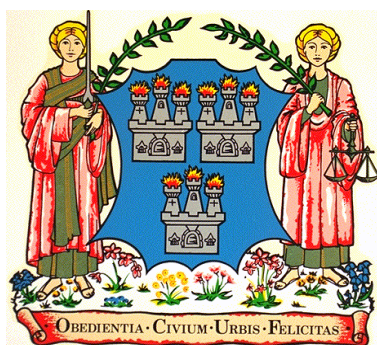


## COMHAIRLE CATHRACH BHAILE ÁTHA CLIATH



Miontuairiscí Chruinniúl Míósúil a tionóladh ar 4 Iúil 2011 i Seomra na Comhairle, Halla na Cathrach, Cnoc Chorcaí ag 6.45 i.n.

**I Láthair an tArdmheara, An Comhairleoir Andrew Montague sa chathaoir.**

**Comhairleoir:**

Gerry Ashe  
Kieran Binchy  
Paddy Bourke  
Tom Brabazon  
Christy Burke  
Clare Byrne  
Julia Carmichael  
Aine Clancy  
Anthony Connaghan  
Emer Costello  
Pat Crimmins  
Pat Dunne  
Declan Flanagan  
Mannix Flynn  
Mary Freehill

**Comhairleoir:**

John Gallagher  
Deirdre Heney  
Jane Horgan-Jones  
Sheila Howes  
Vincent Jackson  
Dermot Lacey  
Mícheál Mac Donncha  
Ray McAdam  
Paul McAuliffe  
Paddy McCartan  
Brian McDowell  
Ruairí McGinley  
Marie Metcalfe  
Louise Minihan  
Rebecca Moynihan

**Comhairleoir**

Críona Ní Dhálaigh  
Jim O'Callaghan  
Damian O'Farrell  
Mary O'Shea  
Michael O'Sullivan  
Larry O'Toole  
Maria Parodi  
Cieran Perry  
Oisín Quinn  
John Redmond  
Nial Ring  
Brid Smith  
Bill Tormey  
Henry Upton  
Steve Wrenn  
Edie Wynne

**Oifigigh**

John Tierney  
Philip Maguire  
Michael Stubbs  
Terence O'Keeffe  
Richard Brady

Fintan Moran  
Tim O'Sullivan  
Damian Drumm  
Declan Wallace  
Jim Keogan

Vincent Norton  
Deirdre Scully  
Roisin Kavanagh  
Oonagh Casey

1. The Lord Mayor opened the meeting by referring to the need for political reform, both on a national and local level. He said that during his term as Lord Mayor, he intended to consult on this issue and give feedback to the Minister for Local Government, Community & Local Government. He then set out his intentions in relation to conducting meetings of the City Council and there was discussion in relation to Standing Orders, in particular regarding Emergency Motions. It was agreed that the Lord Mayor is the sole adjudicator on the validity of submitted Emergency Motions.
2. Ceisteanna fé Bhuan Ordú Úimhir 16 -- It was moved by Councillor C Burke and seconded by Councillor P Bourke "That Dublin City Council approves the Dublin City Manager answering the questions lodged". The motion having been put and

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carried, written answers to the 106 questions lodged for the City Council meeting of the were issued. The Questions and Answers are set out in **Appendix A** attached.

3. Letter dated 7<sup>th</sup> June 2011 from the Office of the Minister for Jobs, Enterprise and Innovation in response to a motion from May 2011 City Council Meeting requesting the Government to bring forward legislation promptly to amend Section 8 of the Casual Trading Act 1995. It was moved by Councillor E Costello and seconded by Councillor M Freehill "That Dublin City Council notes the contents of this letter". The motion was put and carried.
4. Letter dated 16<sup>th</sup> June 2011 from the Office of the Minister for Jobs, Enterprise and Innovation with a further update regarding the horse fair in Smithfield, Dublin. It was moved by Councillor E Costello and seconded by Councillor M Freehill "That Dublin City Council notes the contents of this letter". The motion was put and carried.
5. The minutes of the Meeting of the City Council held on the 13<sup>th</sup> June 2011, having been printed, certified by the Meetings Administrator, circulated to the Members and taken as read, were signed by the Lord Mayor.
6. Submitted Report No. 213/2011 of the Head of Finance (*K. Quinn*) - Monthly Local Fund Statement and Reports as submitted under the EU/IMF Framework. It was proposed by Councillor D Lacey and seconded by Councillor D Flanagan " That Dublin City Council notes the contents of Report No 213/2011" The motion was put and carried. Following discussion, it was agreed that the Finance SPC would examine the format of the Monthly Local Fund Statement and Reports as submitted under the EU/IMF Framework with a view to improving the presentation of the information.
7. Submitted Report of the Dublin City Manager in compliance with Section 138 of the Local Government Act 2001 informing the Council of works which are about to commence and in compliance with the Planning and Development Regulations 2001, Part 8: Report No. 212/2011: Development within the curtilage of the Mansion House, including the Round Room, the Supper Room, Dawson Street, Dublin 2 (Protected Structure located in the South Retail Quarter Architectural Conservation Area). It was moved by Councillor V Jackson and seconded by Councillor C Ni Dhalaigh "That Dublin City Council notes Report No 212/2011 and hereby approves the contents therein" The motion was put to a roll-call vote and carried.

The Lord Mayor and the following Councillors voted in favour of the motion :

G Ashe, P Bourke, E Costello, P Crimmins, D Flanagan, M Flynn, M Freehill, J Gallagher, J Horgan-Jones, S Howes, V Jackson, D Lacey, R McAdam, P Mc Cartan, B McDowell, R McGinley, L Minihan, R Moynihan, D O'Farrell, M O'Shea, M O'Sullivan, M Parodi, C Perry, O Quinn, J Redmond, N Ring, B Smith, B Tormey, H Upton, S Wrenn and E Wynne.

The following Councillors voted against the motion : T Brabazon, C Burke, J Carmichael, A Connaghan, D Heney, M Mac Donnacha, P McAuliffe, M Metcalfe, C Ni Dhalaigh, J O'Callaghan and L O'Toole.

Councillor P Dunne abstained from the vote.

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8. Submitted Report of the Dublin City Manager in compliance with Section 138 of the Local Government Act 2001 informing the Council of works which are about to commence and in compliance with the Planning and Development Regulations 2001, Part 8: Report No. 217/2011: Proposal by the Roads & Traffic Department for the extension of the roadway at Woodhazel Terrace to connect with the permitted extension of Coultry Terrace. It was moved by Councillor B Tormey and seconded by Councillor R Mc Adam "That Dublin City Council notes Report No 217/2011 and hereby approves the contents therein". The motion was put and carried.
  9. Submitted Report of the Dublin City Manager in compliance with Section 138 of the Local Government Act 2001 informing the Council of works which are about to commence and in compliance with the Planning and Development Regulations 2001, Part 8: Report No. 218/2011: Proposal by the Roads & Traffic Department for a new local access road, associated on-street parking and landscaping works to the front of No's 112 to 120 Silloge Gardens and the adjacent Gateway Avenue, Silloge, Ballymun, Dublin 11. It was moved by Councillor R McGinley and seconded by Councillor P McCartan "That Dublin City Council notes Report No 218/2011 and hereby approves the contents therein". The motion was put and carried.
  10. Submitted Report of the Dublin City Manager in compliance with Section 138 of the Local Government Act 2001 informing the Council of works which are about to commence and in compliance with the Planning and Development Regulations 2001, Part 8: Report No. 219/2011: Works to Palace Street, off Dame Street, Dublin 2 : the pedestrianisation of Palace Street and associated works. It was moved by Councillor D Lacey and seconded by Councillor P Bourke "That Dublin City Council notes Report No 219 /2011 and hereby approves the contents therein". The motion was put and carried.
  11. To co-opt a Member to replace former Councillor Catherine Noone, who was elected to Seanad Éireann, and to fill vacancies on the following Committees:
    - Association of County and City Councils
    - Board of Dublin City Gallery, The Hugh Lane
    - Housing, Social and Community Affairs Strategic Policy Committee
    - Temple Bar Cultural TrustIt was proposed by Councillor E Wynne and seconded by Councillor B Tormey "That Mr Kieran Binchy be co-opted to replace former Councillor Catherine Noone and that he be appointed to the following committees: Association of County and City Councils, Board of Dublin City Gallery, The Hugh Lane, Housing, Social and Community Affairs Strategic Policy Committee and Temple Bar Cultural Trust."
- The motion was put and carried. Councillor Binchy took his place in the Chamber and joined the meeting. Congratulations were extended to him by the Lord Mayor, the City Manager and his staff and by the Members of the City Council.
12. Submitted Report No. 185/2011 of the Executive Manager (*P. Clegg*) – Arts Bursaries 2011. It was proposed by Councillor J Carmichael and seconded by Councillor V Jackson "That Dublin City Council notes the contents of Report No 185/2011 and hereby approves the Arts Bursaries 2011 as outlined therein". The motion was put and carried.
  13. Submitted Report No. 188/2011 of the Head of Finance (*K. Quinn*) – Borrowing for Waste Related Projects. It was proposed by Councillor P Bourke and seconded by Councillor R McGinley "That Dublin City Council notes the contents of Report No

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188/2011 and hereby approves the borrowing requirement as set out in the report” Following discussion by the Members and further clarification by the City Manager in relation to the current status of the Waste-to-Energy Project and the implications for this project and for the finances of Dublin City Council as a whole, a vote was taken on this proposal and it was declared to be defeated.

14. Submitted Report No. 190/2011 of the Chairperson of the Transport and Traffic Strategic Policy Committee (*Councillor Andrew Montague*) – With Reference to Draft Bye-Laws entitled “Dublin City Council Parking Control Bye-Laws 2011” It was moved by Councillor M Freehill and seconded by Councillor E Wynne “That Dublin City Council notes the contents of Report No 190/2011 and hereby resolves to make Bye-Laws entitled ‘Dublin City Council Parking Control Bye-Laws 2011’ as outlined in the report”. The motion was put and carried.
15. The following Emergency motion, submitted by Councillors Nial Ring, Cieran Perry, Mary Fitzpatrick, Emer Costello, Christy Burke, Marie Metcalfe and Seamas McGrattan, was ruled by the Lord Mayor not to be an emergency but he agreed that the motion should be referred to the Planning, Economic Development & International Affairs SPC. The city Council agreed to this proposal – “In view of the fact that an application was received by the Minister for Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht last Friday week for ministerial consent to carry out works at the National Monument site at 14/17 Moore Street, the members of Dublin City Council instruct the City Manager to immediately advise the Minister and put him on notice of the motion passed at this City Council on 10th January last, whereby the members agreed that National Monument status be extended to the entire Moore Street Terrace Nos. 10 – 25 (inclusive) and further request the Minister to: A. take immediate steps to grant this status to the site in accordance with the decision of this City Council and B. take into consideration the decision of the members of the City Council, and its implications for the site, when reviewing the proposed works”
16. Submitted Report No. 214/2011 of the Assistant City Manager (*M. Stubbs*) - Grangegorman Strategic Development Zone Draft Planning Scheme. It was proposed by Councillor E Wynne and seconded by Councillor R McGinley “That Dublin City Council notes the contents of Report No 214/2011 and hereby approves the suspension of Standing Orders in relation to the submission of motions for the Special Meeting of the City Council to be held on the 25<sup>th</sup> July 2011. The motion was put and carried.
17. Submitted Report No. 220/2011 of the Assistant City Manager (*R. Brady*) – Pilot Scheme for Choice Based Lettings. It was proposed by Councillor D Lacey and seconded by Councillor R McAdam “That Dublin City Council notes the contents of Report No 220/2011 and hereby approves the Pilot Scheme for Choice Based Lettings as outlined in the report” The motion was put and carried.
18. It was proposed by Councillor B Smith and seconded by Councillor M Metcalfe “That this Council calls on the Oireachtas to establish a Civil or a Public Enquiry into the circumstances which led to the tragic death of Rachael Peavoy in Ballymun flats in the Winter of 2010” Discussion followed on this issue, during which several Members of the City Council and the City Manager again expressed sympathy to the Peavoy family for the tragic loss of Rachel. The motion was put and defeated. Councillor P McAuliffe abstained from the vote on this motion.
19. It was proposed by Councillor D O’Farrell and seconded by Councillor M Flynn “That this Council calls on both the Archdiocese of Dublin and the Religious Orders

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concerned as a matter of urgency to do everything within their power to alleviate the pain and suffering caused to victims of clerical sex abuse” The motion was put and carried.

The meeting concluded at 10pm in accordance with Standing Orders and all items remaining on the Agenda were deferred to the adjourned meeting of the City Council to be held on the 25<sup>th</sup> July 2011.

**Correct.**

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**LORD MAYOR**

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**MEETINGS ADMINISTRATOR**

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## APPENDIX A: MINUTES OF MONTHLY MEETING HELD ON 4<sup>th</sup> JULY 2011

### QUESTIONS LODGED PURSUANT TO STANDING ORDER NO.16 FOR REPLY AT THE MONTHLY MEETING OF DUBLIN CITY COUNCIL TO BE HELD ON MONDAY, 04<sup>th</sup> JULY, 2011

**Q1. COUNCILLOR AINE CLANCY**

To ask the City Manager can the gully at the corner of, **(details supplied)**, be maintained.

**CITY MANAGER'S REPLY:**

A reply has been issued to the Councillor.

**Q2. COUNCILLOR GERRY ASHE**

To ask the City Manager what was the cost to the City Council for the security work involved, particularly checking manholes/sewers etc. for the recent visit of Queen Elizabeth of England and President Barack Obama.

**CITY MANAGER'S REPLY:**

The costs incurred by the Drainage Division in preparation for the visit of Queen Elizabeth amounted to €4,170. The costs were incurred in assisting An Garda Síochána with securing manholes and other street furniture.

Additional costs incurred by Waste Management Services associated with securing, removing and replacing street litter bins amount to €26,007.

**Q3. COUNCILLOR RUAIRI MCGINLEY**

To ask the Manager to set out progress in 2011 in implementing the Homeless Strategy.

**CITY MANAGER'S REPLY:**

In the context of the reconfiguration of existing homeless and housing support services, the following can be demonstrated as progress in achieving the many and varied changes to service delivery across the Dublin Region in implementing the strategy.

- There is now a dedicated local placement and assessment service in each Dublin Local Authority to allow for localised services and the provision of a 24-hour Homeless Helpline. The Community Welfare Service of the Dept of Social Protection continues to provide a dedicated welfare service to Homeless People out of a) Pearse Street and b) Castle Street Offices.
- There is a new client database and bed management system on a shared service basis across the Dublin Region. PASS (Pathway Accommodation Support System) provides for greater interagency working between organisations working with homeless people
  - In addition, there is now a streamlined approach to the needs assessment whereby there is one common assessment tool in use across all organisations and a standardised approach to care and case management. This approach has been designed to ensure the holistic needs of homeless people are addressed and to ensure there is a co-ordinated approach also.
  - A unique accredited training course was designed and put in place with Dublin City University for all Key workers and Service Managers to ensure the highest quality of professional standards across all services

## APPENDIX A: MINUTES OF MONTHLY MEETING HELD ON 4<sup>th</sup> JULY 2011

- The HSE has in place a primary care team called Safety Net which is operated by Dr. Austin O' Carroll, GP. This service provides for a GP and nursing service to homeless people currently in supported temporary accommodation.
- The HSE has in place 2 Consultant-led Mental Health Teams based at Parkgate Hall and Ushers Island, providing psychiatric support to homeless people with complex mental health conditions. During the Cold Weather spell, the Consultants and their teams provided on-street assessment and support to entrenched rough sleepers and to support the outreach teams. The cold weather spell was managed extremely well by organisations as the numbers of rough sleepers reduced to 10 (from an average of circa 64) in terms of those who were resistant to coming in off the streets.
  - Note: The most recent rough sleeper count conducted in March 2011 to coincide with Census Night enumerated a minimum of 59 people sleeping rough in the DCC area.
  - We now have a special project in place called Housing First for entrenched rough sleepers. This is a dedicated initiative for 23 known entrenched rough sleepers who are resistant to coming into temporary accommodation. It involves supporting the person in finding and keeping their own home to live in as well as providing intensive in reach supports in the home.
- We have established more effective homeless services by way of having in place 7 by 24-hour Supported Temporary Accommodation Facilities in the Dublin region (4 of which are in DCC). This moves us away from the outdated model of night shelters to a situation where there is in place 24-hour wrap around services.
- There are two Tenant Support Services (SLI) in operation across Dublin with circa 120 former homeless households receiving support.
- Housing with on site support for people who cannot manage mainstream housing is available with facilities being provided via the following agencies:
  - Dublin Simon
  - Dublin City Council
  - Focus Ireland
  - Depaul Ireland
  - HAIL
  - Sonas
  - Sophia
- There were circa 1,780 tenancies achieved for homeless households between 2007 and 2010.
- There is a reduction in use of Temporary Emergency Accommodation (e.g. Eblana and Cedar House and a reduction of circa 300 Private Emergency Beds) as part of the drive to undertake a Housing First approach.
- The resource commitment provide for by Central and Local Government and the HSE remains to be significant - i.e. the current 2011 funding resource is circa 40m from DECLG and circa 19m from the HSE for support services.

In terms of concentrating efforts on progressing people from homelessness into housing with support, the following represents efforts made in terms of the supply of housing and allocations to date.

Notwithstanding the challenge for Dublin City Council to access the quantum of housing supply needed in order to a) progress people into housing who have been in

## APPENDIX A: MINUTES OF MONTHLY MEETING HELD ON 4<sup>th</sup> JULY 2011

temporary accommodation and b) to have in place a continuous and adequate supply of housing so as to continue to meet the demand, there have been extensive efforts made at a central government level in devising a variety of housing delivery mechanisms, such as the enhanced leasing initiative, a dedicated programme of direct acquisitions and other measures such as Rental Accommodation Scheme (RAS).

Very significant effort has been made on the part of the Dublin Local Authorities, who set up a homeless specific procurement team, to activate interest on the part of property owners in respect of the various Government initiatives (i.e. leasing, etc.) and it is acknowledged that to date, the results have been limited. However it should be noted that in 2010, a specific targeted approach to the purchase of units for homeless households was established and to date Dublin City Council has procured 49 units for this specific purpose. In addition, a total of 85 housing allocations have been made to people with homeless priority.

The new Government's policy statement sets out to ensure a housing first approach to dealing with homelessness and will actively pursue all housing tenures in response to same (i.e. Private Rented, Voluntary Housing and Local Authority Housing, RAS etc.)

Dublin City Council, in partnership with the following providers, has put in place an exciting and innovative approach to responding to people who are entrenched rough sleepers.

- *Stepping Stones Housing Association*
- *Dublin Simon*
- *Trinity Court*
- *Business in the Community*
- *HSE*
- *Irish Advocacy Network*

The above referred to *Housing First Demonstration Project*, seeks to end the need to sleep rough for a number of people who are entrenched in rough sleeping with significant support requirements by providing self-contained, 'scatter site' independent housing units for each participant, with the support of an intensive specialist case management team on a visiting basis.

The group of individuals have remained rough sleeping over a number of years and have tended not to engage with the range of available accommodation/ social care services. Current levels and methods of service provision have not proven effective in responding to the range of significant support needs of these individuals. The first 2 participants began to move into their housing in April of this year.

#### **Q4. COUNCILLOR RUAIRI MCGINLEY**

To ask the Manager to set out the level of raw water stored as of June 30<sup>th</sup> 2011 and June 30<sup>th</sup> 2010 and the level of treated water stored as of June 30<sup>th</sup> 2011 and June 30<sup>th</sup> 2010. The Manager in his reply should set out any measures designed to increase storage capacity under both headings.

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### **CITY MANAGER'S REPLY:**

Figures are currently only available up to and including 26<sup>th</sup> June 2011 and are as follows:

<b><u>Raw water storage:</u></b>	<b><u>June 26<sup>th</sup> 2010</u></b>	<b><u>June 26<sup>th</sup> 2011</u></b>
Poulaphouca	151 days	117 days
Vartry	157 days	144 days
Bohernabreena	Level 2.59m below full	Level 2.03m below full

<b><u>Treated water storage:</u></b>	<b><u>June 26<sup>th</sup> 2010</u></b>	<b><u>June 26<sup>th</sup> 2011</u></b>
Total Volume	1004 million litres	1104 million litres

There is no capacity to extract additional volumes of raw water from the above 3 river catchments. For this reason, an alternative long term source of raw water from the River Shannon has been identified and reports have been submitted to the City Council in this regard. This project is proceeding.

In relation to treated water storage, the City Council commissioned McCarthy Hyder Consultants to carry out a study to identify the drinking water storage requirements of the Greater Dublin Area up to 2031. The findings and recommendations of the consultants are contained in their report of September 2007 entitled "Dublin Water Supply Studies Storage". They concluded that the current effective storage capacity in the Dublin Region, at 1020MI, is not sufficient to meet future demand predictions. While schemes included in Central Government's Water Services Investment Plan (WSIP) will increase treated water storage levels to 1081MI, this may need to be revised further before 2031 to meet the anticipated increase in demand.

### **Q5. COUNCILLOR CRÍONA NÍ DHÁLAIGH**

To ask the City Manager is there a policy re: the amount of Financial Contribution applicants (FCA) that can be allocated to new developments? Do these applicants take precedence over other applicants who are not making a contribution. Do the FCA have points? Could he list for me the amount of Financial Contributions we have housed each year for the past 5 years?

### **CITY MANAGER'S REPLY:**

The Financial Contribution Scheme was introduced some years ago in recognition of the fact that there are home owners of a more senior age, residing in the City, who are finding their existing property too large for their current needs. Their family has now left and they find maintaining the dwelling expensive and they wish to be considered for sheltered older persons accommodation provided by Dublin City Council.

When a new complex is completed and, in the event that it is considered appropriate not to allocate the dwellings in strict accordance with the Scheme of Letting Priorities, approval of the relevant Area Committee is sought. It is easier to allocate to contribution cases at this stage as a fair balance can be achieved. In a development of 40 units it may be decided to allocate, say 20%, to contribution applicants with the remainder split equally between the housing and transfer list.

However, it should be noted that there is a high demand for older person's accommodation and existing tenants seeking transfers and housing list applicants who do not have an asset to "trade" for accommodation should not be disadvantaged

## APPENDIX A: MINUTES OF MONTHLY MEETING HELD ON 4<sup>th</sup> JULY 2011

on the waiting list due to operation of the contribution scheme. A fair balance of needs and demands has to be achieved and this can only be accomplished when there is relatively strong supply of accommodation becoming available. As supply of such accommodation in the building programme has reduced, it is no longer possible to justify facilitating a large number of financial contribution cases.

When an applicant has been approved, the applicant is advised on the estimated waiting period for a vacancy, options that may be worth considering and a comprehensive advisory service covering all aspects of their application. The sale of their house is obviously a very big step and one that can prove stressful for any individual. As our applicants are of the older generation, every effort is made to reassure all applicants and to guide them through the entire process from application to allocation.

There is no specific policy on the amount of Financial Contribution applicants that are allocated housing in new Developments. In general a fair balance of applicants are selected from each of the housing list, the transfer list and the financial contribution waiting lists.

Financial contribution applicants do not have points and applicants are selected in date order i.e. the applicant who has been waiting the longest is offered the vacancy. I attach a table outlining the number of contribution applicants housed over the last five years:

Year	No. of applicants housed	% (of the yearly total no. of allocations)
2011 to date	7	1.4
2010	27	2.6
2009	55	3.7
2008	112	5.5
2007	100	5.8
2006	35	2.7

**Q6. COUNCILLOR PAT CRIMMINS**

Can the Manager request that the Traffic Department look into placing a yellow box to restrict parking at, **(details supplied)**.

**CITY MANAGER'S REPLY:**

A reply has been issued to the Councillor.

**Q7. COUNCILLOR PAT CRIMMINS**

Can the Manager request that the Traffic Department look into placing parking road markings at, **(details supplied)**.

**CITY MANAGER'S REPLY:**

The issue of parking control at, **(details supplied)**, has been referred to the Traffic Advisory Group. The Councillor will be advised of the recommendations of the group when they are available.

**Q8. COUNCILLOR PAT CRIMMINS**

Can the Manager request that the Waste Management Department place litter bins outside the three schools on All Saints Drive, Raheny, Dublin 5 opposite the Garda Station.

## APPENDIX A: MINUTES OF MONTHLY MEETING HELD ON 4<sup>th</sup> JULY 2011

### **CITY MANAGER'S REPLY:**

Waste Management Services had litter bins installed outside the three schools on All Saints Drive on the 28<sup>th</sup> June 2011.

### **Q9. COUNCILLOR PAT CRIMMINS**

Can the Manager supply information on the cost of making a footpath wheelchair accessible.

### **CITY MANAGER'S REPLY:**

There is no standard cost for a footpath wheelchair dishing, as cost depends on type of material of existing footpath, width of footpath, location etc.

Approx cost of standard dishing in an existing footpath.

a) Concrete footpath - €800

b) Concrete flagged footpath - €1,200

### **Q10. COUNCILLOR ANTHONY CONNAGHAN**

To ask the City Manager to arrange for repairs at front wall of, **(details supplied)**, which was knocked down by a motorbike. Residents are not in a position to get this done and it is a City Council property.

### **CITY MANAGER'S REPLY:**

The repair of this wall is the responsibility of the tenant as per the tenant's handbook. Therefore Housing Maintenance Services will not carry out this work.

### **Q11. COUNCILLOR ANTHONY CONNAGHAN**

To ask the City Manager to arrange for the cutting of grass in the City Council property beside, **(details supplied)**, as it is in a very unsightly state.

### **CITY MANAGER'S REPLY:**

The Mobile Cleaning Crew has confirmed that the grass in the garden of this property will be cut within the next two weeks.

### **Q12. COUNCILLOR ANTHONY CONNAGHAN**

To ask the City Manager to arrange for a mortice lock to be fitted at, **(details supplied)**, and to also check windows which are not secured properly.

### **CITY MANAGER'S REPLY:**

The Area Maintenance Officer confirms that a new lock will be fitted and the windows checked within the next week.

### **Q13. COUNCILLOR ANTHONY CONNAGHAN**

To ask the City Manager to arrange for the boundary out the back of, **(details supplied)**, to be cleaned up.

### **CITY MANAGER'S REPLY:**

The Area Maintenance Officer reports that this area is in the garden of No. 2. Therefore it is the responsibility of the tenant to maintain, as per the tenants handbook.

### **Q14. COUNCILLOR CRIONA NI DHALAIGH**

To ask the City Manager what can be done to assist apartment owners/dwellers such as, **(details supplied)**.

## APPENDIX A: MINUTES OF MONTHLY MEETING HELD ON 4<sup>th</sup> JULY 2011

### **CITY MANAGER'S REPLY:**

Bye-law 22 of the Dublin City Council Parking Control Bye-Laws 2010 deals with the issue of residents' parking permits.

Bye-Law 22 (5) (e) provides: "except as provided for in Bye-Law 23, where a building consists of more than 4 housing units and is located in a heavy demand zone, residents shall not be eligible for residents' parking permits."

Bye-Law 23 deals with converted houses and its provisions do not apply to purpose-built apartment complexes.

As the apartment block referred to in this question is located in a heavy demand zone, residents of these apartments are not eligible to obtain residents' parking permits, in accordance with the Bye-Laws.

### **Q15. COUNCILLOR LARRY O'TOOLE**

To ask the Manager to indicate when the applicant will be assessed and awarded points for housing in Area B, **(details supplied)**.

### **CITY MANAGER'S REPLY:**

I can confirm that, **(details supplied)**, applied to Dublin City Council Housing List on the 18<sup>th</sup> May 2011. Her application will be created and sent for inspection in the coming weeks. When the Executive Housing Officer's report is available the applicant, **(details supplied)**, will be notified of her points on the Housing List accordingly.

### **Q16. COUNCILLOR LARRY O'TOOLE**

To ask the Manager when, **(details supplied)**, will be assessed and awarded points for housing.

### **CITY MANAGER'S REPLY:**

I can confirm that the applicant, **(details supplied)**, is currently on the City Council's Housing List with 151 points for Area B (Artane, Killester, Kilmore, Marino, Priorswood, Raheny, Beaumont, Clontarf, Coolock, Darndale, Donaghmede, Donnycarney, Edenmore, Kilbarrack). A statement of the applicant's housing points has been sent to the applicant.

### **Q17. COUNCILLOR LARRY O'TOOLE**

To ask the Manager to have the following work carried out, **(details supplied)**.

### **CITY MANAGER'S REPLY:**

This feature will be completed as a matter of urgency. It should be noted that this feature has been vandalised and repaired on a number of previous occasions.

### **Q18. COUNCILLOR LARRY O'TOOLE**

To ask the Manager to respond to the questions raised in the attached letter, **(details supplied)**.

### **CITY MANAGER'S REPLY:**

A reply has been issued to the Councillor.

## APPENDIX A: MINUTES OF MONTHLY MEETING HELD ON 4<sup>th</sup> JULY 2011

### **Q19. COUNCILLOR BRIAN MCDOWELL**

To ask the City Manager when the decision to suspend the Passport for Leisure Scheme was taken, the reason for its suspension and when it is intended to reopen the scheme for applications.

#### **CITY MANAGER'S REPLY:**

The Passport for Leisure scheme is not suspended and applications can be made by contacting the Passport for Leisure Scheme, First Floor, 60 Grand Canal Street Upper, Dublin 4 (tel: 01 6185000).

### **Q20. COUNCILLOR BRIAN MCDOWELL**

To ask the City Manager the amount of bin waiver applications waiting to be processed and the average time taken to process an application.

#### **CITY MANAGER'S REPLY:**

There are over 17000 waiver applications on hand at present awaiting assessment for eligibility under the scheme. We are also receiving on average 130 per day and this is expected to continue for the next few weeks.

These applications are taking on average 6 weeks to determine eligibility or otherwise.

### **Q21. COUNCILLOR BRIAN MCDOWELL**

To ask the City Manager to give an update on the present position of the proposal to extract water from the River Shannon to serve the greater Dublin Region via a reservoir and treatment plant near Portarlinton.

#### **CITY MANAGER'S REPLY:**

The Scheme is included in the Department of the Environment, Community & Local Government (DECLG) Water Services Investment Programme 2010-2012 to complete the Planning Phase. The Major Water Sources Project has completed a Strategic Environmental Assessment following public consultation, which was adopted by Dublin City Council at its October 2010 Meeting. A detailed Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) is being prepared to be submitted to An Bord Pleanála under the Strategic Infrastructure Act. It is estimated that the EIA should be submitted in 2012/2013 for consideration by the Bord.

### **Q22. COUNCILLOR BRIAN MCDOWELL**

To ask the City Manager to ensure that sites located in the North Fringe are included in Dublin City application for funding under the new initiative for unfinished estates launched by Minister Willie Penrose T.D.

#### **CITY MANAGER'S REPLY:**

The Department of the Environment, Community and Local Government carried out a national survey last year which identified 2846 unfinished housing developments in Ireland, 97 of which were located in Dublin City. As per the Department's Circular HFPD 1/11 & PSSP 2/11, these sites have now been categorised to produce a shortlist of developments requiring a high level of intervention and that shortlist includes the main unfinished housing developments within the North Fringe area.

The Minister for Housing and Planning, Mr. Willie Penrose TD has directed that Local Authorities must deal with public safety issues arising from unfinished housing developments as a matter of urgency and has allocated €5m to deal with the most problematic sites.

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The main criteria for attracting funds are that the relevant development must have significant public safety issues and that there is no developer or receiver in place. The Department of the Environment, Community and Local Government has stated that sites will only be considered for funding under this initiative for remedial works required to render the sites safe and thereby address critical public safety type matters. Elements of work and expenditure which are not essential to ensuring sites are made safe, i.e. works other than those required to prevent unauthorised access, will be disregarded.

Dublin City Council has established a dedicated Unfinished Housing Developments Task Force. The team is currently inspecting all short-listed sites, including those located in the North Fringe, and is preparing documentation to support an application for funding for sites which meet the Department's criteria. The funding application will entail a detailed report identifying the public safety issues involved, costing for the remedial works along with supporting information in relation to enforcement status, the position of the site funder and cost recovery proposals.

### **Q23. COUNCILLOR CLARE BYRNE**

To ask the City Manager and the Planning Department, how much of the following estate, **(details supplied)**, was taken in charge of Dublin City Council? Does Dublin City Council have responsibility for the entrance to the estate (which is not gated) and perimeter walls and if not why are entrances and perimeter walls not always taken in charge by DCC.

#### **CITY MANAGER'S REPLY:**

A reply has been issued to the Councillor.

### **Q24. COUNCILLOR JOHN REDMOND**

Will the Manager inform me as to when the work on the windows, front and back door at, **(details supplied)**, will be completed; the front windows have been installed a number of weeks ago.

#### **CITY MANAGER'S REPLY:**

The Area Maintenance Officer reports that new windows were not fitted in this dwelling recently. The Area Foreman called to this dwelling within the past few days but was unable to gain access. Contact details were left for the tenant and a further call will be arranged when the tenant makes contact with the local area depot.

If there is another dwelling awaiting completion of works, contact can be made directly with Housing Maintenance (tel: 222 2222) and this query will be followed up.

### **Q25. COUNCILLOR JOHN REDMOND**

Will the Manager arrange for the installation of a radiator at **(details supplied)**? A number of months ago maintenance called to the house to measure up for a new radiator.

#### **CITY MANAGER'S REPLY:**

The Area Maintenance Officer reports that the radiator is now available and will be fitted within the next week.

### **Q26. COUNCILLOR JOHN REDMOND**

Will the Manager install a front gate at, **(details supplied)**. When the tenant moved in there was no front gate; she has young children that cannot play in the garden because of this issue.

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### **CITY MANAGER'S REPLY:**

The Area Maintenance Officer reports that new entrance gates will be installed at this dwelling within the next six to eight weeks.

### **Q27. COUNCILLOR JOHN REDMOND**

Will the Manager instruct road maintenance to repair the potholes at, **(details supplied)**.

### **CITY MANAGER'S REPLY:**

Road Maintenance Services has inspected the location and the pothole will be repaired within the coming two weeks.

### **Q28. COUNCILLOR SEAMAS MCGRATTAN**

To ask the City Manager to carry out a survey of, **(details supplied)**.

### **CITY MANAGER'S REPLY:**

We are not aware of any recent water quality issues or complaints from the, **(details supplied)**, area. All water quality samples have met the standards within that zone over the last few weeks.

I will arrange for a water sample to be taken immediately at no. 64, **(details supplied)**.

### **Q29. COUNCILLOR SEAMAS MCGRATTAN**

To ask the City Manager to adjust the settings of, **(details supplied)**.

### **CITY MANAGER'S REPLY:**

The Maintenance Contractor has attended this site and rectified the situation. The pedestrian light should only operate on demand now.

### **Q30. COUNCILLOR SEAMAS MCGRATTAN**

To ask the City Manager if DCC has any plans to remove, **(details supplied)**.

### **CITY MANAGER'S REPLY:**

Dublin City Council introduced a road closure on, **(details supplied)**, in 2005 to improve the safety on the road. The residents of the estate voted in favour of the closure.

A request was received from a resident to remove bollards on 1<sup>st</sup> June 2010 and this is listed for consideration by the Traffic Advisory Group (TAG). The recommendation of the Traffic Advisory Group will be made available to the Councillor.

### **Q31. COUNCILLOR SEAMAS MCGRATTAN**

To ask the City Manager how many, **(details supplied)**.

### **CITY MANAGER'S REPLY:**

A reply has been issued to the Councillor.

### **Q32. COUNCILLOR DAMIAN O'FARRELL**

To ask the City Manager the following question please:

I note that Internal Audit was requested (in May 2010) by senior management in Motor Tax to conduct an examination of the practices and procedures relating to the receipt and processing of driving licence applications. Internal Audit was informed

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that a number of applications for driving licences which had been submitted by some foreign nationals were apparently irregular.

As per a request to the City Manager last month from Independent Councillor Mannix Flynn the "Internal Audit Report R07/10 Review of Practices and Procedures Relating to the Issuing of Driving Licences (November 2010)" was distributed to all 52 Councillors.

### RECOMMENDATIONS

7.1 Internal Audit recommends that MTO management must take appropriate action to deal with this matter urgently, and should notify An Garda Síochána (Ballymun and the Bridewell Stations) and liaise with Human Resources Department as necessary. [Internal Audit is aware that this recommendation has already been implemented].

I note that the recommendation above was implemented and An Garda Síochána was notified. Considering the serious nature of this matter and the possible implications of a criminal gang having access to a supply of driving licences can the City Manager please let me know exactly when An Garda Síochána were notified please?

### **CITY MANAGER'S REPLY:**

The Garda investigation at both the Bridewell and Ballymun Garda Stations is continuing. While files are being prepared to submit to the Director of Public Prosecutions for his consideration it is not appropriate to issue further detail on this matter.

### **Q33. COUNCILLOR HENRY UPTON**

To ask the City Manager the number of residential lettings that are currently in rent arrears; the total amount of those arrears; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

### **CITY MANAGER'S REPLY:**

There are currently 6,370 residential lettings in arrears with rent payment. This figure is based on the industry standard for dealing with arrears i.e. more than 12 weeks. The total amount of these arrears is €19,582,334.

The Rent Arrears Section contacts all tenants who are in arrears of rent, at an early stage, in an effort to enter into agreements with the tenants to pay off the arrears. Tenants are encouraged to avail of the Household Budget Scheme which allows tenants who receive certain Social Services payments to pay a regular amount by direct deduction from their payments or to pay by Direct Debit from their bank account.

Where an agreement cannot be reached with the tenant or where the tenant has continuously defaulted on the terms of an agreement the City Council may take steps to recover the property.

### **Q34. COUNCILLOR JANE HORGAN-JONES**

To ask the City Manager to provide the following information, **(details supplied)**.

### **CITY MANAGER'S REPLY:**

A reply has been issued to the Councillor.

### **Q35. COUNCILLOR JANE HORGAN-JONES**

To ask the City Manager to comment on the following situation and respond appropriately, **(details supplied)**.

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### **CITY MANAGER'S REPLY:**

1. There are a number of laneways that need attention in this area. Items of dumping have been regularly removed from this area. Waste Management Division will clean this laneway within the next 2 weeks and the Area Litter Warden will monitor the area.
2. The laneway between 27, **(details supplied a)**, and 131, **(details supplied b)**, is not in charge of Dublin City Council.

### **Q36. COUNCILLOR JANE HORGAN-JONES**

To ask the City Manager to make a statement on the homelessness crisis in Dublin City and address each of the following points individually in his response:

- How many female only emergency beds have been closed in Dublin City in recent times, and how does the Manager propose to address the problems created by these closures for vulnerable women who have recently exited violent domestic situations and are at risk?
- Whether there are plans to re-open the Sancta Maria shelter, and if there are such plans then can the Manager address why this is so despite the fact that the building has been deemed a fire hazard and is unsuitable for such a purpose.
- Can the Manager confirm that the current situation involves people in need of emergency shelter being required to sleep on mattresses in existing hostels while other hostels remain closed? Can the Manager provide a response to ensure that unacceptable emergency shelter of this standard is not utilised in Dublin City?
- What efforts have been made to date, and can be made into the future by the City Council, to secure the many units of unused apartments in the city as move-on accommodation for homeless people that is so badly required throughout the city?

### **CITY MANAGER'S REPLY:**

It is important to note that Dublin City Council does not decommission the use of emergency beds without ensuring that there is adequate emergency accommodation in place to accommodate those who are rough sleeping, which includes men, women and families. This important principle has been agreed by all the key stakeholders involved in the current reconfiguration of homeless services, which includes NGO providers as part of the Voluntary Network. Bed capacity and the need for emergency accommodation is monitored on a daily basis through a bed-management system referred to as PASS (Pathway Accommodation Support System) and there is in place an intersectoral implementation advisory group and accommodation co-ordination group that monitors these issues very closely.

Dublin City Council responds to homelessness under the guidance of the *Pathway to Home* model of homeless and housing support services in Dublin, the main focus of which is to prevent homelessness in the first instance and, should a person become homeless, that they can progress out of homelessness as quickly as possible into independent living. Homeless services have been going through a process of reconfiguration to ensure that we will be able to increase the number of people who can gain access to long-term housing with supports provided in their own home (as required) and minimise the time that people are staying in an emergency situation without access to appropriate support or housing options.

The current range of accommodation services and accommodation options, which respond in particular to a) gender specific services and b) accommodation services for women and children, are as follows:

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- Aylward Green: This service (13 units in total), provided by Focus Ireland, fully conforms to the pathway model in that the programme is 24-hour Supported Temporary Accommodation (STA) available to the assessment and placement service and specifically aimed at family households in crisis and needing support.
- Mount Brown: NOVAS/Mount Brown (22 bed) continues to offer accommodation and support for women only at the present time. The future plan is for Novas to provide STA provision as part of the localisation strategy, which will take time and therefore remains a viable service in the present. Therefore this service is in operation now and will remain so until a suitable alternative is put in place.
- Haven House: Haven House currently provides for accommodation and support for 17 single women. Haven House, as a facility, has never been even close to full utilisation or capacity since opening. Additional to the 17 single women residing there, there were a number of family households (7 in total), all of whom have been successfully housed via Dublin City Council.
- Dublin City Council is working to eliminate the use of Private Emergency Accommodation (PEA). This element at the present time nevertheless provides accommodation options specifically for women and children. In cognisance of the need to respond to the support needs of children and families in PEA, an agreement is in place with Focus Ireland to provide for assessment and support on an interim basis to ensure that vulnerable families, including women with children in PEA homeless accommodation are supported.

In addition to the above and, as part of the reconfiguration of existing services, plans are at an advanced stage to bring in to operation targeted services to the above groups on the following basis; a) Women's only Supported Temporary Accommodation and b) Supported Temporary Accommodation for Women and Children. It is hoped that final agreement with the provider(s) concerned will conclude shortly.

The question also makes reference to 'vulnerable women who have recently exited violent domestic situations and are at risk'. Whilst there is no doubt that domestic violence can lead to an experience of homelessness, it is important to recognise that this may not be the case in every instance given the presence of other forms of provision such as Domestic Violence Refuges.

**Q. Whether there are plans to re-open the Sancta Maria shelter, and if there are such plans then can the Manager address why this is so despite the fact that the building has been deemed a fire hazard and is unsuitable for such a purpose.**

### **Response**

The Sancta Maria shelter continues to operate as a form of emergency accommodation currently i.e. the facility was never at any stage withdrawn. It is important to note that the facility has not been deemed a fire hazard. Whilst this particular facility is one that is agreed as not having a long-term future in the reconfiguration of homeless services, it nevertheless serves a purpose currently in terms of ensuring there is adequate emergency bed provision in the city and as we move through the transition phase of moving people into housing with supports and concentrating supported temporary accommodation into fit for purpose facilities.

**Q. Can the Manager confirm that the current situation involves people in need of emergency shelter being required to sleep on mattresses in existing hostels**

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**while other hostels remain closed? Can the Manager provide a response to ensure that unacceptable emergency shelter of this standard is not utilised in Dublin City?**

### **Response**

To date, one 'emergency shelter/ facility' (namely Cedar House) in the DCC area has been decommissioned, as it was not fit for purpose and is one of a number of facilities which, over time, will be withdrawn or decommissioned. As referenced earlier, it is crucial to note that not fit for purpose facilities are only decommissioned on the basis of finding suitable accommodation for the existing service users. The City Council is operating in accordance with an agreed partnership action plan involving the voluntary and statutory partners who work closely together to monitor carefully the implementation of the changes to take place, all of which are in accordance with National Homeless Policy which is to move to a Housing First approach to dealing with homelessness.

It is accurate to say that a very minimal number of temporary mattresses have been in use in an emergency response to presenting needs at night-time and which began as a result of the extreme cold weather conditions. However when this does occur Dublin City Council works with service providers to accommodate service users in more suitable accommodation. Significant effort has been made on the part of DCC and voluntary bodies to address this matter by way of putting in place capacity and working to having withdrawn the small quantum of mattresses in use by end July 2011 as a practice which is agreed as unacceptable.

Another very important point needs to be made in the above context. Homeless presentation can fluctuate significantly; therefore there is always a requirement to monitor and adjust capacity as required. However, the more significant challenge which the sector faces is the level of churning of services users and the co-ordination of beds available in the sector i.e. where services users are moving between emergency facilities and different service providers. Given we have recently introduced a bed management system and the fact that great effort is being expended on the part of an intersectoral accommodation co-ordination group, we are confident that over time we will resolve this pattern by concentrating, in particular, on the following key actions:

- Taking a 'stabilisation' approach to ensure that homeless people do not have to consistently 're-present' for an emergency bed (i.e. where we make the minimal level of placements so that the concentration is on assessment, key working and support/ care planning). This includes removing certain practices such as one night stays and the night bus operation.
- Consolidate the existing emergency services into effective 24-hour operations with adequate resources and staff competencies to work with the client group concerned.
- Ensure follow on is made by way of providing housing with support as required.

**Q. What efforts have been made to date, and can be made into the future by the City Council, to secure the many units of unused apartments in the city as move-on accommodation for homeless people that is so badly required throughout the city?**

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### Response

It has been a challenge for Dublin City Council to access the quantum of housing supply needed in order to a) progress people into housing who have been in temporary accommodation and b) to have in place a continuous and adequate supply of housing so as to continue to meet the demand. This has been the case despite the extensive efforts being made at a central government level in devising a variety of housing delivery mechanisms, such as the enhanced leasing initiative, a dedicated programme of direct acquisitions and other measures such as the Rental Accommodation Scheme (RAS)

A very significant effort has been made on the part of the Dublin Local Authorities, who set up a homeless specific procurement team, to activate interest on the part of property owners in respect of the various Government initiatives (i.e. leasing etc.) and it is acknowledged that to date the results have been limited. However it should be noted that in 2010 a specific targeted approach to the purchase of units for homeless households was established and to date Dublin City Council has procured 49 units for this specific purpose.

Notwithstanding the above, Dublin City Council welcomes the new Government's commitment to ensure a Housing First approach to dealing with homelessness and will actively pursue all housing tenures in response to same (i.e. Private Rented, Voluntary Housing and Local Authority Housing, RAS, etc.).

Apropos the above Dublin City Council, in partnership with the following providers, has put in place an exciting and innovative approach to responding to people whom are entrenched rough sleepers.

- *Stepping Stones Housing Association*
- *Dublin Simon*
- *Trinity Court*
- *Business in the Community*
- *HSE*
- *Irish Advocacy Network*

The above referred to *Housing First Demonstration Project*, seeks to end the need to sleep rough for a number of people who are entrenched in rough sleeping with significant support requirements by providing self-contained, 'scatter site' independent housing units for each participant, with the support of an intensive specialist case management team on a visiting basis.

The group of individuals has remained rough sleeping over a number of years and have tended not to engage with the range of available accommodation/ social care services. Current levels and methods of service provision have not proven effective in responding to the range of significant support needs of these individuals. The first 2 participants began to move into their housing in April of this year.

In addition to the above a total of 85 housing allocations have been made to people with homeless priority.

### Q37. COUNCILLOR JANE HORGAN-JONES

To ask the City Manager to arrange for the following work to be done, **(details supplied)**.

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### **CITY MANAGER'S REPLY:**

A reply has been issued to the Councillor.

### **Q38. COUNCILLOR MANNIX FLYNN**

Can the City Manager request a report of the noise monitoring equipment in usage at Dublin Port and monitored by the Dublin Port Company. This report will assist us in ascertaining the noise nuisance emanating from the crane usage by the company MTL and would possibly lead to future remedies in relation to environmental noise pollution at this site.

### **CITY MANAGER'S REPLY:**

A request has been made for access to noise monitoring data collected by Dublin Port Company. Access is gained remotely via the internet and steps are being taken to enable officers from the Air Quality Monitoring and Noise Control Unit to connect with this system. Until the data has been viewed officers are not in a position to determine how useful it will be in the investigation and remediation of alleged noise nuisance from this site.

### **Q39. COUNCILLOR MANNIX FLYNN**

Can the City Manager bring a report to this Council in relation to the issues surrounding the closure of the Lighthouse Cinema complex in Smithfield and the threatened closure of the Complex Arts Space. Can the City Manager also include in that report the planning provisions in the Smithfield area for cultural amenities and cultural spaces that were part of the Smithfield Area Rejuvenation.

### **CITY MANAGER'S REPLY:**

I understand that the Light House Cinema in Smithfield was wound up by order of the High Court on the 15 April 2011, and a liquidator appointed, following a dispute about rent on the premises.

The Complex, Smithfield occupies Units 18, 19, 20 and 20a of Block C, Smithfield Market. There is no planning permission for this use of the premises. A decision by Dublin City Council to grant planning permission for the amalgamation and change of use of Unit 18 (permitted shop) and 19 (permitted restaurant) to provide for a single unit, signage, minor changes to the elevations and ancillary site works and to refuse permission for subsidiary alcohol sales at Block C, Smithfield Market, has been appealed to An Bord Pleanála (Plan No. 4176/10; Bord Pleanála Ref: L29N239124).

The HARP Integrated Area Plan identified the need to provide a strong magnet of a commercial and/or cultural nature on the West side of Smithfield, together with the promotion of the urban space as a performance venue.

There is some lack of clarity as to the floor area of cultural space to be provided within the Fusano development on the West side of Smithfield (referred to as Smithfield Market Development). The original planning permissions granted for the West side provided for an "auditorium/exhibition area 3,376sq.m." and a "children's museum 4,195 sq.m." (Plan Nos. 2502/99 and 2528/99); representing a total of 7,571 sq.m. for 'cultural' uses.

However, there is a considerable history of planning permissions for revisions, amendments and changes of use to this complex of buildings over the years, which are being examined to establish the extent and location of the cultural space provision. It should be noted that the planning application for revisions and changes of use under Plan No. 4830/06, which was granted, states in the public notices that

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“There will be no reduction in overall 81,000 sq. ft cultural space.” The planning permission granted for the development of the cinema (Plan No. 1879/07) states that the then “proposed cinema / exhibition area to comprise c. 5,265.8 sq.m.”

The Planning Department has commenced the preparation of a background report in relation to the preparation of a Draft Cultural and Creative Framework for the Smithfield area. The Background Report will include a detailed examination of the planning history of the area to identify the extent of space to be provided for cultural use on the West side of Smithfield.

### **Q40. COUNCILLOR MANNIX FLYNN**

Can the City Manager supply me with the list regarding premises, individuals and companies who avail of rates ‘exemption’ within the Dublin City Council.

#### **CITY MANAGER’S REPLY:**

Dublin City Council complies with the Valuation List determined by the Commissioner of Valuation when charging rates. Properties are deemed list rateable by the Valuation Office unless they are included in Schedule 4 of the Valuation Act 2001 which sets out details of relevant property not rateable. The schedule includes land used for agriculture, horticulture, forestry and sport; also buildings used exclusively for public religious worship, caring for sick persons, educational institutions, any art gallery, museum, library, park or national monument which is open to the public and not maintained for the purpose of making a private profit, community halls and buildings used for charitable purposes by a charitable organisation (see sec. 16). And buildings occupied by members of either house of the Oireachtas or a member of the European Parliament exclusively as his/her constituency office. Dublin City Council does not have a separate list of Schedule 4 properties as properties listed as demolished, amalgamated, land, struck out etc. all have a zero valuation.

### **Q41. COUNCILLOR MANNIX FLYNN**

Can the City Manager issue a report in relation to the illegal parking of taxis within the city area. The growing culture of illegal taxi ranks is causing grave concern to both pedestrians and road users. It would appear that taxis are forming ranks in the most dangerous of places within the city. This practice is now out of control and is not abating. Cyclepaths are being blocked outside Georges Street/Dunnes Stores, parts of the Temple Bar area (exchequer street corner) are almost impassable. This is an urgent matter. Also can the City Manager ascertain how many fines have been issued in relation to this matter and how many have been paid.

#### **CITY MANAGER’S REPLY:**

This is an enforcement issue for the Gardaí. Dublin City Council will write to the Gardaí advising them of the concerns expressed and requesting the information on fines issued and paid.

### **Q42. COUNCILLOR CRIONA NI DHALAIGH**

To ask the City Manager and TAG to consider the following recommendation, (details supplied).

#### **CITY MANAGER’S REPLY:**

A reply has been issued to the Councillor.

### **Q43. COUNCILLOR CRIONA NI DHALAIGH**

To ask the City Manager and TAG to consider the following recommendation, (details supplied).

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### **CITY MANAGER'S REPLY:**

This matter will be referred to the Traffic Advisory Group (TAG) and the Councillor will be advised of the recommendation in due course.

### **Q44. COUNCILLOR STEVE WRENN**

To ask the City Manager what are his intentions regarding the security markings on poles and manholes across the city which were spray painted in the run up to the recent visits from President Obama and Queen Elizabeth; if they will wash away in a short time or if they will have to be removed like graffiti; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

### **CITY MANAGER'S REPLY:**

Temporary seals and markings were put in place for security purposes by An Garda Síochána at manholes, gullies and other street furniture to ensure successful visits by Queen Elizabeth II and President Obama. The seals will remain in place until access is needed for routine maintenance. There are no plans to remove the paint at these locations.

### **Q45. COUNCILLOR STEVE WRENN**

To ask the City Manager, if given the recent death of a cyclist in the city centre, what his intentions are regarding addressing the serious safety concerns of cyclists in the city including those raised by a group, **(details supplied)**, in a recent report; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

### **CITY MANAGER'S REPLY:**

Dublin City Council deeply regrets the occurrence of any fatal road collision within its area of responsibility. Dublin City Council is fully committed to increasing road safety for all road users and through its three road safety plans covering the period 1998 to 2012 has, along with An Garda Síochána and the Road Safety Authority, succeeded in reducing the number of fatal casualties very significantly. The Roads and Traffic Department frequently meet with representatives of the, **(details supplied)**, and are familiar with their concerns and the details attached to this question. The Department continues to support and promote cycling in the city through the development of new and improved cycle lanes, road resurfacing, speed reduction in city centre and engineering solutions to one-way streets and multi-lane gyratory system where feasible. The Roads and Traffic Department has recently re-organised staff in Traffic Management and Control, with staff previously assigned to Area and Traffic Advisory Group (TAG) matters being assigned to a Sustainable Transport Section. Among the responsibilities of this Section will be the management of the provision of new and upgraded cycling infrastructure.

### **Q46. COUNCILLOR STEVE WRENN**

To ask the City Manager, given the ongoing serious anti-social behaviour in and around buildings at a location, **(details supplied)**, if he will consider a revised demolition schedule for the buildings; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

### **CITY MANAGER'S REPLY:**

A reply has been issued to the Councillor.

### **Q47. COUNCILLOR STEVE WRENN**

To ask the City Manager, given the increased health concern around obesity and in particular childhood obesity, if he will consider making it a requirement that suppliers of food and drinks to vending machines in City Council sports and leisure facilities be

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required to consult a nutritionist on the products they intend to supply; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

### **CITY MANAGER'S REPLY:**

The Councillor's concerns have been noted and will be passed on to the relevant suppliers.

### **Q48. COUNCILLOR MICHAEL O'SULLIVAN**

Will the Manager say, given the commitments in the park, when environmental enhancement work will commence in Neagh Park, on Neagh Road, Terenure, Dublin 6W. Will he also outline the leasehold agreement between the Boxing Club on site and the City Council and will he make a statement on the matter.

### **CITY MANAGER'S REPLY:**

The Parks and Landscape Division, with the agreement of local residents, drew up development proposals in 2009 to regenerate the open space at Neagh Road. Due to current economic constraints it is not known when the works will commence.

A meeting is due to take place on 6th July with a view to finalising a 5-year lease with Mount Tallant Boxing Club.

### **Q49. COUNCILLOR MICHAEL O'SULLIVAN**

Will the City Manager respond to the security and safety concerns raised by those residents of Mangerton Road whose houses adjoin the Lansdowne Valley Pitch and Putt club by (a) ensuring that adequate netting is provided to ensure stray golf balls do not land in gardens where they are at risk of injuring people and damaging property, (b) ensuring that adequate fencing is in place to prevent entrance to the course by people trespassing into gardens and climbing over the existing wall. This is a particular problem for end of terrace houses where it is easier for intruders to gain access from the street, and is a cause of great concern to the residents who feel intimidated by groups of youths who regularly use this route to get access to the course.

### **CITY MANAGER'S REPLY:**

(a) Parks and Landscape Services will undertake repairs to the existing ballstop netting. There is no funding available to provide additional netting.

(b) Parks and Landscape Services will meet with residents to assess existing and potential access points to the pitch and putt course. An assessment will be made of options to secure these areas subject to funding.

### **Q50. COUNCILLOR MICHAEL O'SULLIVAN**

Could the City Manager outline the Council's policy in relation to the removal of broken glass from public parks and playing pitches in the city, and could the Manager further indicate what, if any, preventative measures have been considered to deal with what seems to be an increasing problem.

### **CITY MANAGER'S REPLY:**

Parks and Landscape Services Division carries out removal of debris and litter in parks and open spaces in the course of regular maintenance operations and following assessment by local supervisory staff. The frequency of such operations is based on the extent of the maintenance requirement and the level of available resources. Playing pitches are inspected on Friday mornings during the letting

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season to determine playability and clubs with lettings and fixture officials are expected to generally examine the pitch immediately prior to fixtures and to remove any material which could be a danger to those participating in the fixture. Waste Management Services and Public Domain Officers throughout the city continue to advise the public through a variety of methods regarding responsible disposal of waste including glass.

### Q51. **COUNCILLOR MICHAEL O'SULLIVAN**

Will the City Manager agree to have the request from my constituent, **(details supplied)**, to have the trees growing in the flower beds close to his residence cut down and replaced by just small flowers or low level plants and will he make a statement on this request.

#### **CITY MANAGER'S REPLY:**

Parks and Landscape Services have met with, **(details supplied)**, and agreed to complete these works within the next few weeks.

### Q52. **COUNCILLOR JIM O'CALLAGHAN**

To ask the City Manager whether, **(details supplied)**, which is listed as a 'protected structure', can be maintained in a good state of repair.

#### **CITY MANAGER'S REPLY:**

The site was inspected by Enforcement and Conservation officers earlier this month. An updated Section 59 Endangerment Notice under the Planning & Development Acts has been served on the owners requiring them to undertake the following works-

- Carry out maintenance and repair to the roof, the roof valleys and the chimneys.
- Clear all rainwater goods and carry out conservation repair where damage has occurred.
- Carry out conservation repair to damaged and decayed section of soffit and fascia.
- Repair all damaged glazing.
- Take all necessary measures to ensure that the building is adequately secured.

A further inspection will take place at a later date to establish if the works have been carried out. If the works are not carried out satisfactorily court action will be initiated.

### Q53. **COUNCILLOR JIM O'CALLAGHAN**

To ask the City Manager whether Camden Row can be cleaned on a more frequent basis since there is a considerable amount of broken debris left on the Row as a result of customers using licensed premises on Camden/Aungier Street.

#### **CITY MANAGER'S REPLY:**

Waste Management Services have Camden Row cleaned on a daily basis and will monitor the cleaning of this area to see if any improvements can be made.

### Q54. **COUNCILLOR JIM O'CALLAGHAN**

To ask the City Manager whether direct contact can be made with members of, **(details supplied)**, for an appointment to view the up to date files concerning, **(details supplied)**, relating to the non-conformity of the completed development to the permission granted at this address.

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### **CITY MANAGER'S REPLY:**

A complaint was received in August 2010 that the public house and apartment development at, **(details supplied)**, had not been completed in accordance with the planning permission granted by An Bord Pleanála. The complaint did not include specific details of the issues of alleged non-compliance.

The complaint was referred to the Area Enforcement Officer who is investigating the development. The permission required the submission of further details for approval for the following aspects of the development:

- The omission of one apartment
- The size of the proposed roof terrace
- Details of materials, colours and textures of the proposed external finishes
- Details of the proposed odour extraction system
- Sound proofing proposals
- A construction management plan
- A proposed naming and numbering system
- Details of the proposed management scheme

The required submissions have been received and approved in respect of:

- The omission of one apartment
- The size of the roof terrace
- The external finish materials
- The management scheme

Submissions have been received but a decision is awaited on the following:

- Details of odour extraction measures
- Details of sound-proofing proposals
- The construction management plan

Submission has been made but deemed inadequate on the following:

- Naming and numbering system

The outstanding compliance proposal and any other details of the completed development are still under investigation. Planning Enforcement files may often contain information of a private nature relating to the developer (whether of a personal or business nature). They will also contain information on which the Council may be relying in criminal proceedings, the premature release of which could be deemed prejudicial to the defence. For these reasons, enforcement files are not available to or viewable to third parties.

Once the Council's investigations are complete and the issue resolved, the reasons for the Council's decision may be addressed, subject to the confidentiality clauses mentioned above.

### **Q55. COUNCILLOR JIM O'CALLAGHAN**

To ask the City Manager why it is that metered parking until midnight is in force on Seafort Avenue, Sandymount, Dublin 4.

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### **CITY MANAGER'S REPLY:**

Representations were made by a resident of Seafort Terrace in 2004 to extend the permit parking hours to 7.00 to 24.00 hours, Monday to Saturday, on Seafort Terrace and Avenue. The extension of parking was accepted at a survey of the residents. There were 30 people on the Register of Electors for Seafort Avenue, Seafort Villas and Seafort Terrace. 11 votes were returned; there were 7 votes in favour and 4 against. The extended hours were enforced by statute at the end of 2004.

### **Q56. COUNCILLOR CIERAN PERRY**

Can the Manager provide answers to the following questions in relation to the Ringsend Sewage Treatment plant:

- a) How many complaints were received from the public about unpleasant smells emitting from the Ringsend sewage treatment works in 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009 and 2010?
- b) Does the Manager consider the measures taken to date to have been successful in reducing the nuisance from the treatment plant?
- c) Can the Manager provide the elected councillors with a list of the works undertaken to reduce the nuisance perceived by the public from the peak year for complaints received to today and the costs associated with each?
- d) Are there any further works planned to reduce nuisance further?

### **CITY MANAGER'S REPLY:**

- a) Following complaints allegedly attributable to Ringsend Wastewater Treatment Works, Dublin City Council, together with the Plant Operator (Celtic Anglian Water), put in place a methodology for recording and investigating odour complaints received. We have a 24-hour odour hot-line for public complaints which is publicised on the Dublin City Council website. Calls made to this number 1800 242739 or by email to [enquiry@caw.ie](mailto:enquiry@caw.ie) are logged, thoroughly investigated and responded to. We also report on an annual basis to the EPA on odour issues.

The following number of odour complaints were received from the public over the past 6 years:

<b>Year</b>	<b>Number of Complaints received</b>
2006	62
2007	309
2008	104
2009	46
2010	24
2011 to date	2

- b) All complaints are logged and the complaints since 2007 have been posted on the Dublin City Council website. While the table shows the list of odour complaints received, it has been found in latter years that not all of these odour complaints have been attributable to the treatment works themselves. Where they are not directly attributable to the works themselves they are not registered as complaints against the works.

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Dublin City Council implemented a number of permanent odour control improvements over a 3-year period up to 2008. These improvements reduced odorous emissions by 75 percent from the Works. These physical improvements, coupled with an enhanced operations focus that includes a full-time odour control specialist, have reduced the frequency and intensity of off-site odour events.

The reduction in odour complaints received over the past number of years indicates that the measures put in place are working satisfactorily.

- c) The following works were undertaken to reduce the odour nuisances and the costs associated with each is tabulated:

Measures	Cost
Biogas sphere repair.	€62,000
Covered channels, new Odour Control Unit (OCU). Covered north lamella weirs, new OCU. Covered south Lamella weirs, new OCU. Covered Intermediate Lift Pumping Station, new OCU.	€2,270,000
New centrifuge with minimal odour emissions. Rebalancing of operational headworks, new OCU.	€3,011,000
Combined heat and power biogas pre-treatment	€284,000
Dryer combustion chambers.	€3,664,000
Permanent lamella covers, OCUs.	€8,582,000

Further odour reduction works are planned as part of the advance works associated with the intended Extension to the Treatment Works. These will include odour control facilities for the thermal dryer buildings, the sludge processing building, screenings building and grit storage facility.

### **Q57. COUNCILLOR CIERAN PERRY**

Can the Manager organise a meeting between representatives of the relatives of the 1916 signatories, Cllr Ring, Cllr Perry and Dublin City Council's Conservation Department and Heritage department.

#### **CITY MANAGER'S REPLY:**

A meeting will be arranged between the Councillors and representatives of the relatives mentioned. I will be in touch with the Councillors to arrange a suitable date.

### **Q58. COUNCILLOR CIERAN PERRY**

Can the Manager provide the figures for the monitoring of the HGV axle ban, any subsequent fines issued and the number of fines paid?

#### **CITY MANAGER'S REPLY:**

Enforcement of the HGV cordon is a matter for An Garda Síochána, who have been requested to provide updated figures. These will be circulated when received.

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### Q59. COUNCILLOR CIERAN PERRY

Can the Manager detail the plan to repair the roads and ramps damaged by the weather conditions at the beginning of the year? Can he estimate the cost of the repairs and confirm the amount of funding available from central Government for this work?

#### CITY MANAGER'S REPLY:

Road repair, re-construction and re-surfacing works, including for the reconstruction of ramps, required as a result of the deterioration of the road network from usage over time and severe weather effects, are currently being implemented on the national primary, regional and local road network throughout the City as part of Road Maintenance Services' programme of works for 2011.

It is difficult at this time to differentiate between the deterioration of the road network as a result of general usage and the deterioration attributable to severe weather effects only.

This programme of works is funded from central Government as follows:

- €12 million for carriageway renewal works on national routes, public transport routes and cycle routes, which is currently subject to the approval of the National Transport Authority.
- €670,000 for road maintenance works on the City's national road system.
- €6,270,000 for road maintenance works on the City's regional and local road system.

The National Transport Authority-funded carriageway renewal works on 23km or 275,000m<sup>2</sup> of road network are currently planned to take place from August to November 2011 at the following locations:

1. Swords Road (Santry Avenue to Shantalla Road)
2. Merrion Road / Northumberland Road (Nutley Lane to Shrewsbury Park and Sandymount Avenue to Haddington Road)
3. North Quays (Queen Street to O'Connell Street)
4. Finglas Road (The Willows to Botanic Road)
5. Donnybrook Road (Nutley Lane to Eglinton Terrace)
6. Dawson Street (St. Stephens Green to Nassau Street)
7. Clanbrassil Street (Grove Road just North of Lombard Street West)
8. Phibsborough Road / Western Way (Connaught Street to Mountjoy Street)
9. Dorset Street / Drumcondra Road (Fitzroy Avenue to Portland Place)
10. Junction and approaches of Malahide Road / N32 Junction
11. Conyngham Road (South Circular Road to Infirmary Road)
12. North Road, Finglas (St. Margaret's Road to a point South of Charlestown Place)
13. South Quays (Parliament Street to Bridge Street)
14. Pearse Street (Westland Row / Lombard Street to Tara Street)
15. St. John's Road West (Victoria Quay to South Circular Road)
16. Templeogue Road (Terenure Road West to Fortfield Road)
17. Swords Road / Drumcondra Road (just south of Collins Avenue at Iveleary Road to Griffith Avenue)
18. North Wall Quay / Custom House Quay/Beresford Place/Eden Quay (from New Wapping Street to O'Connell Street)
19. George's Quay
20. Townsend Street (Lombard Street East to Tara Street)
21. Ballyfermot Road / Con Colbert Road (Kylemore Road to N4)

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22. Kylemore Road / Walkinstown Avenue (Kylemore Park North to Walkinstown Avenue)

Works on the repair and replacement of 156 ramps at various locations across the city are currently being implemented. In addition, works on the reconstruction and overlay of 79,893m<sup>2</sup> of road carriageways and the reconstruction of 7,052m<sup>2</sup> of footways on regional and local roads across the city will continue until the end of November. Further details of the locations of these works can be made available, if required.

**Q60. COUNCILLOR DAMIAN O'FARRELL**

To ask the City Manager to provide a pedestrian crossing at Fairview Strand please adjacent to the Strand Off-Licence. Fairview Residents Association made representations to me in this regard as this is a very busy pedestrian junction with no crossing point etc.

**CITY MANAGER'S REPLY:**

The request for a pedestrian crossing at Fairview Strand has been referred to the Traffic Advisory Group (TAG). The Councillor will be informed of the recommendations of the group when they are available.

**Q61. COUNCILLOR BRID SMITH**

To ask the Manager to provide an updated report on the Homeless Placement services and to provide the following data:

- how many beds have been closed in the city centre,
- how many beds are provided on a nightly basis,
- how many people sleep on mattresses,
- how many people sleep on the streets,
- how many people have been provided with sleeping bags to sleep on the streets and how often,
- how are homeless families accommodated since the closure of Haven House,
- how many women are provided with homeless accommodation and where,
- how much money has been allocated to the Homeless services and how it is spent.

**CITY MANAGER'S REPLY:**

Dublin City Council has committed to ensuring that there is appropriate, suitable, alternative accommodation in place before any facilities are decommissioned or closed and that the needs of service users are being met.

The level of capacity in all emergency accommodation services in Dublin is being carefully monitored on a daily basis through the Pathway Accommodation Support System (PASS), an online live resource that is utilised throughout homeless services to ensure that people who are experiencing homelessness are accessing emergency accommodation.

349 beds provided in Private Emergency Accommodation (provision through private flats apartments, guesthouses) have been closed since 2008. They were not deemed to be a suitable form of accommodation as they do not provide the necessary level of support in accommodation that a person who is experiencing homelessness may require.

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In addition to this, Cedar House, an emergency not-fit-for purpose facility has also been decommissioned and all long-term residents have been successfully accommodated in a number of other services. At the same time that this took place, two appropriate Supported Accommodation services came online, with a total of 23 fit-for-purpose units available.

It is very important to note here that this process has been coordinated in line with monitoring the level of emergency presenting need to homeless services in Dublin and no service has been decommissioned without ensuring that there is sufficient capacity in the bed management system and in accordance with an agreed reconfiguration plan for Dublin's Homeless Services.

### **Q. How many beds are provided on a nightly basis?**

#### **Response**

There are circa 1440 beds available on a nightly basis in Dublin; this includes Temporary Accommodation, Supported Temporary Accommodation and Private Emergency Accommodation.

A *Pathway to Home* has been adopted across all homeless services in Dublin and is in place to implement national policy as outlined in *The Way Home 2008-2013*. It outlines the importance of providing "24 hour supported temporary accommodation" for people who are experiencing homelessness, as distinct from the current provision of the traditional style 'hostel/one night stays'. Dublin City Council is working towards this.

### **Q. How many people sleep on mattresses?**

#### **Response**

It is accurate to say that a very minimal number of temporary mattresses have been in use in an emergency response to presenting needs at night-time and which began as a result of the extreme cold weather conditions. However, when this does occur Dublin City Council works with service providers to accommodate service users in more suitable accommodation. Significant effort has been made on the part of DCC and voluntary bodies to address this matter by way of putting in place capacity and working to having withdrawn the small quantum of mattresses in use by end July 2011 as a practice which is agreed as unacceptable.

Another very important point needs to be made in the above context. Homeless presentation can fluctuate significantly, therefore there is always a requirement to monitor and adjust capacity as required. However, the more significant challenge which the sector faces is the level of churning of services users and the co-ordination of beds available in the sector - i.e. where services users are moving between emergency facilities and different service providers. Given we have recently introduced a bed management system and the fact that great effort is being expended on the part of an intersectoral accommodation co-ordination group, we are confident that over time we will resolve this pattern by concentrating, in particular, on the following key actions:

- Taking a 'stabilisation' approach to ensure that homeless people do not have to consistently 're-present' for an emergency bed (i.e. where we make the minimal level of placements so that the concentration is on assessment, key working and support/care planning). This includes removing certain practices such as one stays and the night bus operation.

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- Consolidate the existing emergency services into effective 24-hour operations with adequate resources and staff competencies to work with the client group concerned.
- Ensure follow on is made by way of providing housing with support as required.

### **Q. How many people sleep on the streets?**

#### **Response**

The former Homeless Agency coordinated the spring rough sleeper count on April 10<sup>th</sup>, coinciding with Census 2011. A minimum of 59 people including 5 women were identified to be rough sleeping on this definitive date.

A proportion of this group would combine rough sleeping with accessing emergency Accommodation.

The former Homeless Agency has completed robust counts on the number of people who have rough sleeping since spring 2007 and they number of people identified as rough sleeping has been in steady decline.

### **Q. How many people have been provided with sleeping bags to sleep on the streets and how often?**

#### **Response**

The Regional Outreach Team work assertively to ensure that people are not sleeping rough on the street. They actively engage on a daily basis with individuals who are rough sleeping to ensure that they are presenting to the Assessment and Placement service or that they are in contact with the 24-hour homeless support helpline to organise emergency accommodation. In the instance that a person does not want to engage with the regional Outreach Team or whereby they make a decision to sleep rough, a sleeping bag will be provided. It has to be borne in mind that rough sleeping does fluctuate and can change sometimes on a daily basis; for example it is reported that on the night of June 28<sup>th</sup> 3 sleeping bags were provided.

To note again, sleeping bags have been provided on a daily basis; however it is important to note that this is not a preferred form of response or service provision and all efforts are made to ensure people can be accommodated.

### **Q. How are homeless families accommodated since the closure of Haven House?**

#### **Response**

The current range of accommodation services and accommodation options, which respond in particular to a) gender specific services and b) accommodation services for women and children are as follows:

- Haven House: Haven House currently provides for accommodation and support for 17 women. Haven House, as a facility, has never been even close to full utilisation or capacity since opening. Additional to the 17 single women residing there, there were a number of family households (7 in total) all of whom have been successfully housed with support.

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- Dublin City Council is working to eliminate the use of Private Emergency Accommodation (PEA); this element at the present time nevertheless provides accommodation options for women and children. In cognisance of the need to respond to the support needs of children and families in PEA, an agreement is in place with Focus Ireland to provide for assessment and support on an interim basis to ensure that vulnerable families, including women with children in homeless accommodation, are supported.
- Aylward Green: This service (13 units in total), provided by Focus Ireland, fully conforms to the pathway model in that the programme is 24-hour Supported Temporary Accommodation (STA) available to the assessment and placement service and specifically aimed at family households in crisis and needing support.
- Mount Brown: This service (22 beds in total), continues to offer accommodation and support for women only at the present time with 22 beds available. The future plan is for the current service provider (Novas) to provide Supported Temporary Accommodation provision in South Dublin, which it is accepted will take time to implement. Therefore it is important to note that this service will remain open and available for referrals until a suitable alternative for this vulnerable target group is secured and operational. This will remain as such, ensuring that there are adequate levels of provision post reconfiguration.

In addition to the above and, as part of the reconfiguration of existing services, plans are at an advanced stage to bring in to operation targeted services to the above groups, on the following basis; a) Women's only Supported Temporary Accommodation and b) Supported Temporary Accommodation for Women and Children. It is hoped that final agreement with the provider(s) concerned will conclude shortly.

### **Q. How many women are provided with homeless accommodation and where?**

As of July 1st 2011 the Pathway Accommodation system notes that there are 311 women provided with homeless accommodation and in the following locations:

Homeless Funded Services & Facilities	Private Emergency Accommodation
Dublin Simon	Clanbrassil Street
Depaul Ireland, Clancy	Clonskeagh Road
YMCA, Peters Place	Hillstreet
Depaul Ireland, Orchard House	Hedigans
Dublin City Council, Beech House	Mountjoy Street
Salvation Army, Granby	Ardfert
Focus Ireland, Alyward Green	Catherine's Gate
Focus Ireland, Georges Hill	Avoca House
Focus Ireland, Caretakers	Trafalgar Terrace
Crosscare, Bentley House	Blackrock House
Crosscare, Haven House	South Circular Road
	Judge Darleys
	Kilmacud Avenue

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**Q. How much money has been allocated to the Homeless services and how it is spent?**

**Response**

In 2011 it is projected that circa €59.9m will be expended on homeless services in the Dublin Region, of which circa €40m is provided for by the Department of Environment and the Dublin Local Authorities, whilst the remainder (i.e. circa, 19.9) is provided for by the HSE as the joint funder of Dublin's Homeless Services.

At present, the funding is provided to meet the accommodation and support/ care needs of people experiencing homelessness along the following service types:

- Assessment and placement service, including a 24-hour freephone
- Assertive Outreach Team(s)
- Information and Advice Services
- Specialist Health Services
- Temporary and Supported Temporary Accommodation Services
- Visiting Support Services
- Homeless Prevention Services
- Long-term Supported Housing

**Q62. COUNCILLOR ANDREW MONTAGUE**

Will the Manager facilitate, **(details supplied)**, with a housing transfer?

**CITY MANAGER'S REPLY:**

I can confirm that the applicant is currently listed as a tenant with a child 2 years old on the City Council's Transfer List. There is no partner registered with her application. If the applicant is experiencing domestic violence she should be advised to contact An Garda Síochána. The applicant has 62 points for Area E (Ashtown, Santry, Whitehall, Finglas, Blackhorse Avenue, Cabra, Glasnevin), Area D (Ballymun, Poppintree) and Area L (Clanbrassil, Charlemont, Dolphin's Barn, James Street, Kilmainham, Rialto, Coombe/Maryland, York St., Ushers Quay). Unfortunately these points are low for the applicant's areas of preference and it will likely be some time yet before the applicant is reached for an offer of alternative accommodation.

**Q63. COUNCILLOR ANDREW MONTAGUE**

Will the Manager fix the snags for, **(details supplied)**, in her new home. There is a particular problem with a sloping floor.

**CITY MANAGER'S REPLY:**

The Executive Engineer, Housing Maintenance, will call to this dwelling to carry out an inspection and, following his report, arrangements will be made to carry out any remedial works.

**Q64. COUNCILLOR ANDREW MONTAGUE**

Will the Manager review and re-finish the poor quality job done for, **(details supplied)**.

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### **CITY MANAGER'S REPLY:**

The Area Maintenance Officer reports that the external walls of this dwelling, along with the one next door, were dashed by a private contractor on behalf of Housing Maintenance. The Tenant of this dwelling then requested that painting of the dashing be carried out. Housing Maintenance does not paint the external walls, brickwork or dashing of houses; this is the responsibility of the tenant. The Area Maintenance Officer also confirms that the work carried out by the contractor was of high quality and that both sites were left in a clean condition. No further works to this dashing will be carried out.

### **Q65. COUNCILLOR ANDREW MONTAGUE**

Can the Manager confirm if the space between, **(details supplied)**, is public or private and will the Manager ask the residents at, **(details supplied)**, to clean up their gardens:

### **CITY MANAGER'S REPLY:**

A reply has been issued to the Councillor.

### **Q66. COUNCILLOR HENRY UPTON**

To ask the City Manager what resources are available to upgrade the water supply to Dublin City and if he will make a statement on the matter.

### **CITY MANAGER'S REPLY:**

Capital funding to upgrade the water supply for the City is provided through the Department of the Environment, Community and Local Government (DECLG) and schemes are listed in the Water Services Investment Programme (WSIP). Every three years the City lists its infrastructure requirements in its Assessment of Needs and the DECLG selects from this a National Programme based on criteria published by the DECLG. In 2011 the scale of investment nationally is of the order of half a billion euro.

These schemes require co-funding from Dublin City Council, usually in the range of 20-30% of the cost of the scheme. Dublin City Council also manages a number of regional infrastructure projects such as the major extension to water treatment works at Ballymore Eustace and a major regional water main rehabilitation scheme. The Water Strategic Plan posted on intranet gives full details of policy and schemes currently being advanced through planning stage and construction stage.

### **Q67. COUNCILLOR HENRY UPTON**

To ask the City Manager what discussions he has had with the Gardaí and an organisation, **(details supplied)**, in relation to an ongoing parking issue.

### **CITY MANAGER'S REPLY:**

A reply has been issued to the Councillor.

### **Q68. COUNCILLOR HENRY UPTON**

To ask the City Manager the number of vehicles that were clamped by, or on behalf of, Dublin City Council in 2010 and to date in 2011.

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### CITY MANAGER'S REPLY:

The following table shows the information requested:

Year	No. of Vehicles Clamped
2010	58,076
2011 (to 31 <sup>st</sup> May 2011)	24,465

### Q69. COUNCILLOR DEIRDRE HENEY

To ask the Manager to examine house, **(details supplied)**, and say if from a planning and a dangerous buildings point of view, any sanction can be taken or is warranted to have the scaffold which is up for 5 years removed.

### CITY MANAGER'S REPLY:

The Scaffolding to, **(details supplied)**, was inspected on the 27<sup>th</sup> June 2011 and found to be in good condition. As the said scaffold is not a dangerous structure Dangerous Buildings have no function at this time.

A complaint was received in August 2006 that a flagpole had been erected in the front garden of, **(details supplied)**.

In the course of his inspection, the Area Enforcement Officer noted that in addition to the erection of a flag pole, the property was undergoing refurbishment and that scaffolding had been erected to facilitate the works. Class 16 of Schedule 2 – Part 1 of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001 exempts the provision of scaffolding from the requirement to obtain planning permission during the course of development works.

Enforcement proceedings were initiated to secure the removal of the flag pole resulting in the property owner being convicted in the District Court on 19 April 2007. Despite the conviction, the flag pole was not removed.

Once refurbishment works on the property ceased, the scaffolding also became an unauthorised structure. The building is unoccupied and ongoing attempts to contact the owner to have the unauthorised structures removed have been unsuccessful. It is understood that the property owner lives outside the jurisdiction of the State and enforcement proceedings cannot be implemented at this time.

### Q70. COUNCILLOR DEIRDRE HENEY

To ask the Manager to refer to previous tentative commitments to locate a BMX facility in location, **(details supplied)**, and say if any further progress has been made on the matter.

### CITY MANAGER'S REPLY:

The area of the park at, **(details supplied)**, being used for off-road cycling/BMX track has proven to be a successful and well-used facility. The present track has the ability to be altered and remodelled according to the cyclists' requirements.

Other areas of the park at, **(details supplied)**, have been examined to identify a more suitable location for this activity. However none as yet has been specifically identified. Should such an area be identified the resources necessary to carry out the construction required are not currently available to this Division. As the existing circuit has proven to be successful and is considered fit for purpose, although not ideally sited, it is proposed to retain the track at its current location for the present.

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### Q71. COUNCILLOR DEIRDRE HENEY

To ask the Manager to refer to parts of road, **(details supplied)**, and say what works are proposed to repair/reinstate same as residents/motorists alike express serious concern about the dangerous condition of the road, with large potholes etc. along this stretch, which is causing motorists to swerve to avoid same and possibly cause an accident by doing so.

#### CITY MANAGER'S REPLY:

The Road Maintenance Engineer will report to the Councillor within one week.

### Q72. COUNCILLOR DEIRDRE HENEY

To ask the Manager to refer to the serious problem with dog fouling along the stretch of footpath at, **(details supplied)**, and say what enforcement action can/will be taken by the litter warden to ensure dog owners clean up the pathway after their pets foul same, as pedestrians, (particularly young children and senior citizens) are continuously experiencing unacceptable amounts of dog fouling at this location

#### CITY MANAGER'S REPLY:

In conjunction with the Area Office, Litter Wardens will be assigned to patrol the above locations to ensure people in charge of dogs immediately remove any faeces deposited by their dogs and dispose of it in a suitable sanitary manner.

### Q73. COUNCILLOR DAMIAN O'FARRELL

To ask the City Manager for an update and best advice in regard to the following, **(details supplied)**.

#### CITY MANAGER'S REPLY:

The City Council requires a Bond from developers of multi-unit developments as a security to ensure that, where services of the development are to be taken in charge, they are completed to the requirements of Dublin City Council. The services that are taken in charge consist of the roads, water and drainage arrangements, public lighting and open spaces. Once these services are taken in charge by the Council, they become public property to which the general public have access. The Bond cannot be used for any other purposes.

A Bond may consist of a cash lodgement or a Letter of Guarantee from a Bank or Insurance Company, or a combination of both. However, at all times the Bond remains the property of the developer. Where a Bond is lodged in cash the cash must be returned, with interest, to the developer on satisfactory completion of the development.

In respect of the development referred to in this question, it appears the development was carried out by a number of developers. Three separate developers lodged Bonds. One development company has requested that the part of the estate developed by them be taken in charge and the Bond refunded. The Parks, Roads and Public Lighting Departments have reported that this part of the overall development has been completed to their satisfaction. A report is awaited from the Council's Drainage Department. If this work is also satisfactory, the steps to have the area concerned taken in charge will be initiated and the Bond refunded in accordance with the legislation.

In respect of that part of the estate for which no taking in charge request has been received, the Council will retain the Bond. The Bond is an asset of the developers,

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albeit a tied asset. In the case of a developer who is in liquidation, it must, if refunded, be paid to the Developer's liquidator. There is no provision in the Planning and Development Acts to sequester a Bond and to pay it to a third party.

### **Q74. COUNCILLOR DAMIAN O'FARRELL**

To ask the City Manager to examine and repair an established tree (and surrounding pavement) in, **(details supplied)**.

#### **CITY MANAGER'S REPLY:**

The Parks & Landscape Services Division has inspected the tree at, **(details supplied)**. Arrangements have been made to re-stake this roadside tree in the immediate future.

### **Q75. COUNCILLOR VINCENT JACKSON**

Can the Manager please arrange for a valuation to be done on, **(details supplied)**.

#### **CITY MANAGER'S REPLY:**

In order for a valuation to be carried out at this address, **(details supplied)**, an application form must be completed and returned along with €50.00 application fee to the Sales Section, Block 1, Ground Floor, Civic Offices. An application form has been posted to the tenant in question.

To be eligible an applicant must be a tenant of Dublin City Council and have been a Local Authority Tenant for a minimum period of twelve months. A tenant does not have to be living in the present accommodation for twelve months before they can apply to purchase; he/she only needs to have been a Dublin City Council or other Local Authority tenant for a combined minimum period of twelve months.

The price of the house will be its market value, as determined by the Valuer's Office of Dublin City Council, in its existing state of repair and condition, less tenancy discount. Any increase in the market value due to improvements the tenants have made at their own expense will be deducted from the market value prior to calculating the purchase price.

Please note that the purchase price is valid for a period of six months from the date of issue. An applicant cannot re-apply until it has expired. Tenants who wish to have their property re-valued are required to pay a fee of €100. Cheques/bank drafts should be made payable to Dublin City Council and included along with a written request for revaluation.

In August 2010 the Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government announced that the current Tenant Purchase Sales Scheme would terminate in June 2012. Subsequently, Dublin City Council wrote to 12,500 tenants who were eligible to buy their tenancy under this scheme informing them of the forthcoming closing. As a result of this correspondence, the Council received 300 applications from those interested in acquiring a valuation on their property. The Sales Section has just finished issuing valuations to these 300 tenants.

It is planned to communicate to eligible tenants that the scheme offering the 45% discount will terminate at the end of this year. The Sales Section and the Ballymun Area Office are examining innovative ways to communicate this message.

All valuations are conducted by qualified valuation staff. It would not be an effective use of resources to conduct valuation reports on all eligible properties. It would be a

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waste of resources to conduct valuation reports on eligible properties, when the respective tenants have no intention of purchasing.

The City Council will continue to offer a demand-led service and will issue valuations to those households who complete the application form and return it along with the fee.

### **Q76. COUNCILLOR VINCENT JACKSON**

To ask the Manager that Dublin City Council have the trees which are blocking light on the grounds of the ABC Centre, Bluebell Avenue and adjoining houses removed. The committee of the ABC Centre are anxious to transfer over the centre but are awaiting the trees removal firstly as they are concerned the work will be put on the long finger.

#### **CITY MANAGER'S REPLY:**

We are currently seeking quotations for removal of 4/5 Cypress trees and the work will be scheduled for carrying out within the next couple of weeks subject to the availability of funding.

### **Q77. COUNCILLOR VINCENT JACKSON**

To ask the Manager to please give me a report on, **(details supplied)**.

#### **CITY MANAGER'S REPLY:**

An application form to purchase the tenancy, **(details supplied)**, must be completed and returned along with €50.00 application fee to the Sales Section, Block 1, Ground Floor, Civic Offices. Upon receipt of this application the City Council's Valuation Office will carry out an inspection of the property and a Net Sale Price will issue to the tenant. Tenants can avail of a maximum discount up to 45% depending on length of tenancy.

Those wishing to purchase their property can apply to a bank, building society or Dublin City Council for a mortgage. Tenants applying to Dublin City Council for a loan must have an up to date rent assessment and a clear rent account for a six-month period prior to application.

### **Q78. COUNCILLOR VINCENT JACKSON**

Can the Manager please give me an update on the following, **(details supplied)**.

#### **CITY MANAGER'S REPLY:**

I can confirm that the applicant, **(details supplied)**, is currently on the City Council's Transfer List with 166 points for Area K (Crumlin, Kimmage, Drimnagh, Walkinstown), Area N (Harold's Cross, Ranelagh, Rathmines, Terenure) and Area L (Clanbrassil, Charlemont, Dolphin's Barn, James Street, Kilmainham, Rialto, Coombe/Maryland, York St., Ushers Quay). Unfortunately these points are low for the applicant's areas of preference and it will likely be some time yet before the applicant is reached for an offer of alternative accommodation.

### **Q79. COUNCILLOR CHRISTY BURKE**

To ask the City Manager to address the problem with a leak from the roof at **(details supplied)**.

#### **CITY MANAGER'S REPLY:**

The Area Maintenance Officer has confirmed that the roof of this dwelling will be inspected within the next few days and any necessary repairs will be carried out.

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### Q80. COUNCILLOR CHRISTY BURKE

To ask the City Manager when the units at Royal Canal Bank, Dublin 7 will be let to applicants.

#### CITY MANAGER'S REPLY:

There are still legal issues being clarified in relation to this development. As soon as these are resolved the units will be acquired by Circle Housing Association and allocated as quickly as possible.

### Q81. COUNCILLOR CHRISTY BURKE

To ask the City Manager if Dublin City Council will inspect the pathway outside the Mater Hospital as local residents have noticed litter and cigarettes on the pathway; also the pathway is blocked by patients.

#### CITY MANAGER'S REPLY:

In recent months the Mater Hospital brought in a policy of no smoking in the curtilage of their premises. This has led to patients going outside the hospital's entrances to smoke. Waste Management Services have both pathways outside the North Circular Road and Eccles Street entrances to the hospital cleaned on a daily basis. Also there are litter bins in close proximity to both entrances for patients to use.

### Q82. COUNCILLOR CHRISTY BURKE

To ask the City Manager if Dublin City Council will remove the large weeds along the carriageway and along the road at, **(details supplied)**.

#### CITY MANAGER'S REPLY:

The weed-spraying programme commenced in the North Central Area on the 27<sup>th</sup> June. **(Details supplied)**, will be sprayed as part of this programme.

### Q83. COUNCILLOR SHEILA HOWES

To ask the Manager to detail what measures he proposes to take to tackle the extensive illegal dumping at, **(details supplied)**. In particular will he look at the potential to install a camera at the location.

#### CITY MANAGER'S REPLY:

The Public Domain Officer called to, **(details supplied)**, on June 27<sup>th</sup> to inspect the site. The gates to, **(details supplied)**, were securely locked at the time but the site was clearly visible. The site was in reasonably good condition and tidy. There were some beer kegs stacked neatly and 2-3 delivery pallets at the back of the site adjacent to the building entrance. No contravention of the Litter Acts was found. The Litter Warden for the area also advises that no other reports of illegal dumping on or near this site have been reported to him.

Consequently it would not be considered necessary to install CCTV at this location.

### Q84. COUNCILLOR SHEILA HOWES

To ask the Manager the reason for the delay in erecting safety features at the below, **(details supplied)**,

- Horizontal flashing yellow lights
- Reduction in speed limit signs
- Railings on /along edge of path to ensure safety of children entering and exiting the school.

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### **CITY MANAGER'S REPLY:**

The works listed form part of the construction contract presently underway for the Lucan QBC Enhancement scheme. The Contractor for this scheme is SIAC Construction Ltd. It is anticipated that the work at the school will be complete before the end of this year as part of the overall contract.

### **Q85. COUNCILLOR SHEILA HOWES**

To ask the Manager to provide a timeframe for the erection of directional and visitor information panel signage (as prepared by the local Heritage Group), **(details supplied)**, so as to assist visitors to the district.

### **CITY MANAGER'S REPLY:**

A reply has been issued to the Councillor.

### **Q86. COUNCILLOR SHEILA HOWES**

To ask the Manager for upgrade and high visibility signage at the disabled car parking location, **(details supplied)**, and to arrange that these spaces are monitored/supervised to enable those for whom the places were specially designated, to be able to use them.

### **CITY MANAGER'S REPLY:**

There are currently two car park spaces designated for people with disabilities. These spaces are located on land not belonging to the City Council. The Ballyfermot Area Office will contact the owners concerned to request an upgrade in the signage and improved supervision of the spaces.

### **Q87. COUNCILLOR NIAL RING**

To ask the City Manager to supply the following information in relation to the domestic refuse budget for 2011:

- a. Total budget for 2011
- b. Domestic Refuse collected via bags with tags
- c. Domestic Refuse collected via bin collection
- d. Value of debtor as at 31/12/10 and most up to date value.

### **CITY MANAGER'S REPLY:**

- a) The total costs for 2011 are budgeted at €41.1m (includes Arthurstown aftercare costs of €3.3m, Ballyogan loan charges of €2.1m and bad debt provision of €2.5m) for the kerbside collection of domestic refuse and domestic recyclable materials and the disposal of the non-recyclable materials. The total Income Budget for 2011 is €21m including VAT.
- b) 15,096 bag customers.
- c) 102,398 bin customers.
- d) Debt at 31st December 2010 is approx €17 million (which includes the last charge billed in January 2011). Most up to date value of debt is now €14.155 million as of 24<sup>th</sup> June 2011.

### **Q88. COUNCILLOR NIAL RING**

To ask the City Manager to outline the impact, if any, of Statutory Instrument No. 84 of 2011 (Social Housing Assessment Regulations 2011) on the City Council housing list.

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### **CITY MANAGER'S REPLY:**

All housing applications made after 1<sup>st</sup> April must have their 'eligibility' and 'need' for housing support assessed under the new regulations and this process has already been put into operation by the City Council's Allocations Section for all new housing applications received since April. A national application form has been introduced and Local Authorities must implement the new regulations to ensure there is a consistent Allocations System in place on a nationwide basis.

The regulations also stipulate that Applicants must be eligible for and in need of social housing support at the point of allocation. Therefore, applicants who are now being reached for an offer of accommodation must have their applications reviewed under the regulations to ensure they are still eligible and in need of housing prior to offer.

For all households who had been on the waiting list prior to the introduction of the new regulations, it is the responsibility of each Local Authority, subject to the resources available, to undertake a review of these applicants to determine their eligibility and housing need.

It is accepted by the Department that such a review would not be possible to implement immediately and they have requested a targeted approach be undertaken, e.g. a review of all applicants on the waiting list over 4 or 5 years or some other such criteria. While it would be preferable to confirm the qualification of every household on the waiting list as quickly as possible, which would give a clearer picture of the need for social housing support in the functional area of each authority, it is a matter for each Local Authority to determine the most suitable methodology in order to manage their waiting lists and the allocation process.

Until a full review of the current waiting list has been carried out, it is difficult to determine what the exact impact of the new regulations will be. However it is likely that applicants who would have been accepted on the waiting lists previously will not be eligible in the future.

I would also advise that it is the responsibility of the City Council to introduce a new Allocations Scheme in the near future in order to take into account the new regulations and consultation with City Councillors will be required in this process. The introduction of a new scheme that is compatible with the regulations will ensure a much more streamlined application process, eligibility determination and allocation procedure.

### **Q89. COUNCILLOR NIAL RING**

To ask the City Manager to detail the current number of voids in the City Council areas and to also confirm the number of these under active repair, broken down by those under repair by DCC and those under repair by outside contractors.

### **CITY MANAGER'S REPLY:**

The Voids Unit, Housing Maintenance Section is currently compiling the end of month statistics on voids (June 2011). The information requested by Councillor Ring will be sent directly to him in the first week of July 2011.

### **Q90. COUNCILLOR NIAL RING**

To ask the City Manager to clarify the answer to Q.52 to the June 2011 City Council meeting as follows: to confirm that the staff who manned the Local Co-ordination Centre and the Crisis Management Team during the recent visit of Queen Elizabeth

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and President Obama (described as VIPs in the original answer) have not made applications to be paid for this work, and if so, to ask how their selfless endeavours are to be recognised by the Council. Also, is the Manager aware of any other organisations whose staff made similar gestures for their Country?

### **CITY MANAGER'S REPLY:**

City Council staff who manned the Local Co-ordination Centre (LCC) and Crisis Management Team (CMT) received no payment for their work during the recent visit of Queen Elizabeth and President Obama. An Taoiseach made a special Taoiseach's Award for Excellence to Dublin City Council in recognition of the support provided by staff of the City in ensuring the success of both visits.

### **Q91. COUNCILLOR NAOISE O'MUIRI**

To ask the Manager to provide a detailed response to the following from a local citizen, **(details supplied)**.

### **CITY MANAGER'S REPLY:**

The City Council requires a Bond from developers of multi-unit developments as a security to ensure that where services of the development are to be taken in charge, they are completed to the requirements of Dublin City Council. The services that are taken in charge consist of the roads, water and drainage arrangements, public lighting and open spaces. Once these services are taken in charge by the Council, they become public property to which the general public has access. The Bond cannot be used for any other purposes.

A Bond may consist of a cash lodgement or a Letter of Guarantee from a Bank of Insurance Company or a combination of both. However, at all times the Bond remains the property of the developer. Where a Bond is lodged in cash, the cash must be returned, with interest, to the developer on satisfactory completion of the development.

In respect of the development referred to in this question, it appears the development was carried out by a number of developers. Three separate developers lodged Bonds. One development company has requested that the part of the estate developed by it be taken in charge and the Bond refunded. The Parks, Roads and Public Lighting Departments have reported that this part of the overall development have been completed to their satisfaction. A report is awaited from the Council's Drainage Department. If this work is also satisfactory, the steps to have the area concerned taken in charge will be initiated and the Bond refunded in accordance with the legislation.

In respect of that part of the estate for which no taking in charge request has been received, the Council will retain the Bond. The Bond is an asset of the developers, albeit a tied asset. In the case of a developer who is in liquidation, it must, if refunded, be paid to the Developer's liquidator. There is no provision in the Planning and Development Acts to sequester a Bond and to pay it to a third party.

### **Q92. COUNCILLOR NAOISE O'MUIRI**

To ask the Manager to provide a detailed response to the following from a local citizen, **(details supplied)**.

### **CITY MANAGER'S REPLY:**

A request for a disabled parking bay was received from a resident of, **(details supplied)**. The applicant met the City Council's criteria and a disabled parking bay

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was recommended by the Traffic Advisory Group (TAG) and placed outside the resident's home recently. However, as a driveway had since been installed at the residence, it is proposed to remove the disabled parking bay as bays are not normally provided where there is off-street parking available to the resident. The resident has been notified accordingly.

**Q93. COUNCILLOR NAOISE O'MUIRI**

Can the Manager provide a detailed response to the following from a local citizen, **(details supplied)**?

**CITY MANAGER'S REPLY:**

A reply has been issued to the Councillor.

**Q94. COUNCILLOR NAOISE O'MUIRI**

Can the Manager please give me an update on my email to Planning Enforcement dated 24/06/11, **(details supplied)**.

**CITY MANAGER'S REPLY:**

Unless exceptional circumstances apply, all complaints to the Enforcement Section, whether received by letter or by e-mail, are treated on a chronological basis. Section 152 of the Planning & Development Act 2000 provides that where a complaint is received in writing, a Warning Letter outlining the alleged unauthorised development shall issue to the proposed developer within 6 weeks of receipt.

This complaint was received on 24<sup>th</sup> June 2011 and, in accordance with the legislation, a file has been set up and a Warning Letter will issue. Again in accordance with the legislation, the recipient will be allowed four weeks in which to reply. Any response received to the Warning Letter within the said timeframe must be taken into account when considering whether to take enforcement action.

**Q95. COUNCILLOR MARIE METCALFE**

To ask the Manager if he will consider facilitating a debate on, **(details supplied)**.

**CITY MANAGER'S REPLY:**

The NESF Report in 2007 entitled "The Arts, Cultural Inclusion and Social Cohesion" identifies the following six key recommendations; better policy co-ordination, management and certainty of funding, supports for children, targeted measures for specific groups, improved data and evaluation and implementation mechanisms.

The report outlines the key institutional arrangements to implement the recommendation with a national strategic committee with the key role in driving forward the process of change and the recommendations.

Local Authorities are one of the named institutions along with the cabinet committee on social inclusion, the NESF, the national cultural institutions, education and training, artists and voluntary section.

Dublin City Council in its Cultural Strategy has as one of its six themes "Create opportunities for everyone to participate in the city's cultural life". This theme has a number of associated priorities and actions. This strategy will inform the Library and Archive Development Plan which is a reserved function of the City Council and will be adopted by the end of 2011. Public representatives have been invited to contribute to the development of this plan. The strategy will also inform the Arts Service Plan which will also be produced by the end of 2011.

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**Q96. COUNCILLOR MARIE METCALFE**

To ask the City Manager for his view of the following, the level of D.C.C. money to a private company Temple Bar Cultural Trust and extent of D.C.C. and Councillor involvement.

**CITY MANAGER'S REPLY:**

The final report from Latitude Consultants is on the agenda for this meeting. The matters raised can be addressed in the context of the discussion of the consultant's report.

**Q97. COUNCILLOR MARIE METCALFE**

To ask the City Manager if D.C.C. will give an update on the following situation, **(details supplied)**, and clarify the responsibilities of D.C.C.

**CITY MANAGER'S REPLY:**

This property is not owned by Dublin City Council. If the property is damaged, as suggested, the owner should contact their legal advisors.

**Q98. COUNCILLOR MARIE METCALFE**

To ask the City Manager if D.C.C. will resolve the following matter, **(details supplied)**.

**CITY MANAGER'S REPLY:**

Roads Maintenance Services has inspected the footpath outside No. 48, **(details supplied)**, and note that there are slight blemishes to the finish but overall the footpath is in an acceptable condition. Roads Maintenance Services has no record of any works or any service provider having carried out works at this location over the last 8 years.

**Q99. COUNCILLOR PAT DUNNE**

To ask the City Manager can the following transfer be facilitated, **(details supplied)**.

**CITY MANAGER'S REPLY:**

I can confirm that the applicant, **(details supplied)**, is currently on the City Council's Housing List with 67 points for Area J (Ballyfermot, Bluebell, Chapelizod, Inchicore) and with 62 points for Area K (Crumlin, Kimmage, Drimnagh, Walkinstown) and Area L (Clanbrassil, Charlemont, Dolphin's Barn, James Street, Kilmainham, Rialto, Coombe/Maryland, York St., Ushers Quay). If the applicant wishes to provide medical documentation to support his application it will be forwarded to the Chief Medical Officer for assessment and recommendation. The applicant will be notified of the outcome in due course. The applicant should be advised to contact Teresa Conlon, Administrative Officer, Housing Allocations & Transfers Section (tel: 222 2061).

**Q100. COUNCILLOR EMER COSTELLO**

To ask the City Manager to agree a protocol with the Department of Social Protection/Community Welfare Officers whereby a separated person who has had to leave the family home which is in joint ownership, can be deemed to have a housing need and is entitled to rent allowance. Such a protocol is necessary so that common position on a city-wide or national basis is agreed to ensure consistency in decision-making.

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### **CITY MANAGER'S REPLY:**

Applicants who are separated and who have a joint ownership of a property are ineligible for the housing list in the first instance.

However, such applicants are advised to provide any documentary details such as separation agreements or current information on any legal proceedings that are ongoing. In some instances the courts have already made a ruling on the future sale of the property, say when children are over eighteen or have completed their education. It is then possible to accept such applicants on the housing list with the proviso that any details of a future sale of the property are clarified before being considered for an offer of permanent accommodation with the Council.

In cases where the applicant has provided sufficient evidence that they can no longer reside in the family home, it is possible for the City Council to provide them with a letter confirming they have a housing need even though they may still be ineligible for accommodation with the City Council.

It is the decision of the Community Welfare Officer to determine if an applicant is eligible for Rent Supplement. While such applicants may be requested to make a housing application, it still remains the discretion of the Community Welfare Officer to approve the payment.

The Allocations Section has provided such letters to applicants where they have provided the required information to assess their circumstances fully and this has been of assistance to similar such applicants.

The Allocations Section and the Rental Accommodation Section have regular meetings with the Superintendents of the Community Welfare Service. At the next arranged meeting this issue will be included on the agenda for further discussion.

### **Q101. COUNCILLOR EMER COSTELLO**

To ask the City Manager to respond to the following issues, **(details supplied)**.

### **CITY MANAGER'S REPLY:**

A reply has been issued to the Councillor.

### **Q102. COUNCILLOR EMER COSTELLO**

To ask the Manager to provide a detailed report on, **(details supplied)**.

### **CITY MANAGER'S REPLY:**

A reply has been issued to the Councillor.

### **Q103. COUNCILLOR EMER COSTELLO**

To ask the Manager if he will report on the number of rental properties inspected in Dublin City in 2010, the number of properties in compliance with the minimum Standards, the number failing to meet minimum standards, and the number of landlords prosecuted for failing to comply; to state the number of units inspected in the Central Area in 2010, the number of properties in compliance with the minimum standards, the number failing to meet minimum standards and the number of landlords prosecuted and to state if there is cross-referencing between the inspectors and the Finance Section to ensure that all landlord flats are registered to pay the NPPR.

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### **CITY MANAGER'S REPLY:**

The following are the statistics as requested for 2010:

#### **City Wide in 2010:**

1,312 Private Rented Houses were inspected and a total of 2,310 inspections were carried out.

Of the 1,312 Private Rented Houses inspected, a total of 787 were in compliance with the Housing (Standards for Rented Houses) Regulations 2008/09 and a total of 525 were not in compliance.

Two landlords were prosecuted in 2010.

#### **Central Area in 2010:**

397 Private Rented Houses were inspected and a total of 757 inspections were carried out.

Of the 397 Private Rented Houses inspected, a total of 205 were in compliance with the Housing (Standards for Rented Houses) Regulations 2008/09 and 192 were not in compliance.

Two landlords were prosecuted in 2010.

The Non Principal Private Residence (NPPR) is based on self declaration and the information provided can only be used for the purposes of managing the NPPR charge. Data protection does not permit use of the information for other purposes. However, the Act does permit sharing of information between the Private Rented Tenancies Board (PRTB) and the Revenue Commissioners and information is being shared to ensure enforcement of the charge.

#### **Q104. COUNCILLOR PAUL MCAULIFFE**

Following a request from residents can the Manager level the earth mound in front of, **(details supplied)**.

### **CITY MANAGER'S REPLY:**

A reply has been issued to the Councillor.

#### **Q105. COUNCILLOR PAUL MCAULIFFE**

Can the Manager provide me on a progress report on the Ballymun re-housing project outlining how many people have been rehoused from flats in Ballymun, How many remain in the old style flats and when they will be housed. Can the Manager further detail the number of people living in each block and suggest what he intends to do in those blocks where the number of residents drops to a very low level.

### **CITY MANAGER'S REPLY:**

Currently there are 280 units occupied by tenants out of the original 2814 flats. Tenants are spread over 7 blocks as follows:

Coultry – 2  
Shangan (Block 2) - 20  
Silloge (Block 3) – 19  
Silloge (Block 5) – 19  
Balbutcher (Blocks 1 & 2) – 140  
Plunkett Tower – 80

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There are currently 211 homes on site in the schemes Shangan 5A/5B located on Shangan Avenue (expected completion Dec 2011/March 2012) and Silloge 4 (Pyrite remedial work to commence Later this year and expected to take two years for completion) located at Poppintree Park. Of this 211 there are 149 units still to be allocated.

In the Ballymun Regeneration Ltd Housing Strategy September 2010 five other schemes were identified to re house the existing tenants remaining in the blocks. These schemes are as follows: Coultry 6, Silloge 9, Silloge 8, Silloge 1C and Silloge 10.

Both tenants in Coultry have been made offers of alternative housing. One has accepted and will be relocated shortly. A notice to quit may be served on the other tenant in the near future.

Of the 20 tenants in Shangan, all have been offered housing in Shangan 5, which is due to be completed early next year. 7 have refused this offer, but units are being reserved for them.

Of the 19 tenants in Silloge (Block 3), 10 have accepted offers in Shangan 5. Dublin City Council will endeavour to rehouse the remaining 9 through either casual vacancies in our housing stock or purchase of units.

Of the 19 tenants in Silloge (Block 5), 10 are awaiting units in Silloge 4, which has pyrite. These tenants have been informed that if they wish to retain this offer they will have to move temporarily to vacant units in Balbutcher Lane / Plunkett Tower. A further 2 have accepted offers in Shangan. Dublin City Council is also endeavouring to rehouse the remaining 5 tenants through either casual vacancies in our housing stock or purchase of units. Ballymun Regeneration Ltd. is currently holding units in its Shangan 5 schemes for the tenants in all these blocks who have refused offers.

The blocks in Balbutcher and Plunkett are relatively full, and Dublin City Council and Ballymun Regeneration are currently in discussions regarding the phasing of detenancing of these blocks, with the need to minimise isolation being a guiding principle. Length of tenancy was the key determinant to date of the order in which tenants were made offers of rehousing in regeneration units. The allocation policy for regeneration units and relocation policy for families remaining in the blocks are currently being reviewed jointly by the City Council and BRL.

Management of Balbutcher and Plunkett is less difficult than the other blocks as there is a concierge service in place. Community staff are actively engaged with residents and meet them on a regular basis to discuss issues of ongoing concern.

If any resident in the partially tenanted blocks wishes to move to Balbutcher Lane/Plunkett Tower, while they await their permanent move, every effort will be made to facilitate this.

The timeline for the remaining detenancing is dependant on BRL's build programme and the availability of alternative accommodation.

### **Q106. COUNCILLOR PAUL MCAULIFFE**

Can the Manager outline how much money was spent in the past 12 months on removing graffiti in the City Council Area and how many sq. feet were removed?

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### **CITY MANAGER'S REPLY:**

€288,947.69 was spent on graffiti removal in 2010 and this involved the removal of 29,600 square metres of graffiti.

€134,740.00 has been spent so far this year on graffiti removal and this involved the removal of 13,800 square metres of graffiti.