

DUBLIN CITY COUNCIL
SOUTH CENTRAL AREA COMMITTEE
16TH March 2022

Q1 Councillor Tina MacVeigh

To ask the Traffic Section to conduct an inspection of the traffic flow at the blind bend on the junction of Military Road. Kilmainham Lane and Irwin Close. Residents there report a lot of speeding traffic coming into this bend with a view to determining whether there is anything that can be done to calm the traffic?

Reply

The Traffic Advisory Group Area Engineer carried out a speed survey on Irwin Street on Thursday 09/12/2021. The results of the speed survey came back with an 85th percentile reading of 29.4Km/hr in a 30Km/hr speed zone and a combined average speed of 22.9Km/hr.

With this information it would not be recommended to have any traffic calming measures installed at present but the area will continue to be monitored closely.

Contact: Niall O'Neill, South Central Area Engineer.

Email: niall.oneill@dublincity.ie

Q2 Councillor Tina MacVeigh

To ask the Director of Services for an update on the development of our site at the corner of Dolphins Barn Street and SCR.

Reply

An expression of interest was circulated to AHB's requesting proposals for this site. Following an assessment on these proposals the Iveagh Trust was selected as the preferred housing provider to move to Feasibility and Review phase. This is a process whereby the Iveagh Trust and DCC will agree the detailed brief and qualitative standards for the accommodation to be built and the brief and standards for the operation of the facility when complete. This process is the opportunity for both parties to confirm the feasibility of the project.

The Feasibility Study and Review shall be managed by the Iveagh Trust. The time lines for this stage in the development are as follows:

Feasibility and Review stage; 3 months, Jan 2022 to March 2022 –

Following this stage the Iveagh Trust will present an initial design proposal to DCC, should the Iveagh Trust and DCC agree to proceed the following programme will commence.

Detailed design and pre planning stage will commence; 2 mths May to July

Planning Application preparation, submission and decision - 2 mths Aug to Oct

Tender and Assessments, Funding Approvals, Procurement; 5 mths Oct to Mar 2023

Commence construction – April 2023 18 month construction programme

All of the above dates are approximations and are dependent on Planning Permissions granted Departmental funding approvals etc. Throughout this process we are maintaining frequent contact with the Iveagh Trust to ensure a high quality design, service and community engagement plan is developed.

*Contact: Michelle Robinson, Senior Executive Officer,
Housing & Community Services*

Email: michelle.robinson@dublincity.ie

Q3 Councillor Tina MacVeigh

To ask the Director of Services what is the position of (details supplied) on our housing transfer list.

Reply

The above applicant is on the priority HAP Band of the Transfer List (as a HAP tenant in receipt of Homeless HAP since 06/12/2017) with an original application date of 26/06/2014. The applicant holds the following positions on the list:

Area	Bedsizes	Position
Area L	1	64
Area N	1	71

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 advised to monitor the Choice Based Letting page of the DCC website to ensure that he is aware of any 1 bed CBL vacancies in Area L or Area N that might interest him.

The applicant has held his current H/HAP tenancy for more than 4 years, he may wish to contact the Homeless HAP section to seek permission to move to an alternative HAP tenancy and to discuss that process with the H/HAP team.

Contact: Cathal Daly, Allocations Officer, Housing Allocations & Transfers
Email: cathal.daly@dublincity.ie

Q4 Councillor Darragh Moriarty

To ask the Director of Services to outline DCC plans to promote and make more spaces available for community gardens and allotment spaces in the SWIC. Can the Director of Services provide a list, at this time, of spaces where further allotment opportunities will be made available in the coming years in light of huge waiting lists in the area?

Reply

The following is a list of existing allotment sites in the South West Inner City:

Grattan Crescent, Inchicore (53 plots)
Braithwaite Street, Dublin 8 (21)
St. Thomas Abbey, South Earl Street, Dublin 8 (17)
Reuben Street/back of the Pipes, Dublin 8 (10)

There is a high interest in allotments from residents in this area and it is an objective of the Area Office to increase the number of allotments should a suitable additional site be identified. Whilst there are no sites available at present we will continue to monitor the position.

If the Councillor is aware of any sites that he considers fitting for permanent or temporary allotments we will investigate the suitability of such a site.

Contact: *Brian Lyons, Senior Staff Officer, South Central Area*
Email: brian.lyons@dublincity.ie

Q5 Councillor Darragh Moriarty

To ask the Director of Services to outline how much in derelict site levies has been collected from the owners of 355 South Circular Road (Rialto Cinema). Do DCC have any knowledge of the owner's plans for this site?

Reply

Derelict Sites Levy:

The site was entered on the Derelict Sites Register in 2021 and accordingly the derelict sites levy of 7% of market value is applicable from 1st January, 2022. The levy demand for 2022 has not been discharged yet. The market value in this case is €3.5m and the levy is €245,000. Outstanding levies attract interest at the rate of 1.25% per month. Outstanding levies including interest automatically become a charge on the land and will remain a charge on the land until all outstanding levies have been paid.

Development Proposals:

Planning App. SHD0013/19 was granted by An Bord Pleanála on 15th November, 2019. The permission expiry date is 28th December, 2024.

The proposed development will consist of the construction of a mixed-use building (with a total area of c.11,266 sq m) ranging in height from three to seven storeys over basement comprising a student accommodation scheme of 317 no. student beds arranged in 313 no. bedrooms (276 no. 1-bed bedrooms, 4 no. 2-bed bedrooms and 33 no. studios); and ancillary café with an outdoor garden area. The development includes: 4 no. open courtyards (3 no. at ground floor level and 1 no. at first floor level); TV lounge; gym; cinema; communal areas; circulation areas; reception; library; and a meeting/event room.

Contact: *Nial Dully, Administrative Officer*
Email: nial.dully@dublincity.ie

Q6 Councillor Michael Pidgeon

To ask the Director of Services for an update on the road surface along the South Circular Road from Dolphin's Barn to Rialto, which is in extreme disrepair following Irish Water works.

Reply

Please be advised that Irish Water is in the process of carrying out essential water main improvement works on South Circular Road, please see following link which provides details: <https://www.water.ie/news/irish-water-progressing-w-13/>

Once Irish Water has completed the improvement works, they will then arrange to resurface the road at this location. It is currently anticipated that these resurfacing works will commence in mid-April. Road Maintenance Services will then inspect these works to ensure they comply with the relevant standards.

Contact: Finan Dooley, Executive Engineer, Roads Maintenance Services.
Email: finan.dooley@dublincity.ie

Q7 Councillor Máire Devine

To ask the Director of Services for an update on the future of St Teresa's Regeneration Board and its potential involvement in the wider significant developments proposed/planned for this area of Dublin 8?

Reply

The St Teresa's Gardens Regeneration Board was established in partnership with Dublin City Council to advance the initial regeneration plans of the former St Teresa's Gardens estate.

Phase 1 of the redevelopment of St Teresa's Gardens has now been completed with 56 new homes at Margaret Kennedy Road and Margaret Kennedy Court.

The next phase of the redevelopment involves the delivery of over 500 homes in a collaboration between Dublin City Council and the Land Development Agency.

Presently, the existence of the regeneration board is under review. A new structure facilitating wider community participation and the involvement of other stakeholders is under consideration.

Contact: Martin Donlon, Housing & Community Services;
Email: martin.donlon@dublincity.ie

Q8 Councillor Máire Devine

To ask the Director of Services that the ground floor space at the Bonham St. development be assigned as a much needed local community space that will progress community development and cohesion?

Reply

Decisions around the allocation of space in the new Bonham Street social housing scheme will be made by the Housing and Community Services Department. These decisions will be made closer to the time of building completion which will be in the second half of 2022.

Contact: Bruce Phillips, Senior Executive Officer, South Central Area.
Email: bruce.phillips@dublincity.ie

Q9 Councillor Máire Devine

To ask the Director of Services that the windows at (details supplied) be replaced, prioritising those with medical priority.

Reply

Housing Maintenance has inspected the PVC windows here and repairs were carried out by a contractor. The windows were deemed to be repairable and not in need of replacement.

Contact: Clive Ahern, Senior Executive Officer, Housing Maintenance.
Email: clive.ahern@dublincity.ie

Q10 Councillor Máire Devine

To ask the Director of Services for an update on the urgent need for a “meantime” community space in lieu of the destroyed Donore Centre which will not be available for at least 18 months?

Reply

C.R.E.S. will co-ordinate an inter-departmental approach to examine options to identify facilities and or space that may be available or made available to provide “meantime” community space. Updates will be issued where and when progress is made.

Contact: Trevor Higgins
Email: trevor.higgins@dublincity.ie

Q11 Councillor Máire Devine

To ask the Director of Services when is the agreed meeting date between various stakeholders at the Rialto/Suir Bridge end of the Linear Park?

Reply

A meeting will be arranged in a number of weeks time on site when all stakeholders are available.

Contact: Les Moore, City Parks Superintendant
Email: leslie.moore@dublincity.ie

Q12 Councillor Máire Devine

To ask the Director of Services to extend a request to Kilmainham Inchicore Network for a presentation to this committee on their research findings for childcare provision in the Dublin 8 area?

Future Needs of Childcare in Inchicore, 2022, is a report carried out by Dublin South City Partnership (Asia Rutsowka and Claire Gleeson) on behalf of the Childcare subcommittee of the Inchicore Regeneration Consultative Forum. DSCP have agreed to present their findings at the DCC SCA Committee when invited.

Contact: Aoife Hannan
Email: aoife.hannan@dublincity.ie

Q13 Councillor Máire Devine

To ask the Director of Services that the street cleaning of Reuben Street, Dublin 8 be prepared for in advance of its scheduled slot. The densely parked cars on this narrow street allow for a superficial sweep only. Can residents be informed so they can co-ordinate and plan for cars to vacate areas in stages to allow a deeper and more frequent clean?

Reply

The Public Domain Team would be happy to make contact with any community group seeking additional resources for a planned deep clean with the assistance of the group members to inform local residents and seek their co-operation to move

vehicles where necessary. This service is provided by Waste Management Public Domain Crews and is outside of the Area Based Cleaning Schedule. Could the Councillor provide a contact for the Reuben Street Area?

Contact: Anna McDermott, Public Domain Officer, South Central Area Office
Email: anna.mcdermott@dublincity.ie

Q14 Councillor Máire Devine

To ask the Director of Services to liaise with the various Utility companies so that the unsightly and excessive overhanging wires that clutter the streetscapes of Church Ave, Reuben Street etc. are safely repositioned away from eye view.

Reply

In response to this question, Road Maintenance Services have liaised with the utility asset owners of the overhead cables. The utility response is as follows:

Rueben Street has 2 utilities providing service overhead, namely ESB & open eir. This type of distribution network is commonplace in most urban centres throughout Ireland and abroad.

In Rueben street open eir have an underground network deployment and are using small size overhead drops merely to service the homes and businesses connected with telecommunications services.

In the case of electricity, the Distribution network / street lighting is predominantly overhead. Both utilities would face significant challenges in placing such deployments underground, namely the high cost of undergrounding and the availability of space underground where Gas, Water and Drainage networks already occupy much of the space. The streetscape in Church Avenue South is broadly similar to Rueben Street with similar challenges.

Contact: Deri Flood, Senior Executive Engineer, Road Maintenance Services
Email: deri.flood@dublincity.ie

Q15 Councillor Máire Devine

To ask the Director of Services to consider establishing a Community Development Project to serve the Donore area- given that the plans for housing construction will see a significant population increase?

Reply

The community development needs for the Donore Avenue area will be reviewed in light of the expected expansion in the number of residential units and associated population growth in the area. It is however likely to be a number of years before these changes materialise.

Contact: Bruce Phillips, Senior Executive Officer, SWIC
Email: bruce.phillips@dublincity.ie

Q16 Councillor Vincent Jackson

To ask the Director of Services that the housing application of the following (details supplied) be looked into.

Reply

The above applicant is on Band 2 of the Housing List with a registration date of 11/10/2021. The reference number is (details supplied) and the applicant's positions are listed as follows:

Area	Bedsizes	Position
Area J	2	366

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 has engaged with the Family Support Team and was recently approved for Homeless HAP. On the 22/02/2022 a HAP HNA was issued to the applicant, along with a Homeless HAP pack.

The applicant is advised to continue to engage with the Family Support Team and encouraged to access the supports available to help her in her search for a suitable Homeless HAP tenancy / landlord.

Contact: Cathal Daly, Allocations Officer, Housing Allocations & Transfers

Email: cathal.daly@dublincity.ie

Q17 Councillor Vincent Jackson

To ask the Director of Services that the following be looked into (details supplied)

Reply

Dublin City Council's Housing Aid for Older People Grant Scheme is designed to meet the needs of private homeowners where the applicant in the household is over 66 years of age living in extremely poor conditions. In some hardship cases a Grant can be made to a person under 66. The types of work grant aided under the Scheme include re-wiring, roof repairs, the provision of central heating (where none exists) and the replacement of a boiler when broken beyond repair.

The Scheme allows for the replacement of original windows and doors or single glazed windows where they are in poor condition and broken beyond repair. However, the Scheme is not applicable to houses where the owner wishes to upgrade double glazed windows.

(Details supplied) can contact the Home Grants Office on Ph: 222 2195 to enquire about a proposed grant application and all relevant information regarding the Grants Scheme can be discussed in detail. On receipt of an application it will be processed as normal, subject to all usual grant assessment criteria.

Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland (SEAI) provide grants for various types of insulation including external insulation. SEAI can be contacted on 01 8082004 or by email at info@seai.ie.

Contact: Deirdre Cahill, A/Administrative Officer, Loans Sales & Grants

Email: deirdre.cahill@dublincity.ie

Q18 Councillor Vincent Jackson

To ask the Director of Services to please ensure that the following repairs are carried out (details supplied)

Reply

Housing Maintenance has arranged for an inspection of the heating system at (details supplied) for the week 7th to 11th March 2022. All necessary works will be carried out at the address provided.

Contact: Clive Ahern, Senior Executive Officer, Housing Maintenance.

Email: clive.ahern@dublincity.ie

Q19 Councillor Vincent Jackson

To ask the Director of Services to please look at the serious accident risk problem of Parking of large box Vans, Trucks at the junction of Gurteen Road / Drumfinn Road and Drumfinn Avenue / Drumfinn Road Ballyfermot Dublin 10.

When exiting Gurteen Road or Drumfinn Ave onto Drumfinn Road it's impossible to see traffic coming due to large parked vehicles. These Junctions need double yellow lines. I have witnessed many near misses at these busy junctions the area has 4 large schools, Garda station, Partnership Office, Shops, Social Protection office etc.

Reply

The Area Engineer will inspect and do site visits of the junctions of Gurteen Road / Drumfinn Road and Drumfinn Avenue / Drumfinn Road. A report will be sent to the councillor.

With regard to large vehicles blocking the junction then it must be noted that Under The Road Traffic (Traffic & Parking) Regulations, Section 36 paragraph(2) (g) A vehicle shall not be parked—in any place, position or manner that will result in the vehicle obstructing an entrance or an exit for vehicles to or from a premises, save with the consent of the occupier of such premises; Residents should report illegal parking to Dublin Street Parking Services tel no. 6022500 or An Garda Síochána.

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

Contact: Niall O'Neill, South Central Area Engineer.

Email: niall.oneill@dublincity.ie

Contact: Dermot Stevenson, Parking Enforcement Officer.

Email: dermot.stevenson@dublincity.ie

Q20 Councillor Vincent Jackson

To ask the Director of Services to please look at installing some sensory equipment into the new playground at Le Fanu Road Park, Ballyfermot, Dublin 10. Some residents who have children with special learning needs have asked that we include some items at this location.

Reply

When the playground in Le Fanu was being designed, selection of suitable sensory equipment was a consideration. This was followed through with the inclusion of a number of musical elements, different types of surfacing e.g sand, woodchip, wetpour and wheelchair accessible units. If there is a specific request or addition that residents have then Parks are happy to assess their suitability if space allows.

Contact: *Brid Brosnan, Executive Parks Superintendent*
Email: parks@dublincity.ie

Q21 Councillor Vincent Jackson

To ask the Director of Services to look at installing a small railing approx. 10 feet from the new pavilion to be used by Ballyfermot Youth Service within the courtyard at the project premises location Skateboard Park Le Fanu Road, Ballyfermot, Dublin 10. The surface is very soft like cardboard however as kids often do kick about in the courtyard if not protected it with damage the new exterior surface with railing protection.

Reply

The render on the external insulation is specified to be of extra strength to address anticipated football activity in the courtyard. Nevertheless the design team will consider additional measures to address this issue.

Contact: *Brid Brosnan, Executive Parks Superintendent*
Email: parks@dublincity.ie

Q22 Councillor Vincent Jackson

To ask the Director of Services to please look at (details supplied)

Reply

Dublin City Council Traffic Department are only permitted to install road markings that are listed in the Traffic Signs Manual.

A disabled access road marking could not be recommended in this instance as the criteria for disabled parking space is not met as the house in question has off street parking.

However, the Traffic Advisory Group Area Engineer will look into the possibility of extending the existing Double Yellow Lines.

It must be noted that Under The Road Traffic (Traffic & Parking) Regulations, Section 36 paragraph (2) (g) A vehicle shall not be parked—in any place, position or manner that will result in the vehicle obstructing an entrance or an exit for vehicles to or from a premises, save with the consent of the occupier of such premises; Residents should report illegal parking to Dublin Street Parking Services tel no. 6022500 or An Garda Síochána.

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

Contact: *Niall O'Neill, South Central Area Engineer.*
Email: niall.oneill@dublincity.ie

Contact: *Dermot Stevenson, Parking Enforcement Officer.*
Email: dermot.stevenson@dublincity.ie

Q23 Councillor Vincent Jackson

To ask the Director of Services to please look at the following (details supplied)

Reply

The above applicants are on the priority HAP Band of the Transfer List (as HAP tenants in receipt of Homeless HAP since 25/07/2016) with an original application date of 02/03/2012. The applicants hold the following positions on the list:

Area	Bedsize	Position
Area H	3	32
Area M	3	21
Area P	3	17

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 applicants are advised to monitor the Choice Based Letting page of the DCC website to ensure that they are aware of any 3 bed CBL vacancies that are advertised for Area H, Area M, or Area P that might interest them.

The applicants have held their current H/HAP tenancy for more than five and a half years, they may wish to contact the Homeless HAP section to seek permission to move to an alternative HAP tenancy and to discuss that process with the H/HAP team.

If the applicants feel that their housing need should be prioritised based on the anti-social behaviour they regularly experience, I would advise them to contact the Social Work Section and discuss the case for priority under Exceptional Social Grounds,

Contact: Cathal Daly, Allocations Officer, Housing Allocations & Transfers

Email: cathal.daly@dublincity.ie

Q24 Councillor Vincent Jackson

To ask the Director of Services give me an update on the following housing application (details supplied)

Reply

The above applicant is on Band 2 of the Housing List with a registration date of 01/05/2015. The reference number is (details supplied) and the applicant's positions are listed as follows:

Area	Bedsize	Position
Area J	1	180
Area L	1	277

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.

As the applicant is on the Housing List he is eligible to apply for HAP support. If he has a landlord willing to sign up to the scheme, he can apply through the Allocations Section to our HAP Section. The applicant is required to ensure that all household details such as address, income and household member are up to date before applying for the HAP Scheme.

Contact: Cathal Daly, Allocations Officer, Housing Allocations & Transfers
Email: cathal.daly@dublincity.ie

Q25 Councillor Daithí Doolan

To ask the Director of Services for an update on progress made with plans to redevelop Labre Park?

Reply

The Redevelopment is currently at the pre-planning stage. It is expected that a Planning Application will be lodged by the end of March, subject to a successful CAS 2 application to the Department. This date can alter depending on feedback on consultation of the plans by internal DCC departments and/or the DHLGH.

Six families have been moved from Labre Park as part of the rehoming project. There are currently 16 families to be rehomed as part of the redevelopment.

A comprehensive programme of works has been put together that will address the issue with sanitation units including new safer connections to services. All sanitation units are to be refurbished or replaced with new units as appropriate. The implementation of the works programme began on Monday 7th February 2022 and should be completed within sixteen weeks.

Contact: Declan Ronan
Email: declan.ronan@dublincity.ie

Q26 Councillor Daithí Doolan

To ask the Director of Services for an update on repairs that were agreed for Lissadell Maisonettes.

Reply

A number of premises were visited recently and complaints/repairs were taken. Some of these have been completed and more will be completed shortly. The Area Housing Manager will follow up with the tenants in relation to this.

Contact: Pat Smith, Area Housing Manager, South Central Area
Email: pat.smith@dublincity.ie

Q27 Councillor Daithí Doolan

To ask the Director of Services to arrange for necessary repairs to be carried out at, (details supplied)

Reply

Housing Maintenance will arrange to have the exposed pipes and the dampness inspected and all necessary works will be carried out.

Contact: Clive Ahern, Senior Executive Officer, Housing Maintenance.

Email: clive.ahern@dublincity.ie

Q28 Councillor Daithí Doolan

To ask the Director of Services for an update and timeframe on (details supplied)

Reply

The Home Grants Section received an application from (details supplied) for a Housing Aid for Older People Grant on 8th February 2022. An initial inspection of the applicant's home will be carried out by a Building Inspector during the week beginning 7th March 2022. The applicant will then be notified as to whether the application was successful within two weeks of the initial inspection.

The applicant can contact the Home Grants office on Ph: 2222195 to enquire about the grant application and all relevant information regarding the grants scheme can be discussed with the applicant in detail.

Contact: Deirdre Cahill, A/Administrative Officer, Loans Sales & Grants

Email: Deirdre.cahill@dublincity.ie

Q29 Councillor Daithí Doolan

To ask the Director of Services to contact the owners of the former Black Horse pub on Tyreconnell Road asking that they properly maintain the building and environs while awaiting development?

Reply

The Public Domain Officer has contacted the owner with a view to meeting to discuss concerns around Graffiti and illegal dumping around this site.

Contact: Anna McDermott, Public Domain Officer, South Central Area Office

Email: anna.mcdermott@dublincity.ie

Q30 Councillor Vincent Jackson

To ask the Director of Services please give me an update on the long awaited re-development of Labre Park Ballyfermot and adjoining lands at Kylemore Road Ballyfermot Dublin 10. Residents feel they are forgotten about in relation to the long awaited re-development.

Reply

The Redevelopment is currently at the pre-planning stage. It is expected that a Planning Application will be lodged by the end of March, subject to a successful CAS

2 application to the Department. This date can alter depending on feedback on consultation of the plans by internal DCC departments and/or the DHLGH.

Six families have been moved from Labre Park as part of the rehoming project. There are currently 16 families to be rehomed as part of the redevelopment.

A comprehensive programme of works has been put together that will address the issue with sanitation units including new safer connections to services. All sanitation units are to be refurbished or replaced with new units as appropriate. The implementation of the works programme began on Monday 7th February 2022 and should be completed within sixteen weeks.

Contact: Declan Ronan

Email: declan.ronan@dublincity.ie

Q31 Councillor Daithí Doolan

To ask the Director of Services for a full update and progress report on the proposed housing development of the Sons of Divine Providence, Sarsfield Road and can DCC give an indication when the working group will reconvene?

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. A date will be set for The Sarsfield Working Group to reconvene once replies come from the Sons of Divine Providence and the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage.

Contact: Dave Dinnigan, Executive Manager, Housing & Community Services

Email: dave.dinnigan@dublincity.ie

Q32 Councillor Darragh Moriarty

To ask the Director of Services to outline DCC's plans for the former school building on School Street, Dublin 8. This building has sat idle for years while local youth services and community projects in the area struggle for space for the many vital services they provide. What are DCC's plans for this building and can it be repurposed and for community need?

Reply

The building in School Street was occupied until 2019 by an Arts Project. The continued occupation of the building was not possible due to the lack of a Fire Safety

Certificate and significant concerns regarding its overall condition identified in a survey carried out by City Architects Division.

The building is now considered to be unfit for purpose. It will not be refurbished as together with the car park to the rear it will form part of a development site which the Land Development Agency is currently evaluating with view to producing a development proposal.

Contact: Oliver Hickey, Administrative Officer
Email: oliver.hickey@dublincity.ie

Q33 Councillor Tina MacVeigh

To ask the Director of Services why the hours available for the teen gym at St. Catherine's sports centre in marrowbone lane have been reduced and whether he would consider reversing this decision?

Reply

The centre as you know has always opened its doors to all citizens in our community. As society opens up we have had a number of challenges to face to keep all staff and customers safe in our reopening protocols. To this end the teen gym has reopened twice a week (Tuesdays and Wednesday 4 to 6pm) but under supervision from our gym qualification staff. We intended to open the teen gym on phased basis and monitor the impact on all users. Because we have had a number of staff out on Covid we have had to juggle staff around to keep the facility operational. We have had a number of teenagers who have mis-behaved and are using equipment without supervision. If we don't have gym qualified staff rostered on because of Annual Leave or Sick Leave we cannot operate a supervised teen gym. The health & safety of these teens is paramount when they enter the building. I will be discussing the teen gym expansion with all gym supervisors this week and it is planned to have a Saturday gym open to all teenagers as we progress through the rest of the year. I am hopeful that we can have a vibrant teen gym available for all young people of Dublin 8 and beyond as we open our society fully after a very difficult two years.

Contact: Aaron Callaghan
Email: aaron.callaghan@dublincity.ie

Q34 Councillor Sophie Nicoullaud

To ask the Director of Services if DCC has plans to introduce bottle refill stations in Parks or public domain. Fingal is doing it. It would be great to have them in areas with physical activity hubs: Brickfield, Bunting Park etc.

Reply

Parks are looking to trial a number of water stations to see how they perform. On the basis of that trial Parks will consider other parks in the context of 2023 parks improvements.

Contact: Brid Brosnan, Executive Parks Superintendent
Email: parks@dublincity.ie

Q35 Councillor Sophie Nicoullaud

To ask the Director of Services how has Parks & Biodiversity engaged with residents on Belgrove Park to tackle illegal green waste dumping. Residents want to increase biodiversity there but illegal dumping needs to be tackled first.

Reply

The dumping referred to above is being generated locally and should be disposed of via brown bins not on the open space. Parks would be in favour of commencing a biodiversity project at this location following resolution of the dumping issue as the councillor suggests.

Contact: Brid Brosnan, Executive Parks Superintendent

Email: parks@dublincity.ie