

QUESTIONS LODGED PURSUANT TO STANDING ORDER NO.18 FOR REPLY AT THE MONTHLY MEETING OF DUBLIN CITY COUNCIL TO BE HELD ON MONDAY, 3RD OCTOBER 2022

Q.1 COUNCILLOR ALISON GILLILAND

To ask the Chief Executive to outline the protocol followed for the assessment/inspection of completion to standards required of DCC works contracted to a private provider.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

In addition to the pre-works inspection, Road Maintenance Services will also complete a post-work inspection to ensure the completed works are of the required standard. Re- inspection may also be required in situations where snags have been issued.

Q.2 COUNCILLOR MICHEAL PIDGEON

To ask the Chief Executive to state whether the Local Authority has any legal interest in 3 Summer Street South off Marrowbone Lane in Dublin 8 (Lawlor's Corner) and can he examine the structures for potential inclusion on the list of Protected Structures, and can he report back on their age and heritage value?

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

3 Summer Street South is in private ownership. This property is not included in the List of Protected Structures.

The property is not on the City Council's Record of Protected Structures (RPS). The area has been surveyed by the National Inventory of Architectural Heritage (NIAH), as part of their ongoing survey of the architectural heritage of the city of Dublin. However, the NIAH have not recommended the buildings at 3 Summer Street south for proposed addition to the city's RPS.

There are a large number of nominations for proposed additions to the RPS submitted by Elected Members and the public awaiting assessment. The subject location will be added to that list.

Q.3 COUNCILLOR MICHEAL PIDGEON

To ask the Chief Executive outline any actions taken following the city's successful application to the EU Mission for 100 Climate-neutral Cities?

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Representatives from the City Council attended the kick-off meeting in Brussels on June 13, 2022. Since the kick-off meeting members of the climate action team have attended the webinars organised by the Mission – Net Zero Cities. The webinars provided an overview of the Climate City Contracts, including the climate action plan and investment plans that comprise the Climate City Contract, the series of webinars is ongoing and the team expect to commence the process of developing the Climate City Contract in the coming months.

The Climate Action Team is currently reviewing our existing Climate Action Plan to identify resource requirements and opportunities that may be realised through the Mission. Further, we are reviewing to insure alignment with National objectives set out in the National Climate Action Plan.

Q.4 COUNCILLOR MICHEAL PIDGEON

To ask the Chief Executive to report on any plans he has to update <http://www.dublincity247.ie/> to improve compatibility with modern web browsers, or to replace the portal with an improved version.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Citizen Hub is the new digital platform for citizens and is replacing <http://www.dublincity247.ie/>

Citizen Hub can be accessed through the Dublin City Council website or via <https://dublincity-self.achieveservice.com/> and is fully accessible on all devices and browsers.

Citizen Hub will be the platform through which citizens can make a service request, report an issue or make enquiries. There are currently 16 services available on Citizen Hub and all services on the current portal are being migrated over to the new platform. Once moved, the current portal will be decommissioned.

The next services to go live in Citizen Hub during September and October are: Report Graffiti; Community Clean-Up, Illegal Dumping, Abandoned Vehicles and Clean Your Street to be followed by other services including Private Rental Complaints, Air Pollution Complaints, Noise Pollution Complaints, Street Furniture Licence Applications and DFB Customer Feedback.

Q.5 COUNCILLOR MÁIRE DEVINE

To ask the Chief Executive if a planning application that seeks "amendments to previous planning permission" extend the life of the previous permission? i.e. if the amendment is granted does the clock reset and start again on time allowed for development or continue as per the original permission?

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

An application to amend a previous planning permission does not extend the life of the parent (original) permission beyond the original expiry date.

Q.6 COUNCILLOR DERMOT LACEY

To ask the Chief Executive if he can issue a report on the method of monitoring air quality in Dublin and specifically the Sandymount/Irishtown/Ringsend area and to further give details of the latest report on same.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Air quality monitoring is carried out at number of locations in the Dublin City Council functional area. The below link shows the locations and results.

<https://dublincityairandnoise.ie>

Some locations are multi pollutant sites (monitoring two or more pollutants at one location) specifically particulates, carbon monoxide, sulphur dioxide and nitrogen dioxide.

The majority of sites monitor particulate pollution only.

The monitoring (including the methodology) is done in accordance with the requirements of the Air Quality Standards Regulations 2011.

The EPA have a multi pollutant site in Ringsend where particulates, sulphur dioxide and nitrogen dioxide is monitored.

There is also a site in Sandymount where particulates is monitored.
The below links show the location and results.

<https://dublincityairandnoise.ie/monitor/DCC-AQ17>

<https://dublincityairandnoise.ie/monitor/TNO4323>

The air quality at both locations is good with no exceedances of the air quality standards.

Q.7 COUNCILLOR MÍCHEÁL MAC DONNCHA

To ask the Chief Executive if he will supply the inspection report on which the enforcement order halting unauthorised works on 10/11 Moore Street was issued on 30 August 2022.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

An inspection by the Area Planning Enforcement Officer on the 11th of July 2022 revealed that the works that were the subject of the complaint appeared to have ceased. There was no damage revealed to the party wall between number 10 and 11 Moore Street. The substantive works that had taken place were in the modern concrete structure to the rear of No 10. This does not form part of the Protected Structure. The works seemed to comprise of new lighting painting and the commencement of minor renovation works. Following discussions with the letting agent for the properties it was considered that the best and safest course of action was to issue an Enforcement Notice requiring the cessation of unauthorised works to the Protected Structure in order to ensure that no works were carried out to the Protected Structure that may require planning permission. Planning Enforcement reports are not public documents it should however be noted that the details of the enforcement officers findings have been provided in this reply. If the Councillor has further queries he should contact John Downey, A/Planning Enforcement Manager john.downey@dublincity.ie.

Q.8 COUNCILLOR MÍCHEÁL MAC DONNCHA

To ask the Chief Executive what additional efforts will be made to complete the taking in charge of the public areas in Clongriffin and Belmayne.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Gannon Homes applied in January 2022 to Planning and Development, Taking in Charge Section to have Clongriffin Main Street taken in charge. This is an ongoing process between Gannon Homes and the various DCC Service Departments who have snagged the area for any outstanding works which need to be carried out by Gannon Homes to bring Main Street up to a taking in charge standard.

The taking in charge of Clongriffin will be done on a sequential basis, once Main Street has been taken in charge (estimated by the end of 2022) Gannon Homes will then apply for Marsfield to be taken in charge followed by Bell Tree and Beau Park.

The North Central Area Office are co-ordinating efforts to regularise by taking in charge some of the main streets in Belmayne: Belmayne Main Street, Belmayne Avenue, Parkside Boulevard and two sections of Greenway.

The main landowner is Cairn Homes but as other landowners are also involved, it is proposed to progress this taking in charge process by declaring the roads to be public roads under Section 11 of the Roads Act 1993, which is a reserved function.

In order to establish the financial implications of the proposed declaration, the Area Office has been co-ordinating meetings with the various operational departments

impacted by this proposal. Once an estimate for upgrading the roads to an acceptable standard is complete, the proposal will be brought to the Area Committee for consideration.

Q.9 COUNCILLOR CHRISTY BURKE

To ask the Chief Executive that once and for all the ESB small site in the **(details supplied)** be cleaned and all rubbish removed as the site is eye sore and dangerous. DCC local area office have tried to get ESB to do same.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The Litter Prevention Officer has been in contact with ESB Networks to make arrangements to clean the site **(details provided)**.

The ESB have finally commenced clearance of this site. Images below.

Q.10 COUNCILLOR CHRISTY BURKE

To ask the Chief Executive when there will be extra staff posted to Parnell Street, Sean Mc Dermott Street and Cabra offices of DCC. The 3 offices are under pressure staff wise.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The Human Resources Department are currently working with the Area Offices to address the resourcing of staff. A number of recruitment competitions are underway and when completed additional staff will be available.

Q.11 COUNCILLOR CHRISTY BURKE

To ask the Chief Executive could he provide this Cllr. with details of funding that is paid out to services for key workers to assist homeless families in Dublin City area.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY

The DRHE is a shared service operation, operating under the aegis of Dublin City Council as the lead Statutory Authority in the Dublin Region, in respect of the co-ordination of responses to homelessness.

Theme 2 of the Homelessness Action Plan Framework for Dublin, 2022 – 2024 sets out the objectives of the DRHE to protect people experiencing homelessness through emergency accommodation provision and targeted supports. These supports are provided in NGO managed family services in the Dublin Region and are permanent staff attached to each service. It is not possible to give a breakdown of keyworker costs in each service but if the Councillor would like to look at each service in more detail, a meeting can be arranged with the undersigned

The costs listed are the full service costs, including facility costs.

Name of Facility	Service Provider	2022 Expenditure
High Park - Family Hub	Respond!	€984,702
Chuan Alainn, Tallaght - Family Hub	Respond!	€439,976
Greencastle Parade, Coolock - Family Hub	Salvation Army	€932,165
Clonard Road, Crumlin, Dublin 12 - Family Hub	Salvation Army	€957,328

Sarsfield Road -Family Hub	Sons of Divine Providence	€321,190
Mater Dei, Clonliffe Road - Family Hub	Crosscare	€2,021,543
Aisling House, Clontarf - Family Hub	Respond	€439,320
Kylemore, Swords - Family Hub	Peter McVerry Trust	€250,000
Millmount, Dundrum	Focus HAT / DLR Co Co	€468,370
Claddagh House, Kinsealy - Family Hub	Peter McVerry Trust	€250,000
Monkstown - Family Hub	Peter McVerry Trust/DLRD	€1,085,000
Donabate - Family Hub	Sophia Housing	€395,978
Dun an Oir (Hazel House) - Family Hub	Peter McVerry Trust	€475,000
Firhouse - Family Hub	Respond	€1,014,128
Rendu Apartments	DePaul Trust	€384,026
Name of Facility	Service Provider	2022 Expenditure
Camberly	Sophia Housing	€223,990
Hansfield Wood, Ongar, Dublin 15.	Peter McVerry Trust	€376,824
Seatown	Peter McVerry Trust	€140,000
Glencarrig, Firhouse	DePaul Trust	€505,624
66 Orwell Road	NOVAS	€1,572,135
Northwood Ballymun	RESPOND	€433,563
Aylward Green	Focus Ireland	€547,390
Proby Square - Family Hub	Peter McVerry Trust	€283,168
Mount Argus Monastery, Harolds Cross	Salvation Army	€4,191,834
Tallaght Cross	Focus Ireland / Tuath Housing	€302,000

In relation to private emergency accommodation where families are residing, these supports are provided on a visiting basis.

Activity\Service	Service Provider	2022 Expenditure
Specialist Visiting Support Services	Hail	€230,908
Families Homeless Action Team	Focus Ireland	€965,576
Tenancy Sustainment	Sophia Housing	€68,992
		€1,265,476

Q.12 COUNCILLOR CHRISTY BURKE

To ask the Chief Executive to provide a date to this Cllr as to when DCC will put in place the winter homeless plan for the city.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The Cold Weather Strategy is initiated yearly from November 1st for the duration of the winter months. The DRHE is preparing the cold weather response and will notify the Councillors prior to publication.

Q.13 COUNCILLOR JANE HORGAN-JONES

To ask the Chief Executive to repair to sufficient standard the pitches at Marino Park and to meet the officials of Marino AFC girls section as soon as possible.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Quotations are currently being sought to have this area de-compacted and top dressed which will be programmed in the coming weeks if resources allow. Otherwise this work will have to be scheduled as part of the pitch improvement works programme 2023. If the club wishes to make contact with the Parks Service on parks@dublincity.ie a meeting can be arranged.

Q.14 COUNCILLOR JANE HORGAN-JONES

To ask the Chief Executive to repair Fairview Park, pitches 2, 3 and 6 which have been left in a poor state of repair following the concerts in the summer.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Repair work to the concert site; de-compaction and over-seeding was carried out after the series of concerts however the extended dry and hot period during July into August did mean the grass seed failed to strike. The area is to be reseeded in the coming weeks.

Q.15 COUNCILLOR NOELEEN REILLY

To ask the Chief Executive how many public defibrillators are in the Ballymun/Finglas area and their locations.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Defibrillators are normally located in workplaces and public spaces like Community Centres, Sports Clubs and Pharmacies. Defibrillators are located in the Finglas Area Office and the Leisure Centre Mellowes Road and in Ballymun on the Ground Floor of the Civic Centre in the HSE Area and the Leisure Centre.

There is one publically accessible defibrillator located in Finglas Village beside the ATM at the Bank of Ireland on Jamestown Road. By calling the emergency services and providing a location, the operator should be able to advise where the nearest defibrillator is located.

Q.16 COUNCILLOR NOELEEN REILLY

To ask the Chief Executive the expected cost for Dublin City Council to build

- 1 bed apartment
- 2 bed apartment
- 3 bed apartment
- 2 bed house
- 3 bed house
- 4 bed house

and to compare that to the average purchase price that DCC have paid for same.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

As a practice Dublin City Council calculates cost details for are calculated per scheme and not for each individual unit type within the various schemes. The City Council however has commissioned a review of the construction costs associated with the Council's building of housing units following the adoption of a motion by the Council's Housing Strategic Policy Committee on the 14th of April 2021 to inter alia 'undertake an immediate external audit on exact construction costs paid by the local authority in the delivery of social housing. This external audit, should include, but not be limited to, the schemes referred in the report on Construction Costs published by Dublin City Council on 31st December 2020.'

The outcome of this Review will be presented to the Housing SPC in the coming weeks.

The average purchase price that DCC has paid for acquiring units is detailed in the table below:

Type	Average Cost
1 Bed House	225,000
1 Bed Apartment	221,942
2 Bed House	279,986
2 Bed Apartment	270,500
3 Bed House	298,063
3 Bed Apartment	329,600
4 Bed House	355,273

Q.17 COUNCILLOR NOELEEN REILLY

To ask the Chief Executive to give details of those on the housing list longer than 10 years, to give a breakdown per area and per housing unit size.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

July 2022 Housing List Figures by Bedsize requirement and Time on List										TABLE 5 (a)		
Size	Years	Area B	Area D	Area E	Area H	Area J	Area K	Area L	Area M	Area N	Area P	Grand Total
One bed	0 to 1 years	305	55	177	135	106	110	56	52	62	14	1072
	1 to 5 years	1153	219	625	533	345	364	335	290	316	121	4301
	5 to 10 years	555	86	290	244	178	173	158	149	177	27	2037
	over 10 years	369	76	274	189	126	136	152	126	166	45	1659
One Bed Total		2382	436	1366	1101	755	783	701	617	721	207	9069
Two Bed	0 to 1 years	172	35	61	29	70	41	14	13	22	2	459
	1 to 5 years	424	97	207	63	168	134	43	41	40	11	1228
	5 to 10 years	238	29	138	49	108	94	40	45	57	11	809
	over 10 years	126	12	73	18	74	72	14	35	27	9	460
Two bed Total		960	173	479	159	420	341	111	134	146	33	2956
Three Bed	0 to 1 years	24	5	17	6	4	11	4	3	5	1	80
	1 to 5 years	92	10	32	27	27	31	11	7	13	6	256
	5 to 10 years	103	19	66	28	39	46	20	16	24	2	363
	over 10 years	142	23	99	33	56	60	14	17	34	14	492
Three Bed Total		361	57	214	94	126	148	49	43	76	23	1191
Four Bed	0 to 1 years	5	1	1	1		1					9
	1 to 5 years	9	4	3	6	4	5	5	4	7	2	49
	5 to 10 years	5	2	7	3	2	6	2		3	1	31
	over 10 years	3	2	11	3	5	17	4	2	6	2	55
Four bed Total		22	9	22	13	11	29	11	6	16	5	144
Five Bed	0 to 1 years				1							1
	1 to 5 years		1				3	1				5
	5 to 10 years		1		1							2
	over 10 years			2		2	2	1	1	1		9
Five Bed Total			2	2	2	2	5	2	1	1		17
Grand Total		3725	677	2083	1369	1314	1306	874	801	960	268	13377

Q.18 COUNCILLOR NOELEEN REILLY

To ask the Chief Executive to give details per area where there is two or less people living in 3/4 bed Council Properties.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Area	3 Bedroom Properties with 1 Tenant	3 Bedroom Properties with 2 Tenants
Area B	184	470
Area D	184	404
Area E	182	282
Area H	61	189
Area J	136	263
Area K	47	115
Area L	69	103
Area M	28	51
Area N	2	15
Area P	21	54

Area	4 Bedroom Properties with 1 Tenant	4 Bedroom Properties with 2 Tenants
Area B	31	55
Area D	13	41
Area E	19	34
Area H	13	39
Area J	14	27
Area K	6	14
Area L	4	13
Area M	7	19
Area N	1	2
Area P	8	11

Area	Description
Area B	Artane/Clontarf/Kilmore/Killester/Marino/Priorswood/Rahney/Coolock/Darndale/Donaghmede/Donnycarney/Edenmore/Kilbarrack
Area D	Ballymun/Poppintree/Santry
Area E	Finglas/Cabra/Ashtown/Santry/Whitehall/Blackhorse Avenue/Cabra/Finglas East/Glasnevin/Finglas West/ Finglas South
Area H	Ballybough/Dorset St/Dominick St/East Wall/North Strand/Phibsborough/Sherif St/Summerhill/Gardiner St
Area J	Ballyfermot/Bluebell/Inchicore/Chapelizod/Islandbridge/Cherry Orchard
Area K	Crumlin/Walkinstown/Kimmage/Drimnagh
Area L	James/Newmarket/Coombe/Clanbrassil/Charlemont/Dolphins Barn/James Street/Kilmainham/Rialto/Maryland/York Street/Ushers Quay
Area M	Pearse St/Ringsend/Donnybrook/City Quay/Mount St/Irishtown
Area N	Ranelagh/Rathmines/Harold's Cross/Terenure
Area P	North West/Smithfield/North King St/Church Street/O'Devaney Gardens/Ormand Quay

Q.19 COUNCILLOR DAMIAN O'FARRELL

To ask the Chief Executive to provide two lists of motions submitted by councillors for consideration at the Special Council meeting held on the 8th November 2021 in respect of the draft Dublin City Development Plan 2022-2028 please.

First list to include only motions submitted by councillors which were initially 'not agreed' by the CE in his report to the meeting, but were subsequently adopted by the Council with or without amendment.

The second list is a subset of list one and refers to the same motions, however this list will only include those where the motion after adoption was either included in the draft development plan with its wording altered from that agreed by the Council or was omitted altogether.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The information requested will take some time to compile and will be forwarded directly to the Councillor within two weeks.

Q.20 COUNCILLOR MÁIRE DEVINE

To ask the Chief Executive that the cleaning schedule of Thomas Street, Dublin 8 be increased in frequency. The footpaths, especially alongside The Magnet, Lidl, Spar etc. is littered and very badly stained?

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Waste Management Services have Thomas Street cleaned on a daily basis by both our morning and afternoon shifts. We will monitor the cleaning of this street to see what improvements can be made within this cleaning schedule. We will ensure particular attention is paid to the above mentioned stretch of footpath there.

Q.21 COUNCILLOR MÁIRE DEVINE

To ask the Chief Executive that the planned public realm improvement works due at the small space on Donore Ave/Cork St incorporate the minor works of razor wire and jutting wall removal at the Brú Chaoimhin campus at the same time. The HSE is responsible for these works and have set a budget aside but not due for attention until 2023. It is prudent and possible to get agreement to invoice the HSE for these works.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The planned public realm improvement works at the junction of Donore Avenue and Cork Street will commence next week. As part of these works we will liaise with the HSE and request that they undertake the complimentary and corresponding improvements to their adjoining property.

Q.22 COUNCILLOR JOE COSTELLO

To ask the Chief Executive to state when the last increase in the qualifying threshold for social housing took place in Dublin; what increase is needed to inflation proof the threshold; and if he will write to the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage to express concern about the inadequate threshold level.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The last increase in Social Housing income threshold in Dublin as per the household means policy was under the Social Housing Regulations in 2011. Any amendment to an increase in income threshold will be issued by DHLGH.

Q.23 COUNCILLOR JOE COSTELLO

To ask the Chief Executive if he will identify through the Military Archives and other historical sources the identities of all the men and women working in the City Council (Dublin Corporation) who were active in the struggle for independence and its aftermath in the period covered by the Decade of Commemorations; and provide a suitable memorial in the vicinity of City Hall.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The Dublin City Library & Archives team will look into this matter in collaboration with the Council's historians-in-residence, and report back.

Q.24 COUNCILLOR JOE COSTELLO

To ask the Chief Executive when the exemption for street furniture, granted by DCC to businesses in the city during Covid, comes to an end; what procedures are in place for the removal of unapproved street furniture; and whether a permit process has been put in place for retention/permission.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

It is part of The Street Furniture Units function to remove unlicensed street furniture from the public footpath / roadway, additional resources have been allocated in recent months and the Unit will continue to take enforcement action where necessary.

Premises who wish to retain outdoor seating when the Permit Scheme ends have the option to apply for an Annual Street Furniture Licence.

Temporary Permits were issued to businesses during the Covid 19 pandemic to place street furniture outside their premises. These permits were issued on a temporary basis and are due to expire at 30th September but some may be extended for a final period to 31st December 2022. Any business who wishes to retain street furniture outside their premises on an ongoing basis, is encouraged to apply for an Annual street Furniture Licence. Application forms and further details are available on www.dublincity.ie or can be issued on request. Enforcement action will be taken in cases where businesses have furniture in place without a permit / licence or where the terms and conditions of any such permit / licence is not complied with. If the Councillor has any specific concerns about a particular business, details can be forwarded and appropriate action will be taken.

Q.25 COUNCILLOR JOE COSTELLO

To ask the Chief Executive if he will consider setting up a Council/State owned Construction Company along the lines suggested by Dr Anthony Leddin, Head of Economics in the Kemmy School of Business at the University of Limerick to help tackle the crisis in housing and homelessness in the City.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

A report on Construction Cost and Viability study into the establishment of a DCC Building Company were presented to the Housing SPC in the first quarter of 2021. As per its findings, DCC owned Construction Company is not feasible due to many factors outlined in the report. However, Dublin City Council will keep examining possible options of delivery to provide housing in the quickest and most efficient way.

Q.26 COUNCILLOR PATRICIA ROE

To ask the Chief Executive for an update on the tender competition for the Fruit and Vegetable Markets? Members of the Advisory Group were informed in May that in order to facilitate the drawing down of URDF funding the previous tender competition was not going ahead and DCC would now be splitting the tender to a) refurbish and

conserve the building and b) to manage the future market once renovations are complete. Could the CE make a statement on the delays to date and a timeline for the current tender competition, future renovation works and expected opening date?

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The Members Advisory Group met in May and again in July, next meeting is scheduled for September 30th. A proposed procurement timeline was furnished at the May meeting of the group and there have been no delays to date.

Significant specialist conservation and structural works are required to safeguard the building. The Council appointed a conservation specialist to identify works, methodology and specifications for refurbishment and conservation works, in order to ensure the highest standard of protection for the structure. Their report informed the tender for Design Services which issued August 8th 2022 and the preferred bidder will be appointed in the first weeks of October. They will design the package of works to be tendered for construction.

Next Steps:

1. Appoint Design Team & Develop Design – including all conservation works, except for final market fit out (to be designed by market operator) - 26 weeks
2. Procure Construction Contractor - 16-24 weeks
3. Appoint Contractor - 4 weeks
4. Commence procurement process and finalise the tender documents for remainder of the works, the fit out and Operation of the Market (this procurement will overlap with above)

The Members Advisory Group will receive regular updates and meet on a bi monthly basis as agreed

Q.27 COUNCILLOR PATRICIA ROE

To ask the Chief Executive, in light of the presentation given to the Housing SPC last month, what changes to national legislation should be enacted in order to expedite the work of Local Authorities in either bringing derelict buildings into public ownership or issuing a compulsory selling order?

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Representatives from the City Council's Housing and Development Departments are currently engaged with representatives from the Department Of Housing, Planning and Local Government and other Local Authorities on a review of the current legislation with regard to Dereliction and Vacancy.

This review has not concluded and once this work is completed then the Department of Housing Planning and Local Government will issue an update on same.

Q.28 COUNCILLOR DANNY BYRNE

To ask the Chief Executive if a den of foxes at **(details supplied)** can be investigated. Neighbours report numerous encounters with foxes at this DCC owned property.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

As foxes are not vermin, the management of foxes does not unfortunately fall under our remit. However, as care needs to be taken in dealing with foxes, both for our tenants' and for the foxes' welfare, we have been advised that the tenant could contact a number of wildlife service providers, who specialise in wildlife management and can provide advice regarding the best steps to take in this matter.

Q.29 COUNCILLOR VINCENT JACKSON

To ask the Chief Executive the following: there is a huge proliferation of log cabins/ shed conversions taking place right across Dublin and indeed the Country for residential purposes due, I would believe mainly because the current housing crisis, can the Planning Dept. please state how many objections / correspondences of concerns they have received in the past 4 years and what was the action taken, what is the situation when people profit by renting out such cabins / sheds, insurance implications i.e. potential fire and is any HAP etc. being used to pay for such accommodation other than say family living of an existing family member.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Planning Enforcement cases are held under address as opposed to category of development and therefore a part manual interrogation of the enforcement database that would take a number of weeks would be required to complete a full reply to this question. In general terms there have been many complaints received by the Planning Enforcement Section in the last 4 years relating to the unauthorised use of free standing structures within the curtilage of a dwelling house for the purposes of habitable accommodation. It is estimated that there have been approximately 100 complaints received relating to such structures and uses. The Planning Enforcement Section have issued numerous warning letters and enforcement notices relating to such structures and have initiated legal proceedings in respect of approx. ten such cases most of which have resulted in the cessation of the unauthorised use concerned. The Planning Enforcement Section is not aware of HAP payments being made in respect of any such structure that is actionable under the enforcement provisions of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended). All planning enforcement investigations where potential fire related concerns are identified are referred to DFB Fire Prevention for their investigation and attention. If the Councillor wishes to discuss these matters in further detail he can contact John Downey A/Planning Enforcement Manager who will be happy to assist him relating to the issues raised. John's mobile phone number is on the City Council phone directory.

Q.30 COUNCILLOR VINCENT JACKSON

To ask the Chief Executive the following: that the serious rat infestation problem currently happening to **(details supplied)** be investigated as a matter of urgency. He lives at the boundary of Dublin City Council and South Dublin County Council he has told me there is a collapsed drain along here can we please investigate the problem as it is seriously effecting his quality of life. The Applegreen service station / Tyre Centre are located next to his home.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

This is not a Dublin City Council property, so this person should be directed to contact Irish Water in order to have the collapsed drain repaired/replaced, on 1800 278 278 or visit the Irish Water website.

Q.31 COUNCILLOR VINCENT JACKSON

To ask the Chief Executive to give me a report on the legal implication of large numbers of concrete cils, wooden planks etc. used to dish peoples gardens to allow access for off street parking right across the city of Dublin. I am well aware its next to impossible to clean streets with the large proliferation of such structures, can the manager indicate what action can be taken if someone falls over such items and if such actions / numbers have being taken against DCC over the past 5 years.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

As set out in the Roads Act, 1993, a person is not permitted to place an object on the public road without the consent of the Roads Authority. This includes the placement of

wooden planks or the installation of temporary ramps to facilitate access across a footpath to a property. I set out the relevant extract from the Roads Act, 1993, hereafter:

“The Roads Act, 1993, Section 13 (10) states:

(a) A person who, without lawful authority or the consent of a road authority—

- (i) defaces a public road by writing or by any other means,
- (ii) damages a public road,
- (iii) excavates a public road,
- (iv) (I) places or deposits any material or thing on a public road,
(II) permits dung or urine from an animal owned by him or any material or thing which falls from a vehicle owned or used by him, to be left on a public road, or
(III) does any other thing,

such that the material, thing, dung or urine or the doing of such other thing is a hazard or potential hazard to persons using a public road or obstructs or interferes with the safe use of a public road or the maintenance of a public road, shall be guilty of an offence.

(c) Where a person does anything in contravention of paragraph (a), a road authority may remove any defacement, repair any damage, fill in any excavation, remove any material, thing, dung or urine or remove or reduce any hazard, potential hazard, obstruction or interference and may recover from such person, as a simple contract debt.”

If the locations of wooden planks etc. being placed on the road, are brought to the attention of Road Maintenance Services (roadmaintenance@dublincity.ie), then the Division can arrange for a notice to be served on the owner and/or it can arrange for the wooden plank etc. to be removed

The Roads Department and DCC typically defend any actions taken against it that are the responsibility of another party.

Q.32 COUNCILLOR VINCENT JACKSON

To ask the Chief Executive to ensure that the damaged footpath outside No 492 Ballyfermot Road, Ballyfermot, Dublin 10 be repaired as a matter of urgency the current situation provides a serious trip Hazard.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

In response to your query, Road Maintenance carried out an inspection at this location and logged two defects to our works list for repair.

Q.33 COUNCILLOR DÁITHI DOOLAN

To ask the Chief Executive for an update on contacts and discussions with the Department of Health concerning monies owed by the HSE for the emergency ambulance service provided by DFB?

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The Chief Executive will advise Elected Members as soon as he becomes aware of any developments in relation to funding the DFB emergency ambulance service. The City Council is not involved in any discussion with the HSE on the matter.

Q.34 COUNCILLOR DÁITHI DOOLAN

To ask the Chief Executive to outline, in tabular form, how much is owed to DCC in vacant sites levies for the years 2019, 2020, 2021 and so far in 2022?

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Total amount owed to DCC in respect of Vacant Site Levies is €16,948,800.00. The breakdown for 2018, 2019, 2020 and 2021 is as follows:

Year for which the Vacant Site Levy applies	Amount of Vacant Site Levies owing to DCC
2018	€ 629,700.00
2019	€ 3,512,600.00
2020	€ 8,305,500.00
2021	€ 4,501,000.00

Q.35 COUNCILLOR DÁITHI DOOLAN

To ask the Chief Executive in light of DePaul's annual report, would the manager of the DRHE consider women only homeless services including hostels?

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The DRHE is in regular dialogue with the sectoral accommodation group and homeless network, on the type and range of new homeless services required, including emergency accommodation for homeless people, including single female adults.

A new women only service was introduced earlier this month.

A tender for new emergency accommodation will re-issue on Monday the 26th of September and all DRHE stakeholders, including DePaul have been asked to consider, submitting proposals for emergency accommodation, including for single female persons.

Q.36 COUNCILLOR DÁITHI DOOLAN

To ask the Chief Executive to include funding for the extension of Familibase youth and family service in Ballyfermot in the forthcoming capital budget?

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Dublin City Council has committed to providing funding of €100,000 in its capital budget for 2023 to contribute towards the cost of roof repairs to the Familibase building. With regard to the City Council funding an extension to the building, it would be premature to commit to such funding until such time as a detailed proposal and business case outlining the reasons why additional space is required is provided to the Council for consideration by Familibase. Any decision to fund this would then be made in the context of available space on site, planning considerations and ultimately cost and would be subject to financial resources available at the time.

Q.37 COUNCILLOR MANNIX FLYNN

To ask the Chief Executive to issue a full response in relation to insinuations and allegations made in the Dáil recently by a TD regarding the ongoing planning process of the redevelopment of Moore Street and its area. This is a serious allegation that will negatively impact on the planning department and planning process within DCC. Further, it has undermined staff confidence and damaged the reputation of DCC's planning process. An immediate response from the CEO and indeed the head of planning department is urgently warranted here.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Dublin City Council notes the comments made by Deputy Aengus Ó'Snodaigh T.D. regarding Moore Street and planning matters in the Dáil on 15 September 2022.

The City Council has already outlined the process it led, which involved the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage, Moore Street traders and Hammerson.

Following the recommendation of the Moore St. Advisory Group of which Deputy Ó'Snodaigh was a member, Dublin City Council engaged with street traders in an effort to develop a compensation package to protect their livelihoods in the event of the proposed development proceeding and their capacity to trade on Moore Street being impacted.

Several offers were made to traders, all of which were rejected. At no time were traders requested to support the planning application for the proposed development in exchange for payment, either verbally or in writing.

There is a clear written record of DCCs engagement on this matter which demonstrates DCCs good faith and its actions.

Q.38 COUNCILLOR MANNIX FLYNN

To ask the Chief Executive to initiate an appropriate protocol and guidelines that would deal with the disposal of properties under the control of DCC that were formerly used as residential institutions (Magdalene Laundries, Industrial Schools, Mother and baby homes, Psychiatric institutions) that are defined as such institutions in the Ryan Report and other State inquiries and reports. Recently Dublin city council disposed of such a property in a highly insensitive manner bearing in mind that there are many people who are in Dublin City Council working who are victims of such institutions and indeed bearing in mind DCC's involvement in the incarceration of many children in such institutions. There is a need to make the work place a safe place when dealing with such sensitive matters considering what we know about institutional trauma that is still suffered by the many who experienced rape, torture and slavery in such institutions.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

At the City Council meeting held on the 7th December 2020, the elected members noted the content of the report of the Assistant Chief Executive on the proposed criteria for disposing of City Council Sites/Properties (Report No 352/20 refers). The site referred to by the councillor was brought before the members as a disposal under Section 183 of the Local Government Act 2001 at the request of the Government and the OPW and is now with the respective solicitors to complete the transfer of ownership.

Dublin City Council has a suite of policies and protocols in place to safeguard staff and provide for the health and wellbeing of all those in the workplace.

Q.39 COUNCILLOR MANNIX FLYNN

To ask the Chief Executive to outline in full detail DCC's plans on how they intend to proceed with the plaza project at College Green and Dame Street. Further, can the CEO confirm that he intends to project split and salami slice this public domains initiative? Also, can the CEO explain how he personally with others got the procurement process and tendering process of this project so wrong? Which further damaged the credibility of DCC local authority to deliver this project.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The College Green project will shortly be out to tender for the appointment of a Design Team in order to bring the project through the various phases including construction of the public realm plaza.

There is no project splitting proposed instead a separate process will take place to increase space for pedestrians in line with the implementation of Bus Connects

network redesign proposals. As requirements for bus routes and stops decrease, the proposed interim measures will be focused on traffic management changes and not permanent public realm changes.

The procurement of this project is fully in line with all necessary procurement regulations. The unfortunate rejection of the initial College Green Plaza proposal by ABP meant that a comprehensive review of the project had to be undertaken. As part of this review, an independent consultant produced a Multi Criteria Analysis (MCA) of five options including the recommendations of the ABP inspector. The MCA selected two options, which comprised extending the area of the scheme to George's Street. The public consultation on these options showed overwhelming support for a fully pedestrianised plaza to George's Street incorporating a two-way cycle track. Following this, the original Design Team were asked to provide an estimate for the required additional work. A submission was duly received and evaluated by the City Architects

Unfortunately, while the submission was of high quality, the cost of this additional work would have breached EU procurement limits and legal advice on this matter was sought. The advice received indicated that the City Council could not accept the submission and that a derogation from the procurement rules could not be obtained. The only viable option was to retender the scheme. This is now underway with the necessary NTA approvals having been received to proceed to tender.

Q.40 COUNCILLOR MANNIX FLYNN

To ask the Chief Executive to confirm as to which department in Dublin city council and what officials in DCC created the breviat and the minutes of the Protocol committee that was withdrawn on the 5th September 2022 at the DCC monthly meeting? This breviat named myself in a defamatory manner and purported to have made a finding against me regarding an incident in the council chamber which would appear to be in breach of the local Government act 2021. The protocol committee would appear to have no rights whatsoever to supersede the local government act which is an act that is specifically designed to deal with any issues of code of conduct that enshrines a due process which was not afforded to me by the protocol committee. It would appear that the protocol committee in this instance conducted its business relating to this incident by means of a kangaroo court which is absolutely unacceptable. What is equally unacceptable is the manner in which the breviat containing my name was thrown out into the public domain without any due regard. The chairperson of the protocol committee asserts to me by way of a phone call that they have absolutely nothing whatsoever got to do with the making or writing of the breviat and indeed never approved nor saw the breviat prior to it being published. So who put out this breviat? And surely DCC staff at this level are aware of the local government act and allowed themselves in this instance to be part of a kangaroo court process?

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The Meetings Administrator, Ruth Dowling is responsible for the preparation of the breviat and minutes of the Protocol Committee and was responsible for the breviat of the Protocol Committee meeting, which took place on 21st July 2022.

Following an incident involving Cllr. Flynn at the 4th July Council meeting, Cllrs. Jackson, Costello, Freehill and Boylan requested on record that the matter be referred to Protocol. It is not unusual for members to refer issues that arise at Council meetings to the Protocol Committee for consideration.

The Protocol Committee meeting was scheduled for 21st July and the issue of "Disorderly Conduct in the Council Chamber" was listed on the agenda for discussion.

As a member of the Protocol Committee, Councillor Flynn was invited to attend the meeting.

At the Protocol Committee meeting on 21st July and as recorded in the minutes and breviat of that meeting, the Meetings Administrator outlined the following to the Members:

“There are a number of options available to the Lord Mayor in cases of disorderly conduct at a Council meeting. The matter is dealt with under Standing Orders and Rule 13 of Schedule 10 of the Local Government Act also applies. The options outlined in the LGA involve motions to the floor and resolutions of the members generally. An amendment of the Local Government Act by the Local Government Reform Act 2014 introduced the possibility of financial penalty and suspension for a period of time from meetings of the Council and committee meetings in certain circumstances, which are approved by resolution of the members. These circumstances are as follows:

- If any member has been disorderly or is disorderly by persistently disregarding the ruling of the chair or by behaving irregularly, improperly or offensively etc. and the Chair conveys her opinion to the members by naming the member concerned then the chair or any member may move that the member named leave the meeting and motion if seconded shall be put and determined without discussion. Once the Council decides the member must then immediately leave the meeting and shall not be entitled to speak or take any further part in the meeting that day.
- If the Chair is of the opinion that there is (a) general disorder, which impedes the orderly transaction of the business of the meeting or (b) where a member against whom it has been resolved that he/she leave the meeting but refuses to do so, the Chair may adjourn the meeting.
- Where it has been resolved that a member leaves the meeting and the chair adjourns the meeting because the member refuses to leave the meeting there may be further financial consequences for the member if the members further resolve that the member in question was the cause of the meeting having been adjourned. (See 13(4) below).
- There is a further option for suspension of the member in question set out below in 13(5) following a resolution being passed by two thirds of those present in the circumstances outlined. This takes place at the meeting in question. These provisions are designed to address disorderly conduct as it arises.

The Code of Conduct applies to all Councillors.”

The following was the recorded action in the minutes and breviat and is a factual account of the requested action and discussion.

“Order: The Members unanimously agreed that the behaviour of Councillor Flynn at the City Council meeting on 4th July was unacceptable. It was agreed that the Chair of the Protocol Committee would write to Cllr. Flynn to inform him of the Committee’s view and to request that he make a full public apology for his conduct at the July Council meeting.”

Prior to the publication of the minutes the Law Agent confirmed that she did not see any difficulty or legal impediment to the Committee discussing the item. She did not consider that the Protocol Committee by discussing the matter or by agreeing to issue a letter requesting an apology that the Committee was engaging in a disciplinary process.

At the Group Leaders meeting on 5th September and in discussion of an emergency motion with the Lord Mayor, Cllr Heney, as Chair of Protocol, requested that the breviat of the Protocol Committee meeting dated 21st July be removed from the Council agenda and that the minutes and breviat be amended to remove explicit reference to Councillor Flynn. In due deference to Cllr. Flynn but without prejudice to the factual accuracy of the minutes and breviat, the Members agreed to Cllr. Heney's request.

The preparation of the minutes of the Protocol Committee is the sole responsibility of the Meetings Administrator and it has been the practice that the minutes of the Protocol Committee are not pre-approved/reviewed by the Chair of the Committee and/or by the Committee. The Deputy Chair of Protocol, Cllr Lacey, also confirmed this at a recent meeting of Protocol Committee. It is a matter for the Protocol Committee if it wishes to change this practice.

Q.41 COUNCILLOR DARRAGH MORIARTY

To ask the Chief Executive to outline Dublin City Council's plans for public realm and traffic improvements to Parliament Street. Two summer trials in 2021 and 2022 of weekend pedestrianisation have been hugely successful and the street deserves more care, attention and focus from the City Council given the huge drop off in traffic volumes owing to the permanent pedestrianisation of the majority of Capel Street. The introduction of a contra-flow bus lane on Winetavern Street also proposes an alternative for buses which can be redirected from Parliament Street. The City Council has had long enough to consider medium to long-term plans for this street, can the Chief Executive please outline what these plans are?

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

A number of options that would be possible for Parliament Street are currently being worked through. It was necessary to see what the impact of the arrangement on Capel Street was in the area over a number of months as changes to Parliament Streets would not be possible without those measures.

Options for Parliament Street will be presented to the Area Committee in November.

Q.42 COUNCILLOR DARRAGH MORIARTY

To ask the Chief Executive to confirm the following with regards to the Inchicore Library building on Emmet Road:

- Can the library building be reopened for community use in its current condition?
- If not, can the Chief Executive confirm what works are required and whether the City Council is prepared to fund these works prior to seeking a new community function/use for this historic building?
- Can the Chief Executive confirm that the Inchicore Library building is being added to the list of protected structures?

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

A full assessment of the present condition of the building is required since it has been vacated in order to assess what is required to bring it to the necessary standard including accessibility for community use. The City Council is committed to it being used for community use once we can identify current funding for the works required.

The Art Deco Inchicore Library building at Emmet Road, Dublin 8, is not on the City Council's Record of Protected Structures (RPS).

The area has been surveyed by the National Inventory of Architectural Heritage (NIAH), as part of its ongoing survey of the architectural heritage of the city of Dublin. The former Library building on Emmet Road has been given a 'Regional' rating by the NIAH and is recommended for proposed addition to the City's RPS given its architectural, artistic and social special interest; refer to:

<https://www.buildingsofireland.ie/buildings-search/building/50080156/inchicore-library-emmet-road-inchicore-dublin-8-dublin>

The building will be added to the list of nominations for proposed additions to the RPS submitted by Elected Members and the public currently awaiting assessment.

Q.43 COUNCILLOR DARRAGH MORIARTY

To ask the Chief Executive whether 129, Tyrconnell Road, known as 'Grotto House', a former youth service, which closed almost 10 years ago is on the derelict sites register. Can the Chief Executive comment on what the City Council is doing to bring this building back use?

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The site is not on the Derelict Sites Register. The Derelict Sites Unit will arrange to have the site inspected and will take action as appropriate following the assessment of its condition. A full report on the findings of the inspection will issue to the Councillor.

Q.44 COUNCILLOR MÍCHEÁL MAC DONNCHA

To ask the Chief Executive if he is aware of statements in the Dáil (Deputy Aengus Ó Snodaigh, 15 September) and in the media (The Village, The Ditch various dates) indicating that a Dublin City official or officials were involved in meetings concerning potential payments of public money to Moore Street traders which were allegedly linked to traders' support for, or at least commitment not to oppose, planning applications; if he will state if such meetings took place, if the City Council was represented and what, if any sums of Council money were earmarked for this purpose.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Dublin City Council notes the comments made by Deputy Aengus Ó'Snodaigh T.D. regarding Moore Street and planning matters in the Dáil on 15 September 2022.

The City Council has already outlined the process it led, which involved the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage, Moore Street traders and Hammerson.

Following the recommendation of the Moore St. Advisory Group of which Deputy Ó'Snodaigh was a member, Dublin City Council engaged with street traders in an effort to develop a compensation package to protect their livelihoods in the event of the proposed development proceeding and their capacity to trade on Moore Street being impacted.

Several offers were made to traders, all of which were rejected. At no time were traders requested to support the planning application for the proposed development in exchange for payment, either verbally or in writing.

There is a clear written record of DCCs engagement on this matter which demonstrates DCCs good faith and its actions.

Q.45 COUNCILLOR MÍCHEÁL MAC DONNCHA

To ask the Chief Executive to set out the current position regarding 40 Herbert Park with regard to enforcement action, its status as a protected structure, court actions etc.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

As Dublin City Council has a case currently before the District Court relating to this property /site no further comment can be made on the matter at this time.

Q.46 COUNCILLOR SOPHIE NICOULLAUD

To ask the Chief Executive to give an update for the plans to create a playground in Chapelizod. Has the location been finalised. Where will funding be coming from? Has further communication and consultation with residents in Chapelizod be conducted. More and more families are planned to be moving in the area and there are no playground for them to avail of.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Parks have included Chapelizod playground as part of the capital programme for playground upgrades. As this will be a new build there will be public consultation carried out with the children and residents in the area to establish the requirements.

Q.47 COUNCILLOR SOPHIE NICOULLAUD

To ask the Chief Executive to provide the traffic study for the new housing scheme in Cherryorchard for affordable housing. What status will the road between that new scheme and Elmdale be attributed, the linkage road to Ballyfermot Road, and streets within the scheme. What speed, what traffic calming will be used.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

There is a live part 8 application for a social housing development at Cherry Orchard. Planning reference 4313/22 refers. A Traffic and Transport Assessment and a Road Safety Audit were included in the application documentation. A Taking in Charge Plan was also submitted which proposes that all roads and footpaths within the site be taken in charge. All of the above documentation can be viewed online. <https://planning.agileapplications.ie/dublincity/application-details/150762>

Questions regarding future proposals should be referred to the proposing department, Housing & Community Services Department, for response.

Q.48 COUNCILLOR SOPHIE NICOULLAUD

To ask the Chief Executive to provide the following information regarding lawn mowing done by DCC: What is the cost of diesel used by DCC to mow lawns? How much surface does DCC is in charge of mowing? What is the cost of diesel for tractors and any other machinery used by parks on a yearly basis? How DCC is planning to reduce the use of diesel for parks and green spaces maintenance? What is the quantity of diesel used by DCC on an annual basis?

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The estimated cost of fuel for Parks Services for 2022 will be €148,000, however, it is not possible to isolate the specific cost of diesel used by machines in the mowing of grass as tractors and other diesel vehicles are used for a wide range of operational tasks within the service.

There are in the order of 1267ha of parks and open spaces in the City, however there is no estimate for the area mowed as a short grass sward. It should be noted that a short grass sward which is sometimes referred to as amenity grassland is particularly important as a secondary feeding ground for the Light Bellied Brent Goose which is an Annex 1 Species and quite unique to Dublin City.

Our policy is to replace all petrol and diesel vehicles as soon as viable alternatives are available.

Q.49 COUNCILLOR SOPHIE NICOULLAUD

To ask the Chief Executive what centres have been used so far to house Ukrainians refugees in emergency accommodations. How many nights does it represent per centres. What other locations is DCC looking at to be used? How many nights do people stay in each accommodations. Where do they go after they leave one centre? How many refugees have moved to more permanent housing facilities?

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Dublin City Council has no statutory role with regard to providing accommodation for newly arrived Ukrainians. As previously advised, we have been supporting colleagues in the Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth by assisting them in identifying medium term accommodation, making contact and inspecting properties pledged through the Red Cross and providing temporary Rest Centres when the system becomes overwhelmed.

Temporary rest centres have been operated at the following locations since March 2022:

- St. Catherine's Sports Centre, Marrowbone Lane
- Cabra Parkside Community Sports Complex
- Clogher Rd. Sports Hall
- Aughrim St. Sports Hall

Local communities at these locations should be commended for giving up their much needed facilities to assist those in need.

The use of temporary Rest Centres has dwindled hugely in recent months and we have had no requests for use in recent weeks as more medium and long term facilities have come on line.

We have no active rest centres at the moment and are not considering opening any at this time.

Q.50 COUNCILLOR MARY FREEHILL

To ask the Chief Executive to please set out the list of staff recruitments that comply with 3% employment quota for people with disabilities and that these numbers exclude people who acquired disabilities while in DCC employment. May I have the list for years 2017 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021 along with the grade at which the person was recruited. Also what is the total percentage of people recruited under this scheme please.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

In accordance with our records we are aware of the following numbers of employees with disabilities being recruited in the years 2017-2021 inclusive:

2017	1	1 x Grade III
2018	3	1 x Grade III; 1 x Grade IV; 1 x Grade V
2019	12	12 x Grade III
2020	0	
2021	0	

Employees with disabilities cannot be identified as disclosure is confidential.

The latest data available for the percentage of employees with disabilities in Dublin City Council are the figures for our statutory annual return to the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage for the end of 2021. This is 4.40%

Q.51 COUNCILLOR NIAL RING

To ask the Chief Executive to detail and confirm the pension transfer arrangements which were agreed and in put in place at the time of the transfer of the functions of the Dublin Docklands Development Authority to Dublin City Council, and to further confirm that DCC has no pre transfer residual pension liabilities on its books and, that if any such liabilities were carried over, that all such residual pension liabilities have been reimbursed in full.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The Dublin Docklands Development Authority (DDDA) was dissolved on 1 March 2016 by Ministerial Order in accordance with the Dublin Docklands Development Authority (Dissolution) Act 2015. The Act provides for the transfer of certain rights and functions from Dublin Docklands Development Authority to Dublin City Council. Section 14 of the Act directed that all functions in relation to the pension scheme including the calculation and payment of benefits to former members of the staff of the DDDA, including those who are deceased, shall from dissolution day be carried out by Dublin City Council.

The cost of funding the DDDA's pension liabilities was estimated at 29 February 2016 at €9.973m and this has risen to €12,795,000 at 31.12.2020. In line with Public Service Pay Restoration and National Pay agreements this will have increased further during 2021/2022. A new pension's liability calculation will be carried out once the outcome of the new pay agreements is finalised. The cost to the City Council since September 2017 to date of monthly pension payments to DDDA staff is €1,203,861.33. This figure will increase by €22,000 each month and pension gratuities will begin to accrue over the coming years.

The Council has sought reimbursement of all costs incurred to date along with a commitment regarding future legacy liabilities from the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage, however, to date these remain to be recouped and are funded annually through the Council's revenue budget.

Q.52 COUNCILLOR NIAL RING

In relation to installations of telecoms infrastructures on DCC owned buildings (including those leases/licenced to community groups etc.) can the Chief Executive detail the following for each such building:

- a. Nature of the telecoms infrastructure.
- b. Date installed and term agreed.
- c. Whether, or not, planning permission was required and if so, was it given.
- d. Nature of agreement, e.g. licence, lease, agreement etc. to include installation conditions, maintenance, duration etc.
- e. Annual income from each installation.
- f. Confirmation in every case that the International Commission on Non-Ionising Radiation Protection limits cannot be exceeded and to further confirm if this is continually monitored, recorded and reported.

Also, to ask the Chief Executive to detail how such approaches come about and if, when approached with a proposal to install telecoms infrastructure on a DCC owned building, what checks are carried out by DCC to ensure that the proposed deal is the best available i.e. does DCC ever approach other operators and is this something DCC would consider doing for any buildings deemed appropriate for such installations.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

DCC established a [Telecoms Unit](#) in April 2022 to collaborate with the industry and to help realise Dublin's connectivity potential and also to address mobile connectivity blackspots.

The role of the Telecoms Unit is to:

- Create a central point of contact within the organisation and allow for better use of city council owned assets both above and below the ground. The remit of the unit will ensure that all future capital investments and infrastructure projects are telecoms proofed.
- Make available the use of public assets such as ducting, buildings and street furniture to facilitate the deployment of telecoms networks and equipment such as small cells.
- Engage with industry partners and provide a centralised escalation route to ensure prompt resolution of issues and queries.

Nature of telecoms infrastructure installed on DCC owned buildings:

All applications to install telecoms infrastructure on DCC owned buildings are now dealt with through the telecoms unit. The telecoms unit is in place to support connectivity needs across the city council area. With a significant increase of people working from home the mobile operators are upgrading their telecoms infrastructure to support this.

The nature of the telecoms infrastructure installed is Antenna or transmission Dishes on supporting poles with accompanying cabinets to store the radio equipment. For example an application made at Ballybough Community Centre is to improve Eir's mobile network coverage within the surrounding area. It will consist of 3 no. Antenna and 2 no. Transmission Dishes on supporting poles together with equipment cabinets, cabling and associated site works at the roof level.

Date installed and term agreed:

In the case of this installation in Ballybough no telecoms infrastructure has been installed at this site yet. A letter of consent has been issued to Signal Infrastructure Limited, the telecoms infrastructure company working on behalf of Eir. This letter of consent allows them to apply for planning permission at the site. The terms of agreement will be developed by DCC's Legal Department. As Ballybough is the first DCC owned building to be utilised, the legal framework and project blueprint to be developed for Ballybough, will form the basis for all sites going forward.

Whether, or not, planning permission was required and if so, was it given:

Generally planning permission for roof installations less than 3 meters in height are exempt from planning permission with a list of exceptions such as over a Crèche, school or hospital. See full list under Class 31 of Schedule 2 of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001 as amended.

Nature of agreement, e.g. licence, lease, agreement etc. to include installation conditions, maintenance, duration etc:

The type of agreement that will be entered into is a Commercial/legal Agreement drawn up by DCC Legal Dept. in consultation with relevant other departments within DCC

Annual income from each installation:

The annual income for this installation and any future sites will be calculated from DCC's Rate Cards (<https://www.dublincity.ie/business/telecoms-unit/rate-card-standard-agreements>). The rate cards set out fair, standardised prices for access to council-owned assets for the purpose of deploying telecoms equipment. These rates are benchmarked against other organisations and Industry and shows rates for sites inside and outside the canals.

Example Rate for Ballybough (outside the canals):

€18,150 for the first year - €6,150 Set-up Charge (one-off fee) + €1,500 Documentation Review (one-off fee) + €10,500 Annual fee
€10,500 for each subsequent year.

Confirmation in every case that the International Commission on Non-Ionising Radiation Protection limits cannot be exceeded and to further confirm if this is continually monitored, recorded and reported:

The Commission for Communications Regulation ([ComReg](#)) manages Ireland's radio spectrum. In managing this spectrum, ComReg monitors mobile network operators, to ensure that exposure levels of the general public to radio frequency waves from mobile phone antennae (also known as base stations) are low and that they do not exceed the recommended limits. They also measure Non-Ionising Radiation (NIR) levels in public areas to ensure that levels do not exceed the recommended limits established by the International Commission on Non-Ionizing Radiation Protection (ICNIRP). The [ICNIRP](#) is an international commission which specialises in non-ionizing radiation protection.

All mobile telecoms sites are regularly monitored and safety reports are published on [Siteviewer](#) and the latest reports can be found [here](#).

The Department of Environment, Climate and Communications (DECC) is responsible for setting policy relating to the health effects of Non-Ionising Radiation (NIR) including electromagnetic fields.

If there are any other queries or concerns in relation to this topic The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) provides independent expert advice to the government and to the public on exposure to NIR (including on relevant standards for public protection), as well as the monitoring of scientific/technological developments likely to impact on public exposure to NIR. EPA website can be found [here](#).

Detail how such approaches come about:

DCC's Telecom Unit have developed an asset registry, which provides a single-view into the infrastructure assets e.g. Buildings and Structures, owned by DCC. This registry helps support the connection of telecommunications assets and is available for operators and infrastructure providers to view on the DCC website to improve mobile coverage the city.

All design applications regarding the installation of telecoms infrastructure are reviewed internally by the relevant DCC department, to ensure that they meet the required standards.

The Rate Cards available dictate the fees that should be charged annually.

Q.53 COUNCILLOR NIAL RING

To ask the Chief Executive to confirm that the successful Winter Lights programme (launched by me during my term as Lord Mayor) will be in place this year and would

the Chief Executive detail the energy, environmental and financial implications of the programme to alleviate the well-meaning but possibly uninformed concerns expressed by some people about the programme.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

For Dublin Winter Lights 2022, Dublin City Council intend using generators that use hydrotreated vegetable oil (HVO) as its fuel source for projections and installations in the city centre. This is will be the third year that Dublin City Council have successfully used these type of generators for its events.

Hydrotreated vegetable oil, is an alternative to fossil based diesel fuel.

- It is made from 100% renewable waste materials
- Up to 90% reduction in CO2 emissions when compared to normal fossil based diesel fuel
- Up to 30% reduction in nitrogen oxide emissions
- Up to 86% reduction in particulate matter
- Biodegradable in less than 60 days
- Is odourless so is ideal for use in generators at events

Where it is not possible to use HVO generators at a particular location, localised battery storage power will be used. The battery packs will charge during off peak hours, and the stored energy from the batteries will be used during peak hours to power projectors and installations, thus eliminating any additional draw on the national grid during peak periods.

In terms of the financial costs of the use of electricity, Dublin City Councils, Dublin Winter Lights use high quality low power LED powered lighting. The projectors last year in Smithfield Square used new Laser Technology. The projectors used, drew a total of 13amps which is the equivalent of a standard domestic socket. Custom House power usage in 2020 was 40kw whereas last year with LED it was reduced down to 12kw power usage. Samuel Beckett Bridge is completely LED using a total of 2kw (equivalent of vacuum cleaner).

Dublin City Council recycle all materials and branding from year to year and store all the lighting in wooden crates each year and do not use any single use plastics. Dublin City Council will review the operation plan of Dublin Winter Lights in line with national government policy regarding energy usage, should any guidelines be introduced.

Q.54 COUNCILLOR NIAL RING

To ask the Chief Executive to confirm whether, or not, the case put forward by Parking enforcement for an additional resource to investigate residential parking permit compliance and governance has been examined and if there has been a successful outcome to the application/case.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

A request has been submitted to the HR Department for a dedicated resource for the Parking Enforcement Section to undertake a governance and oversight role. The role will be filled within the next quarter.

Q.55 COUNCILLOR LARRY O'TOOLE

To ask the Chief Executive to have the street light on **(details supplied)** repaired.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

(details supplied) is on the list for repair. It will be repaired as early as possible, but by Mid-October at the latest, on the basis of a routine repair.

Q.56 COUNCILLOR NAOISE Ó'MUIRÍ

To ask the Chief Executive to assess and implement the appropriate measures (including double-yellow lines and 4 x bollards) to prevent parking and guarantee wheelchair access at the point where the path connecting St Anne's Drive to St Anne's Park crosses All Saints Road as set out in the correspondence below **(details supplied)** and photos attached.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The Transport Advisory Group at its meeting dated 23rd August, 2022, recommended to install a segment of Double Yellow Lines to improve visibility and safe access to St. Annes Park at the existing pedestrian access. These measures will be implemented in due course.

Q.57 COUNCILLOR NAOISE Ó'MUIRÍ

To ask the Chief Executive organise sustained action by DSPS to combat regular illegal parking at the junction of Gracefield Avenue and Brookwood Rise as there is blatant disregard for measures already in place as per the correspondence below **(details supplied)** and attached photo. Can the CEO request that the traffic engineers consider additional physical measures to deter this type of activity at this location.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Dublin Street Parking Services will be instructed to patrol the area and enforce any illegal parking.

Q.58 COUNCILLOR NAOISE Ó'MUIRÍ

To ask the Chief Executive organise for the tree outside **(details supplied)** to be assessed for replacement. The resident at this location has identified damage to their boundary wall caused by tree roots and this has been validated and confirmed by commissioned specialist advice. He has been in correspondence with DCC on the matter but it has not been actioned. Note that DCC Roads Maintenance have already repaired damage caused to the pedestrian footpath at this location but the footpath and boundary wall continues to degrade.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Road Maintenance Services will complete an inspection of the footpaths at **(details supplied)**. If any defects are found, they will be noted and recorded. A repair will then be scheduled for when one of our crews is working in the area.

The tree will be inspected in the coming weeks as local schedules allow and any works deemed necessary will be listed for inclusion in the prioritised tree care programme for area 2022-23.

Q.59 COUNCILLOR NAOISE Ó'MUIRÍ

To ask the Chief Executive to organise for an inspection of the following roads after recent works for Irish Water:

- Seafield Road
- Seafield Road West.

Can the CEO confirm that he is happy with the quality of reinstatement of (a) the roadway (b) the footpaths and (c) the verges at these locations and if not outline the process and timeline for getting these remediated.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

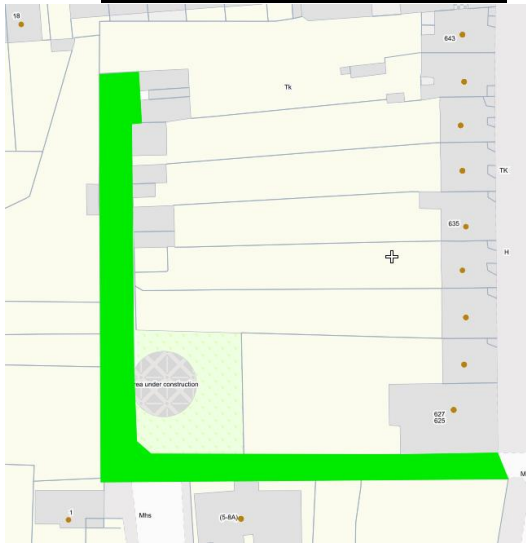
In response to this question, an inspection of both roads was carried out by a member of the Infrastructure Management team on 22nd September 2022. The following was noted: The footpaths are permanently reinstated on both streets, with the exception of four locations where utility works are not complete. These four locations will be permanently reinstated in concrete. The affected verges are now complete.

The carriageway openings are temporarily reinstated and in a safe condition. The permanent reinstatement of the carriageway is scheduled for 7th November 2022.

Q.60 COUNCILLOR MÁIRE DEVINE

To ask the Chief Executive that a report be compiled by the relevant council sections on the feasibility of providing ease of access for deliveries to the rear of the shops at SCR, Kilmainham?

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:



The location concerned is private and not in the charge of Dublin City Council. As the area is not in charge, it is not possible for the City Council to consider requests or make any traffic management recommendations in relation to this location.

If the entrance/exit is being blocked by vehicles parking in front, please note that instances of illegal parking should be reported to Dublin Street Parking Services, the City Council's parking enforcement contractor (Tel: 01-602 2500 Email: info@dsps.ie.), or to the local Gardaí, as it is a matter for enforcement under the Road Traffic Regulations.

Q.61 COUNCILLOR CLAIRE BYRNE

To ask the Chief Executive why so many digital billboards are being installed in the City of late, can he provide a detailed map of both current and proposed locations; can he explain why Councillors are not involved in the decision making process around the proposed locations; can he outline what measures are in place to mitigate the visual impact they have on local residents and businesses; and has CEO considered the energy costs associated with these digital billboards and how this correlates with both our Climate Action Plan and the Dublin City Council's energy demand reduction targets.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Notwithstanding advertising signs and structures that are exempt development under the Planning and Development Regulations 2001 (as amended), all advertising on private property requires planning permission. All planning applications for digital billboards are assessed in accordance with the provisions of the Outdoor Advertising Strategy contained in the Dublin City Development Plan. Such planning applications are subject to a statutory public consultation procedure and any Councillor or member of the public has the opportunity to submit observations on the proposed development. Permitted digital billboards are not mapped. Typically, a permission for a digital billboard will be subject to a condition controlling the maximum luminance of the advertisement display in candelas per square metre. Limiting luminance levels mitigates potential negative impacts on amenities or the potential creation of a hazard whilst lowering energy requirements thereby reducing the carbon impact of the installation.

Q.62 COUNCILLOR CLAIRE BYRNE

To ask the Chief Executive can he please provide detailed plans on how Dublin City Council plans to reduce its energy demand over the next few years across all its operations and buildings and can he outline the public communication strategy around such energy demand reduction plans.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Dublin City Council is committed to achieving our obligated energy and carbon reduction targets as per EU directive and Irish Law. The Council reports annually through the SEAI's Monitoring and Reporting platform on its measured achievements, which are then published by the SEAI in its annual Public Sector Energy Efficiency Performance report. The Council surpassed its 2020 targets and with the recent clarification of national and sectoral targets has been planning suitable projects to achieve our gap to 2030 targets. As at end of 2021, this gap was approximately 10,500 tCO₂e.

To meet this target, the Council has been working in partnership with the other Dublin Local Authorities and CoDEMA on the DeliveREE project, an EU funded programme to provide technical and project management assistance to aggregate and scale projects to deliver for 2030. The Council is currently engaged in a related process with the SEAI to secure significant capital assistance towards this programme to minimise the Council's contribution. A pipeline of 20 projects across the Dublin Authorities have been identified involving approximately 140 buildings, 43 of which belong to DCC. These projects are anticipated to deliver 39% energy savings at an investment cost of €5.5m (inclusive of grant aid).

The DeliveREE project is funded by the EU with the goal of piloting this method of aggregating and upscaling projects to deliver the efficiencies required. To comply with the terms of the grant aid, suitable communication of the results is required. This will be further enhanced by the Council's own social media unit, press releases, and launches of the various projects as they enter service phase.

Q.63 COUNCILLOR CLAIRE BYRNE

To ask the Chief Executive can he please outline how much was spent on road resurfacing in the South East Area in 2020, 2021 and 2022, can he provide a full list of the roads resurfaced to date and what roads will be resurfaced before the end of 2022 in the South East Area and can he outline the barriers to decent road surface quality in the City.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

	Estimate of Outstanding Expenditure	Expenditure To Date
2020	0	€2,197,000
2021	0	€1,897,000
2022	€3,517,000	€325,000*

**the €325,000 already spent this year is actually work that was extended from 2021.*

Please see below list of roads and street in the South East Area that were resurfaced (in full or in portion) in 2020 and 2021, those resurfaced to date in 2022 and those due to be resurfaced as part of our 2022 South East Area Carriageway Resurfacing Programme.

2020

Bridge Street
Bridge Street/Ringsend Road Junction
Camden Street Upper
Chatham Row
Christchurch Place
Cowper Road
Dame Court
Drury Street
Elgin Road
Exchequer Street
Harold's Cross Road
Kildare Street
Pembroke Street Upper
Rathdown Crescent
Redmond's Hill
Sandymount Avenue
South William Street
St. Stephens Green North
Tom Clarke Bridge Approach Road

2021

Ashfield Avenue
Ashfield Road
Baggot Street Lower
Cathedral Lane
City Quay
Clareville Road
Dame Street
Fishamble Street
Grand Canal Street Upper
Grant's Row
Harold's Cross Road

Hogan Place
Lemon Street
Merrion Street Upper
Mornington Road
Pearse Street
Rathgar Road
St. Stephen's Green North
Terenure Road East
Tom Clarke Bridge Road
Warrington Place
Waterloo Lane

2022 to date:

Anne's Lane
Castlemarket
Duke Lane
Duke Street
Lansdowne Road
Sandymount Road
South Anne's Street

2022 outstanding:

Baggot Street Lower
Burlington Road
Chelmsford Lane
Dame Street
Herbert Lane
Morehampton Lane
Orwell Road
Pearse Street
Rathgar Road
Sandford Road
Sean Moore Road Roundabout
Sir John Rogerson's Quay
South Bank Road
Sussex Road
Trinity Street

The above South East Area synopsis should help demonstrate Road Maintenance Services' commitment to improving and maintaining road surface quality in the city.

Q.64 COUNCILLOR CLAIRE BYRNE

To ask the Chief Executive how much of the Active Travel fund has been spent on footpath repairs and resurfacing to date and can he please provide a list of those footpath repairs / resurfacing in the South East Area under this funding.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Road Maintenance Services Division has spent €255,000 so far this year in the South Central and South East Areas under the Active Travel Programme. It is estimated that a further €1,350,000 will be spent on Active Travel in these Areas under this year's annual contracts. The South East Area locations to be included this year are listed in the table below

LOCATION	WORK	STATUS
Pearse Street	Carriageway Resurfacing	To be done
Sandford Road	Carriageway Resurfacing	To be done
Sussex Road	Carriageway Resurfacing	To be done
South Lotts Road	Footpath Reconstruction	Completed
Sussex Road	Footpath Reconstruction	Completed
Anglesea Road	Footpath Reconstruction	Completed
Annesley Park	Footpath Reconstruction	To be done
Canal Road	Footpath Reconstruction	To be done
Dartmouth Square	Footpath Reconstruction	To be done
Gilford Road	Footpath Reconstruction	To be done
Lavarna Grove	Footpath Reconstruction	To be done
Orwell Road	Footpath Reconstruction	To be done
Ramleh Park & Close	Footpath Reconstruction	To be done
St Martin's Close	Footpath Reconstruction	To be done
Willow Field	Footpath Reconstruction	To be done

Q.65 COUNCILLOR CIERAN PERRY

To ask the Chief Executive the following: I understand An Bord Pleanála has confirmed the outstanding Vacant Site levies are applicable to the site at 2A Faussagh Avenue (Ref: 309821 or VS-0453). Can the Chief Executive provide the following?

- An update on progress collecting the levies?
- The total amount currently due?
- Any additional penalties for delayed payment?
- The rate of additional penalties applicable for late payment?
- Total amount due after the next annual due date?

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The site at 2A Fassagh Avenue, Dublin 7 was entered on the Vacant Sites Register on 28th August 2019, as it met the criteria, as set out in the Urban Regeneration and Housing Act, 2015 (As amended). A Demand for Payment of a Vacant Sites Levy based on 7% of the market value of the site, was served on the owners in January 2021 in respect of the period 1st January 2020 – 31st December 2020. The owners of the site appealed the entry of the site to the Vacant Sites Register to An Bord Pleanála (ABP) and ABP subsequently upheld the Council's decision that the site was a vacant site within the meaning of the Act and issued the Council with a notice to confirm the entry of the site on the Vacant Sites Register.

In June 22, the owners initiated Judicial Review Proceedings which are live. While matters are pending before the courts, it is not appropriate to impose a Vacant Site Levy. However, if legal proceedings conclude in favour of Dublin City Council, all outstanding levies are charged retrospectively. The current Market Valuation for this site is €5,200,000. If the Judicial Review taken by the site owner is unsuccessful, the levy of €364,000 demanded for the period 1st January 2020 – 31st December 2020 will

apply and a levy of €364,000 will be demanded for the period 1st January 2021 – 31st December 2021.

Q.66 COUNCILLOR CIERAN PERRY

To ask the Chief Executive, in the reply to my question Q.131 at the June council meeting regarding businesses using public paths or public spaces for outdoor dining or drinking during the COVID pandemic, the Chief Executive informed me that the City Recovery Team are conducting surveys regarding those businesses that are not in compliance with either standard street furniture rules/ licences or temporary Covid permits. Has this survey been completed and if so, can I get a copy of the results?

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The City Recovery Team has been working with businesses throughout the summer period to ensure that they are keeping to the terms of their Street Furniture Licences or Covid Permits in order to maintain accessibility for pedestrians and traffic. There are a team of Inspectors working in the City who are patrolling and calling into businesses on a daily basis to remind them of their obligations to keep within the permitted parameters of their agreements. Most businesses are compliant. There can be issues with customers moving tables/chairs outside the permitted areas but these are remedied immediately when requested to by our Inspectors.

There are a number of businesses who had neither a Covid Permit or Licence in place and they were targeted in the first instance. Commencing in July 2022 a large amount of items were seized from 24 different premises around the City but mostly in the City Centre. Of these businesses only a small number made contact to have their items returned. There were over 200 recorded calls to premises regarding enforcement since 1st July some of which were repeatedly in breach of conditions outlined and were therefore targeted for further action and seizure of furniture.

We are currently in a transition period as Covid Permits expire and we are actively contacting each business to advise them to make application for Annual Licence or to remove their furniture from the public domain. There are currently 194 Covid Permits where the business has yet to apply for a licence. 44 Covid Permit holders have applied for a licence. The remainder of Covid Permit Holders no longer have furniture outside the premises. This is being checked daily and reported back by our team.

We are also working with our Transformation Unit to make the Application Process for Street Furniture more streamlined and user friendly. We hope to have a full online application system up and running by January 2023.

Q.67 COUNCILLOR EIMER MCCORMACK

To ask the Chief Executive the following: the issue of grass cutting and the verges outside constituent's homes is still causing concern among residents throughout the Cabra, Glasnevin and Drumcondra areas. Can the manager outline any plans to assist those unable to cut their own verges, be it through old age, physical impairment or visual impairment?

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

In general, people are maintaining the margin outside of their house and neighbours are supporting each other which is what would be expected as this is the experience in other residential areas in Dublin City and County.

If there are particular cases of hardship or elderly people we will provide a one off cut on request however we would need a specific address.

Q.68 COUNCILLOR EIMER MCCORMACK

To ask the Chief Executive to provide details of the Public Liability insurance carrier for the contractor doing the grass cutting work in the Dublin Central area?

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The requested details have been sent to the Councillor.

Q.69 COUNCILLOR EIMER MCCORMACK

To ask the Chief Executive to report on plans for Mount Bernard Park. In particular, when a new park warden will be appointed and begin working and when new larger capacity bins might be installed to facilitate the growing footfall in the park?

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Parks services do not have any plans to have a static warden at Mount Bernard. Like many smaller parks across the district and city these are maintained by a mobile crew operating from a depot locally.

Q.70 COUNCILLOR EIMER MCCORMACK

To ask the Chief Executive to investigate and report on the possibility of providing the larger capacity bins in Ashington Park, in particular at the exit from the train station and at the main entrance to the park.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The Parks Service does not provide bins at local greens or open spaces within residential areas rather residents are encouraged to bring their waste home and dispose of same in their own bins. The bins currently located on the adjoining footpaths are provided by Waste management section. It would be at Waste Management discretion to provide larger capacity bins.

Waste Management Services have no plans for additional or larger bins at the above mentioned location at this time. Litter levels will be monitored to ensure that the existing bins cater for the litter needs at this location.

Q.71 COUNCILLOR ANTHONY CONNAGHAN

To ask the Chief Executive to provide a full list of applications (and their status's) made so far through the European Office.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

A reply will be issued to the Councillor within 14 days of the October City Council Meeting.

Q.72 COUNCILLOR ANTHONY CONNAGHAN

To ask the Chief Executive to arrange for the footpaths on Tolka Valley Road to be properly maintained. The grass along the edge is creeping across the footpath for a lot of parts.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Park services will arrange an inspection of footpaths adjoining grass verges along Tolka Valley Road and report any necessary strimming work to contracted landscape maintenance supervisor for the area.

Q.73 COUNCILLOR ANTHONY CONNAGHAN

To ask the Chief Executive for a comprehensive update on the proposed Tolka Valley All-Weather with timeline for each stage.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

A meeting will be arranged with the interested stakeholders in Q1 2023 with a view to considering a timeline for planning and construction.

Q.74 COUNCILLOR ANTHONY CONNAGHAN

To ask the Chief Executive to arrange for the leak in the roof at (**details supplied**) to be repaired urgently. There has been continuous reports and call outs here but the problem continues. The tenant has reported that there has been several patch up jobs on the ceiling but problem persists.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Housing Maintenance arranged for a contractor to repair the leak in the roof when first reported in July 2022. As the tenant reported further leaks, another assessment of the roof will be done and necessary repairs carried out.

Q.75 COUNCILLOR DANIEL CÉITINN

To ask the Chief Executive if he will install public CCTV at the Sean O'Casey Bridge and along City Quay as this has been sought by the residents committees in the area, who have the agreement of the Gardaí, to assist in dispersing and dissuading anti-social behaviour and to assist in future Garda investigations into violent activity on the quays which have resulted in serious injury on multiple occasions; if he will liaise with Pearse St Gardaí, the South East Area Office, and the City Quay Residents Association in implementing this; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The City Council is working proactively with local residents and An Garda Síochána in relation to anti-social behaviour in the vicinity of the Sean O'Casey Bridge. The installation of CCTV in the public realm to assist in crime prevention is a matter for An Garda Síochána.

Q.76 COUNCILLOR DANIEL CÉITINN

To ask the Chief Executive to install opening time signs at the Elizabeth O'Farrell Park, City Quay in consultation with the local residents association, with permission for dogs between agreed hours similar to restricted access in other parks; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Parks Service will arrange to have signage put in place here to indicate off-lead times for dogs in line with other City Parks.

Q.77 COUNCILLOR DANIEL CÉITINN

To ask the Chief Executive to fund a play area in the Elizabeth O'Farrell Park and if the Parks Department and Play Officer will liaise with the South East Area Office in developing and implementing such a measure in conjunction with the Residents Association.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Parks Service will examine the feasibility of creating a play space at Elizabeth O'Farrell Park, taking into account the impact this proposal may have on the mature trees in this park, and the existence of green areas and play spaces in the immediate area.

Q.78 COUNCILLOR DANIEL CÉITINN

To ask the Chief Executive to work with the South East Area Office to put benches into the Elizabeth O'Farrell Park as this has been requested by the local residents from the estates around the park.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

There are currently two benches in place at Elizabeth O'Farrell Park. Parks service will be installing a third in the near future.

Q.79 COUNCILLOR DARCY LONERGAN

To ask the Chief Executive to expand on the answer provided on the water foundations last month (Q103), including a more concrete timeline, as well as, information on how the locations were selected and what the timeline is for the pilot?

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The public realm schemes that are being used for this pilot project estimate the three water bottle refill stations will be completed in 2023.

For the initial pilot in the public realm the locations were already included as part of planned schemes to conserve resources and these locations were largely dictated by where there is a suitable water main access point.

The Council already provides publicly accessible water fountains in many Public buildings as part of normal operations.

Q.80 COUNCILLOR DARCY LONERGAN

To ask the Chief Executive to state the quantity of data in gigabytes the City Council currently has in computer cloud storage, how much this increases each year, who the provider is of such services and how much are they paid annually for storage. In addition, can he give a breakdown on the type of data that is stored such as CCTV footage etc., and can he make a statement on the matter.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

IS Department

The following is an overview of data stored in computer cloud storage by the

Cloud storage (GBs)	Data-Type	% increase in last 6 months
2602	One Drive	32%
451	SharePoint	20%
16	Webmail	60%
558	Business applications	Consumption based

Information System department.

Total: 3627 GB of Cloud storage.

All cloud based storage is procured via existing enterprise LGMA framework agreements.

Cloud Storage in general is a component part of a user license or ICT business application and also based on a consumption model.

There may be other cloud based storage or systems outside the administration of the Information System department.

Area, Public Domain and Housing Offices, City Hall

CCTV data is recorded locally and stored on NVR recorders (network video recorders). No CCTV footage is stored in the cloud. There are no recurring costs associated with the storage of CCTV footage but there may be costs for occasionally repairing or replacement NVR recorders. Data is not stored in the cloud.

DFB

DFB have a number of CCTV cameras which store the data locally (not in the cloud) CCTV data for the ambulances is stored locally but managed by a cloud based system. The amount stored in the cloud for this purpose depends on the quality and length of footage that may be requested but is minimal and stored for a short timeframe before being deleted. DFB do not store any data in the cloud based on a data storage as a service basis.

Libraries

The Library Management System, used by Dublin City Libraries and all other library authorities in Ireland, is a cloud-based system, hosted in a commercial data centre in Dublin. Data stored includes library borrower records; bibliographic records, and transaction records. The storage amounts to approximately 1 TB for the system as a whole; it is not possible to get a figure for the storage used by Dublin City Libraries alone. Libraries do not store CCTV recordings in the cloud.

Q.81 COUNCILLOR DARCY LONERGAN

To ask the Chief Executive to state what steps he is taking to replace the large amount of plastic bollards that have emerged during the Covid pandemic with attractive permanent bollards or fencing using natural materials such as hedging or wooden bollards?

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

This matter is being examined a reply will issue to the Councillor in the near future.

Q.82 COUNCILLOR DARCY LONERGAN

To ask the Chief Executive to inspect 3 and 4 Benburb Street, Dublin 7 which appear to be in use as rented accommodation and report back to me on their compliance with the standards for private rental accommodation?

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Inspections will be arranged of both properties mentioned above to check for compliance with the provisions of the Housing (Standards for Rented Houses) Regulations 2019.

Q.83 COUNCILLOR DECLAN FLANAGAN

To ask the Chief Executive to provide help to the following who's having trouble with her DCC housing **(details supplied)**.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Housing Maintenance received this repair for no hot water at the end of July (approx. 6 weeks ago). The Depot called out but could not gain access to carry out repairs. The hot water cylinder was repaired for the tenant 23 September 2022 and the tenant's hot water has been restored.

The last report for dampness was attended to in 2017. We have not received a report since then, however we will log this repair now for the tenant and an inspection will be carried out at the premises and all necessary works will be carried out.

Q.84 COUNCILLOR DECLAN FLANAGAN

To ask the Chief Executive to regenerate the following space **(details supplied)**. There was a plan to freshen up this park, plant flowers, replace the broken lighting which doesn't work at night time and generally improve this public space. Nothing has happened to-date. Can it please be worked on.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Park services have provided a complete redesign of the planting beds at **(details supplied)** in the last 2 years providing sustainable, pollinator friendly perennial planting scheme. Additional planting beds were created and seating was installed. The painting of the statue will be listed for inclusion in the 2023/24 Parks improvement programme. A request will be made with our lighting department to have the light at the statue replaced.

Q.85 COUNCILLOR DECLAN FLANAGAN

To ask the Chief Executive is he satisfied that phone calls from the public are being answered in a timely manner when they phone the main 222 number for civic offices and can the CEO advise as to what the KPI's are? How many staff are taking calls presently when the main number is phoned etc. and are there plans to improve the customer experience?

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The calls coming into the main 222 number are split over multiple sections and departments, depending on which option the customer chooses.

The data is broken down as follows for **January 1st 2022 to September 20th 2022:**

Customer Services

- Customer Services have answered 124,133 calls so far this year.
- Average answer delay – 2 min 35 secs
- 46.1% of all of these have been dealt with, without the need to transfer the call
- 48.8% of all of these calls have been answered within 30 seconds

Housing

- Housing have answered 73,468 call so far this year.
- Average answer delay – 3 min 50 secs
- 36.81% of all of these calls have been answered within 30 seconds

Planning

- Planning have answered 6,363 call so far this year.
- Average answer delay – 49 secs
- 67.03% of all of these calls have been answered within 30 seconds

Given the high volume of calls into the organisation, the complexity of the issues being dealt with, call durations are often beyond our control in many instances. This can result in delays in call answering when staff are tied up on these complex calls. The number of staff logged in to take calls will vary from section to section, however this may vary from 1 or 2 in a smaller area office, to up to 11 or 12 in a busier office.

A Customer Experience team is currently being put together to enhance the customer experience and to look for ways to improve the service offering to customers. This work will include a review of the current telephony set-up and improved reporting and monitoring of call answering which will inform future decision making based on customer needs and best use of resources.

Q.86 COUNCILLOR DECLAN FLANAGAN

To ask the Chief Executive to have the following matter dealt with re: derelict housing **(details supplied)**. The front and back gardens of both houses need to be cut back and the rubbish removed. The large tree in one of the front gardens needs to be cut back. Can rat & mouse poison be laid in both front and back gardens as there is a

presence of vermin in the area due to the dumping and the properties being unoccupied.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The City Council will arrange to have the front and back gardens attended to together with removing any rubbish that is dumped to be removed.

The issue of rodents will be investigated and if deemed necessary the appropriate actions will be taken to remove them from the properties.

The Housing Department is currently preparing plans to bring both of these properties back to residential use. These plans are at an early stage and once finalised the City Council will then advise the Councillor of the costs and time schedule for their return to use.

Q.87 COUNCILLOR JANET HORNER

To ask the Chief Executive for an update on the timeline and progress on the delivery of both the interim and the permanent Liffey Cycle Scheme?

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The interim Liffey Cycle Route has been implemented in phases and the next phases of the route which are to be implemented are on Eden Quay on the north side of the quays and George's Quay, Burgh Quay and Aston Quay on the Southside. The anticipated timeline for completion is set out below:

Eden Quay

A tender for the interim works on Eden Quay is to be issued imminently with construction works to commence in Q4 2022 and to be completed in Q1 2023.

George's Quay, Burgh Quay and Aston Quay

A design has been completed for the interim LCR on this section of the route and a tender for the works will be issued in late Q4 2022 with construction works anticipated to start in Q1 2023.

Permanent Liffey Corridor

A Consultant is currently finalising the Strategic Assessment Report (SAR) for the Liffey Corridor Project, the project integrates the cycle route with public realm improvements along the Liffey Corridor. The SAR is the first stage in the Lifecycle and Decision Gates of the Public Spending Code for projects estimated over 10m.

It is envisaged that the SAR will be lodged with the NTA for approval in Q4 2022, approval will also be required from the Department of Public Expenditure & Reform as the project is estimated to be above €100m.

Pending approval the project can then proceed to the Preliminary Business Case and Options selection stage as required by the Public Spending Code.

Currently it is envisaged that the Permanent Liffey Corridor Project will be delivered on site post 2027 as part of the overall Active Travel Network plan.

Q.88 COUNCILLOR JANET HORNER

To ask the Chief Executive for details of the projects applied for and to be delivered under the Pathfinders project?

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

A reply will be issued to the Councillor within 14 days of the October City Council Meeting.

Q.89 COUNCILLOR JANET HORNER

To ask the Chief Executive for an update on the timeline, process and plans for engagement with Councillors and stakeholders for the Road Safety Strategy?

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The Road Safety Engineer is working at the moment in preparing a draft for the Dublin City Council Road Safety Strategy.

This draft will be shared with all the stakeholders in the Working Group Together for feedback in November 2022.

The Road Safety Section will be presenting the final Road Safety Strategy in the first quarter of 2023 at the SPC meeting.

Q.90 COUNCILLOR JANET HORNER

To ask the Chief Executive for an update on progress and plans under the Reimagining Dublin 1 project?

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The Reimagining Dublin 1 Project, incorporating The Laneways Project has recently been assigned to the Office of City Recovery / Central Area. It is noted that several of the individual projects identified in the report have been impacted by private developments that are planned or underway and by recent City Council initiatives, e.g. the new Capel Street Traffic Free initiative (impacting on Jervis Lane Upper).

The Office of City Recovery, with the Central Area Office, will review the Re-imagining Dublin 1 Report and will re-evaluate the proposals and report back to the Councillor with further details as soon as possible.

Q.91 COUNCILLOR DECLAN MEENAGH

To ask the Chief Executive if an annual vacant site levy demand has been made on the owners of 113 Phibsborough Road (reference VS-0048) in each calendar year between 2017 and 2022 and if not, please provide an reason for this.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The site at 113 Phibsborough Road Dublin 7 (VS-0048) was entered on the Vacant Sites Register on 28th November 2017 as it met the criteria as set out in the Urban Regeneration and Housing Act, 2015 (As amended). The owners appealed the entry of the site to An Bord Pleanála who upheld the decision. The owners initiated a Judicial Review which is currently before the Courts. Due to Covid the matter was adjourned generally with liberty to re-enter. The Law Department have contacted the applicant's Solicitor to determine if they are going to have this matter re-entered and depending on their response will seek advices from Counsel accordingly. While matters are pending before the courts, it is not appropriate to demand a Vacant Site Levy. However, if legal proceedings conclude in favour of Dublin City Council, outstanding levies will be raised for 2018, 2019, 2020 and 2021. Levies due and owing for 2022 will be raised in 2023.

Q.92 COUNCILLOR DECLAN MEENAGH

To ask the Chief Executive if Dublin City Council is liable for the vacant site levy on each of the vacant properties that it owns and that are on the vacant site register and

if so, to set out in tabular form, the charge made and paid each year between 2019 and 2022.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Please see reply to Q92 Councillor Declan Meenagh set out in the table attached.

Q.93 COUNCILLOR DECLAN MEENAGH

To ask the Chief Executive that of the eight reported fire incidents at 113 Phibsborough Road/ Old Mill site at Cross Guns Bridge between 2006 and 2011, to set out in tabular form the specific incidents that required a DFB call out to the site and the number of call outs that were charged to the owners at the Old Mill site at Cross Guns Bridge in Phibsborough and the amount charge for each chargeable incident.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Details of eight reported incidents to Old Mill at Cross Guns Bridge 2006 to 2021

Year	Incident Type	Required DFB to Call out	Charged to Old Mill	Charge
2006	Car Fire	Yes	No	N/A in 2002
2006	Industrial Fire	Yes	No	None – Minor Incident
2007	Fire	Yes	No	None – Minor Incident
2014	Fire /Domestic/Building	Yes	No	None – Minor Incident
2015	Industrial Fire	Yes	No	None – Minor Incident
2017	Industrial Fire	Yes	No	None – Minor Incident
2017	Fire Domestic	Yes	No	None – Minor Incident
2021	Industrial Fire	Yes	No	None – Minor Incident

Minor Incident, DFB on Scene less than 30 minutes

Q.94 COUNCILLOR DECLAN MEENAGH

To ask the Chief Executive to report on the number of principal private residences in the local authority area known to have been vacant for more than 12 months (No 7 Connaught Street would be an instance) but not yet sufficiently dilapidated to merit inclusion in the Derelict Sites Register; whether the Chief Executive will work aggressively with the utilities, Irish Water and ESB/Electric Ireland, to draw up a schedule of such properties and whether he will devise a scheme of municipal interventions to house families in such properties in light of the housing crisis and on light of the City Council's obligations and competences as a statutory housing authority.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The City Council together with assistance from members of the Public has identified and recorded a total of 630 potential long term vacant residential properties in its administrative area.

These properties are actively under investigation by the City Council as regards the status of their respective vacancy and if confirmed long term vacant the City Council will identify their owner(s) and engage with them to return their property to use in a timely manner.

The City Council has established lines of communications with the service utility providers however due to data protection legislation the amount of data we can obtain as regards this matter is restricted and limited in nature.

Q.95 COUNCILLOR KEITH CONNOLLY

To ask the Chief Executive for a review of the public lighting at **(details supplied)**.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

An assessment has been carried out on the lighting on **(details supplied)** and the lighting meets the required standard for such a residential area.

Note that under the upcoming Lighting Upgrade Project these lanterns will be replaced with LED lanterns although an exact timeframe cannot be given at this stage.

Q.96 COUNCILLOR KEITH CONNOLLY

To ask the Chief Executive to provide an update on the medical priority application of **(details supplied)**.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The applicant's Application for Exceptional Medical Grounds is currently with the Medical Examiner.

We will contact the applicant as soon as a decision is made.

Q.97 COUNCILLOR KEITH CONNOLLY

To ask the Chief Executive if he will inspect the pathway around the green at **(details supplied)** with a view to adding it to the works programme for 2023.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

An inspection will be carried out at this location with a view for potential inclusion on the 2023 programme of works. If we are unable to include this location, any localised defects will be added to our asset management system and addressed by DCC Crews on a priority basis.

Park services will arrange an inspection of the pathway around the green at **(details supplied)** and will be listed for consideration and inclusion in the 2023/24 Parks improvement programme. Subject to usual budgetary constraints.

Q.98 COUNCILLOR KEITH CONNOLLY

To ask the Chief Executive if he will arrange for the repair of the brick work at the roundabout on **(details supplied)**.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The main roundabout on **(details supplied)** does not have a Brick surround – there is a concrete kerb which has been damaged, unless another location can be specified. **(Details supplied)** is a busy impact level 3 road, which carries certain restrictions to working hours to minimise traffic disruption. To reinstate the kerb would require lane closures among other traffic restrictions.

The damage to the concrete kerb surrounds does not currently pose a hazard and is primarily an aesthetic issue. As such this is currently a low priority concern for RMS.

It has been logged for repair and will be addressed in due course.

Q.99 COUNCILLOR CATHERINE STOCKER

To ask the Chief Executive to detail the council's spending on active travel initiatives in the past two years and to ask whether this represents the full amount available to the council and, if not, what the reasons for not drawing down/making use of the full amount are?

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

As the information required to reply to this question will take some time to collate, a reply will be issued directly to the councillor in the coming weeks.

Q.100 COUNCILLOR CATHERINE STOCKER

To ask the Chief Executive to detail the number of existing public water fountains across the DCC area, their location, when they were put in place and what plans there are for future installations of further water fountains and any obstacles or barriers to doing so.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

As part of the initial pilot scheme three water bottle refill stations were purchased. One unit has been installed in Clarendon Row with another unit to be included as part of the public realm improvement scheme on Adelaide Road and the final unit will be included in the Temple Bar Square Area Improvement Scheme. The feedback and learning from this pilot scheme will inform any wider rollout.

Dublin City Council are looking to install more internal water fillers at library locations, to extend the initial three units that were installed in Ballyfermot, Walkinstown and Raheny which are available for the public to use. We are also looking into the possibility of including external wall mounted water stations on suitable DCC buildings.

Q.101 COUNCILLOR CATHERINE STOCKER

To ask the Chief Executive the number of individuals and families housed in hotels as emergency accommodation in each of the past six months.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The figures in the table below are a subset of the homelessness data reported to the DHLGH in each relevant month.

The table shows Singles and Families in Hotel accommodation from January 2022 to month of July 2022.

Individuals and families in <u>HOTELS</u> January - July 2022			
Month (data below is a subset of Monthly data submitted to DHLGH)	Singles (Individuals without children in homeless accommodation)	Families	Number of child Dependents
Jan-22	143	106	292
Feb-22	146	126	310
Mar-22	153	143	355
Apr-22	148	169	398
May-22	119	177	426
Jun-22	122	169	401
Jul-22	129	194	481

Please note that in general, singles are not placed in hotels but we have residual placements from the pandemic period.

Q.102 COUNCILLOR RAY MCADAM

To ask the Chief Executive to arrange for a disabled parking bay to be located outside of (details supplied); the householders has the Disabled Parking pass but the parking bay is desperately needed; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The Councillor is asked to follow the link below and complete the online service request form. The area engineer prioritises any service requests for a residential disabled parking bays.

<https://consultation.dublincity.ie/tag/d7652216/>

Q.103 COUNCILLOR RAY MCADAM

To ask the Chief Executive to begin the process of including **(details supplied)** onto the Record of Protected Structures; and if he will make a statement on the matter?

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

(details supplied 1). The building is not on the City Council's Record of Protected Structures (RPS).

The area has been surveyed by the National Inventory of Architectural Heritage (NIAH), as part of their ongoing survey of the architectural heritage of the city of Dublin. **(details supplied 2)** has been given a 'Regional' rating by the NIAH and is recommended for proposed addition to the City's RPS given its architectural, artistic and social special interest.

The building will be added to the list of nominations for proposed additions to the RPS submitted by Elected Members and the public currently awaiting assessment. On the basis of the NIAH/Ministerial recommendation above, it will be added to those structures prioritised for inspection and assessment following adoption of the new Development Plan.

Q.104 COUNCILLOR RAY MCADAM

To ask the Chief Executive to provide a report into the noncompliance of a planning condition at **(details supplied)**; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

There is a current planning enforcement file relating to this property. A warning letter has been issued under Section 152 of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended) relating to this matter. An up to date inspection will be carried out within the next 4 weeks by the Planning Enforcement Officer for the area and should the requirements contained in the condition concerned not be in the course of being completed further enforcement action will be taken at that time. The Councillor will be updated in due course on this case. Eoin Kelly is the case Enforcement Officer and the Councillor can contact him should he wish to discuss the matter.

Q.105 COUNCILLOR RAY MCADAM

To ask the Chief Executive when he expects the City Council to begin using CCTV in a pro-active way as now permitted under the recently enacted Circular Economy and Miscellaneous Provisions Act 2022 to counteract the scourge of illegal dumping in the city, particularly within the North Inner City; the locations he has in mind for use of such CCTV; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Dublin City Council welcomes the enactment of the Circular Economy and Miscellaneous Provision Act 2022.

However, those sections of the Act that refer to CCTV surveillance cannot be implemented until such time that the LGMA agrees a CCTV Protocol which must be approved by the Minister for Housing, Local Government & Heritage.

A CCTV scheme which must be proportionate, necessary and complies with the Data Protection Act 2018 must then be approved by the Chief Executive.

Until such time that the above is complete, CCTV cameras cannot be installed in accordance with this Act.

Q.106 COUNCILLOR TERENCE FLANAGAN

To ask the Chief Executive to advise if Road markings can please be made bolded and clearer at the following location **(details supplied)**.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The Clontarf to City Centre Project Team can review the line markings on **(details supplied)** with the Scheme Contractor and make adjustments as required.

Q.107 COUNCILLOR TERENCE FLANAGAN

To ask the Chief Executive to provide a plan in ensuring more public bins are placed in the following location **(Details supplied)**.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Waste Management Services will monitor litter levels in **(details supplied 1)** to see if there is a requirement for litter bins there.

Litter levels throughout the city are monitored on an ongoing basis and litter bins are installed at appropriate locations which have been identified as having significant litter generators such as shops, bus stops etc. The **(details supplied 2)** are part of this ongoing assessment.

Q.108 COUNCILLOR TERENCE FLANAGAN

To ask the Chief Executive to have blue bags collected and sweeping carried out in the following location **(details supplied)**.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Waste Management Services remove blue bags of collected waste after community clean-ups when notified by the resident groups to do so. This would be the case for the **(details supplied)**.

There is no handcart man operating in this area. A road sweeping machine sweeps this estate every Tuesday.

Q.109 COUNCILLOR TERENCE FLANAGAN

To ask the Chief Executive if he would consider pruning the trees which run along the side of **(details supplied)** and if he will make a statement on the matter. The trees overhang the back lane servicing about 15 homes, as the trees have become extremely large and overbearing, and some are pines whose long term stability is not assured.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

These trees form an important boundary to the pitch and putt facility preventing balls leaving the course and entering private property. The boundary will be inspected in the coming weeks and any works deemed necessary will be listed for inclusion in the prioritised tree care programme for the area 2022-23.

Q.110 COUNCILLOR ALISON GILLILAND

To ask the Chief Executive to provide a detailed report on the hot water and flat heating system in Cromcastle Court particularly with regard to the level of outages and delays

in attending to such outages - what protocol is in place for reporting and attending to such outages, particularly over the weekends. There have been quite a significant amount recently and several days have passed before it is getting sorted - with the winter ahead and much colder weather anticipated this cannot go on.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The only recent fault with regards to the heating and hot water system in Cromcastle Court according to our records, occurred on the 12th of September in Block 2. The fault was subsequently rectified and heating and hot water was reinstated.

Heating to all blocks in Cromcastle Court is distributed to all units via underground pipework. Due to the construction nature of the complex, this heat is subsequently retained in the solid concrete slabs. When a fault occurs however, there is a time lag between the fault occurring and the tenants experiencing a drop in space temperature in their respective units. There is also a time lag in the full space temperature returning and being experienced by the tenants when the fault is rectified and heating restored. As part of the successful project to upgrade the heating system across all blocks in 2016, remote access to check the operation of the heating system is now a technology which Dublin City Council employs for the complex. We will therefore increase the frequency of checking the centralised heating plant over the winter months to endeavour to identify, respond and rectify a fault in a shorter timeframe should one occur.

Q.111 COUNCILLOR ALISON GILLILAND

To ask the Chief Executive to outline the public realm enhancements planned this coming 6 months for O'Connell St.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

In relation to public realm enhancements / maintenance, the Public Domain Officer has reported as follows:

- Full Power Washing of O'Connell Street is now taking place twice weekly and additional washing (spot cleaning) is available on request from Public Domain Officer or Area Office and this regime will be monitored on an ongoing basis.
- Sticker Removal on all poles took place end of August, this initiative will continue and ongoing monitoring of same
- Constant presence of Waste Management onsite (emptying bins and compact sweeper/green machine)
- Full renovation of tree pits in conjunction with Parks Dept. This work is due to commence end of September and will take a number of weeks to complete.
- Damaged pavements have been remediated by Roads Maintenance and ongoing monitoring and reporting of same to Roads when issues occur.
- All bins, bollards and Public Lighting Standards have been painted. (July 2022). Litter Bins will be hand washed in order to maintain to a high standard and painting programme will be rolled out again approximately every 6 months.
- Utility boxes all painted in August 2022 and as above will be monitored to keep paintwork up to a good condition.
- Plinths of Statues on O'Connell St are on a specialist cleaning contract and are cleaned regularly and on an ongoing basis.
- Daily inspections of the Street taking place and all issues reported to relevant Departments and followed up by Public Domain.
- Deep Clean of O'Connell Bridge planned for early October 2022

Also to note:

A report will be brought to the next City Council meeting in relation to the review of the Special Scheme of Planning Control for O Connell Street.

Designs for a public realm upgrade of North Earl Street are in progress and it is hoped that this will move to Part 8 Planning Stage next year.

A Planning Application for a Tram café at Princes Street is currently at “Additional Information Requested” stage

Q.112 COUNCILLOR ALISON GILLILAND

To ask the Chief Executive for an update on the winterisation project for outdoor dining on Capel St and Merrion Row as announced in July 2021.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE’S REPLY:

Following consultation with a number of Dublin City Council technical departments the original Outdoor dining schemes for Suffolk Street, and Merrion Row were found to be unsuitable for the three locations.

The Office of City Recovery are now working on plans based around the provision of robust umbrellas and associated works for Outdoor Dining on Suffolk Street and Merrion Row. Once the projects get the approval of the relevant technical departments a small number of umbrellas will be rolled out as prototype.

This will give the opportunity for both businesses and the City Council measure the impact the furniture has on the public domain. Once this process is complete, the Office of City Recovery hope to roll out the enhanced outdoor dining furniture across both locations.

In relation to Capel Street. The Parks Division are in the process of develop an interim public realm enhancement scheme for Capel Street which is to include examining outdoor dining options. It is currently at design team tender assessment stage.

Q.113 COUNCILLOR SÉAMAS MCGRATTAN

To ask the Chief Executive following the recent outbreak of fire blight in trees in Dublin 7, could dcc arrange inspection of trees in **(details supplied)**?

CHIEF EXECUTIVE’S REPLY:

Park services will arrange an inspection of the trees at **(details supplied)**. It is worth noting that the majority of trees in this estate are not susceptible to Fireblight.

Q.114 COUNCILLOR SÉAMAS MCGRATTAN

To ask the Chief Executive to carry out a safety audit of all pedestrian traffic islands in the central area and to recommend changes to same.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE’S REPLY:

All the pedestrian traffic island are going to be removed in this section of the road, that will be refurbished as part of the Blanchardstown to City Centre Bus Corridor Scheme, to provide improved walking cycling and bus infrastructure.

More information about this scheme can be found on blanchardstownscheme.ie, or any further queries should be made directly to the NTA at info@busconnects.ie.

Q.115 COUNCILLOR SÉAMAS MCGRATTAN

To ask the Chief Executive if **(details supplied)** could be considered for a 2 bed unit due to lack of 3 bed units in Cabra and her length of time on the list.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The household has a 3 bed accommodation need. Documentation received from the applicant on 05/01/2022 states a requirement for separate bedrooms for applicant's son and daughter. If however this is no longer the case the above applicant will need to liaise with Housing Allocations further.