

To ask the Chief Executive what categories are used in keeping track of rates payers and if there is a breakdown of these types available, as an example is there a way of charging rates to different types of business i.e. a super market?

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Commercial rates are calculated by multiplying the 'Rateable Valuation' of a property by a multiplier called the 'Annual Rate on Valuation' (ARV).

'Rateable Valuation' X ARV = Rates Charge

**Rateable Valuation**

The Valuation Office is an independent body responsible for the valuation of property in the state. The rateability of property is carried out by the Valuation Office and is governed by statute, in particular by reference to Schedules 3 and 4 of the Valuation Act, 2001 as amended.

Properties are valued under the following categories, Fuel/Depot, Health, Hospitality, Leisure, Miscellaneous, Office, Retail, N/A, Utility and Global valuations. Each category is further subdivided into use, e.g. Category - Retail, Use – Supermarket.

The information pertaining to the category and use of each rating is available in DCCs 'Orbis' Rates system and Rate Book.

**Annual Rate on Valuation (ARV)**

The City Council at the Statutory Budget meeting determine the annual rate on valuation ('ARV' also referred to as 'the multiplier') each year, which is applied to the valuation of all rateable properties and from which the commercial rates charge is determined.

Dublin City Council has no option but to collect rates as determined on the property. There is no provision in rating law to apply discounts for specific business sectors.

**Q.2 COUNCILLOR CHRISTY BURKE**

To ask the Chief Executive that DCC finish off the bottom section at the **(details supplied)** statue be done in marble and DCC inscribe some **(details supplied)**'s story at the plinth.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The Public Art Officer will liaise with the artist **(details supplied 1)** regarding this proposal and will revert to the City Councillor on this matter. There are plans, subject to copyright permission, to place quotes from songs sung by **(details supplied 2)** in the paving around the sculpture.

**Q.3 COUNCILLOR CHRISTY BURKE**

To ask the Chief Executive given the serious challenge the city has with dog fouling that the CEO appoint staff to address the serious issue in the city.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Dublin City Council are very much aware of the serious issues relating to dog fouling in the city. As such, awareness campaigns are organised on an almost annual basis.

The last campaign which was in March/April 2021 included an advertising campaign on Digi-panels, bus shelters and solar compactor litter bins in the city as well sharing the message “Bag it and Bin it” on social media.

As there are challenges in enforcing the legislation in relation to dog fouling, Waste Management Services in conjunction with Area Offices are planning to work with an Gardaí in order to enforce the law. There are also plan in place to include the services of the Dog Wardens who have recently been appointed.

At present, there is a competition organised for schools to design a poster that will encourage dog owners and dog walkers to use litter bins to dispose of doggie bags.

The Climate Action, Environment and Energy Strategic Policy Committee established a working group to examine the issue of dog fouling. This working group is due to meet in the near future.

**Q.4 COUNCILLOR CHRISTY BURKE**

To ask the Chief Executive that a request be made to senior Garda management to appoint Garda personal to LUAS hot spots regards anti-social behaviour.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE’S REPLY:**

The allocation and deployment of Garda personnel is a matter for An Garda Síochána. The Councillor may raise this issue with An Garda Síochána at his Area Joint Policing Sub-Committee.

**Q.5 COUNCILLOR CHRISTY BURKE**

To ask the Chief Executive to outline the amount of family’s presenting to homeless services in Dublin since Jan 2022.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE’S REPLY:**

74 families entered emergency accommodation for the first time in January 2022. The table below shows family presentations for the previous 12 months.

Feb 2021	Mar 2021	Apr 2021	May 2021	June 2021	July 2021	Aug 2021	Sept 2021	Oct 2021	Nov 2021	Dec 2021	Jan 2022
47	53	79	62	78	64	78	64	66	64	40	74

**Q.6 LORD MAYOR ALISON GILLILAND**

To ask the Chief Executive to outline his policy for assisting local residents’ groups and clean-up groups in the city and in particular indicate if it maintains a list of areas where such a group does not exist and in such area outline if there is a staff member who encourages their creation?

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE’S REPLY:**

Waste Management have two Public Domain teams that provide a variety of street cleaning services across the city in the afternoon and evening 365 days a year. On dates where both teams are on duty, a crew is assigned Northside and Southside of the city to work directly with community groups. We provide a mechanical sweeping, weed removal, litter picking and removal of illegal dumping service working alongside community groups. The locations and community groups are selected by Public Domain Officers based in each local area office. In 2021, we provided this service on 119 dates.

Registered local community groups are provided with equipment such as litter pickers, bags, gloves and Hi-Viz vests and when a clean-up is complete, bags are left at an agreed location and collected by our Public Domain team. In locations where no community group exists, Community Officers, Environmental Liaison Officers, Public Domain Officers and the Litter Prevention Officer encourage people to become involved in their area and inform them of the City Neighbourhoods Awards which acknowledges and rewards the good work done by such groups.

Waste Management have also introduced an Online Cleaning Schedule whereby residents living in Dublin City Council's administrative area can find out in advance of when street cleaning is scheduled to take place in their area by our 6am crew. This provides an additional opportunity for community engagement where residents can removed parked cars to allow a more comprehensive mechanical sweeping of each cleaning block.

**Q.7 LORD MAYOR ALISON GILLILAND**

To ask the Chief Executive to outline our enforcement plan/agreement with the Garda in place for the 30 km p/h speed limit areas in the city?

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The Road Safety Section is awaiting an answer from the Garda National Roads Policing Bureau regarding the enforcement of the 30 km/h speed limit on the residential roads of the city. As soon as the official answer is received the Lord Mayor will be informed.

**Q.8 COUNCILLOR DANNY BYRNE**

To ask the Chief Executive for a full list of voids in terms of DCC housing, how long each property has been void / vacant and the reasons why.

If GDPR is cited as a reason not to provide the requested information please provide me with the legal advice re GDPR.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

**Current Refurbishment of voids underway**

Number of Bedrooms	Central	North Central	North West	South Central	South East	Total
Bed 0	50	21	13	17	15	116
Bed 1	39	14	26	25	33	137
Bed 2	52	13	36	45	27	<b>173</b>
Bed 3	10	25	33	11	3	<b>82</b>
Bed 4	0	6	2	1	3	<b>12</b>
Bed 5	1	0	0	0	0	<b>1</b>
Total	152	79	110	99	81	<b>521</b>

The properties above are currently being refurbished through the Framework or by Direct Labour and are at various stages of completion, of these unit 344 of these units are vacant less than 6 months.

There are currently 177 properties in the Dublin City Council area that have been vacant for a period more than six months. This time period includes the period were Dublin City Council is securing the vacant possessions of its units. There can be various legal or structural reasons for this including:

- Where property was subject to an abonnement notice

- Where there was an illegal occupier case
- Where a unit has been brought back to use after a long term void period and if extensive refurbishment work is required i.e. some of our bedsit units
- Where there was dispute regarding access with a management company
- Issues with vacant possession, i.e. identifying family members and the handling of previous tenant's personal belongings
- Where there was substantial works required i.e. fire remedial works, structural or engineering involvement.

The Law department has indicated that “usually when Dublin City Council are asked for a list of such addresses it is refused, as to provide such a list is inadvertently identifying the previous and future tenants as tenants of the City Council. Furthermore the “why” of the voids would appear to be revealing even more information on the previous tenants”

**Q.9 COUNCILLOR DECLAN MEENAGH**

To ask the Chief Executive if a campaign to promote bring centres near **(details supplied)**? What promotional activities have been taken place for the bring centres to help tackle illegal dumping?

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Waste Management Services recently produced a video to promote the services available at **(details supplied)** Bring Centre at the request of the North West Area Office, which was shared locally by the North West Area Public Domain Officer as well as being disseminated via the Council's social media platforms. We would be happy to work with the Central Area Office on a similar project to highlight services available at **(details supplied)**.

Waste Management Services launched an advertising campaign focused on illegal dumping at Bring Banks on February 27<sup>th</sup> 2022. This campaign will appear at bus stops, on Digi-panels and on metro panels across the city for four weeks. To coincide with this campaign, a trial 3m dumping exclusion zone will be introduced at a number of bring banks across the city. If successful, these dumping exclusion zones will be rolled out to the remaining bring banks in due course.

**Q.10 LORD MAYOR ALISON GILLILAND**

To ask the Chief Executive to outline the Dublin City Council footpath and pedestrian area reinstatement policy post works whether that be utility works or general damage making particularly reference to the replacement of paving stones and the role of tarmac. In his answer, can the Chief Executive comment on the effectiveness (from a proper finish perspective) of utility companies carrying out reinstatements and these being inspected by DCC compared to a situation whereby the utility company would pay the DCC road maintenance team carry out the reinstatement?

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Temporary reinstatement is the first of a two stage process of reinstatement, where permanent reinstatement is the second stage. In the case of antique or specialist paving, the temporary reinstatement, in asphalt, is carried out by the Utility and the subsequent permanent reinstatement is carried out by Road Maintenance Services. The Utility pays Road Maintenance Services for this work.

Temporary and permanent reinstatements in concrete footpaths and in concrete and asphalt carriageways are carried out by the Utilities. The permanent reinstatements

are inspected by Road Maintenance Services to ensure compliance with our standards.

**Q.11 LORD MAYOR ALISON GILLILAND**

To ask the Chief Executive, given the growing need to provide local community activities for teenagers and young people, can the Chief Executive indicate the what DCC community centres or DCC funded centres provide evening (post 6pm) activities a) in general and b) what type of activities and c) over how many evenings per week including weekends.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

All DCC Community & Recreation Sports Centres (there are over 30 such centres across the city) provide evening activities for teenagers and young people including the following:

- Swimming
- Teen gym
- Fitness classes
- 5 a-side pitches
- First aid courses
- Dancing
- Karate
- Boxing
- Taekwondo
- Fencing
- Bee keeping
- Cooking
- Arts and crafts
- Seasonal activities relating to Halloween, Christmas

These activities and many more take place over seven days of the week, including evenings and weekends. Further information can be provided on individual centres, if required.

The Finglas Area Office does not run or manage any Community Centres in the area. The Area Office does however support volunteer run Community Centres through our annual grants and more recently with funding to Community Centres that have been impacted by Covid. The volunteer run Community Centres run a broad range of activities, which are not exclusively targeted at teenagers / young people.

The Finglas Sports & Leisure Centre provides a range of activities for young people including swimming, gym, 5-a-side football as well as a new Basketball Court. The Centre is open 7 days a week Monday to Friday up to 10.00pm. Saturday and Sunday up to 4.00pm.

The Finglas Area Office also supports the Finglas Youth Resource Centre, which is open Monday to Friday up to 10.00pm, and Saturdays up to 8.00pm and also supports the Den Youth Club.

In addition, support is provided to a number of Youth Focused activities including the Meeting Place Club, Football for All, Rivermount Boys Football Club, Summer Projects and more recently in identifying a space for a MUGA in the area.

The Ballymun Area Office also supports local community centres such as the Sillogue Neighbourhood Centre and the Ballymun Adult Child and Family Centre through its annual grant schemes. It provides continued support for the Families for Autism

Coming Together Group based in Sillogue Neighbourhood Centre. It provides continued support for the Schools Out Programme and the Coderdojo programme in the Ballymun Child and Family Centre as well as other youth related funding for seasonal activities, such as Halloween.

This Office also funds and supports youth related sports activities through the Ballymun Health and Fitness Festival Group. It provides ongoing support to youth structures and initiatives in the Ballymun Regional Youth Resource, Aisling Projects, Poppintree Youth Projects (all open late into evening for youth groups), local school and summer projects.

Annual funding is provided through the social regeneration fund to Axis Ballymun. A range of youth related activities and classes (day and evening) take place in Axis, including Guitar, Drama, Dance, studio time and many other specialised activities. Contact 01 8832100 or [ww.axisballymun.ie](http://ww.axisballymun.ie) for current details.

A range of sports and wellbeing related activities (day and evening) are available for young persons aged 15 plus at the DCC Ballymun Sports and Fitness Centre:

Ph: 01 2228240, [ballymunleisure@dublincity.ie](mailto:ballymunleisure@dublincity.ie). Facebook: Ballymun Sports and Fitness and the Poppintree Community Sports Centre:

Ph: 01 2223985, [poppintreecommunitysportscentra@dublincity.ie](mailto:poppintreecommunitysportscentra@dublincity.ie). Facebook: Poppintree Community Sports Centre.

There are no Dublin City Council Community Centres in the Clontarf/Donaghmede LEA. However, we do support Community Centres in the way of annual community grants.

We engage with groups such as St. Paul's Youth Club who are open three evenings a week for young people and currently looking at extending this to five nights to do the current demand and Le Cheile Donnycarney Community & Youth Centre who provide a range of evening classes for children and young people. The timetables of the current activities in the Centre can be viewed on their website [www.dccyc.ie](http://www.dccyc.ie).

We advertise grants that Community Centres and Groups may benefit of e.g. the Community Enhancement Grant and any grants that were available during Covid e.g. Dublin City COVID-19 Emergency Fund.

We engage with and support the Sports and Development Officers regarding the promotion of sporting events in the area e.g. European Sports Week on the 24th of September last and the Roll & Stroll initiative for Inclusion & Integration Week. Some of the participants on this day were from St. Michael's House and the CRC.

The Artane/Whitehall Area have three Sports & Recreation centres. These are Glin Sports Centre, Darndale Sports & Recreation Centre and the Kilmore West Recreation Centre.

The Glin Sports Centre run dance classes, football for different clubs and groups, mobility classes and Capoeira and fitness classes from 6pm to 9pm. The Darndale Sport & Recreation Centre run football, boxing and gym classes from Monday to Friday from 6pm to 9pm. Dublin City Council & the FAI are also back running the Late Night Leagues in Darndale on a Friday night for 10 to 16yr olds from 7pm to 9pm. The Kilmore West Recreation Centre runs Karate from Mon to Thurs from 6 to 7pm, soccer from Mon to Wed between 6pm and 10pm, Basketball on a Wed from 9 to 10pm and

the youth service on Monday from 9-10pm, Thurs from 8 to 10pm and Friday from 6 to 10pm.

The North Central Area Office also supports local community centres and clubs through our annual grant schemes. The groups supported vary from fashion to scouts, beavers to dance classes.

**Q.12 COUNCILLOR NIAL RING**

To ask the Chief Executive to comment on the fact that local residents are being continually ignored and not given any information regarding port tunnel closures (19 in February alone). There is absolutely no public consultation or indeed advance information given (apart from a website which very many people cannot access) and the port tunnel company seem to be indifferent to the disruption caused in the East Wall, North Strand and Ballybough areas by these closures. My request for information on closures to the Port tunnel company/operator Egis Road and Tunnel Operation Ireland is met with an instruction to contact Transport Infrastructure Ireland with my issue. I would further ask the Chief Executive if he will undertake to contact these organisations on behalf of the citizens of Dublin requesting that they keep local residents informed of pending closures on a monthly basis, not only by website information but, as I suggested to them, by a leaflet drop in the area affected, which I have estimated to be less than 1,000 houses.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The information regarding closures is available on the Dublin tunnel website <https://dublintunnel.ie/tunnel-closures/> and the times and nature of the closures are clearly given. The tunnel is an essential piece of infrastructure for the entire city and region and the necessary maintenance must be undertaken to ensure that it can continue to provide this function. While there may be some disruption to resident due to this work it cannot be avoided and TII have been asked to ensure that it is minimised where possible. It should be noted that in the event of equipment failure in the tunnel causing the tunnel to close then East Wall Road will have approximately 8,000 HGVs per day using it to access the port with all the disruption, noise, congestion and impact on safety that this would give rise to.

**Q.13 COUNCILLOR NIAL RING**

To ask the Chief Executive if he would instruct traffic/parking to insert a letter on the parking zone colour section each Pay and Display Sign to indicate the colour of the zone. This is being requested to avoid confusion for people who are partially or fully colour-blind and cannot distinguish the colour of the zone. A simple sticker with a B for Blue, O for Orange, G for green, P for purple, Y for yellow, R for Red and W for white in the middle of the signage would be sufficient and remove this problem.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The Parking Policy and Enforcement section have previously explored similar options but it was deemed not feasible as wording also must be displayed in Irish and the signage is not big enough to accommodate all the wording that would be necessary to use. Similarly using 2 or more letters to describe the one colour would not be feasible.

**Q.14 COUNCILLOR NIAL RING**

To ask the Chief Executive, in noting that the a Regulation Office is in place with responsibility for regulating Approved Housing Bodies, can the Chief Executive confirm that the assessment by the Regulator of AHBs in respect of their financial viability, governance, management and compliance with the Regulatory Framework is provided on an annual basis to Dublin City Council. Can the Chief Executive provide a list of those AHBs who are up to date with this information and those who are not. Finally,

can the Chief Executive confirm that the information is/will be made available to members on request or as a matter of course.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

In accordance with Housing Act 2019 (Regulation of Approved Housing Bodies). The Approved Housing Body Regulator (AHBRA) has been given the statutory powers to set up and implement the regulatory framework including the registration of AHBs, the setting of standards, monitoring and assessing compliance with the standards including standards in the financial management and the effective governance of AHB's.

In line with the legislation the Regulator will be required to prepare an annual report to submit to the Minister setting out assessments reports by the Regulator, compliance plans, the results of any investigations. This report will be published and made available to the public following its submission to the House of the Oireachtas.

Currently the Department of Housing, Local Government & Heritage provides Dublin City Council with a list of AHB's deemed to be registered and have AHB status most recently updated in June 2021. This Register of AHB's is currently available to the public on the Department's website at <https://www.housing.gov.ie/AHBRegister>.

AHBRA has initiated a review of this Register, in January 2022, this will be published and accessible to the public when available.

**Q.15 COUNCILLOR NIAL RING**

To ask the Chief Executive to detail a. the number of senior citizen units in DCC, b. the number of non-senior citizen units occupied solely by senior citizens and c. the amount of those units (a and b combined) in rent arrears.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Description	Number
Senior citizens units	3103
Senior citizens in non-senior citizen units – single occupancy	1393
Total number of tenants in both categories in arrears	1919
Number in arrears of more than €500	317

**Q.16 COUNCILLOR MÍCHEÁL MAC DONNCHA**

To ask the Chief Executive what is the current position regarding the implementation of the Council motion to have 40 Herbert Park, former home of The O'Rahilly, added to the Record of Protected Structures.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The Judicial Review proceedings in relation to the planning permission granted in September 2020 have not yet been finalised. The City Council's case against the developers in relation to the enforcement notice is adjourned to the 15<sup>th</sup> March 2022. Implementation of the Council motion to add the building to the Record of Protected Structures cannot be advanced.

**Q.17 COUNCILLOR JOHN LYONS**

To ask the Chief Executive for a report on the 62 acres of land at Clontarf golf club on the Malahide Road owned by the city council, its current status and potential use for social & affordable housing.



**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

**Part reply re ownership status:**

Under Indenture of Lease dated 12<sup>th</sup> February 1998 the lands in question were demised by Dublin City Council to the Trustees of Clontarf Golf Club for a term of 99 years from 25<sup>th</sup> March 1991. The current annual rent is €80,000 and it is a condition of the lease that the lessee cannot assign, sub-let or part with possession of the lands without the consent in writing of Dublin City Council.

Clontarf Golf Club is zoned Z9 'To preserve, provide and improve recreational amenity and open space and green networks' in the current Dublin City Development Plan 2016-2022. Generally, the only new development allowed in these areas, other than the amenity/recreational uses, are those associated with the open space use.

Whilst residential use is neither 'permissible' or 'open for consideration' under the Z9 zoning objective, the zoning objective does allow in certain specific circumstances for some limited degree of (residential/retail) development on a once-off basis subject to the primary use of the site being retained for sporting or amenity uses.

**Q.18 COUNCILLOR DERMOT LACEY**

To ask the Chief Executive if he will respond positively to the CPO and Protection issues detailed in the letter submitted with this question with regards to the property located at **(details supplied.)**

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The Council through the effective exercise of the legislative provisions in the Derelict Sites Act 1990, proactively strives to achieve the eradication of dereliction in the City and the return of derelict sites to active use. The implementation of an ongoing acquisition strategy since 2017 is a key part of the Council's Active Land Management Initiative which aims to eradicate underutilised, vacant and derelict lands and buildings in the city. Any site entered on the Derelict Sites Register can be considered for possible acquisition regardless of how long it has been entered on the Register. The Council is currently reviewing the Derelict Sites Register to identify sites for possible acquisition and this site being on the Register will be included in the review.

**Q.19 COUNCILLOR NOELEEN REILLY**

To ask the Chief Executive for a follow up on the creation of an apprenticeship Scheme for disadvantaged young people in the New Northside Depot in Ballymun. The original request was lodged early 2021.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Dublin City Council currently employees 26 apprenticeships across a number of trades. Dublin City Council are currently recruiting Apprentice Stone Masons as the most recent apprenticeship opportunity developed within the council. In addition, the city council is in the process of finalising a pilot programme for the introduction of traineeships into Dublin City Council. The City Council also provides for access to apprenticeships for disadvantaged young people through the Pathways to Apprenticeship programme in conjunction with DCU.

Appropriate apprenticeship and traineeship schemes will be continue to be considered and developed in line with the capacity and requirement of the City Council. In the context of the North City Operations Depot the Human Resources Department will engage with the management of the Depot facility once operational to assess what the capacity and requirement is within the facility to support and develop these opportunities and where possible this can be focused on disadvantaged young people. The Depot facility is due to become operational in 2023.

**Q.20 COUNCILLOR NOELEEN REILLY**

To ask the Chief Executive to put a filter green lights at the new traffic lights from Ballygall Rd east to Fitzmaurice Road due to the large volume of traffic backed up at this junction.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Thank you for your query, the junction of Ballygall Road East and Fitzmaurice Road was recently upgraded in order to install improved pedestrian facilities. There is insufficient road space at this location to install a separate filter lane, due to this reason it is not planned to install a filter light at this location. We will continue to monitor the operation of the new traffic signals and make changes at this location as required.

**Q.21 COUNCILLOR NOELEEN REILLY**

To ask the Chief Executive to review the footpaths and road on North Road Finglas for remedial work and to also ensure there are regular clean ups of this area.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

North Road has been provisionally included in the 2023 program of works for roadway resurfacing. An inspection will be carried out on the footpaths and any defects added to our database for repair, pending crew availability and competing priorities.

Waste Management Services had the road and footpaths on the North Road cleaned on the 16<sup>th</sup> February 2022. The next scheduled area based cleaning is due to take place there during week beginning the 28<sup>th</sup> March 2022. This area is monitored on a regular basis and extra cleaning is arranged between scheduled cleanings when necessary.

**Q.22 COUNCILLOR NOELEEN REILLY**

To ask the Chief Executive to review the 2 year rule with a view to increasing where people are guilty of a criminal offence before they are housed by DCC.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

All applicants for housing to Dublin City Council are subject to vetting in relation to anti-social behaviour before a final decision is made. As part of its vetting procedure the Council will request information under section 15 of the 1997 Act as amended, from An Garda Síochána, and other agencies if necessary.

Dublin City Council must be satisfied that the applicant has demonstrated the ability to live in the community without partaking in criminal behaviour. Where an application for social housing is denied, the Council must be satisfied that there are specific grounds for refusal in relation to the applicant that provide adequate reasons why an individual has not been accepted. Where there is no supporting factual evidence that a person has engaged in anti-social behaviour over a two year period, it is not reasonable for the Council to deny that person housing.

The Council cannot indefinitely preclude an individual from accessing social housing. Where incidences of anti-social behaviour are noted, each case will be considered on an individual basis, and consider:

- The nature and number of offences;
- The taking of responsibility for past behaviour;
- Where a person has previous convictions and has served their term/has been discharged from prison, we must be satisfied that the person has desisted from anti-social behaviour and that sufficient time has elapsed to show evidence of this.

**Q.23 COUNCILLOR TINA MACVEIGH**

To ask the Chief Executive whether notes and / or minutes of a special council meeting held at any time between August and December 1981 dealing specifically with the issue of escalating drug use in the city at the time and that a copy of said minutes be forwarded to this Councillor.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Please see the extract attached with the minutes dealing specifically with the issue of escalating drug use in the city.

**Q.24 COUNCILLOR DECLAN MEENAGH**

To ask the Chief Executive if the council has applied to the Healthy Ireland program and if so what has been applied for? Will the manager consider applying for this funding for more benches in the city to help older people and disabled people walk more?

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

In relation to the DCSWP, yes we have applied and received Healthy Ireland Funding towards our Change for Life programme, through Síle Mc Nulty Goodwin €42,000 pre Covid and this year applied for €15,000. This fund has been and will be used directly towards the programme.

We are not aware of any Healthy Ireland program/fund that would be available for the purchase of benches.

In 2021 Dublin City Council (DCC), under its Healthy Ireland/ Healthy City programme joined the prestigious World Health Organisation (WHO) Partnership for Healthy Cities (PHC). The PHC is sponsored and supported via Bloomberg Philanthropies and comprises a global network of 70 cities committed to saving lives by preventing non-communicable diseases and injuries. Under PHC requirements, Dublin City Council selected a distinct policy objective under the rubric of Safe and Active Mobility that seeks to enhance public mobility across the city by developing a new, inclusive emphasis on walking in our city.

Accordingly, DCC started to develop 'walkability audits' for our city with a focus on mobility from a senior citizen and disability perspective that incorporates a review of the design and provision of public seating and the public realm that can aid and support safe and active mobility. An objective is to formalise a PHN Implementation Plan in 2022 that will support DCC's work toward transforming the streets and footpaths of the city to support active mobility as part of Dublin's commitment to this initiative.

The Partnership for Healthy Cities (PHC) Implementation Plan is overseen by DCC's Local and Community Development Committee (LCDC) and is also a standing item on the agenda of the Service to Older Person's Working Group of the Housing and Community SPC. The LCDC is responsible, alongside DCC's Economic Development and Enterprise SPC, for the joint implementation of the city's statutory Local Economic and Community Plan (LECP).

This helps ensure better coordination with the LCDC's work in 2022 focussed on delivering a new Round 4 funding for the national Healthy Ireland (HI) programme at community level across Dublin. Consultation with Department of Rural and Community Development (DRCD) and HSE on the Round 4 HI programme for DCC is expected in spring 2022 and we will ensure a focus on additional resources required to deliver improved public seating as part of our overall efforts to promote safe and active mobility.

**Q.25 COUNCILLOR DECLAN MEENAGH**

To ask the Chief Executive to provide data for the last 3 years and this year to date on:  
Number of trees removed from the public realm or DCC parks broken down by area  
Number of trees planted in the public realm or DCC parks broken down by area  
And if he will make a statement on the matter.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Parks, Biodiversity and Landscape Services does not record the number of trees planted in each Administrative area, however the following are the totals for the City. The total figure of tree removal for the last three years is not available for the moment but is being compiled.

In 2019, a total of 8,001 trees were planted by (1,362 standard trees and 6,639 whips). Whips are very young trees planted to establish hedgerows and woodlands.

In 2020, a total of 3,782 trees were planted (1,418 standard trees and 1,305 whips).

In 2021, a total of 3,024 trees were planted (1,155 standard trees and 1,879 whips).

The more commonly planted tree genera of the 44 genera planted are Quercus (Oak tree species) Prunus (Cherry trees species), Betula (Silver birch, common birch etc.), Salix (Willow species), Corylus (Common Hazel, Turkish hazel), Amelanchier, Pinus (Pine species) and Acer (maple species).

In the whips, 11 genera have been planted including Fagus, (Beech), Ilex (Holly), Cornus (Dogwood), Prunus (Cherry trees, Blackthorns etc.), Taxus (Yew trees) and Betula (birch tree species).

**Q.26 COUNCILLOR MÁIRE DEVINE**

To ask the Chief Executive to convene a site meeting with residents of Robert Emmet Close to discuss and resolve several issues of concern that include communal garden access & upkeep, railing painting, replacement doors & windows and community social space provision.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The South West Inner City Housing Section will arrange a meeting with the Robert Emmet Residents group to discuss issues of concern. This will be organised by Mr. Mark McNerney DCC Project Estate Officer for the area.

**Q.27 COUNCILLOR MÁIRE DEVINE**

To ask the Chief Executive for the details of work carried out and the future plans at the vacant lands in Bridgefoot St/Robert Emmet Close that include Old Goshers Yard, Lynch's Lane and the site at the rear of Morelli's Chip Shop?

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The site at Bridgefoot Street was the subject of a proposed disposal in 2019 which did not receive Council approval. It was used for a period during 2021 as a compound in connection with the upgrade to the central median on Bridgefoot Street. It will be used for the foreseeable future by the Council's Parks Division.

The site at the end of Robert Emmet Close once linked to Thomas Street by Marshalsea Lane was recently cleaned to remove a high volume of debris and dumping. While the Council has had possession of the site for a number of years its title was imperfect and it was only following the making of a Compulsory Purchase Order that full title was vested in Dublin City Council in 2019.

The site has limitations as to its development potential and consideration is currently been given to its future use.

**Q.28 COUNCILLOR MÁRIE DEVINE**

To ask the Chief Executive that the graffiti at Basin Lane be removed- especially those closest to the schools here?

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The Graffiti has been painted out along the wall of the Educate Together School on Basin Lane. The Area will be closely monitored going forward as this location is frequently tagged. Any further incidences of tagging or offensive graffiti noticed by local community members can be communicated to the public domain team at [southcentralpublicdomain@dublincity.ie](mailto:southcentralpublicdomain@dublincity.ie) for action.

**Q.29 COUNCILLOR MÁIRE DEVINE**

To ask the Chief Executive for an update on the work plan and work completed to date at the Iveagh Market. Furthermore that the Manager provide the members with an update on the negotiations regarding its ownership and development?

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The Iveagh market is subject to a number of legal proceedings and the relevant parties are currently locked in a confidential Mediation process. However, as part of this process, the parties have agreed to allow a survey of the building to determine the essential works required to stabilise the building. This survey is ongoing.

**Q.30 COUNCILLOR DANNY BYRNE**

To ask the Chief Executive the following:

- a) how many stories Dublin fire brigade are trained and equipped to reach, and
- b) what's is the highest level (in stories) Dublin City council have given planning permission for

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

- a) Dublin Fire Brigade train all operational fire fighters and Officers to deal with a full range of incidents including fires in tall and complex buildings.

Dublin Fire Brigade have 2 aerial appliances of 30-meter reach plus an aerial platform. Dublin Fire Brigade are expecting the delivery of a new 42-meter ladder in the coming weeks.

Fires in high-rise buildings are principally designed to be fought from an internal protected stairwell as well as utilising external resources as required.

- b) The highest permitted building (in stories) in Dublin City is a 30 storey residential building located on Parkgate Street (former Hickeys site), Dublin 8 which was granted planning permission by An Bord Pleanála on 4th October 2021 (Ref No. ABP-310567-21).

**Q.31 COUNCILLOR ANTHONY CONNAGHAN**

To ask the Chief Executive to arrange for an update on the request for new windows/doors at **(details supplied)**.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Housing Maintenance carried out an inspection of the windows at the address supplied. The PVC windows were deemed suitable, and not in need of replacement.

**Q.32 COUNCILLOR ANTHONY CONNAGHAN**

To ask the Chief Executive to provide income and expenditure for clamping services in the city for each year since its inception or as far back as records are kept.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The following are the total income and expenditure for the last five years with relation to the provision of clamping services in Dublin City Council area.

<b>Year</b>	<b>Clamping Income</b>	<b>Total Expenditure</b>
	€	€
<b>2021*</b>	2,777,918	6,997,407
<b>2020</b>	2,418,513	6,978,611
<b>2019</b>	3,290,463	6,833,513
<b>2018</b>	3,035,346	6,637,286
<b>2017</b>	3,976,830	6,690,806
<b>2016</b>	4,108,688	6,295,895
<b>2015</b>	4,086,691	6,454,730

Please note that 2021 is unaudited, however accounts do not foresee any change to the above.

**Q.33 COUNCILLOR ANTHONY CONNAGHAN**

To ask the Chief Executive for an update on the works required to repair leak at **(details supplied)**. The tenant reports that the issue was inspected a couple of months ago but there has been no follow up since.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Housing Maintenance has repaired a leak on the flexi hose pipe under the kitchen sink at the address supplied.

**Q.34 COUNCILLOR ANTHONY CONNAGHAN**

To ask the Chief Executive for an update on the works required for new heating system at **(details supplied)**. The tenant here reports that the heating has not been working for several weeks now.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Housing Maintenance is arranging to have the entire property re-piped as there is a leak under the flooring. We are trying to get these works carried out as soon as possible in March.

**Q.35 COUNCILLOR DARRAGH MORIARTY**

To ask the Chief Executive to confirm how many units of DCC's housing stock is currently empty/unoccupied? Could this include DCC's flat and social housing complexes, units available to DCC through AHBs and Part V agreements, and any leasing arrangements that DCC has? Could these unoccupied properties be categorised by number of bedrooms and by local electoral area?

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

**Current Refurbishment of voids underway**

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Number of Bedrooms	Central	North Central	North West	South Central	South East	Total
Bed 0	50	21	13	17	15	<b>116</b>
Bed 1	39	14	26	25	33	<b>137</b>
Bed 2	52	13	36	45	27	<b>173</b>
Bed 3	10	25	33	11	3	<b>82</b>
Bed 4	0	6	2	1	3	<b>12</b>
Bed 5	1	0	0	0	0	<b>1</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>152</b>	<b>79</b>	<b>110</b>	<b>99</b>	<b>81</b>	<b>521</b>

These properties can be divided into: Vacant Council Properties: 448 Acquisitions: **73**

**Approved Housing Bodies**

Number of Bedrooms	Central	North Central	North West	South Central	South East	Total
Bed 1	15	3	8	7	1	<b>34</b>
Bed 2	4	6	8	8	1	<b>27</b>
Bed 3	1	0	2	2	0	<b>5</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>69</b>

**Part V**

There are 44 units unoccupied at the moment through Part V.

6 X 1 Bed (Central Area)

32 x 2 Bed (18 Central Area and 14 North Central Area)

6 X 3 Bed (Central Area)

These units are undergoing nomination/interview. This number fluctuates on a daily basis.

**Current Void Long Term Leased Units**

Number of Bedrooms	Central	North Central	North West	South Central	South East	Total
Bed 1	4	0	2	10	0	16
Bed 2	3	7	3	7	0	20
Bed 3	5	6	0	5	0	16
Bed 4	0	0	0	1	0	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>53</b>

There are currently 805 leased units with 53 of these currently undergoing allocation offers.

The majority of properties are vacant while the allocation process is underway e.g. estate management vetting, viewing, interviewing etc. The average void times prior to letting is six weeks.

**Q.36 COUNCILLOR DARRAGH MORIARTY**

To ask the Chief Executive if DCC could urgently look at persistent flooding along the public walkway between Herberton Bridge and Suir Road Bridge (picture attached). This public walkway is used by many to get to work to access to public transport links, to get to Rialto village for local shopping, by dog walkers and so on. Every time there is heavy downpour of rain it lies flooded for days. Can DCC work to address this?

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Road Maintenance visited this location on 24<sup>th</sup> February 2022 and can only advise that this walkway is either the property of Waterways Ireland or possibly the Parks Department.

From the information provided Parks believe that the location referred to above is under the management of Waterways Ireland – the banks of the canal are under their management. If the councillor could provide a GPS reference or google pin Parks can determine with certainty whose management it falls under.

**Q.37 COUNCILLOR DARRAGH MORIARTY**

To ask the Chief Executive to offer a response and make a comment on reports that the Office of the Planning Regulator has blocked DCC's attempts, through the City Development Plan, to ensure that 40% of BTR schemes would be available for build to sell.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The submission from the Office of the Planning Regulator was received on 14th February. This submission may be viewed at the following link:-

[https://consult.dublincity.ie/en/node/5522/submissions?group=and&chapter=All&author%5B%5D=370&urn=&agent\\_op=or](https://consult.dublincity.ie/en/node/5522/submissions?group=and&chapter=All&author%5B%5D=370&urn=&agent_op=or)

The Planning Office is currently assessing the 3000 plus submissions which were made on the draft City Development Plan, including the submission from the OPR, which has evaluated and assessed the draft plan under Section 31 of the Planning Act 2000 (as amended). The OPR submission sets out 7 recommendations and 3 observations including No 5, in relation to BTR policy in the draft plan.

A full report on the submission of the OPR (together with issues raised in all other submissions) will be circulated to Councillors by 29th April for consideration at the July Special Council meeting and it would be inappropriate to comment on media reports on individual submissions in advance of this date.

**Q.38 COUNCILLOR MICHAEL PIDGEON**

To ask the Chief Executive how many vehicles have been clamped by DCPS in 2020 (and previous years if easily available), and for any breakdown of the figures, such as for which reason the vehicle was clamped, how many were paid/unpaid, challenged, or removed illegally.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

This information is published on Dublin City Council's website, please see below data from website copied here for your convenience.

<https://www.dublincity.ie/residential/parking-dublin-city-centre/clamping-and-tow-away/clamping-statistics>,.

**January - December 2021**



- Total number of Clamps (Incl. Warnings & Fixed Penalty Notices) 39,917
- Total Number of Appeals: 2,868
- Total Number of Appeals: Upheld 475

### **Top 10 Clamped Locations**

- Clarendon Street
- South Circular Road
- Chelmsford Road
- Merrion Square South
- Waterloo Road
- Ranelagh
- North Great George's Street
- Merrion Square West
- Mespil Road
- Gardiner St Lower

### **Top 10 Offences**

- No payment received for use of this parking bay
- Parking/stopping a vehicle on clearway
- Parking without a valid parking ticket / expired 10 min
- Parking a vehicle on a footway
- Unauthorised Parking in a Loading Bay/Private Vehicle
- Parking within 5 meters of a Road Junction
- Parking on a double yellow line
- Parking opposite a continuous white line
- Parking in designated Taxi Area/Bus Stop
- Maximum Allowed Stay in Loading Bay Exceeded

### **Year End Figures (January - December 31st 2020):**

- Number of Clamps (incl. Warnings): 35,593
- Number of Relocations: 6,295
- Number of Removals: 494
- Number of Appeals: 2,450
- Number of Up Held Appeals: 444

### **Top 10 Clamped Locations:**

- Clarendon Street
- South Circular Road
- Chelmsford Road
- Ranelagh
- Capel Street
- Merrion Square South
- Williams Street South
- Commons Street
- Parnell Street
- Waterloo Road

### **Top 10 Offences**

- No payment received for use of this parking bay
- Parking/stopping a vehicle on clearway
- Parking without a valid parking ticket / expired 10 min
- Unauthorised Parking in a Loading Bay/Private Vehicle
- Parking a vehicle on a footway
- Parking within 5 meters of a Road Junction
- No Valid Paid Parking
- Parking in a bus lane/during period of operation
- Parking in designated Taxi Area/Bus Stop
- Parking on a double yellow line

#### **Q.39 COUNCILLOR JOE COSTELLO**

To ask the Chief Executive if he will consider the following: **(details supplied 1)** over a six-year period. They were prepared for the 100th anniversary of the publication of **(details supplied 2)** masterpiece and are on exhibition in the **(details supplied 3)**. Would the City explore the possibility of purchasing them for the Hugh Lane Gallery and Parnell Square new cultural Centre in Dublin?

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

The Gallery has no plans to purchase these works. A comprehensive review of what artworks are available and what is required for Hugh Lane Gallery's additional spaces and the new cultural quarter will be drawn up once spaces are identified.

#### **Q.40 COUNCILLOR JOE COSTELLO**

To ask the Chief Executive to detail:

- a) the cost and quantity of social housing that DCC will acquire from the Bartra Development at O'Devaney Gardens site
- b) the cost and quantity of housing that will be acquired by the Approved Housing Bodies

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

- a. 275 Social housing units will be acquired from Bartra. The average cost of a social housing unit type is €347,900.
- b. There are ongoing discussions between the developers and two Approved Housing Bodies (Circle and Tuath) with respect to the provision of the cost rental units. In this regard detailed definition of the cost rental model is being determined with the number of units and costs involved yet to be confirmed.

#### **Q.41 COUNCILLOR JOE COSTELLO**

To ask the Chief Executive to give a full report on the current proposals for the redevelopment of Dalymount Park referring to design, planning, funding and targets for each stage of the development.

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

The current plan for the redeveloped Dalymount Park is

- UEFA Category 3 Stadium with a capacity of 6000
- Community Facilities including a new library and flexible community facilities

A preliminary design for the Dalymount Park Redevelopment Project was completed in November by the appointed architect led design team, and is currently being reassessed after input from a number of stakeholders

There is funding in place to get the project up to the construction stage via a grant from the Large Scale Sports Infrastructure Fund (LSSIF) stream 1 and internal DCC funding. The current plan is to lodge a Part 8 Planning Permission Applicant in Quarter 3 2022. The further progress of the project following the planning process is uncertain until the City Council receive further clarity about the application process for Steam 2 of LSSIF.

**Q.42 COUNCILLOR JOE COSTELLO**

To ask the Chief Executive to state if he has any plans to sell Shelbourne FC or to rezone Tolka Park.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Dublin City Council officials met with Shelbourne Football Club Board members on Friday 18th February and a proposal was submitted by the Club to purchase Tolka Park Football Stadium from the City Council and redevelop it into a multi-sport stadium was discussed.

Dublin City Council has agreed in good faith to examine the proposal in detail and will reconvene meetings with the Board of Shelbourne FC when further detail has been provided, which is expected to be received from Shelbourne FC within the next two weeks. The City Council will then carry out its due diligence on the proposal.

The City Council is willing to examine the proposal; however, it would be based on a cost recovery model for expenditure incurred by the City Council and a firm commitment from Shelbourne Football Club that Tolka Park can be re-developed in a reasonable period and that adequate finance is in place.

Once this process is complete an update will be provided to Councillors on Shelbourne FC Proposal.

**Q.43 COUNCILLOR TINA MACVEIGH**

To ask the Chief Executive to address as a matter of urgency the serious damp issues at the home of our tenant (**details supplied**) and to provide me with a report of what measures will be taken and when.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Housing Maintenance is addressing an issue with a leak from the flat above, which is contributing to the dampness. There has been difficulty gaining access here, but this leak will be addressed as soon as we gain access.

Our housing engineers had engaged a damp specialist to carry out an assessment at this property, which was completed in early November 2021. This assessment recommended installing mechanical ventilation. As the leak above is still impacting on the bathroom, the ventilation will be installed once the leak is repaired.

**Q.44 COUNCILLOR TINA MACVEIGH**

To ask the Chief Executive were the council made aware of the pollution leaks that have occurred recently at the grand canal near the Blackhorse/Bluebell and if so, who in the local authority is liaising with or monitoring the environmental contractors who appear to be remedying the situation - what are the dangers to animal and plant life as a result of the leaks and have the public been informed of any potential danger?

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

On the 17/12/21, the Water Pollution Control (WPC) section of Dublin City Council (DCC) was promptly notified by the Electricity Supply Board Networks (ESBN) of a water pollution incident at Blackhorse Bridge, Inchicore, Dublin 8.

ESBN reported damage to a 110KV underground cable at Blackhorse Bridge caused by a third party strike. The incident which was not reported to the ESBN resulted in loss of cable fluid to the Grand Canal approximately 20m downstream from a construction site. ESBN confirmed they engaged with Waterways Ireland (WWI), the relevant national authority responsible for the management of canals and associated incidents.

Furthermore, ESBN provided WPC with details of immediate corrective and mitigation measures employed to make the line safe, contain the incident and temporarily repair the cable. WPC attended the site at Blackhorse Bridge and observed the measures in place. DCC noted the deployment of effective incident response equipment including flotation and absorbent booms and frequent skimming of the water's surface. DCC was satisfied that the incident did not pose a significant risk to downstream receptors including animals, flora and fauna and public health. DCC will continue to monitor and evaluate the situation.

Any further queries on the matter should be directed to the ESBN or Waterways Ireland.

**Q.45 COUNCILLOR DAITHÍ DOOLAN**

To ask the Chief Executive to outline a timeframe for the construction of the agreed new dressing rooms in Brickfield Park, Drimnagh.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

In light of rising building inflation, we are currently undertaking a review of costs in relation to the construction of changing rooms at Brickfields Park.

**Q.46 COUNCILLOR DAITHÍ DOOLAN**

To ask the Chief Executive to outline;

- how many applicants are on the DCC waiting list to have extensions to their council house based on medical or overcrowding need,
- how much capital funding has DCC received from the Department for this work for the years 2019, 2020, 2021 & 2022,
- put those waiting time for tenants in bands 1-5 years, 5-10 years, over 10 years,
- what is the average wait for a household to get this work done?

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

There are currently 45 applications on the waiting list for extensions on medical grounds and 235 on the waiting list for extensions for overcrowding.

DCC have received capital funding from the DOHLGH for the years 2019, 2020, 2021 of €2.5m for each of those year. Funding for 2022 is yet to be determined.

Medical: Band 1-5 Years = 45 applicants on the waiting list for medical assessment. The average wait time is 12 to 18 months for completion.

**Q.47 COUNCILLOR DAITHÍ DOOLAN**

To ask the Chief Executive for an update on the proposed housing development of Sons of Divine Providence site, Sarsfield Road.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Dublin City Council has prepared a detailed Strategic Assessment Report (SAR) for the proposed Sarsfield Road development. The project envisages supplying 176 housing units on the Sarsfield Lands with 116 managed by Dublin City Council and 60 by the Sons of Divine Providence, who are our partners on this very significant project.

The submission of the SAR report to the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage is an important step in our objective of securing Stage 1 approval for the project. In addition, Dublin City Council's Housing Development Section has been in ongoing communication with the Sons of Divine Providence to advance the proposed development.

Any developments in relation to the project will be shared with local Councillors and stakeholders as they become available.

**Q.48 COUNCILLOR DAITHÍ DOOLAN**

To ask the Chief Executive, in noting the poor housing conditions endured by DCC tenants in Lissadel Maisonettes, Drimnagh will CE ensure that DCC carry out agreed maintenance works as a matter of urgency and agree on a plan to upgrade all the units as soon as possible?

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

**Housing Maintenance Response:**

Housing Maintenance will respond to any requests for maintenance works that we receive.

Housing Maintenance has carried out a number of refurbishments under the Voids Framework to units at this location.

It is our understanding that the Housing Regeneration section is also examining proposals for the Lissadell Maisonettes.

**Housing Regeneration Response:**

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

A feasibility study examining redevelopment proposals for Lissadell Maisonettes is currently being finalised.

Once the feasibility study has been completed and costed, an application for initial project approval and funding (Stage 1) will be submitted to the DHLGH. The Housing and Community Services Department anticipates that a Stage 1 application will be submitted by end of Q2 2022.

**Q.49 COUNCILLOR MICHEÁL MAC DONNCHA**

To ask the Chief Executive what inspection regime is in place to ensure proper standards in emergency accommodation to which DCC and DRHE refer people; if there is a record of action taken where standards are not met; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The National Quality Standards Framework is in place to ensure standards in Emergency Accommodation for NGO services. In Quarter 4 of 2021, the DRHE drafted

standards for provide emergency accommodation providers who provide emergency accommodation.

A specific staff has been assigned the responsibility (January 2022) of implementing the standards with private emergency accommodation, including the co-ordination of KPIs, completion of Service level agreements and the co-ordination of training provided by both the HSE and the DRHE to staff in these settings.

When standards are not met, these are addressed with the agency (NGO/Private) until the terms of the service level agreement are complied with.

**Q.50 COUNCILLOR DANIEL CÉITINN**

To ask the Chief Executive when he plans for major works to repair/resurface the Sean Moore Rd carriageway between the roundabout and beach road in anticipation of the thresholds for further development on the Irish Glass Bottle site and associated estimated costs for same.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The Sean Moore Road roundabout is due to be resurfaced in 2022 as part of Road Maintenance Services' 2022 Carriageway Resurfacing Programme.

Two no. substantial sections of the Sean Moore Road adjacent to pedestrian crossings were recently resurfaced by DCC Traffic Division.

The remainder of Sean Moore Road will be put forward for consideration for future carriageway resurfacing programmes.

**Q.51 COUNCILLOR DANIEL CÉITINN**

To ask the Chief Executive the number of vacant commercial units owned by the Council by Area and length of vacancy; the current use of commercial units on Townsend St built into Markievicz House.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The two units on Townsend Street built into Markievicz House are not vacant as they used by our Caretaking Service and Mobile Crew. One of the units is used as a lockup for storage of caretaking equipment and the other unit is used as an office by supervisory staff.

The following is a list of vacant commercial units under the control of the Planning and Property Development Department. Vacant commercial units on the ground floors of social housing complexes including Markievicz House are under the control of Housing and Residential Services.

Address	Area	Description	Vacant	Notes
1 North Circular Road	Central	Former newsagents	2020	Requires extensive refurbishment
63 Ballybough Road	Central	Basement unit formerly a barber shop	2019	Future use under consideration
30/31 Liffey Street	Central	Shop unit with storage upstairs	2021	Structural issues identified.
New Priory	North Central	4 units in new development	New	Agreements in place on 2, agreements imminent on 2.
Unit 2 Shangan Neighbourhood Centre	North West	Retail Unit	2017	Available for letting

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Unit 3 Shangan Neighbourhood Centre	North West	Retail Unit	2017	Letting to HSE in 2020 did not proceed
Unit 4 Shangan Neighbourhood Centre	North West	Retail Unit	2017	Letting to HSE in 2020 did not proceed
16 Claddagh Green	South Central	Former hairdressers	2020	Transferred to control of Housing Dept.
2B Mary Aikenhead House	South Central	Small shop unit	2017	Letting imminent
The Kiosk, Orwell Road	South East	Coffee Kiosk	2020	Under refurbishment and conversion to café.
6 Ranelagh	South East	Small shop unit	2020	Letting to community group agreed.
Fenian Street/Holles Street	South East	Former cafe	2021	To be advertised
15 St. Stephen's Green	South East	Basement unit, formerly used as a restaurant	2022	To be incorporated into Little Museum of Dublin
181, 183, 185 Townsend Street	South East	3 former shop units	2021	For conversion to residential

**Q.52 COUNCILLOR DANIEL CÉITINN**

To ask the Chief Executive the timeframe for implementation of a signalised junction at Pine Road/Sean Moore road.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The proposed signalised junction at Pine Road/Sean Moore Road is required to facilitate access to the Poolbeg West SDZ Development. A planning decision is expected this month on Phase 1 (600 units) of the development and the programme for delivery of the junction is therefore not yet known, but it is unlikely that it will be installed this year.

**Q.53 COUNCILLOR DANIEL CÉITINN**

To ask the Chief Executive the status of the current phase of the Pearse House and Glover's Court regeneration projects; the remaining steps/work to advance through this stage; the estimated timeframe.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

**Pearse House, Dublin 2:**

Dublin City Council received Stage 1 approval from the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage (DHLGH) for the first phase of the regeneration of Pearse House, Dublin 2.

The approved regeneration proposal involves the full deep retrofit and amalgamation of existing flats in Blocks L, M, N and P also known as the "Small Flats".

Presently our City Architects have issued tender documentation for the procurement of an integrated design with tender assessment due to take place in the coming weeks. We anticipate having a design team appointed and working on progressing development design by May 2022.

**Glovers Court, Dublin 2:**

The Housing and Community Services Department are currently finalising the Stage 1 application for submission to the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage for initial project and funding approval. The intention is to submit the application before the end of this week, (week beginning 28<sup>th</sup> February 2022).

**Q.54 COUNCILLOR DERMOT LACEY**

To ask the Chief Executive if he can seek a report from Irish Water on their capital expenditure in the Dublin City Council area since 2016 and what projects were funded through the 1% for art scheme and further asks the Chief Executive to contact Irish Water requesting an update on how they intend to deliver any balance of that % due to our Council area.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

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

Please call the telephone number on [0818 178 178 / 0818 578 578](tel:0818178178) and identify yourself as an Elected Representative. You will be put through to the Local Representative Support Desk in Irish Water's Customer Contact Centre who will deal with you directly. Alternatively, there is a specific e-mail address at Irish Water for Councillors: [LocalRepSupport@water.ie](mailto:LocalRepSupport@water.ie).

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

The following are the contact details for Irish Water:

**Telephone:** [0818 178 178 / 0818 578 578](tel:0818178178)  
**Web:** [www.water.ie](http://www.water.ie)  
**Twitter:** [@IrishWater](https://twitter.com/IrishWater)  
**Postal Address:** Irish Water, PO Box 860, South City Delivery Office, Cork City.

**Q.55 COUNCILLOR SÉAMAS MCGRATTAN**

To ask the Chief Executive when is the next round of LCDC community funding due to take place and what was the total amount paid to groups last year.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The Dublin City Community Activities Fund (CAF) 2022 under the Community Enhancement Programme is imminent. It is expected to be open for online applications from Friday 4th March or earlier if possible, pending conclusion of technical testing of the online application system to make sure it is fit for purpose and easy for community groups to use. It is hoped that the closing date for applications will be Friday 25th March at 5pm. A total of €427,358 will be available under the Dublin City CAF.

The aim of the Fund is to support non-profit, community-based and/or voluntary sector organisations or groups based in Ireland, who are seeking funding that will benefit one or more of the six target groups that the Dublin City Local Community Development Committee has agreed as priorities for Dublin City for 2022. The funding will help support these groups with meeting their capital costs and operating/running costs, not including salary.

The six target groups the Dublin City Local Community Development Committee has agreed as priorities for Dublin City for 2022 are:

- People experiencing challenges to their mental health and wellbeing;
- Older people and those vulnerable to isolation;
- Travellers/Roma;
- Long term unemployed;
- New communities; and;
- Parents and marginalised children with a focus on childcare and afterschool services.



Applications for funding must also demonstrate how the funding will contribute to Goal 2 of the Dublin City Local Economic and Community Plan 2016 – 2021 “ Work in partnership with communities to promote social inclusion, tackle poverty and disadvantage and promote participation, empowerment and positive social change”.

Further details and access to the online application form will be available on the Dublin City Council website here: Dublin City Community Enhancement Programme | Dublin City Council (<https://www.dublincity.ie/residential/improving-my-community/local-community-development-committee-lcdc/dublin-city-community-enhancement-programme>)

All Councillors will be directly informed of all relevant details on making an application immediately after finalisation of the online system. The Fund will also be promoted widely.

A total of €805,810.33 was paid to 125 groups under the LCDC administered Community Enhancement Programme 2020 Round 1 and Round 2 and the Community Enhancement Programme 2021.

**Q.56 COUNCILLOR SÉAMAS MCGRATTAN**

To ask the Chief Executive does DCC still engage with the probation service to have minor works carried out in communities to help with prevention of anti-social behaviour in the future.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The North Central Area Office has engaged with the Probation Service in the past to have minor works carried out, but due to the restrictions of the pandemic, this engagement ceased. We are certainly not averse to engaging with them in the future, when restrictions are fully lifted.

We also work closely with PACE (a voluntary sector organisation that works with criminal offenders to support their safe integration back into the community) to provide wood work planters for the North Central Area.

The North West Area's Public Domain Team link in with Probation Services. They are engaged with and work alongside the Finglas Tidy Towns Group.

The SWIC Area Office engaged the Probation Service pre-covid to carry out minor works on DCC allotment sites in South Central. The Ballyfermot Area Office is in contact with the Probation Service and has identified some locations that would be beneficial to enhancing the area.

Pre-Covid, the probation service provided the Central Area Office with a painting service that removed graffiti at less sensitive locations such as hoardings. When they are back in operation, we will engage with them again with a view to recommencing this work.

The South East Area Office is not engaged with the Probation Service.

**Q.57 COUNCILLOR SÉAMAS MCGRATTAN**

To ask the Chief Executive how many single men and single women are currently on the housing lists and how many wheelchair accessible properties does DCC own.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

This report shows the number of single applicants on the housing list. We do not report separately for male and female.

January 2022 HOUSING Waiting List figures by Family Size							TABLE 4 (a)				
Family Size	Area B	Area D	Area E	Area H	Area J	Area K	Area L	Area M	Area N	Area P	Grand Total
<b>Singles</b>	2189	419	1246	1031	689	694	641	561	649	193	8312

There are a total of **928** wheelchair accessible properties owned by Dublin City Council.

**Q.58 COUNCILLOR SÉAMAS MCGRATTAN**

To ask the Chief Executive for a breakdown of the recent successful sports capital grants applications and what these will be used for.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The following grants were awarded in February 2022 based on applications made by Parks, Biodiversity and Landscapes Service. The full list is available at <https://www.gov.ie/en/collection/471ed5-sports-capital-allocations/>

Skate Park at Darndale Park (PKS)	69,991
Silloogue Golf Club Drainage Parks	83,198
Indoor Gym Willie Pearse Park Pavilion (PKS)	21,175
Eamonn Ceannt Resurface All Weather Pitch Pk	119,256
Replacement running track Liffey Valley PKS	150,000
Flood Lighting, Tennis Courts Herzog Pk, - Pks	72,791

**The below grants relate to Sports & Recreation**

- 2020 - Finglas Centre - Construction of Changing Rooms
- 2020 - Glin Road Community Centre- Covid Recovery & gym equipment
- 2020 - Irishtown - Refurbishment of 5 a-side pitch
- 2020 - St Catherine's Community Centre - Covid Recovery & gym equipment
- 2020 - Ballybough Centre-Changing Rooms Refurbishment
- 2020 - Ballymun S&F - Reception, C.V equipment & lockers
- 2020 - Cabra Parkside Sports Complex-Gym Equipment

**Q.59 COUNCILLOR CIERAN PERRY**

To ask the Chief Executive to provide details of the number of fines issued for the vehicles dumped or abandoned, over the last 5 years by administrative area?

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The normal procedure for dealing with abandoned vehicles is as follows:

- Where the licence plate is still attached to the vehicle, details of the registered owners is obtained from the Motor Tax Office and the owner of the vehicle is then requested to confirm if the vehicle is abandoned or still in use. Where the owner confirms that the vehicle has reached end of life, Dublin City Council make arrangements to remove the vehicle.
- Where there is no licence plate attached to the vehicle and it is not possible to establish ownership of the vehicle, Dublin City Council make arrangements to remove the vehicle. With no proof of ownership, it is not possible to issue a fine under the Litter Pollution Acts.

- No fines have been issued in relation to abandoned vehicles over the last five years.

**Q.60 COUNCILLOR CIERAN PERRY**

To ask the Chief Executive to detail the types of tenancies (RAS, HAP etc...) where the Tenant in Situ Acquisition programme was used, by administrative area?

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Details of tenant in situ acquisitions by local area and tenancy type.

	TIS Acquisitions since introduction of TIS Strategy 2018						
Type	Central	North Central	North West	South Central	South East	Total	
RAS	13	19	17	25	0	74	
Long term Leasing	0	1	3	0	0	4	
HAP / Homeless HAP	3	9	5	9	0	26	
Rent Supplement	5	8	17	11	0	41	
Other	1	3	1	1	0	6	
	22	40	43	46	0	151	
Year	Central	North Central	North West	South Central	South East	Total	
2018	4	5	6	8	0	23	
2019	12	14	17	19	0	62	
2020	4	13	13	10	0	40	
2021	2	8	7	9	0	26	
	22	40	43	46	0	151	

**Q.61 COUNCILLOR CIERAN PERRY**

To ask the Chief Executive to provide details of the number of units sold through the Tenant Purchase Scheme over the last 5 years, by administrative area?

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The following are the number of tenant purchase houses by area since the introduction of the Tenant (Incremental) Purchase Scheme 2016 to end of December 2021.

Central	10
South Central	67
South East	1
North West	37
North Central	39

**Q.62 COUNCILLOR VINCENT JACKSON**

To ask the Chief Executive that the immersion heater at **(details supplied)** be repaired / replaced as a matter of urgency for the elderly residents who lives at this location.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Housing Maintenance attended the address provided on 28th February and the immersion seemed to be in good working order, but we have asked Electrical Services to inspect it thoroughly. If it does need to be replaced, all necessary works will be carried out.

**Q.63 COUNCILLOR VINCENT JACKSON**

To ask the Chief Executive to look into the ongoing problems of cars, vans etc. parked opposite the entrance points of Californian Hills Park, Ballyfermot, Dublin 10 at weekends / evenings, this excessive parking is restricting entry for older persons, people in wheelchairs and parents with children. Drumfinn Road / Rossmore Road are particularly affected with this ongoing issue sign need to be erected to alert people not to block entrances, kissing gates etc.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The Parking Policy and Enforcement Section will instruct DPSP to continue to patrol the area and enforce any illegal parking.

Road Maintenance visited this location and will install a new pedestrian crossing point on Rossmore Road along with the installation of a new footpath to access the Californian Hills Park safely. These works will be carried out when we have a crew available in the area.

**Q.64 COUNCILLOR VINCENT JACKSON**

To ask the Chief Executive to look into the following housing situation: **(details supplied)**.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

As the tenant has been on the HAP scheme at that address since October 2017, under the terms of the HAP scheme, she would now be eligible to move properties and we can grant permission to apply for HAP in alternative, affordable and suitable accommodation.

The tenant can now source alternative HAP accommodation for herself and her daughter. She will also need to contact the Allocations Section and request a new HAP application form and re-apply for HAP for her new tenancy.

**Q.65 COUNCILLOR VINCENT JACKSON**

To ask the Chief Executive to look at the following housing issue with Tuatha Housing: **(details supplied)**. Could I ask DCC to get onto Tuatha Housing to see the issues area addressed as the house is not up to proper standards, she has told me the kitchen presses are full of mildew despite cleaning with bleach etc., the rear of the presses are full of spores which are very dangerous the house is heated and well ventilated.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The Leasing Section has requested that Túath Housing Association carry out an inspection of the property and address any outstanding issues.

**Q.66 COUNCILLOR COLM O'ROURKE**

To ask the Chief Executive to provide a full report regarding all the actions taken by the Dublin City Council Planning Enforcement Section concerning a property in the Cabra-Glasnevin Ward **(details supplied)**.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

This matter is currently the subject of active enforcement action. The Councillor will get a detailed update within the next 10 days in respect of this matter once the owners of the property have been formally informed of our proposed course of action. It would not be appropriate to disclose any further details until the owners have been served notice of the requirements of the Planning Enforcement Section.

**Q.67 COUNCILLOR COLM O'ROURKE**

To ask the Chief Executive to confirm whether Dublin City Council:

- A) Took steps to acquire a private property (**details supplied**) to provide social housing through a scheme?
- B) If so, why is Dublin City Council no longer buying this property?
- C) Is it envisaged that Dublin City Council will purchase this property at a later date?
- D) If Dublin City Council acquires this property, can Dublin City Council confirm that the tenant in this private rented accommodation who is in receipt of HAP both meets the criteria and also will actually be allowed to continue living in the property if it is sold to Dublin City Council?

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Dublin City Council was approached by the vendor regarding this property in late 2021, however under Housing for All, Dublin City Council has very limited targets from the DHLGH for individual Acquisitions for 2022, funding has been diverted to other forms of housing delivery such as new construction and multi-unit turn key acquisitions.

We have been advised that there will be approval for a very limited number of individual acquisitions for specific categories of housing need such as larger four bedroom properties suitable for households exiting emergency accommodation or specific adapted properties for households with a medical need and one bedroom units for Housing First.

In light of this, Dublin City Council is not in a position to acquire the above property.

**Q.68 COUNCILLOR COLM O'ROURKE**

To ask the Chief Executive to provide:

- A) The Footpath/Roads Programme 2022 for the Cabra-Glasnevin Local Electoral Area
- B) To confirm that the proposed pedestrian crossing at Botanic Avenue, in which construction will begin in Quarter 3 / Quarter 4 of 2022, will have lights at be at the will be put in place at the top of Botanic Avenue just before the junction with Drumcondra Road?
- C) To confirm that the details of the proposed pedestrian crossing for 78 Iona Road are correct? Can it be confirmed it is planned for Iona Road, not Iona Drive? The proposed location is currently a disabled parking and close to an existing set of traffic lights?

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

- A. Copy of Central Area Road Maintenance Services Annual Works Programme 2022 attached.
- B. I can confirm that the Pedestrian Crossing will be installed at the top of Botanic Avenue just before the junction with the Drumcondra Road Lower. This will be a Controlled Pedestrian Crossing with lights. Construction of this Controlled Pedestrian Crossing is expected to begin in Q3 / Q4 of 2022.

There is no Pedestrian Crossing proposed at 78 Iona Road or along Iona Drive. There was a request to dish the footpath outside 78 Iona Road to facilitate the disabled parking space which is being assessed at the moment.

**Q.69 COUNCILLOR COLM O'ROURKE**

To ask the Chief Executive for a full update regarding an aspect of the Ashtown/Pelletstown Local Area Plan (LAP). The plan contains a Movement and Access Objective (MAO1): "To implement an improvement scheme for River Road by

2017 in accordance with objective SI038 of the Dublin City Development Plan 2011-17 that provides for (i) safe movement of traffic, (ii) pedestrian routes along and across the road, and (iii) cycle connections. The eventual design will incorporate a two-way section on the western (Ashtown) side, and a one-way eastbound section on the remainder, connecting with Ratoath Road. This design shall be the subject of detailed study. Interim road safety measures will also be carried out." This has not been progressed. Could an update be provided an update for this stretch of road?

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

While the above works have not progressed there have been extensive emergency works to maintain the use of the existing road.

In 2021, the Road Maintenance Division referred the matter of the poor condition of the masonry wall on the north side of River Road to the Road Design & Construction Division for advice. The Road Design & Construction Division arranged for a visual inspection survey in conjunction with a Bio-Diversity Consultant on 600 metres of masonry wall and a report was prepared that indicated that many sections of the wall had collapsed due to extensive vegetation growth (mature trees growing from and adjacent to wall), vehicle impact and possibly poor drainage on River Road.

The initial survey indicated that the wall was in the worse condition along a 100 metre length (near the east end of River Road) where the road is on an embankment approximately 3.8 metres above Tolka Valley Park and closest to a public path in Tolka Valley Park. In order to complete a visual inspection extensive vegetation on the 100 metre long section of wall was removed. A design for a new concrete crib retaining wall structure 100 metres long and demolition and re-build a new masonry wall at 100 metres long (plus all ancillary lighting ducts, drainage gullies and pipes, kerbs and landscaping) on the east end of River Road was prepared. These construction works are almost complete.

Additional de-vegetation works (undergrowth only) on the remaining 500 metre length of wall have been completed. There are many sections where the wall has completely failed, other sections are leaning (supported on tree trunks) and other sections in a very poor condition. Approximately 30 number trees were felled that were growing directly in wall or adjacent to the wall over a wall length of 450 metres.

**Q.70 COUNCILLOR KEITH CONNOLLY**

To ask the Chief Executive to provide a list in tabular form of the amount of litter and dog wardens employed by Dublin City Council from the year 2011 to 2022.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

From 2011 to date, the number of Litter Wardens employed by Dublin City Council has reduced from twenty-five to thirteen. This has mainly been down to retirements and promotions.

Seven litter wardens are assigned to Waste Management Services. Three of the litter wardens assigned to Waste Management Services work in the Central Commercial District on a 7/7 shift basis, one litter warden works in Public Domain from 1pm to 9pm and three litter wardens are assigned to Waste Management depots.

Six litter wardens are assigned to Area Offices and report to the Environmental Liaison Officers.

A Litter Enforcement Manager was appointed last year to manage the Litter Warden Service. Negotiations are at an advance stage to bring the wardens assigned to the Area Offices back under one management structure within Waste Management. This

will allow the Enforcement Manager to plan more intensive compliance campaigns like door to door enquires on waste arrangements and to have more litter wardens on the ground to help in tackling the serious issue of dog fouling.

Currently, Dublin City Council are in talks with An Garda Síochána to help assist us in running a number of compliance campaigns around the administrative area in the coming months to tackle dog fouling.

All enquiries in relation to dog wardens should be referred to the Animal Welfare Section, Housing Dept.

From November 2021 Dublin City Council has employed one Animal Welfare Inspector and two Dog Wardens/Animal Welfare Officers in a fulltime capacity. The Council intends to employ a further two fulltime Dog Wardens/Animal Welfare Officers in the coming weeks bringing the total to four plus one Inspector.

**Q.71 COUNCILLOR KEITH CONNOLLY**

To ask the Chief Executive to provide an update on the housing adaption grant for **(details supplied)**.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Housing Maintenance received an application for a level access shower in September 2021 from the tenants at the address provided. We receive a high volume of applications under this programme, however, we will endeavour to have it surveyed for the tenant in the coming weeks.

**Q.72 COUNCILLOR KEITH CONNOLLY**

To ask the Chief Executive to carry out an assessment of the carriage way in **(details supplied)** with a view to repair, sections of the roadway are sinking.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

An inspection has been arranged for this location. Defects will be logged onto our asset management system and addressed in order of priority and crew availability.

**Q.73 COUNCILLOR KEITH CONNOLLY**

To ask the Chief Executive to examine the possibility of further traffic calming measures on **(details supplied)**. The distance between the ramps at present is significant leading to speeding.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

**(details supplied)** is currently traffic calmed with five speed ramps. 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. Additional ramps would not comply with current design standards and would encourage harsh braking and consequent heavy acceleration.

However, to enhance the current 30 km/hr speed limit and the existing traffic calming measures in place, a 30 km/hr road marking and a "SLOW" road marking will be recommended at strategic points on **(details supplied)**.

**Q.74 COUNCILLOR MARY CALLAGHAN**

To ask the Chief Executive to provide an update on proposed new grass cutting contract for Dublin City Council, if it will improved the quality of the service and how it will compare with the service in Dun Laoghaire/Rathdown.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Tenders will be assessed shortly for a new landscape maintenance contract. We are always striving to improve our services and if the Councillor has identified a specific maintenance issue we will carry out an immediate inspection and report back to the councillor.

**Q.75 COUNCILLOR CAT O'DRISCOLL**

To ask the Chief Executive what the procedure is for the 'meanwhile' use of council buildings and what process is in place for arts and community groups to express their interest?

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The City Council provides premises for more than 280 community, arts and sports groups for both short and long term occupation. Buildings which are not required for periods of time can be considered for short term lettings subject to their fitness and suitability but the preference is to secure long term tenants where possible.

Properties which are available for letting are advertised on the City Council website and the Property Management Section takes note of groups who are seeking accommodation. Many groups are also known to the Area Offices and they make recommendations to the Property Management Section based on local knowledge.

It is the case however that the Council does not have a ready supply of suitable vacant buildings and it is not always possible to facilitate requests from groups.

**Q.76 COUNCILLOR CAT O'DRISCOLL**

To ask the Chief Executive if the cobblestones removed from streets in the city centre are to be replaced and to provide a timeline for each street?

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The works that have been carried out on the streets in the Grafton Street Quarter, i.e. the replacement of the brick pavements with beige asphalt, are intended as an interim measure rather than a permanent solution. Please note the report of the Office City Recovery, dated October 2021, which sets out a medium term action plan for the City. For the period 2022 to 2023 the report includes the action: "Deliver a Public Realm Plan for the City Centre in cooperation with the Environment & Transportation Department and the Area Offices with a focus on maintenance, upkeep and implementation of long term public realm plans, including the completion of long term Public Realm plans for South Anne Street, Duke Street, Suffolk Street, Lemon Street, Duke Lane, South William Street, Castle Market, Talbot Street, Talbot Lane and North Earl Street as a matter of urgency". These plans will be developed in accordance with the Grafton Street Quarter Public Realm Plan which can be found at the following link [https://www.dublincity.ie/sites/default/files/media/file-uploads/2019-01/Grafton Street Quarter Public Realm Plan.pdf](https://www.dublincity.ie/sites/default/files/media/file-uploads/2019-01/Grafton%20Street%20Quarter%20Public%20Realm%20Plan.pdf). In this regard the Road Design and Construction Division has recently commenced consultations with the businesses on Duke Street and South Anne Street, in relation the proposed future upgrades of these roads. Plans for other streets for the Grafton Street Area will be developed in due course.



With reference to the Dublin setts removed in the Temple Bar area, these setts will be re-laid on the adjoining streets and a newly laid surface will be provided for the Square. The proposal and the approved Part 8 confirm that the re-laid Dublin setts were only planned for the adjoining streets.

**Q.77 COUNCILLOR CAROLYN MOORE**

To ask the Chief Executive for a record from Parking Enforcement showing:

- The total number of times a vehicle was removed for illegally parking on a footpath in 2021
- The total number of times a vehicle was clamped for illegally parking on a footpath in 2021
- The total number of times a vehicle was removed for illegally parking on a footpath from 01/06/21 to 25/01/22
- The total number of times a vehicle was clamped for illegally parking on a footpath from 01/06/21 to 25/01/22

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Attached is the data in relation to Clamps, Fixed Penalty Notices, Relocations and Removals for footpath parking offences for 2021. The issuing of Fixed Penalty Notices commenced in June 2021.

Removals are usually carried out for vehicles that have been clamped that remain unpaid and are on street after a period of 24 hours. Removals would also be used for “code blacks” which are vehicles that have been clamped in the past but where the clamp was cut off before payment was made.

Relocations – are where illegally parked vehicles are relocated and clamped in a legal parking spot.

<b>Parking a vehicle on a footway 01/01/2021 - 31/12/2021</b>	
Clamps (incl warnings)	3,114
Relocations	718
Removal to pound	72
<b>01/06/2021 - 31/12/2021</b>	
Fixed Penalty Notices	488

<b>Parking a vehicle on a footway 01/06/2021 - 31/01/2022</b>	
Clamps (incl. warnings)	1,936
Relocations	486
Removal	48
Fixed Penalty Notices	582

**Q.78 COUNCILLOR CAROLYN MOORE**

To ask the Chief Executive for an update on the Q2 2021 tender process for the provision of textile banks in DCC depots, Bring Centres and other recycling facilities, including:

- Was there any update or change to the procurement policy for clothes bank services to factor in considerations such as the export for profit of clothes collected, where those clothes are exported to, and the global environmental impact of clothes collected in Dublin City Council Bring Centres?

- Was there any update or change to the procurement policy for clothes bank services to factor in performance-based assessment, i.e. percentage of textiles collected which are recycled, percentage of textiles collected which are reused, percentage of textiles collected which are repurposed?
- Was there any update or change to the procurement policy for clothes bank services to factor in enhanced auditing processes such as proof of final destination and disposal of textiles collected which cannot be recycled, reused, repurposed or resold?
- How many service providers tendered for the contract?
- Which service provider won the contract?
- Has Dublin City Council undertaken to carry out checks within the markets to which 99% of textiles collected in DCC depots and Bring Centres are exported?

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Work on the new tender for textile recycling services has not proceeded as planned but is currently underway. It is anticipated that the request for tender will now be published in Q2 2022. Waste Management Services will continue to be guided by the Council's evolving procurement policy.

Dublin City Council has no oversight role in the life-cycle of clothing or textiles.

There is currently no regulation of the used textile industry in this country as highlighted in the 2020 National Waste Plan for a Circular Economy. In the absence of national legislation, or proper textile recycling technology in the country Dublin City Council is not in a position to include assessment based on percentages as suggested. The current national waste hierarchy is reduce > reuse > recycle. The export of clothing and textiles for reuse is within this standard.

The request to tender will include a condition that there must be an auditable paper trail detailing forward and final destinations of textiles collected on behalf of Dublin City Council.

Dublin City Council is not in a position to carry out checks in international markets.

**Q.79 COUNCILLOR CAROLYN MOORE**

To ask the Chief Executive if Dublin City Council has any plans to work with An Taisce Green Schools Programme to educate people on the full life cycle of textiles and the reality that 0% of textiles collected in Dublin City Council Bring Centres are recycled, 99% are exported, and 1% go to landfill?

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Dublin City Council works in close partnership with An Taisce to deliver the Green-Schools by directly supporting schools, promoting the programme and providing funding to An Taisce. Promoting long-term, whole-school action for the environment, Green-Schools is a student-led programme with involvement from the wider community. An Taisce have recently launched a textile project with secondary schools called 'Let's Fix Fashion'. Council staff visit schools to complete the Green-Schools assessments and also host an annual teacher training seminar, to provide up to date information on the environmental modules contained within the programme.

In addition to Green-Schools, Dublin City Council co-fund and organise the annual Relove Fashion Competition, in partnership with nine other local authorities. The Relove Fashion Competition was developed in response to the growing environmental and social impacts of textiles and the need for change. It encourages students to take

a deeper look at how their clothing is made and challenges them to explore creative reuse options such as upcycling, repairs, alterations and mending. Students are invited to use their sewing skills and creativity to create an item of clothing using pre-loved textiles. For more information, please visit [www.relovetofashion.ie](http://www.relovetofashion.ie).

**Q.80 COUNCILLOR RACHEAL BATTEN**

To ask the Chief Executive to provide a list of the personal injury payments or settlements made in 21?

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The gathering and collating of the information is on-going and a detailed response will issue before the April Council meeting.

**Q.81 COUNCILLOR RACHEAL BATTEN**

To ask the Chief Executive to review with the women safety aspect the shrubbery at **(details supplied)** and arrange to have it removed so that there is clear view from all aspect of the Green especially when it's dark.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

To affect the type of clear view across the entire green envisaged in this question would require the wholesale removal of practically all of the vegetation on site. This would not be considered appropriate during a time of declared biodiversity and climate crises and would not be in keeping with Council policies around biodiversity or climate change. Furthermore as it is now the bird nesting season the cutting back or removal of such vegetation is precluded under the wildlife act. This area of remnant and possibly ancient hedgerow habitat provides essential food and shelter for nesting birds and small mammals and blossom for pollinators in an area of increasing urbanisation.

**Q.82 COUNCILLOR RACHEAL BATTEN**

To ask the Chief Executive to provide an estimated cost of the build of a walking and cycling bridge at **(details supplied)** as in 2020 the reply was that it was too costly to build if those costing could be provided please.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

A detailed cost estimate has not yet been prepared but recent comparable schemes would indicate that costs could exceed €10m.

DCC are now engaged with TII and the NTA as to how the walking and cycling deficit here may be addressed and intend to bring forward proposals for what could be put in place in a reasonable timeframe.

**Q.83 COUNCILLOR RAY MCADAM**

To ask the Chief Executive to provide an update on the status of a housing application submitted by **(details supplied)**; the likely timeframe for an offer of alternative accommodation being made; and if he will make a statement on the matter?

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The above applicant is on Band 2 of the Transfer List with an application date of 14/04/2003. The applicant holds the following positions on the list:

Area	Bedsizes	Position
Area E	3	6

Area D	3	5
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Dublin City Council are allocating 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.

Applicants on the transfer list are prevented from being considered for selection while they have arrears on their rent account. The above applicant has recently fallen into rent arrears on her RAS rent account but has linked in with the relevant EHO to remedy the situation. When arrears are cleared and the applicant has reached the top of her list, she will be approached with an offer of the next suitable vacancy.

The applicant was approached with an offer of a 3 bed unit in Scribblestown in October 2021 which was registered as a refusal on the grounds that the apartment was too high. The applicant has been advised to submit medical documents to support her need for a ground floor on medical grounds, no such documents have been submitted to date.

**Q.84 COUNCILLOR RAY MCADAM**

To ask the Chief Executive to indicate the status of a housing transfer application submitted by **(details supplied)**; the likelihood of an offer of alternative accommodation within the six months; and if he will make a statement on the matter?

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The above applicant is on Band 2 of the Transfer List with an application date of 19/07/2021. The applicant holds the following positions on the list:

Area	Bedsizes	Position
Area E	3	509
Area H	3	253
Area P	3	127

Dublin City Council are allocating 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 is unlikely to be approached with an offer of social housing within the next six months as vacancies are allocated to applicants based on their positions on the list, and there are many applicants ahead of the above applicant.

The applicant is advised to monitor the Choice Based Letting page of the DCC website to increase her awareness of any 3 bed CBL vacancies in Area E, Area H, or Area P that might interest her.

As the applicant is currently a tenant of Dublin City Council, she can also register her details on [www.homeswapper.ie](http://www.homeswapper.ie). This website is a platform for tenants to seek a mutual swap with other tenants and can allow to apply for an Inter-Transfer through Dublin City Council. All transfers will be subject to applicants passing Estate Management, Maintenance, and rent checks.

**Q.85 COUNCILLOR RAY MCADAM**

To ask the Chief Executive to provide clarity on the status of a housing transfer application made in the name of **(details supplied)**; whether is aware of serious situation this applicant is dealing with in terms of a rat infestation in her complex; when he is expects her to receive an offer of alternative accommodation; and if he will make a statement on the matter?

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Housing Maintenance received a report of rats in the back garden from the tenant at the address provided on 5th January this year. This was reported to the HSE Pest Control and this issue has now been resolved.

The above applicant is a tenant of Dublin City Council and does not hold an active transfer application.

**Q.86 COUNCILLOR MANNIX FLYNN**

To ask the Chief Executive to issue a full report as to when the voting will take place for BID renewal (We are Dublin Town). This to include when the ballot papers are to arrive to the various business owners? What is the last date for DCC to receive the ballots? When and where will the actual count be held. Can business owners attend the count and scrutinise the ballots?

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Dublin Town notified Dublin City Council in writing of their intention to proceed a plebiscite on 19th February last. The Legislation that governs the process is the Local Government (Business Improvement Districts) Act 2006 and SI No 166/2007- Local Government Business Improvement Districts Ratepayer Plebiscite. The Statutory Instrument outlines the process in detail, Section 4 states the following

“Following receipt by a rating authority of written confirmation from a BID proponent under section 129F(2)(a) of the Act, the manager of the rating authority concerned shall appoint a local authority employee to be a returning officer for the purposes of the ratepayer plebiscite.”

The CE will appoint a Returning Officer in the next week.

The Act also specifies the timelines that apply:

“Within 60 days of receiving written confirmation delivered in compliance with section 129F(2)(a), the rating authority concerned shall, in accordance with this section and the regulations made under subsection (6), hold a plebiscite to determine the level of support for the proposal among ratepayers of rateable property in the proposed business improvement district.” Therefore the latest date for return of ballots 20th April 2022.

“No later than 45 days after receiving written confirmation under section 129F(2)(a), the rating authority concerned shall send, by ordinary post or any other means that may be prescribed by regulation, all ballot papers for completion under subsection (3) to the ratepayers concerned.” Therefore the latest date for the issuing of ballots is 5th April 2022.

The Count will take place as soon as possible thereafter, details of which will be announced once the Returning Officer has been appointed.

The City Council will prepare and publish procedures covering all aspects of the conduct of the ballot. Counsel will also be engaged to review the procedures and to oversee the entire process.

**Q.87 COUNCILLOR MANNIX FLYNN**

To ask the Chief Executive to issue a full report with regards a recent exhibition in the former Magdalene Laundry site in Sean McDermott Street. This report to include full disclosure of all correspondence between DCC and the organisers of this event who go under the title of 'Open heart City'.

Were any of the former residents of the Magdalene laundries or any of the other residential institutions informed about this event or invited to this event?

It is unacceptable that no consideration was given to the many individuals who contacted me outraged that this event took place without their consent. Indeed the event itself was broadcast quite recklessly on RTE's Nationwide. These former industrial residential institutional lands represent continuous trauma for many individuals who suffered greatly in these institutions. We somewhat addressed this issue in our recent debate in DCC regarding the Lord Mayors patronage of the Artane Band. Were any lessons learned by DCC officials around such sensitivities and usage of the symbols of terror to many like the former Magdalene Laundry at Sean McDermott Street. It is not good enough that DCC would continue to be so inconsiderate. Further, what are the plans for these lands going forward?

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

This event was run by Co Lab who had previously informed the Executive and Central Area Councillors that they were actively working with survivors groups for the last number of years.

The event was requested to be held as part of the Lord Mayor's Brigit Day 2022 and local area councillors were informed in advance.

The exhibition was taken from work carried out by UCD students on the architectural history of the convent and its potential into the future. This was the second time this exact display was hosted in the local community.

A working group of Central Area Councillors with support from the Central Area Office and Planning & Development Department are currently meeting to create an inclusive suite of options that could be explored further in relation to the former Convent itself and the wider site.

**Q.88 COUNCILLOR MANNIX FLYNN**

To ask the Chief Executive to issue a full report with regards the costs of acquiring 99/100 Baggot Street for use as a homeless hotel for the Peter McVerry Trust? This report to include all market evaluations of the property. All dilapidation reports on the property? All costs envisaged to get these buildings fit for purpose for public use including fire certs and upgrades.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The Peter McVerry Trust acquired no 99/100 Baggot Street on February 4th 2022. The Housing Agency engaged with QRE Real Estate Advisors to carry out a valuation of the property the Housing Agency negotiated this acquisition on behalf of PMVT, and secured the property for the less than the QRE valuation. It is not possible to disclose the final purchase price as this is commercially sensitive information and could affect any future negotiations on acquisitions for similar projects.

Funding for this acquisition was provided by the Department of Housing, Local Government & Heritage under the Capital Assistance Scheme. All costs for refurbishment have been assessed and are based on condition surveys, budget of €210,624 was included in the approved budget for fire upgrade and refurbishment works on the property. These works are currently underway and it is anticipated the property will be occupied once works are complete.

**Q.89 COUNCILLOR MANNIX FLYNN**

To ask the Chief Executive to issue a full report as to how many individuals in the past 3 years have written to DCC or made enquiries to DCC about selling their homes to the Council to downsize while acquiring a flat from DCC?

Also, can the CEO furnish me with a full report as to how many individuals have availed of this scheme in the past 10 years.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The Financial Contribution Scheme (FCS) exists in recognition of a demand for older home-owners who wish to sell their home to DCC & become tenants of DCC in a senior citizen's unit. To be eligible for the FCS list, applicants must meet the age requirements for senior citizen's accommodation, and their home must meet the purchase criteria in relation to its location & valuation. Applicants, once tenanted, will pay a differential rent to DCC.

The FCS list with Dublin City Council currently has 241 active applications, 57 of which were received in 2019, 2020, and 2021.

**Number of FCS applicants housed by DCC:**

2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	Total
19	10	14	1	11	3	8	10	10	86

**Q.90 COUNCILLOR MARY FREEHILL**

To ask the Chief Executive, with regard to the Staff Library location may I have answers to the following questions:

Is the library to stay in its present location in civic offices? If not where will it be located as the refurbishment is half way through with specific components for library use.

Is the library to stay in its current format?

Is a virtual library model being recommended?

If so, where would this be?

What would the staffing situation be? I.e. current staff remain?

What stage is the library review at?

When will the recommendations take effect?

What has happened to the library budget?

What is the position of the project manager?

What is the budget balance?

When did the listed stakeholders declare their interest in the library premises?

What are their names?

Who decided to halt the library re refurbishment

Why

As civic offices is huge why could these departments not utilise vacant space created by working from home during and after Covid.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

A review of the staff library service is being undertaken by an external consultant, with work due to commence by the end of March 2022.

**Q.91 COUNCILLOR EIMER MCCORMACK**

To ask the Chief Executive to investigate and report on the current number of voids in the housing stock of the Dublin North Central area and any plans to re-introduce same to use by the council's housing department.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The following is a summary and breakdown of the vacant properties (152 units) currently in the Central Area.

Property	No. Beds	No. Units	Total Units
Apartments	0	25	98
	1	24	
	2	45	
	3	4	
Houses	1	0	14
	2	7	
	3	6	
	5	1	
Senior Citizens'	0	25	40
	1	15	

The properties above are currently being refurbished through the Framework or by Direct Labour and are at various stages of completion. It is anticipated that the properties will be returned to productive use in two to fourteen weeks' time.

In 2021, 120 properties were refurbished in the Central Area. These were made up of 66 apartments, 27 houses and 27 Senior Citizens units.

**Q.92 COUNCILLOR EIMER MCCORMACK**

To ask the Chief Executive to report on any plans to clear the drains at both Lindsay Road and Iona Road respectively. As both are heavily tree lined, rotting leaves have filled the shores and flooding is a real potential hazard to residents.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Members of the Gully Cleaning Crew cleaned 27 of the 34 Gullies on Lindsay Road on 18/01/2022 and 24 of the 26 on Iona Road.

**Q.93 COUNCILLOR EIMER MCCORMACK**

To ask the Chief Executive to outline what effect, if any, that Shelbourne Football Club pulling out of any agreement to ground share with Bohemians Football Club at Dalymount Park might have on the re-development plans.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Dublin City Council officials met with Shelbourne Football Club Board members on Friday 18th February and a proposal was submitted by the Club to purchase Tolka



Park Football Stadium from the City Council and redevelop it into a multi-sport stadium was discussed.

Dublin City Council has agreed in good faith to examine the proposal in detail and will reconvene meetings with the Board of Shelbourne FC when further detail has been provided, which is expected to be received from Shelbourne FC within the next two weeks. The City Council will then carry out its due diligence on the proposal.

The City Council is willing to examine the proposal; however, it would be based on a cost recovery model for expenditure incurred by the City Council and a firm commitment from Shelbourne Football Club that Tolka Park can be re-developed in a reasonable period and that adequate finance is in place.

Once this process is complete an update will be provided to Councillors on Shelbourne FC Proposal.

Dublin City Council are still fully committed to developing a municipal stadium at Dalymount Park. We are continuing to work with all stakeholders; including both clubs, the Government and local community groups to develop a modern municipal stadium.

**Q.94 COUNCILLOR EIMER MCCORMACK**

To ask the Chief Executive to report on the possibility of putting together a register of council sites that might benefit from a large scale mural and encourage local artists to apply to make use of these potentially great spaces.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Dublin City Council is very supportive of street art in the city and regularly commissions such installations for example the Paint the City Project which delivered 4 large scale installations at Prussia St, Dorset Street, Kevin Street and Tara Street last September. We regularly work with community groups and organisations to animate local areas and buildings in this manner. The recently installed legal art wall at St Margaret's Road, Finglas allows for free painting by artists. This enables teaching and honing of the craft of street art in a safe environment.

Dublin Canvas which commissions art on traffic control boxes is a Dublin City Council initiative running since 2014 delivering new installations each year. The animation of Dublin City owned development sites through art is generally done through local engagement either via residents groups or local artists and is case specific using co-design and local knowledge. This has served well in the past, ensuring the art work is not inferred with.

Dublin City Council has a process in place for the execution of murals in partnership with artists and owners where appropriate which can be viewed here. This process takes account of the legal and quality issues as well as impact on adjacent properties and residents which arise when installing art works in an outdoor setting. Artists can also use hoardings with owner consent for the purpose of street art.

**Q.95 COUNCILLOR NAOISE Ó MUIRÍ**

To ask the Chief Executive to organise for the removal of the boulder on the Greenway on the Bull Island Causeway Road (at the James Larkin Road end) as it serves no purpose now and is a potential hazard.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The boulders which had previously been placed on the greenway/cycle lane at this location, have been moved onto the grassed areas to the side to prevent inappropriate parking on the grass.

**Q.96 COUNCILLOR NAOISE Ó MUIRÍ**

To ask the Chief Executive to provide an update report on the delivery of an upgraded tennis pavilion/clubhouse facility at Rockfield Park to include (a) status of capital funding and (b) timeline to delivery.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The provision of a new tennis pavilion will be considered in the context of the review later in 2022 of the three year capital programme.

**Q.97 COUNCILLOR DECLAN FLANAGAN**

To ask the Chief Executive to comment on the following: Are contractors allowed to park on the lay-by, the green area outside **(details supplied)**. I observed 5 vans parked up that have destroyed the grass & turned it too mud. Can the council investigate and take action if needs be?

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

It is illegal to park on a grass verge, median, or footpath. However when guidance was sought from the Transportation SPC on how best to prioritise the limited resources from the Parking Enforcement Contractor, it was decided that vehicles, when parked, are leaving a gap of 2.5m of available footpath space are not deemed to be a high priority and other offences would take precedence. DSPS regularly patrol **(details supplied)** and surrounding roads due to the high volume of construction sites and do enforce vehicles when necessary.

**Q.98 COUNCILLOR DECLAN FLANAGAN**

To ask the Chief Executive to review the following traffic lights **(details supplied 1)**. Can the sequencing of these traffic lights be checked and observed especially at peak times when there is a lot of congestion and only 5 or so cars getting through when there is 30 or so looking to cross the **(details supplied 2)** at peak time.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The traffic signals along the **(details supplied 1)** are controlled by Dublin City Council's SCATS traffic management system. SCATS is an adaptive system that alters traffic signal timings and sequences based upon real time traffic demands using data from vehicle detectors on approaches to junctions.

Dublin City Council's policy is to prioritise sustainable modes of transportation in the city and as such the signals along the **(details supplied 2)** prioritise pedestrians, cyclists and public transport users.

Due to the large volumes of traffic on this route, the junctions in question operate in an over saturated mode thereby leaving little scope to further adjust the timings for this movement without negatively impacting key public transport routes or increasing waiting times for pedestrians

The ITS section in Dublin City Council continues to monitor signalised junctions on this route an adapt signal timings and sequences in SCATS to optimise traffic movements as required where there is scope to do so.

**Q.99 COUNCILLOR DECLAN FLANAGAN**

To ask the Chief Executive for a full listing of legal fees paid by DCC to law firms over the past 3 years in tabular format and advise what payment relates to.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The gathering and collating of the information is on-going and a detailed response will issue before the April Council meeting.

**Q.100 COUNCILLOR DECLAN FLANAGAN**

To ask the Chief Executive for an update re: Rollout of new LED street lighting and advise when lighting will be rolled out to **(details supplied)** Can you please advise what the cost involved is and the timeline re: delivery of new LED lighting for **(details supplied)**.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

DCC is in the final stages of the evaluation of tenders for the Lighting Upgrade Project. Subject to satisfactory completion of the evaluation process it is anticipated that the rollout of the LED street lighting will commence in quarter 3 2022. The project has an approved budget of €55 million and the timeline for delivery is approximately 5 years. When contracts are entered into with the successful tenderer programmes will be finalised.

**Q.101 COUNCILLOR JANET HORNER**

To ask the Chief Executive for an update on the plans for Queen Street cycle lane, the timeline and the estimated costs for delivery?

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Queen Street is part of the scheme entitled Grangegorman to Thomas Street Cycle Scheme. Queen Street is part of the northern section of this cycle route scheme, which coincides with the Bus Connects proposals for this location, discussions on the best way forward to deliver an aligned project are currently being advanced with the NTA.

**Q.102 COUNCILLOR JANET HORNER**

To ask the Chief Executive what is the Council policy regarding calculating embodied energy in the carbon impact of demolition, renovation and construction projects?

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

It is noted that, while there is no statutory or departmental requirement to calculate embodied energy in the carbon impact of housing projects it is a factor that is considered by the City Council when analysing options and while ensuring compliance with the requirements of the Public Spending Code on how best to achieve our social housing objectives. In general the analysis is undertaken following the guidance provide by the Irish Green Building Council. To this end a number of pilot projects have been undertaken, such as renovations at Ballybough House, which was a pilot to test the feasibility of bringing living conditions in flat blocks such as Ballybough House, which is a Herbert Simms building, up to all the standards of new build while respecting the historic fabric and at a cost lower than new build.

In relation to private development within the City requiring the demolition or repurposing of existing building the Draft City Development Plan contains the following:

***15.7.1 Re-use of Existing Buildings.***

*'Where development proposal comprises of existing buildings on the site, applicants are encouraged to reuse and repurpose the buildings for integration within the scheme, where possible in accordance with Policy CA5, CA6 and CA7. Where demolition is*

*proposed, the applicant must submit a demolition justification report to set out the rationale for the demolition having regard to the 'embodied carbon' of existing structures as well as the additional use of resources and energy arising from new construction relative to the reuse of existing structures.*

*Existing building materials should be incorporated and utilised in the new design proposals where feasible and a clear strategy for the reuse and disposal of the materials should be included where demolition is proposed.'*

With the associated Policies:

**CA5 Retrofitting and Reuse of Existing Buildings.**

*To promote and support the retrofitting and reuse of existing buildings rather than their demolition and reconstruction where possible.*

**CA6 Energy Efficiency in Existing Buildings.**

*To support high levels of energy conservation, energy efficiency and the use of renewable energy sources in existing buildings, including retro-fitting of appropriate energy efficiency measures in the existing building stock, and to actively retrofit Dublin Council housing stock to a B2 Building Energy Rating (BER) in line with the Government's Housing for All Plan retrofit targets for 2030.*

**CA7 Climate Mitigation Actions in the Built Environment.**

*To promote low carbon development in the city which will seek to reduce carbon dioxide emissions and which will meet the highest feasible environmental standards during construction and occupation. New development should generally demonstrate/provide for:*

- a. building layout and design which maximises daylight, natural ventilation, active transport and public transport use;*
- b. sustainable building/services/site design to maximise energy efficiency;*
- c. sensitive energy efficiency improvements to existing buildings;*
- d. energy efficiency, energy conservation, and the increased use of renewable energy in existing and new developments;*
- e. on-site renewable energy infrastructure and renewable energy;*
- f. minimising the generation of site and construction waste and maximising reuse or recycling;*
- g. the use of construction materials that have low to zero embodied energy and CO<sub>2</sub> emissions; and connection to (existing and planned) decentralised energy networks including the Dublin District Heating System where feasible.*

**Q.103 COUNCILLOR JANET HORNER**

To ask the Chief Executive to engage with Eir to remove all derelict phone boxes as a matter of urgency across the DCC area? They are adding to street clutter and dereliction. In the Dublin Central area, DCC has already confirmed that the sites are not suitable for EV charging but Eir has still failed to remove them.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

EIR are in the process of removing thirty redundant payphones in the Dublin City Council administrative area. They are currently waiting for ESB Networks to disconnect power to the units prior to removal. A further seventeen payphones will remain in place as these units have potential to be converted to EV charging units.

**Q.104 COUNCILLOR JANET HORNER**

To ask the Chief Executive for a report on 2021-2022 on the number of HGVs found violating city permits? And the penalties that have been applied to them.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The HGV permit checker app is the primary source of information re HGV permit violations.

The app was launched in July 2019. There has been 3,383 downloads to date.

Between the 15<sup>th</sup> July 2019 and 19<sup>th</sup> January 2022 the number of verified infringements of HGVs without 5 + axle permits detected using the app was 1,013.

DCC staff work closely with the Gardai in sharing infringement information on a monthly basis. DCC staff regularly make contact with hauliers who do not have the required permits.

An Garda Síochána are the enforcing body of the HGV management strategy and should be contacted directly re penalties applied.

Please note the following 5+ axle HGV movements associated with the opening of the Dublin Tunnel and the introduction of the HGV Management Strategy:

<u>Location</u>	<u>Pre tunnel opening</u>	<u>After HGV ban introduced</u>	<u>% reduction</u>
North and South Quays	1,600	180	89%
Swords Rd	1,277	60	95%
Strand Rd	514	81	84%

**Q.105 COUNCILLOR TERENCE FLANAGAN**

To ask the Chief Executive as to what measures he is taking to request funding from central government to deal with the deficit in the roads budget in Dublin City Council's area & to deal with the potholes in some of our main roads in the city.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

€5.78 Million from the Local Property Tax is allocated to Road Maintenance Services for the purpose of delivering its Annual Works Programme. This funding is supplemented by Dublin City Council's internal revenue and capital budgets and this year Road Maintenance Services has a total budget of €12.1 Million for the delivery of its 'Annual Works Programme'.

Preliminary discussions have commenced with the Department of Transport in respect of securing additional funding and it is planned that further discussions will be held with the Department of Transport and the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage.

**Q.106 COUNCILLOR TERENCE FLANAGAN**

To ask the Chief Executive to have the gullies steam cleaned/pressure washed in the following estate (**details supplied**). Is it possible to be added to the weekly update issued if one is?

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Members of the Gully Cleaning Crew cleaned 29 of the 29 gullies hereon 28/02/2022.

**Q.107 COUNCILLOR TERENCE FLANAGAN**

To ask the Chief Executive for an update re: public consultation on the new Dublin City Development Plan.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

There have been two public consultations in relation to the preparation of the new draft Development Plan so far; the first from 15<sup>th</sup> December 2020 to 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2021, and the second from 25<sup>th</sup> November 2021 to 14<sup>th</sup> February, 2022. The Draft Plan and relevant documentation was available to view in the Civic Offices, Wood Quay by appointment. Copies were also made available in area offices and all public libraries during the consultation period. In addition, all documentation was available to view online on the dedicated Development Plan website.

Due to Covid – 19 restrictions, a number of alternative and innovative public consultation options were also made available to inform the public of the new Draft Plan. Below is a summary of the initiatives employed during the public consultation process:

**1) Dedicated Development Plan Website**

A dedicated Development Plan website was set up for the development plan review process – [www.dublincitydevelopmentplan.ie](http://www.dublincitydevelopmentplan.ie) The website is continuously updated so that members of the public have access to the most current information.

**2) Submissions Portal**

A submissions portal accessed through the dedicated website was created so that members of the public could make their submissions online. All submissions received through the portal received an acknowledgement of receipt. However, recognising that not all are familiar with technology, submissions were also accepted by post.

All written submissions (including attachments) are available, in full, online through the dedicated website or can be viewed by appointment in the Civic Offices, Wood Quay.

**3) Social Media Campaign and Development Plan Video**

This involved a series of targeted 'press releases' via social media (using Instagram, Twitter & Facebook). An engaging subtitled video was also prepared inviting the public to make a submission on the draft plan, and this was circulated through all DCC social media channels.

**4) Public Information Sessions**

A series of public information sessions were held throughout the consultation process including:

18<sup>th</sup> January: 10am - 1pm

26<sup>th</sup> January: 2pm – 5pm

3<sup>rd</sup> of February: 5pm – 8pm

During these times, members of the public could make an appointment with a member of the development plan team to answer any questions or queries in relation to the draft plan.

Throughout the development plan review process members of the public have been able to contact the development plan team with their queries through the dedicated phone number and email address.

### **5) Bus Stop/Big Belly Bins Advertisements**

DCC made use of a wide number of bus shelters big belly bins, and large poster advertising stands to encourage the public to have their say during both consultation periods. Big belly bins in City Council parks were also utilised. The locations for the eye catching posters were chosen for their high profile location, geographic spread and frequency of use.

### **6) Targeted Distribution and Communication with Organisations and Networks**

Information regarding the draft plan was sent to a number of individual residents' associations, community groups, business interests and other stakeholder organisations. In addition, a series of presentations regarding the draft plan were delivered to the SPC committees.

### **7) Comhairle na Oig**

Members of Dublin City Comhairle na nÓg participated in a workshop over zoom with members of the development plan team where they brought forward their views on the type of city they want Dublin to be. A member of the development plan team attended a Comhairle na nÓg meeting over zoom to update members on the Draft Plan and to encourage the young people to make submissions.

### **8) Digital Bulletin and Staff Awareness**

Information regarding the development plan was issued in the City Council's Digital Bulletin which is issued to all staff of the organisation, including those who have retired.

### **9) Media Engagement**

In November 2021, to launch the draft plan consultation, a photocall was organised with Dublin's Lord Mayor Alison Gilliland. The accompanying press release centred on the messaging that the draft plan was on display and how to make a submission. City Planning Officer at Dublin City Council and Deputy City Planner at Dublin City Council were the spokespeople for the campaign. A social media content plan was also developed to coincide with the launch date of November 25th. The press release and photographs were issued to all national, Dublin regional and digital news outlets.

### **10) Accessibility**

To improve the accessibility of the documentation, a summarised, NALA (National Adult Literacy Agency) approved plain English executive summary of the plan was published on the web site and made available to the public. All documentation is designed to be accessible.

### **11) Irish Language**

Volume 1 of the draft plan documentation was published in the Irish language and made available to the public online and as part of the public display at public libraries and area offices.

In conclusion it is noteworthy that the number of submissions at both public consultation stages is up 100% approximately compared to the previous Development Plan, (e.g. 3,500 submissions approximately have been received on the Draft Plan).

### **Q.108 COUNCILLOR TERENCE FLANAGAN**

To ask the Chief Executive to have small trees planted on the following road (**details supplied**) that will be similar to neighbouring roads. This request was asked previously and was to happen but still nothing. Can I get an update please?

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Parks, Biodiversity and Landscape Services has no plans to carry out works at this location. The narrow footpaths located along **(details supplied)** do not provide enough space for the successful planting of trees. Alterations to the public road design are a matter for the Environment and Transport Department.

**Q.109 COUNCILLOR DEIRDRE HENEY**

To ask the Chief Executive in relation to **(details supplied)**, if he can provide a new front door and a replacement lock on the back door to this City Council Dwelling.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Housing Maintenance has inspected the front and back doors at the address provided. The hall door is considered to be in a very good condition and working order and therefore does not need to be replaced. In relation to a replacement lock for the back door/door handle, this is not necessary as there are no outside handles on any of the dwellings at this location for security reasons.

**Q.110 COUNCILLOR DEIRDRE HENEY**

To ask the Chief Executive in relation to very large tree at **(details supplied)**, if he can arrange to inspect same with a view to pruning as local residents fear the tree is in danger of collapsing.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The tree at **(details supplied)** will be examined and any works deemed necessary will be carried out.

**Q.111 COUNCILLOR DEIRDRE HENEY**

To ask the Chief Executive in relation to dwellings at **(details supplied)**, if he can arrange to have railings in front of same painted and front of houses painted as no painting has been done at this location in over 20 years and local residents feel the area deserves attention.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Housing Maintenance will arrange for the railings and front of houses to be painted on **(details supplied)**. These works will be carried out during the summer and sooner if possible.

**Q.112 COUNCILLOR DEIRDRE HENEY**

To ask the Chief Executive in relation refusal of a disabled persons extension application (bathroom extension) from a person at **(details supplied)**, if he please earnestly reconsider this refusal as my constituent is finding it extremely difficult to cope living in the house without the proper facilities; the tenant who requires the extension has undergone brain surgery for epilepsy, following which he had to have a brain tumour removed, resulting in his experiencing problems with balance (causing falls in the shower) and chronic pain; he has also had five blood clots in his leg and undergoing ongoing medical treatment for same; this man and his wife are under severe strain and need help.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Housing Maintenance received the application for an extension at the address provided and based on the medical information supplied, this application was not approved. However, if the tenant(s) wish to submit further or updated medical information to support their case, we would be happy to review again in light of this.



**Q.113 COUNCILLOR JAMES GEOGHEGAN**

To ask the Chief Executive following the passage of Motion 5 on the 14th February 2022 in the South East Area Committee, and the report provided therein, if he could set out what actions, if any, have been taken by the Parking Policy and Enforcement Section and Traffic Department in their support of this initiative; if he could set out what actions will be taken and what the next steps are in terms of liaising with the group 'Neurodiversity Sandymount' in respect of this initiative.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Under the Road Traffic Act 1992 there are no such measures currently under legal regulations to operate and enforce such a sensory disability parking space on the public road.

The only such parking space similar to this on the public road is the blue badge disability parking space which can be enforced under law. To use these spaces, you must have a [disabled persons parking card](#) (valid parking permit). You can park in a designated on-street parking bay free of charge for an unlimited time, unless otherwise stated.

The issue with just marking spaces on the public road in the proposed manner is that there is no legislative basis to do so and there is no mechanism that we can then use to enforce this space, in effect the space would be free for anyone to park in for as long as they like, which would run contrary to the current parking policy. The Waterford City Council's sensory disability space is used in a City Council car park which can have different rules and regulation to allow such a sensory parking spaces compared to the public road.

The Transport Advisory Group will aid and support this type of initiative when there is a legislative change to allow this to be legally enforced.

**Q.114 COUNCILLOR JAMES GEOGHEGAN**

To ask the Chief Executive further to question 21 to the South East Area Manager on the 11th of October 2021 whether a consultant for Phase 2 of Sandymount Flood Alleviation Scheme has been procured, the name of that consultant and when it is expected the consultant shall report back on the options as presented on the 'Sandymount Coastal Flood Defence Scheme'; if he could also detail what month it is expected that construction of the Sandymount Promenade Flood Defences shall commence.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Draft Contract documents for Phase 2 of the Sandymount Scheme are being sent to major internal stakeholders and procurement for comment. We hope to have a consultant appointed from our framework in Q2 2022. We hope to make up this lost time further down the programme.

Due to increases in design wave heights in Sandymount further wave overtopping modelling had to be carried for the Promenade flood barrier. After many iterations a workable solution has emerged. This has to be approved by the OPW then the availability of their direct labour has to be assessed. Construction is now programmed to commence in June 2022 at the earliest with a 12 month construction period.

**Q.115 COUNCILLOR JAMES GEOGHEGAN**

To ask the Chief Executive if he could set out his views in respect of the submission made by the office of the planning regulator to the Draft Development Plan and what

changes he believes are required to be made as a consequence of what is contained in that report and what the next steps are if those changes are not made.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The Planning Department is currently assessing the 3000 plus submissions which were made on the draft City Development Plan, including the submission from the OPR, which has evaluated and assessed the draft plan under Section 31 of the Planning Act 2000 (as amended). The OPR submission sets out 7 recommendations and 3 observations including No 5, in relation to BTR policy in the draft plan.

A full report on the submission of the OPR (together with issues raised in all other submissions) will be circulated to Councillors by 29th April for consideration at the July Special Council meeting.

Under Section 12 of the 2000 Planning Act, where the Planning authority decides not to comply with the OPRs requirements made on the draft Plan, it shall inform the OPR in writing within 5 working days, with stated reasons. Under Section 30 of the Planning Act, the Minister may direct a Planning Authority to take such specified measures as are required to make the Plan consistent with National and regional Policy together with any Ministerial Guidelines.

**Q.116 COUNCILLOR JAMES GEOGHEGAN**

To ask the Chief Executive further to question 26 on the 7th of February 2022 if he could reply to the specific question that was not answered in relation to the suggested names that were submitted for the Tea Rooms in Palmerston Park by tenderers further to the decision made, communicated to councillors on the 11th of November 2021, for a culturally appropriate name to be asked for in the tender and for the operator to be given additional marks for a tearoom name that links to the historical nature of the park.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The tender for the future operation of the tearooms and public toilets has not been advertised. When it is advertised the quality criteria will include consideration of the naming of the tearooms.