

Question to Chief Executive

**South East Area Committee
Meeting 3rd April 2023**

Q.1 Councillor Kevin Donoghue

To ask the Manager to contact Eir in relation to the current state of the phone box in Ringsend in Library Square. It is in a very poor state.

Q.2 Councillor Kevin Donoghue

To ask the Manager for an update on the old Bernard Shaw site.

Q.3 Councillor Kevin Donoghue

To ask the Manager if it would be possible to install better lighting in Temple Bar Square and Fownes Street / Cope Street along with signage highlighting CCTV. Businesses in the area are reporting serious anti-social behaviour.

Q.4 Councillor Dermot Lacey

The east side of the (Sandymount) Green is now very busy with Pete's re-opened, Borza's re-opened as Artybaker plus established Mario's, Butler's Pantry and Bujos all trading busily and some with outside tables. All great facilities but one drawback, there is no litter bin along that side of green. There used to be a belly bin at Borza's but for some daft reason it was removed about 15 months ago.

Could you please request DCC to reinstate this Belly bin and even better put a second one in as well?

Q.5 Councillor Dermot Lacey

To ask the Manager when the actions promised in these replies of October 2021 will actually be carried out in full?

"Question to the Chief Executive

**South East Area Committee
Meeting 10th October 2021**

Q.1 Councillor Dermot Lacey

To ask the Manager to arrange for an audit of the footpaths on Annesley Park, Ranelagh and for all necessary repairs to be carried out as a matter of some urgency.

Reply:

The footpaths on Annesley Park have been inspected and defects identified have been recorded in our asset management system and will be attended to as soon as possible.

Question to the Chief Executive

**South East Area Committee
Meeting 10th October 2021**

Q.2 Councillor Dermot Lacey

To ask the Manager if he will have the painting of the lampposts on Annesley Park, Ranelagh included on the work programme for the coming year.

Reply:

We will examine the public lighting columns on Annesley Park and if the columns are suitable and painting is required, they will be added to a list for inclusion on a future painting programme, subject to available finances.

Q.3 Councillor Dermot Lacey

To ask the Manager if he will arrange to have the trees on Annesley Park, Ranelagh seriously pruned due to their current overhanging and in some cases dangerous conditions.

Reply:

There are No. 29 Malus trees on this road. Following the ground inspection, low branches that could potentially cause obstruction have not been identified and therefore no immediate attention is required. However, to preserve the natural form of the subject trees, crown reshaping will be undertaken as part of 2022 tree pruning programme.”

Q.6 Councillor Mannix Flynn

Can the Manager give a full report with regards the removal of street furniture from outside of Hogan’s premises and the Guilleton restaurant on Fade Street on the 28th February? This report to include what efforts were made to liaise with the business before this furniture was removed. What were the reasons for the removal of the furniture? What discretion, if any, can the Street Furniture Section apply to struggling businesses? What protocols are in place with regards operating this enforcement in a much more amicable manner bearing in mind the stress and strain that businesses are facing while attempting to trade.

It is clearly acknowledge that DCC Street Furniture Section are charged with a very difficult task and perhaps it is time now to take a look at how this law in enforced now that the pandemic is over. This report also to include the payment of fines for the retrieval of furniture. This fines mechanism to retrieve furniture in this instance was to the tune of €900. This is a vast amount of money for a struggling business. A full comprehensive report on the full operations of the Street Furniture Section of the South East Area would be most welcome.

Q.7 Councillor Mannix Flynn

Can the Manager give a report as to what services, if any, DCC are supplying to the residents of the Staircase in Aungier Street? Also, can DCC state clearly the status of this building as to whether this building is being used by Direct Provision? Whether the building is being used to house Ukranian refugees? Or whether the building is being used to house undocumented asylum seekers? Or whether the building is just being used as a bed and breakfast?

It is vitally important that clarity and clear information is supplied here in order not to give rise to any anti-refugee sentiment to any far right grouping. The residential and business community in this area has always been welcoming to many destitute individuals and are merely seeking a due process of information in these instances. It is the duty of the local authority and indeed central government to supply accurate and appropriate information, particularly now, regarding these matters. It is simple due process and inclusion, participation. And indeed, how can we engage in diversity and inclusion if we are not given appropriate information regarding those new communities who are coming to live with us. Withholding of information or the non-supplying of the information leads to disinformation and fear.

Q.8 Councillor Mannix Flynn

Can the Manager have planning enforcement visit the Ha’penny Bridge Bar with regards the unlawful construction of a super pub and a beer garden at the back? This

public house recently acquired the Camelian Restaurant which is adjacent to the Regent Barbers in Temple Bar. These set of buildings are highly listed and are rare within the Temple Bar area. Beer LED signs have been erected onto the facade of the building replacing the restaurant sign and there are clear signs of construction activity in this architecturally sensitive area. Further, the ground and the lands at the back of this premises are not in the ownership of the owner of the Camelian restaurant but would appear to the property by default of Temple Bar Cultural Trust formerly Temple Bar renewal, and therefore possibly lands owned by Dublin City Council.

DCC are reconstructing and renewing a whole new public square in this area formerly Temple Bar Square. The last thing this pedestrian area and public amenity area needs is another super pub dispensing alcohol. The area is saturated with public houses and is crying out for other amenities and offerings.

Q.9 Councillor Mannix Flynn

Can the Manager issue a full report as to how many CCTV cameras are operated by DCC along the stretch of the canal within Dublin's South East Area remit? This report also to include how many CCTV cameras have been installed by Waterways Ireland and are controlled and monitored by Waterways Ireland along this stretch of the canal which is part of their estate?

This report also to include - what security lighting, if any, is in operation along this stretch of water which is widely used by the public. Bearing in mind the levels of anti-social behaviour, serious criminal assaults along the canal stretches it is time that Waterways Ireland upgrade their CCTV cameras and their public safety remit.

Q.10 Councillor Mannix Flynn

Can the Area Manager issue a full report as to how many benches and seats DCC have installed by way of public amenity within the South East Area. There is huge deficit of seats and benches for people to sit within the city. This has happened over the last number of years due to levels of anti-social behaviour where seats were removed or simply not installed. It has now become a serious issue in the city for many older persons and people with disabilities who find it very difficult to find a place to rest on our city streets. On top of that there is a diabolical issue of public lavatories which are nonexistent.

Can DCC give a full audit of all public benches, seats and public lavatories? These public lavatories to include those that are open 24 hours a day.

Further, can DCC roll out an initiative over the summer within the SEA to supply seating in the same way as they are supply temporary bike parking or cycling lanes. DCC cannot continue to pursue a detrimental policy of able bodyism.

Q.11 Councillor Mannix Flynn

Can the Manager issue a full report as to how DCC Waste Management and Litter sections are dealing with the scourge and rise in discarded e-cigarette canisters? These e-canisters are being discarded all over the streets. The product is being used by very young people including children of school going age. They are akin to alcopops in the way they are advertised having sweet fruity flavours and harmless when in actual fact they do cause harm both environmentally and recent scientific evidence suggest that they cause health issues by way of addiction and other ailments.

It is high time that DCC had a policy on this matter particularly in relation to the disposal of the canisters and indeed, their toxic content. The industry that supplies and

manufactures these must be held to account along similar lines as we hold the chewing gum industry to account.

Q.12 Councillor Mannix Flynn

Can the Manager give a full update on the premises that Dublin City Council handed over to the resource centre at Pearse Street some years back? This premises was known as the Space and was to be brought into usage as a youth facility. It would appear that this premises is not in use?

Q.13 Councillor Mannix Flynn

Can the Manager give a full report as to how many homes or premises used as homes or accommodation have been acquired and acquisitioned by DCC in the past five years in the South East Area? This report to include any monies or resources that were supplied to approved housing bodies or homeless services such as the Peter McVerry Trust or De Paul Ireland. This report to include all surveys of these buildings and homes and the amount of money that was paid for each premises and also the process that was used for such acquisitions.

Q.14 Councillor Mannix Flynn

Can the Manager issue a full report as to what protocols are in place by Dublin Regional Homeless Executive and any of the approved housing bodies and charitable organisations such as De Paul, Simon Community, Peter McVerry Trust, Drug Rehabilitation – Merchants Quay that are initiated and are used in the event of death of individuals who are using their services?

Those that are in emergency accommodation, homeless services accommodation and those that are using residential rehabilitation programmes that are financially supported by Dublin City Council. This report to include what protocols are used by way of contacting families of deceased individuals? What other statutory agencies are involved or contacted? And can Dublin City Council produce this protocol and guideline?

Q.15 Councillor Dermot Lacey

To ask the Manager if he will arrange for an action included response to the issues raised in the email submitted with this question in relation to Sean Moore Park:

“Over the weekend I took a walk around Sean Moore Park and around the Children’s Playground. I was shocked and horrified at the sight that I was presented with. Firstly, I thought that there were some posts missing from the lovely wicket fence, until I did a complete walk around the perimeter. Whole sections adjoining the two entry gates completely gone. At the main entrance, the metal gate does not close simply because it was hammered out of line and the catch mechanism no longer meets the gate post. About 37 vertical boards missing but more so on the beach-side of the playground. About 7 complete sections of the fence gone and no sighting of the removed posts are anywhere to be seen.

And then the graffiti, most of which is **high-end porn graffiti** – totally inappropriate in a children’s playground. To verify this, see attached photographs.

While I took some photos of the fence on Sunday evening (see attached), the Community Garda was also there on his bike and was observing and engaging with a gang of teenage boys (not sure if he was called to the playground) or merely policing in his normal course of duty.

This playground was our pride and joy and STTCA were so proud at getting this project started and finished. We were so grateful to Covanta for €227,000 and we worked so well with the Dublin Waste to Energy Liaison Office and all relevant officials in the Parks Department of Dublin City Council during the course of this project.

While the safety of the children who enter the playground is the responsibility of parents / minders etc., once inside the swing gates, the smaller children were safely enclosed. Not so anymore with all the huge gaps in the fence.

For a relatively new playground, and with such a large amount of money being spent on it, it is such a pity to see it in its current state. As with the nature of playgrounds, and particularly in the winter season, they are vacated by children by late afternoon, and can only assume that the vandalism and graffiti is done at a later hour by young adults, as evidenced by the graffiti content.

I am writing to you to firstly make you aware of the situation, and secondly if you are in a position to help with repairing the fence. For information purposes, I will be copying this mail to Irishtown Garda Station."

I would welcome a reply from your office at your earliest convenience.

Q.16 Councillor Paddy McCartan

To ask the Manager to deal with the following issue from a constituent.

He writes:

"The east side of Sandymount Green is now very busy with Pete's re-opened, Borza's re-opened as Artybaker plus established Mario's, Butler's Pantry and Bujos all trading busily and some with outside tables. All great facilities but one drawback, there is no litter bin along that side of the green. There used to be a belly bin at Borza's but for some daft reason it was removed about 15 months ago.

Could you please request DCC to reinstate this belly bin and even better put a second one in as well?"

Q.17 Councillor Paddy McCartan

To ask the Manager to deal with the following issue at Lakelands school at the junction of Durham and Gilford Road, Sandymount.

Several years ago these pavements were dished to facilitate buggies, wheelchairs etc. Today the concrete was replaced but as you can see from the photo, it's no longer dished. Also the concrete is not covered with hessian or plastic to cure it for durable wearing surface as it's now raining on top of unprotected and still soft surface. To call this sloppy work is being kind. It's a waste of public money.



Q.18 Councillor Paddy McCartan

To ask the Manager to deal with the following issue on Strand Road, Sandymount.

He writes:

Resulting from heavy machinery and trucks driving on and turning, the footpath on the left hand side of the road from Eland Lodge to Merrion Gates has been severely damaged and is in dangerous condition. The road surface likewise has suffered resulting in large pools of water accumulating after every shower.

If the necessary repairs are the responsibility of the pipe laying company I suggest that they be made aware of this before the completion of this section of work. If it is the responsibility of DCC I advise that it be repaired before the first accident and subsequent claim.

Today we are informed that the Merrion Gates will be closed in both directions for almost three weeks in April. This will no doubt add to the already chaotic traffic jams on Merrion Road. If sense prevailed the bus lanes in both directions from Trimbleston Avenue to Sandymount Avenue would be suspended until the gates are fully operational again. In turn this would allow a suspension of the No Right Turn from Merrion Road on to Ailesbury Road for traffic destined for the Toll Bridge via Strand Road without diverting through Tritonville Road or Sandymount.

Q.19 Councillor Pat Dunne

Can the Area Manager ask our Road Maintenance Section to replace the footpath outside 149 Windmill Road which is in a bad state of repair?

Q.20 Councillor Pat Dunne

Can the Area Manager outline the road safety measures that are now planned following the recent on-site meeting held in the Crumlin Area with the Traffic Engineer?

Q.21 Councillor Claire Byrne

To ask the Area Manager if he could consider installing a cycle lane on Leinster Road to facilitate safe cycling to the local schools.

Q.22 Councillor Claire Byrne

To ask the Area Manager, given the recent policy decision to end the use of kissing gates in Dublin City Council parks, when will the kissing gate in Ringsend Park be removed?

Q.23 Councillor Claire Byrne

To ask the Area Manager if he could please examine the possibility of privatising the laneway (details supplied). The residents are keen to have an input in to the redesign of the laneway when the neighbouring development is completed and have some ideas and suggestions. Would the Area Manager meet with the local residents to discuss options and ideas?

Q.24 Councillor Claire Byrne

To ask the Area Manager can he please address the issue of the following licenced vendor consistently parking on the footpath or in the cycle lane (details supplied)?

Q.25 Councillor Claire Byrne

To ask the Area Manager could he please consider installing some low level lighting on the Grand Canal between Baggot Street Bridge to Huband Bridge as means to improve safety and reduce anti-social behaviour along this stretch.

Q.26 Councillor Claire Byrne

To ask the Area Manager can he please investigate complaints by local residents about dust and hazardous material coming from the following development (details supplied)?

Q.27 Councillor Carolyn Moore

To ask the Area Manager why the gates to Corrib Road Park have recently been padlocked open using chains and poles, where previously park users could close the gates behind them? The space is used by many local people to exercise their dogs safely off leash, which they can no longer do as the gates are permanently open.

Q.28 Councillor Carolyn Moore

Can Traffic Engineers assess the stretch of Upper Rathmines Road approaching and exiting the signalised crossing at Rathmines Close and continuing around the bend and past the shops? Speeding is an issue here and pedestrians are unable to cross the road safely at the shops due to the blind bend. Ideally a second signalised crossing would service the shops. Are there any other measures that could be taken to slow the traffic here and increase the safety of pedestrians?

Q.29 Councillor Carolyn Moore

To ask the Area Manager if lighting can be installed in the laneway running from William Pearse Park to St. Mary's Road / Crumlin Road, to increase safety for users and decrease dumping and anti-social behaviour?

Q.30 Councillor Carolyn Moore

To ask the Area Manager if the pavement outside the Bank of Ireland at 1 Rathfarnham Road can be dished to allow wheelchair users to cross at the junction of Rathfarnham Road and Terenure Road? While this is not an active signalised crossing (despite the best efforts of this committee) it is nonetheless a place where people cross, but while the island is dished, and the footpath outside Hidden Hearing is dished, there is no route off the pavement for wheelchair users for at least 100m, at which point there are no lights and no opportunity to cross. For the safety and accessibility of all footpath users, can this be rectified as a matter of urgency?

Q.31 Councillor Danny Byrne

To ask the Manager for an update on the social housing application of (details attached), the applicant has been on the housing list since 2008. The applicant wishes to be considered for the property at details attached as this property is available / becoming available.

Q.32 Councillor Daniel Ceitinn

To ask the Manager if a bin could be installed inside Sunshine Park on Corrib Road, Dublin 6W.

Q.33 Councillor Daniel Ceitinn

To ask the Manager if a review of traffic arrangements could be made for Greenmount Lane in Harold's Cross, Dublin 6W, as there have been a number of accidents in recent months plus the lane has become a magnet for rat-runs; if this review include an examination of the feasibility of new traffic calming measures, such as speed bumps, footpath widening or a one-way system; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

Q.34 Councillor Daniel Ceitinn

To ask the Area Manager if an update could be provided in relation to Question 41, from the 14 November 2022, on traffic calming measures for Kilfenora Road and Devenish Road.

Q.35 Councillor Daniel Ceitinn

To ask the Area Manager, in relation to the number of trees which have been removed from Captains Road in Dublin 12 in recent years, if some trees will be re-planted at this location.

Q.36 Councillor Daniel Ceitinn

To ask the Manager to provide an update as to when work will commence on the new playground for St Vincent Street South Flats, Dublin 8.

Q.37 Councillor Daniel Ceitinn

To ask the Manager to arrange to have signs erected in South Lotts Park in line with the City Council's policy on off-lead times for dogs; and if he can arrange for the removal of vines which are creeping over the walls and towards adjacent properties.

Q.38 Councillor Daniel Ceitinn

To ask the Manager to arrange for the removal of parking bays and provision of double yellow lines and a yellow box at Enable Ireland Sandymount school exit gate.

Q.39 Councillor Daniel Ceitinn

To ask the Manager to arrange for Mount Argus Park, Harold's Cross, Dublin 6W to be weeded, and a general clean-up of the park be undertaken.

Q.40 Councillor Daniel Ceitinn

To ask the Manager to arrange for a bin located at Ross Road, Dublin 8, opposite the playground to be removed as the bin is continuously overflowing as a result of people using it to dump their household waste in?

Q.41 Councillor Daniel Ceitinn

To ask the Manager to provide an update as to when work will commence on the new playground for Leo Fitzgerald House, Hogan Place, Dublin 2.

Q.42 Councillor Daniel Ceitinn

To ask the Manager if the planned playground for Digges Street Flats, Dublin 8 will be placed in the garden, rather than on the football pitch, as residents don't want it in the centre of the complex; if residents have been engaged and consulted directly on the location of the playground; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

Q.43 Councillor Carolyn Moore

With regard to the removal and replanting of street trees, can the Manager outline how an individual or group of residents should go about getting an empty tree pit replanted?

- Can the Manager further state does the council actively keep a record of empty tree pits;
- what is the criteria that Parks use for replanting vs concreting an empty tree pit where a tree has been removed;
- and is there a replanting strategy in place to ensure that the maximum number of street trees are replanted vs concreting?

Q.44 Councillor Carolyn Moore

The Dublin City Development Plan 2022 to 2028 lists 21 areas for the preparation of proposed Local Environmental Improvement Plans. Can the Area Manager outline the decision-making criteria for moving ahead with the preparation of an LEIP and state what is the timeline for preparation of an LEIP for Crumlin-Kimmage and Terenure under the current Development Plan.

Q.45 Councillor Pat Dunne

Can the grass verges on Clonmacnoise Road be repaired and cut? After the paths were repaired many were uneven, without grass and in need of maintenance.

Q.46 Councillor Pat Dunne

Can the kerb and the wall capstone be repaired around Bangor Circle green - opposite 92 Clonmacnoise Road?

Q.47 Councillor Pat Dunne

What is the policy of residents and businesses removing street signage off their property without replacing them? Can the following locations be replaced and reviewed (details supplied).

Q.48 Councillor Pat Dunne

Given that part of the planning application by Better Value Unlimited Company for the re-development of Crumlin Shopping Centre includes mention of the provision of a library with flexible exhibition / community / arts space, can DCC engage with them in the context that DCC have advanced plans to develop a similar Library also on the Crumlin Road. Can we ensure that we make maximum use of both proposals to increase community facilities in the area? Can the Better Value proposal be in the form of a Civic Centre with meeting facilities etc.?

Q.49 Councillor James Geoghegan

To ask the Area Manager if he can write to Pest Control in the HSE to investigate rodent issues along Sandymount Strand and adjacent to the promenade on Sandymount Strand following reports of increased sightings of rats.

Q.50 Councillor James Geoghegan

To ask the Area Manager if further to my email of the 15th of March 2023, if a reply to the substantive issues can be furnished.

Resulting from heavy machinery and trucks driving on and turning, the footpath on the left hand side of the road from Eland Lodge to Merrion Gates has been severely damaged and is in dangerous condition. The road surface likewise has suffered resulting in large pools of water accumulating after every shower.

If the necessary repairs are the responsibility of the pipe-laying company I suggest that they be made aware of this before the completion of this section of work. If repair it is the responsibility of DCC I advise that it be repaired before the first accident and subsequent claim.

Today we are informed that the Merrion Gates will be closed in both directions for almost three weeks in April. This will no doubt add to the already chaotic traffic jams on Merrion Road. If sense prevailed the bus lanes in both directions from Trimbleston Avenue to Sandymount Avenue would be suspended until the gates are fully operational again. In turn this would allow a suspension of the "No Right Turn" from Merrion Road on to Ailesbury Road for traffic destined for the toll bridge via Strand Road without diverting through Tritonville Road or Sandymount.

Q.51 Councillor James Geoghegan

To ask the Area Manager if the road surfacing of Morehampton Terrace can be formally inspected with a view to adding this small road for refurbishment and resurfacing works; if the corner of Morehampton Terrace as indicated in the photograph below where double yellow lines are located could be examined for possible solutions to

further disincentivise illegal parking on this spot, including but not limiting to the placement of planter at this spot which the residents would be happy to support.



Q.52 Councillor Hazel Chu

Can the Manager provide a timeframe for resurfacing of Wellington Road?

Q.53 Councillor Hazel Chu

Can the Manager put the footpaths on Ranelagh Road beside Mountpleasant Square on an urgent repairs list? I know the footpaths would be looked at during the construction of the proposed cycle route, but this section is heavily used route for schools and community and currently it is an immediate hazard.

Q.54 Councillor Hazel Chu

Can the Manager provide an update of the previously proposed traffic count for Tritonville and surrounding roads since the water works have been in place?

Q.55 Councillor Pat Dunne

Can our Traffic Section look at the junction on Monasterboice Road at the entrance to the cul de sac with a view to stopping the practice of the parking of big commercial vehicles there? Can a cul de sac sign be erected and some yield road markings?

Q.56 Councillor James Geoghegan

To ask the South East Area Manager if, further to Question 59 on the last area meeting, if we will be supplied with terms of reference.

Q.57 Councillor James Geoghegan

To ask the South East Area Committee meeting if an update can be supplied in respect of the below question.

“Question to the Chief Executive

**South East Area Committee
Meeting 14th November 2022**

Q.80 Councillor James Geoghegan

To ask the Area Manager if he will consider the issues raised in the emails below and attached images (details supplied).

Reply:

This request (Enquiry Ref: 7025406) is referred to the Area Engineer for assessment and report to the Transport Advisory Group for their consideration.

The Councillor be informed of the final recommendations of the Transport Advisory Group.”