

**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> SEPTEMBER 2017**

**Q.1 COUNCILLOR DECLAN FLANAGAN**

To ask the Chief Executive regarding (details supplied)

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

A reply has been issued to the Councillor.

**Q.2 COUNCILLOR PATRICK COSTELLO**

To ask the Chief Executive to provide a table of all disposals from June 2014 until June 2017 showing the date disposal was agreed by council, the name of the person to whom it was sold, the dates contracts were signed, and giving a summary reason of any delay or cancellation in signing contracts if they occurred.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Due to the time span and detail requested by the Councillor it will be necessary to conduct a manual exercise to extract the required information from the Development Department Property Register and files. A report will be issued directly to the Councillor.

**Q.3 COUNCILLOR DERMOT LACEY**

To ask the Chief Executive what progress has been made in establishing a Columbarium wall or similar facility in some of our old Graveyards as previously agreed by the Council.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Parks and Landscape Services carried out a feasibility study to determine if it is possible to erect Columbarium Walls in graveyards under their control as it is deemed that cremation has become the preferred method of internment in Ireland with approximately 60% of all recorded deaths now followed by cremation.

It is perceived that there is a desire by communities to be interred in their own locality. In relation to Dublin City Council, many of the older cemeteries have now reached full capacity and there is a need to identify other internment options. Arising from the study, it is recognised that there is merit for a number of Dublin City Council owned graveyards to have Columbarium Walls thereby providing choice for people to be interred in their own locality which in many cases are now closed for burials. Dublin City Council own the following Graveyards Bluebell, Clontarf, Killester, Raheny, St. Canices, Donnybrook and Merrion.

In the context of the study, relating specifically to Columbarium Walls, Bluebell Cemetery presents the greatest opportunity for a Columbarium Wall. There is scope for Columbarium Walls in other cemeteries, namely Donnybrook, Clontarf and Merrion. Many of Dublin City Council cemeteries have significant heritage value of national importance, and any intervention must be done sensitively in conjunction with Dublin City Council Heritage Section and prescribed bodies.

It is therefore recommended that a cemetery master plan be drafted which will include Columbarium Walls. This will act as a focus for the future sustainable management and maintenance of the cemeteries under our control. It is anticipated that there will be staff available in the latter part of 2017 to commence this work and a progress report on this matter will issue to a future SPC meeting.

**Q.4 COUNCILLOR TINA MAC VEIGH**

To ask the Chief Executive how many tonnes of illegal waste were collected in Dublin City for each of the years 2014, 2015, 2016 and 2017 to date and the cost of said collection for each of those years.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The tonnage of illegal dumping collected in 2014 and 2015 was estimated to be in the region of 2500 tonnes per year. The cost of removal including labour, fleet and disposal was estimated at €670,000 in 2014 and €640,000 in 2015.

In 2016 Dublin City Council put in place a methodology to more accurately track the amount of illegal dumping being removed and the cost associated with removing and disposing of this waste. In 2016 the cost is estimated to have been €810,000 with 3100 tonnes of dumped household waste removed and disposed of.

In 2017 (Jan - Jul) it is estimated that the cost is €470,000 with 1687 tonnes of dumped household waste removed.

**Q.5 COUNCILLOR RAY MC HUGH**

To ask the Chief Executive to arrange for dog fouling signs to be erected at the Entrance to Willie Pearse Park, Crumlin and the surrounding area.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Dog Fouling signs will be erected at the entrance to Willie Pearse Park in the next 2 weeks.

**Q.6 COUNCILLOR RAY MC HUGH**

To ask the Chief Executive to arrange for the weeds on the pathway of Clogher Road Cul de Sac to be cleared.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The 2nd spray for weeds is currently been carried out in all areas of the South Central Area. Depending on the weed type, die back usually occurs approximately three weeks after spraying. When all weeds are dead Waste Services Division will arrange for the weed residue to be scrapped and removed by the local waste management depot.

**Q.7 COUNCILLOR ALISON GILLILAND**

To ask the Chief Executive **(details supplied)**

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

A reply has been issued to the Councillor.

**Q.8 COUNCILLOR CHRISTY BURKE**

To ask the Chief Executive could the road at **(details supplied)** be included for reinstatement this year as it is used by a number of residents who are wheelchair bound.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Road Maintenance Services has insufficient resources to complete resurfacing at this location in 2017. Resurfacing will be considered in 2018.

**Q.9 COUNCILLOR CHRISTY BURKE**

To ask the Chief Executive to introduce pay and display at **(details supplied)** as the lane has gone out of control with parking on the foot paths and parking on the bend into the lane. Local residents are concerned regarding the amount of traffic that is parking there.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The request for Pay and Display parking controls on **(details supplied)** will be referred to the Traffic Advisory Group for examination and report. The Councillor will be informed of the recommendation in due course.

Instances of illegal parking as they occur should be referred to Dublin Street Parking Services at 602 2500, or to the Gardaí, as it is a matter for enforcement under the Road Traffic Regulations. DSPS will be requested also to monitor the location for illegal parking.

**Q.10 COUNCILLOR CHRISTY BURKE**

To ask the Chief Executive to infill the tarmac patch on the entry into **(details supplied)**

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

These repairs have been carried out as part of the recent carriageway resurfacing works on **(details supplied)**.

**Q.11 COUNCILLOR CHRISTY BURKE**

To ask the Chief Executive to fill in with concrete the small patch of ground opposite **(details supplied)**

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The small patch of Ground opposite **(details supplied)** is a medium sized open space, 1,270.1 square metres which provides a natural green amenity to the community. It is difficult to see the benefit in concreting over such an area other than to create parking in an area where this is not an issue.

**Q.12 COUNCILLOR ANTHONY CONNAGHAN**

To ask the Chief Executive to arrange for more regular inspections of the bin at the 40 bus stop on St. Helenas Road (between Hazelcroft and Cloonlara) as I have received numerous complaints about the state of the place around the bin. If the situation does not improve can we look at removing the bin as a last resort.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Waste Management Services have the above mentioned litter bin emptied and any rubbish around the bin removed every morning. We will certainly monitor the usage of this litter bin over the coming weeks.

**Q.13 COUNCILLOR ANTHONY CONNAGHAN**

To ask the Chief Executive to arrange for kissing gates, similar to the ones recently installed at Cardiffsbridge Avenue, to be placed at the junction of Deanstown Drive and Deanstown Green.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

We have appointed a contractor to modified chicane type gate at this location similar to that of Cardiffsbridge Ave as requested. Awaiting quotation and date for work to be carry out.

**Q.14 COUNCILLOR ANTHONY CONNAGHAN**

To ask the Chief Executive to arrange for a **(details supplied)**

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

A reply has been issued to the Councillor.

**Q.15 COUNCILLOR ANTHONY CONNAGHAN**

To ask the Chief Executive if there is any protocol for the placing of chains in between bollards which might be used to surround monuments/statues or any artwork etc.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Road Maintenance Services is not aware of any protocol for the placing of chains as described in the Question. Road Maintenance Services has published a document entitled "Construction Standards for Road and Street Works in Dublin City Council" which set out construction standards for roadways, pedestrian areas, shared surfaces, footways, kerbs and channels. Section 7 of this document details requirements with regard to street furniture. Four different types of bollard are specified none of which incorporate chains. Section 7.7 of the document relates to "Other Street Furniture" does not explicitly refer to chains between bollards but outlines the process for allowing the placement of new street furniture. Road Maintenance Services would not be in favour of the placing of chains between bollards as in the past these have been considered a hazard in the context of public liability claims.

**Q.16 COUNCILLOR LARRY O'TOOLE**

To ask the Chief Executive to give an update on **(details supplied)**

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

A reply has been issued to the Councillor.

**Q.17 COUNCILLOR DERMOT LACEY**

To ask the Chief Executive if he will arrange for a full audit of works undertaken over recent years at **(details supplied)**

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

An inspection of the extension to this property will be carried out over the next 2 weeks. We need to establish when this work was completed. Subsequent to the inspection the tenant will be updated on any works which may be required.

**Q.18 COUNCILLOR RUAIRI MC GINLEY**

To ask the Chief Executive to inspect tenancy property for dampness and to arrange necessary remedial work **(detail supplied)**

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

This dwelling has been inspected in relation to a report of dampness. There is no evidence of dampness, however on inspection there were duvets and clothing drying on radiators in the dwelling which does contribute to condensation in dwellings. The tenant has been advised on the best approach to dealing with condensation and information on same.

**Q.19 COUNCILLOR PAUL HAND**

To ask the Chief Executive how many bottles and cans of fizzy drinks are sold in vending machines on DCC property (inclusive of all DCC properties and inclusive of all brands of fizzy drinks) for the past 3 years. In replying to me I would like it broken

down as follows: A list of every vending machine on DCC property, Location of the vending machine, how many units sold in that vending machine, revenue raised from the individual vending machine (gross and net), maintenance or other associated costs per vending machine and on the final line of the answer the net total for every machine combined.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

There is one vending machine at Civic Offices Dublin City Council selling soft drinks at this location, operated solely by the caterer on site, Aramark. Aramark has only data available from August 2016 to date due to a new financial system launching at that time. However, it is estimated that the below would also be the approximate annual sales for the previous 2 years also.

August 1st 2016 – August 25th 2017

Total Units Sold: 1239

Total Gross Revenue: €2044.35

Total Net Revenue: €1574.15

There are two vending machines in the Motor Tax staff canteen. These machines are supplied and operated by Aramark, as part of the catering contract for the staff canteen. Aramark are not in a position to supply any further information regarding cost of sales, revenue, number of sales, etc. The maintenance of these machines is the responsibility of Aramark. The machines stock branded fizzy drinks, water, crisps, chocolate and this stock is managed by Aramark.

In Water Division Depot, 68-70 Marrowbone Lane, Dublin 8

- 1 No. fizzy drinks vending Machine.
- Location – Yard, Water Division Depot, 68-70 Marrowbone Lane, Dublin 8.
- Units Sold – Information unavailable - Use overall average for Dublin City Council.
- Revenues – Information unavailable - Use overall average for Dublin City Council.

Parks & Landscape Services do not directly operate any vending machines in Parks properties.

However, Parks and Landscape Services Section have a number of commercial concessions in place with cafes/coffee shops, ice-cream vendors and also licences with community sporting clubs. Licensees may operate vending machines in these premises. However, it is not a condition of the licence that they inform the Council whether or not a vending machine has not been installed, nor are the licensees required to provide information on units sold or revenue raised.

A number of Dublin City Council Sports / Leisure and Recreation Centres have vending machines on site. Our last report on same stated that vending machines were located at the following locations:

- Finglas Sports & Leisure Centre
- Ballymun Sports & Leisure Centre
- Ballyfermot Leisure Centre
- Markievicz Leisure Centre
- Cabra Parkside Community Centre
- Ballybough Community Centre
- Clontarf Road Sports Pitches
- Clogher Road Sports Centre

- St. Catherines Sports Centre
- Inchicore Community Sports Centre
- Irishtown Stadium

We are currently updating this information and will send any amendments directly to councillor in due course. The vending machines are not operated by Dublin City Council, the vendor operating the machines is responsible for stock and maintenance of machines. There is no cost to Dublin City Council in respect of these vending machines nor do we have any details on vending sales.

**Q.20 COUNCILLOR LARRY O'TOOLE**

To ask the Chief Executive to respond to this request **(details supplied)**

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

A reply has been issued to the Councillor.

**Q.21 COUNCILLOR LARRY O'TOOLE**

To ask the Chief Executive to respond to this housing query **(details supplied)**

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

A reply has been issued to the Councillor.

**Q.22 COUNCILLOR LARRY O'TOOLE**

To ask the Chief Executive to respond to this matter **(details supplied)**

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

A reply has been issued to the Councillor.

**Q.23 COUNCILLOR RAY MC HUGH**

To ask the Chief Executive to arrange for an inspection of the footpaths on **(details supplied)** and also to arrange a general clean up of the area.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Road Maintenance has inspected the footpaths on **(details supplied)** and has recorded a large number of defects which have been added to our works list for repair. I will put forward **(details supplied)** for consideration in our 2018 footpath reconstruction works contract. Waste Management Services had a general clean up carried out on **(details supplied)** on the 10th August 2017.

**Q.24 COUNCILLOR JANE HORGAN JONES**

To ask the Chief Executive the following question **(details supplied)**

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

A reply has been issued to the Councillor.

**Q.25 COUNCILLOR JANE HORGAN JONES**

To ask the Chief Executive the following question **(details supplied)**

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

A reply has been issued to the Councillor.

**Q.26 COUNCILLOR JANE HORGAN JONES**

To ask the Chief Executive the following question **(details supplied)**

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

A reply has been issued to the Councillor.

**Q.27 COUNCILLOR JANE HORGAN JONES**

To ask the Chief Executive the following question (**details supplied**)

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

A reply has been issued to the Councillor.

**Q.28 COUNCILLOR DERMOT LACEY**

To ask the Chief Executive if he could outline the legal situation with regard to dogs being unleashed along the stretch of the River Dodder between Clonskeagh House and Milltown on the City Council side of the Dodder.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

This area is in the charge of Park Services, Dublin City Council and the Bye-Laws for The Control of Dogs Under the Local Government Act 1994 applies to this area as are in force for all other Parks and Open Spaces within the City Council.

**Q.29 COUNCILLOR DERMOT LACEY**

To ask the Chief Executive if he will arrange for improved traffic signs in the Sandymount area in particular Sandymount Avenue and Sandymount Road stemming from the introduction of the new 30 KPH speed limit.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

There are speed limit signs posted at the points of entry and exit to the 30 Km/h zone in the Sandymount area. It is Dublin City Council's policy not to erect repeater signs as this will lead to a proliferation of signage throughout the city. If the councillor can indicate specific signage locations where the sign(s) are obscured, these will be examined and rectified if necessary.

**Q.30 COUNCILLOR DECLAN FLANAGAN**

To ask the Chief Executive to get an update on a footpath which needs repairing outside (**details supplied**).

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Road Maintenance has completed a repair at this location.

**Q.31 COUNCILLOR DECLAN FLANAGAN**

To ask the Chief Executive for an update on (**details supplied**)

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

A reply has been issued to the Councillor.

**Q.32 COUNCILLOR DECLAN FLANAGAN**

To ask the Chief Executive (**details supplied**)

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

A reply has been issued to the Councillor.

**Q.33 COUNCILLOR CRIONA NI DHALAIGH**

To ask the Chief Executive what the purpose is for the loading bay at (**details supplied**) as there are no shops, offices or retail stores here. It's a lane in a residential area. Also a constituent was clamped here on Saturday 5th August (bank holiday Saturday) at 12.30pm (paid for her parking) but was clamped upon her

return. There were other vehicles parked there when she arrived and still there when she was unclamped. She queried this with the clumper as to why he only clamped her and he said "She was just unlucky". Surely luck should not determine whether you get clamped or not? Given it was a bank holiday the loading bay was not in use (locals informed her it's never in use). Can the Chief Executive please comment on this?

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

A request to rescind the loading bay at the above location will be referred to the Traffic Advisory Group for examination and report. The Councillor will be informed of the recommendation in due course. The matter of the clamping of the vehicle has been referred to the Parking Policy and Enforcement Section for direct reply to the Councillor.

**Q.34 COUNCILLOR CRIONA NI DHALAIGH**

To ask the Chief Executive to carry out the following request (**details supplied**)

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

A reply has been issued to the Councillor.

**Q.35 COUNCILLOR CRIONA NI DHALAIGH**

To ask the Chief Executive to consider the request from the (**details supplied**)

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

A reply has been issued to the Councillor.

**Q.36 COUNCILLOR PAUL MC AULIFFE**

To ask the Chief Executive (**details supplied**)

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

A reply has been issued to the Councillor.

**Q.37 COUNCILLOR RUAIRI MC GINLEY**

To ask the Chief Executive to check that planning conditions in relation to (**details supplied**) have been complied with

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

On inspection it was noted that the development currently under construction on this site is not fully in compliance with the terms of its planning permission. Accordingly the Enforcement Section has been contacted, an Enforcement File is being opened and a Warning Letter will issue to the developer.

**Q.38 COUNCILLOR NIAL RING**

To ask the Chief Executive about the North and South Quays Traffic management Measures recently introduced that allows private traffic to continue from Bachelors Walk onto Eden quay. However, the report to the Transportation SPC (May 2017) indicates that "in the future. Eden Quay may have to become public Transport only". Can the Chief Executive detail under what circumstances such a reversal of a decision could come about and further confirm that the entire North and South Traffic management scheme would be subject to a similar review/evaluation at the same time as any clandestine attempt to "review/re-evaluate" Eden Quay.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

In the May 2017 report to the Transportation SPC, it was set out that the operation and effectiveness of these proposals will be carefully monitored using data from



Dublin Bus, Luas and our traffic control system both during the LUAS LCC testing phase and also when passenger operations commence in December 2017. We furthermore would undertake to bring back to the Transportation SPC in early 2017 a report on its operation and performance and, if any changes were to be proposed in its operation, this would come back to the SPC for consideration.

**Q.39 COUNCILLOR NIAL RING**

To ask the Chief Executive if there are plans to roll out the hugely successful building hoarding painting programme, such as that on Ballybough Road and in Croke Villas, throughout the city, as the murals and wall paintings are not only aesthetically pleasing but are also proving extremely popular with local residents and the general public.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

This request is with the Public Realm Strategy section for investigation and a direct reply will be issued to the Councillor.

**Q.40 COUNCILLOR NIAL RING**

To ask the Chief Executive further to the many questions I have already submitted for reply in relation to the efforts being made by DCC by the NTA for the loss of income (€1.8m per annum in perpetuity) resulting from the permanent loss of c.440 parking bays in the City due to the Cross City Luas Project, can the Chief Executive now confirm that it is order to accrue the amount owing by the NTA to DCC in the 2018 accounts given that this project is now nearing completion and will be completed by year end. To ask the Chief Executive to confirm how much will be accrued for 2018 given the three year loss of income and to also confirm that, in accordance with the motion passed by Members at the City Council meeting of March 3rd last, this amount will be ring fenced and used for reinstatement of the bulk waste collection service as per the motion passed.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

It is premature to accrue any amount in respect of the lost income pending agreement with the NTA. The matter is being pursued and the Councillor will be advised of the position once clarified.

As pointed out in my reply to Q48 (City Council Meeting 8th May 2017) : The reintroduction of a free citywide household bulky waste collection service is contrary to the core principle that the person(s) generating the waste should pay for its disposal regardless of the type of waste being generated. The cost of providing this service had become unsustainable and the service had therefore been discontinued in favour of a service for which households pay a nominal fee.

Options to enable the Council to comply with the motion passed by the Members at the meeting on 6th March last are being examined. Provision will have to be made for any proposal in the Budget for 2018.

**Q.41 COUNCILLOR NIAL RING**

To ask the Chief Executive in view of the current situation vis a vis the attempted destruction of trees in Fairview Park to facilitate the installation of a cyclepath (opposed by cycle groups, business interests and the public as proven by the signing of a petition by over 15,000 people) can the Chief Executive now revisit my question to the City Council of October 2009 and, having regard to the answer thereto, can the Chief Executive confirm whether, or not, there are outstanding funds (it would appear that €8.5m was sought from the NRA but only €6.0m was received and there also appears to be a further (?) €1.6m sought) and or work commitments still due to DCC

from the NRA under the agreements entered into to facilitate the Port tunnel works in Fairview Park (DCC notes in a report circulated at a City Council Meeting of 7th September 2009 that DCC is "...rigorously pursuing the NRA to fulfil their commitments with regard Fairview Park).

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The Dublin Port Tunnel Project Office was formally closed down on 30th September, 2009, and no one is assigned to the project any more. The final account was completed and signed off in 2010. All records, files, drawings etc. have been archived off-site. Any historical queries will require someone to access those archives, which may be a lengthy process.

**Q.42 COUNCILLOR CHRIS ANDREWS**

To ask the Chief Executive can **(details supplied)** get the bath removed and a walk in shower installed as she is unable to get in and out of the bath due to poor health?

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

No application for the installation of a shower under our Scheme for Persons with Disabilities has been received to date from the resident of this dwelling. An application form has been forwarded to the tenant 18th August 2017. The form should be fully completed and the application should be supported by medical/ Occupational Therapist's report. On receipt of the documentation, the tenant's application will be assessed as to feasibility and if approved on medical need a timeframe for installation will be set up.

**Q.43 COUNCILLOR CHRIS ANDREWS**

To ask the Chief Executive can the tree at **(details supplied)** be removed as it is creating a trip hazard on the footpath.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

There is some cracking to the pavement at this location however the damage would not justify the complete removal of the tree. The Paving Section have been notified of the location and can investigate to see if repairs are necessary.

**Q.44 COUNCILLOR GREG KELLY**

To ask the Chief Executive **(details supplied)**

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

A reply has been issued to the Councillor.

**Q.45 COUNCILLOR GREG KELLY**

To ask the Chief Executive **(details supplied)**

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

A reply has been issued to the Councillor.

**Q.46 COUNCILLOR GREG KELLY**

To ask the Chief Executive **(details supplied)**

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

A reply has been issued to the Councillor.

**Q.47 COUNCILLOR GREG KELLY**

To ask the Chief Executive **(details supplied)**

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

A reply has been issued to the Councillor.

**Q.48 COUNCILLOR CHRIS ANDREWS**

To ask the Chief Executive to arrange to have the tree outside **(details supplied)** removed and replaced with a smaller tree as trimming it is not enough to restore light that it is blocking and also repair the pavement properly.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The pavement repair will be put on our Works List and will be repaired when a crew is available. The street tree at this location has been inspected recently and it was noted that it is a young Turkish Hazel (*Corylus colurna*) which has been pruned in recent weeks. Considering the size and condition of the tree it is not proposed to have it removed as requested.

**Q.49 COUNCILLOR CHRIS ANDREWS**

To ask the Chief Executive to arrange to have a drain pipe connected to the glittering of **(details supplied)**

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

There is a drain/down pipe at this location. A small connection is required between the down pipe and the guttering on the dwelling. This work is scheduled for completion within the next week.

**Q.50 COUNCILLOR MANNIX FLYNN**

To ask the Chief Executive can he carry out a full independent investigation in to the manner in which the plebiscite and count was conducted around the renewal of the BID scheme. A great many business owners who are BID members are gravely concerned about the conduct and practice of DCC officials who were charged with the administration and operation of this plebiscite. The possibility of voter fraud must be investigated given the alarming admissions by DCC executive staff that they had opened the ballot box without independent supervision. Also, it was clearly obvious on the day of the count in City Hall that large bundles of votes had been stapled together. Also, bundles of votes with elastic bands wrapped around them emerged from the ballot box. No independent scrutiny of the votes was allowed so there was no way of verifying safely that all processes regarding this plebiscite were adhered to. It is important to note that DCC had a potential conflict of interest in their administration of this plebiscite given the fact that they had an executive staff member on the board of the BID Company. They also have 9 votes in the BID itself, they were also paid an administration fee of thousands of Euros for conducting the vote as an administrative fee and also they were investigating complaints made by Dublin Town (BID) against an elected member of Dublin City Council and were therefore privy to information that would undermine their independence in this matter. It would also be appropriate for the Chief Executive not to proceed with the ratification of the BID vote at the September meeting of DCC and to postpone such a decision until all investigations into this matter are completed. It is also important to note that members of the BID/Dublintown have called on An Garda Siochana to also investigate this matter.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The Chief Executive does not propose to carry out an investigation into the manner which the BID Plebiscite and Count was undertaken. The decision whether to proceed with the Business Improvement District is now a matter for the Elected Members and I see no merit in delaying that decision.

The Returning Officer, and Dublin City Council staff involved, conducted all aspects of the Plebiscite Process and count in accordance with SI No 166/2007 – Local Government (Business Improvement Districts Ratepayer Plebiscite) which are the only relevant guidelines for the conduct of a BIDs Plebiscite. As Chief Executive, I take exception to the imputations made at the Count and subsequently by the No-To-Bid Campaign against the Returning Officer and other City Council staff who worked extremely hard to properly conduct the Plebiscite and count in difficult circumstances given the contentious nature of the campaign. Citing fraud or calling on Garda involvement implies criminal wrongdoing which is not supported by the details supplied here or elsewhere. I would caution the Councillor against impugning Staff members' reputations in this manner.

Addressing the points raised:

- Administration of Ballot Process

A BIDS plebiscite may result, quite properly in ratepayers returning multiple ballots in large envelopes or in multiple envelopes from the same ratepayer for different rateable properties. Those voting from abroad cannot use the pre-paid envelopes so Ballots may not always be in prepaid envelopes. This is not evidence of wrongdoing but a reflection of the electorate concerned. The Returning Officer was required by the regulations to immediately place these envelopes in the Ballot Box adhering to the requirements of Sections 10-12. None of the issues referred to by the Councillor in relations to rubber bands or staples are breaches of the above Sections.

- Independent Scrutiny at the Count

Unlike other Ballot Papers (General Elections, Referenda) the BIDs Ballot Paper contains prominently the name and billing address of the company/ trader and his/her signature. The Regulations require that the secrecy of the Ballot be maintained which unfortunately has implications for observers at the Count Concerns about secrecy of the Ballot was raised by a number of people during the consultation process and during the Plebiscite itself. I find it ironic that the City Council is now being criticised for maintaining that very secrecy.

- Dublin City Council and Conflict of Interest:

Dublin City Council's relationship with any BID company is set out in the 2006 Local Government (Business Improvement Districts) Act. The Council is obliged by legislation to nominate to the Board two nominees, at least one of those is an Elected Member and the other a nominee of the Chief Executive. The City Council has nine rateable properties within the BID area and pays the requisite BID Contribution Levy for these properties. Neither the Assistant Chief Executive who cast DCC votes or the Executive Manager on the DublinTown Board were involved in the operation of the Plebiscite or Count. The Returning Officer rescued herself from dealing with the complaint about the Elected Member after she was appointed Returning Officer. Far from making money from the process Dublin City Council will only claim in the region of €8,000 for staff overtime in relation to the preparation of the Ballots, attendance at the count and related printing and advertising costs. There was significantly additional staff time allocated by the Rates Office and Chief Executive Department during the renewal process which will not be recouped.

The BIDS legislation was introduced at the request of the Business Community in the City. The Councillor, and his campaign colleagues, may not like the legislation but the Council is obliged to uphold the regulations as they are. I note that even the observer appointed by the No-To-Bid campaign to scrutinise the count, and who

himself raised some of the issues above, acknowledged “the count was conducted in line with the Regulations for the holding of the Ratepayer Plebiscite”. The City Council delivered what was required of the process. The decision on whether to implement the Business Improvement District is now one for the Elected Members.

**Q.51 COUNCILLOR MANNIX FLYNN**

To ask the Chief Executive can he give an undertaking that the allocation process for Charlemont Ffrench Mullen/Tom Kelly flat complex at Charlemont Street be a transparent and open one free from any interference, influence or favouritism. Further, that DCC inform all the tenants of the new approved housing body that will manage the estate and the new structures. This entire new administrative process should have the full informed consent of all the tenants at Charlemont Ffrench-Mullen. Also given the fact that many children around the locality from other social housing played and used the community centre, that the residents and tenants at Peters Place and Richmond place be equally included and have a say in these matters.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE’S REPLY:**

In allocating the new apartments at Ffrench-Mullen House, Charlemont Street the Council will pay heed to residents’ entitlements, preferences and concerns, all the while adhering to the City Council’s Allocation Scheme. A variation to the Allocations Scheme was agreed at the July 2017 City Council meeting in order to accommodate a number of non-tenant residents who have lived in Charlemont Street/Tom Kelly Road all their lives. This variation to the Scheme will be implemented in a regulated and transparent way.

Tuath Housing Association will be managing Ffrench-Mullen House on behalf of the City Council. Representatives of same met with local residents at a consultation event in June. The Community Facility has long been recognised as an integral part of the regeneration process, in order to maintain and enhance the existing community strengths. It’s planning and running will extend beyond Ffrench-Mullen House and Charlemont Street as a matter of policy.

**Q.52 COUNCILLOR MANNIX FLYNN**

To ask the Chief Executive in issuing terms and contracts for the takeover of social housing projects both old and new by approved housing bodies, to insert into the contract that the tenants and residents of these social housing complexes are afforded the opportunity to serve on the management board of their own housing estates. This is in keeping with best practice elsewhere and gives the residents and tenants an opportunity to be equal and to be part of the administration, running and management process of their own neighbourhood.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE’S REPLY:**

Whether an individual management board is established in complexes owned and managed by Housing Associations would, in most cases, be a matter for each individual Association based on the resources available to them. Dublin City Council understands that, in the majority of cases, a designated Housing Officer would be assigned to each scheme to liaise with the tenants.

**Q.53 COUNCILLOR MANNIX FLYNN**

To ask the Chief Executive to invite HIQUA with Dublin City Council in setting up an oversight body that would engage with emergency accommodation facilities, traveller accommodation facilities, and the new family hubs in order to ensure that best practice and all rights for users and particularly children are adhered to. At present there is no body with any remit in this particular field and given the fact that there are

so many people in emergency accommodation and family hubs as well as the myriad of problems faced on Traveller halting sites and that there doesn't seem to be an end in sight to this growing crisis, the least we can do to verify all allegations, of mismanagement and wrong doing is to support the setting up of a body similar to the HIQUA oversight committee that is charged with the administration of best standards in the likes of nursing homes, and other such institutions.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

At the request of the Department of Environment, Community and Local Government (DECLG), the Dublin Region Homeless Executive (DRHE) has engaged in a national consultation programme and produced a National Quality Standards Framework for Homeless Services in Ireland to apply to providers of services to homeless persons. The NQSF for Homeless Services will be applicable to all homeless service provision in receipt of section 10 funding, whether the service is statutory, voluntary or private service provider. It will apply to homeless services for single adults, adult couples and families.

The objectives of the standards are to:

- Promote safe and effective service provision to persons experiencing homelessness
- Support the objectives of National Homelessness Policy, i.e. enabling people to move into and sustain housing with appropriate levels of support
- Establish consistency in how persons experiencing homelessness are responded to across different regions and models of service delivery.

The NQSF for Homeless Services is in the final stage of consultation prior to being submitted to the Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government Rebuilding Ireland Pillar One team this Autumn.

The Traveller Accommodation Unit is currently assessing all Traveller Accommodation sites with a view to upgrading existing facilities and developing new accommodation units to the highest standards across the city over the next three years subject to funding availability. Safety inspections are regularly carried out on all sites and any concerns are dealt with immediately. Fire safety recommendations are currently being addressed on all halting sites.

**Q.54 COUNCILLOR CIARAN O'MOORE**

To ask the Chief Executive can he give instruction on how to stop the residents of **(details supplied)** using a private entrance they built on to the green area beside this house. The residents have submitted numerous complaints to the parks and planning dept. to no avail. Both departments have contacted the owner of **(details supplied)** and he continues to ignore same and the entrance is currently been used as an access route for builders.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

There is no evidence of any building works. There is an extension to the house, and perhaps in the past it was used to facilitate the construction of the extension. There is no evidence of ground disturbance at the gate, which suggests that it's a long time since it was used. The care and upkeep of the open space running up to the privately owned boundary wall is the hands of DCC Parks and Landscape Services., however what residents install in their boundary wall is not the responsibility of DCC Parks Services.

**Q.55 COUNCILLOR CIARAN O'MOORE**

To ask the Chief Executive can he please list an urgent repair to the road surface of the Grove, Bettyglen, Watermill Road, Dublin 5. The road is in such a state of disrepair that the residents cannot access their cars in the parking bays outside properties when raining. This is a health and safety issue.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Road Maintenance Services has insufficient resources to complete resurfacing at this location in 2017. Resurfacing will be considered for 2018. Road Maintenance Services will continue to complete pothole repairs if the need arises.

**Q.56 COUNCILLOR CIARAN O'MOORE**

To ask the Chief Executive what properties have been acquired under the derelict site act in the past 3years and to give a statement on how the properties have been used and will be used going forward.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Derelict Sites – Compulsory Acquisition

The eradication of dereliction in the City is a key priority for the City Council and to achieve this objective and to ensure that properties are redeveloped and returned to active use, the Council does exercise its legislative powers under the Derelict Sites Act, 1990 to acquire sites on the Derelict Sites Register (Section 14 of the 1990 Act : A local authority may acquire by agreement or compulsorily any derelict site situated within their functional area). It will only do so as a last resort in circumstances where all efforts to secure the carrying out of improvement works by property owners have been exhausted.

In the last three years the Council has acquired seven derelict properties compulsorily, all of which were acquired in 2017. Six of the properties were retained by the Council under the control of the Housing & Residential Services Department; the properties are currently undergoing refurbishment and will be used for social housing. The remaining property was sold at auction and has been rendered non derelict. The Council is pursuing an ongoing acquisition strategy and published a Notice of Intention to acquire compulsorily a further eight properties in July. In determining what sites to acquire the Derelict Sites Section prioritises those properties which can be most readily reinstated to active residential use.

**Q.57 COUNCILLOR CIARAN O'MOORE**

To ask the Chief Executive what plans are currently in place for the Cold Weather Initiative 2017 and will the Chief Executive consult relevant stakeholders including the Inner City Helping Homeless.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The DRHE is dealing with an unprecedented demand for emergency accommodation across the Dublin Region. The latest figures from June report that there are 3,406 adults and 2270 dependents accessing emergency accommodation. We are currently working to provide a further 200 emergency accommodation beds to ensure that there is sufficient capacity for people experiencing homelessness who may be at risk of sleeping rough during the cold weather season. The DRHE engages in ongoing consultation and regular communication with all Section 10 funded providers of homeless services.

**Q.58 COUNCILLOR DEIRDRE HENEY**

To ask the Chief Executive can he please refer to location as per **(details supplied)** which is extremely hazardous for pedestrians and particularly commuters as they alight from buses and say

1. if the matter has ever been brought to his attention by commuters/pedestrians
2. if he is aware of the hazard
3. if he can have the area examined from a health and safety point of view
4. what action he can take to make safe location as per details attached

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The Traffic Engineer will carry out a survey of the area in question to observe cyclist activity at the location of the Dublin Bus Stop (**details supplied**), during the morning rush-hour. Items 1 to 4 above will be addressed in the Engineer's Survey Report, which will be prepared for the Councillor, within a two-month timeframe.

**Q.59 COUNCILLOR DEIRDRE HENEY**

To ask the Chief Executive can he please refer to location as per (**details supplied**) and say if he can arrange to have the necessary remedial work (not patch work) carried out at same as soon as possible as residents say conditions are extremely hazardous for pedestrians

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Road Maintenance Services has insufficient resources to complete resurfacing at this location in 2017. Resurfacing will be considered for 2018. Road Maintenance Services will continue to complete pothole repairs if the need arises.

**Q.60 COUNCILLOR DEIRDRE HENEY**

To ask the Chief Executive can he please refer to large pot-hole at location as per (**details supplied**) and have same repaired immediately (as was promised in June 2013) as it is a serious hazard for cyclists.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

DCC parks will inspect the cycle path at the above to see what repairs are necessary and repairs will be carried out by the end of September.

**Q.61 COUNCILLOR DEIRDRE HENEY**

To ask the Chief Executive can he please refer to location as per (**details supplied**) and say if he can

1. Arrange for the removal of the graffiti and the weeds
2. Say what steps can be taken by Dublin City Council to ensure that graffiti at this location is discouraged

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The new development at (**details supplied**) is a private concern and it is not the responsibility of the City Council to remove Graffiti from private walls. However I have spoken with the builder and he has informed me that the graffiti is on a bare wall which is not the finished product and in due time this will be covered. I have requested the weeds to be removed along the wall also.

**Q.62 COUNCILLOR NOELEEN REILLY**

To ask the Chief Executive (**details supplied**)

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

A reply has been issued to the Councillor.

**Q.63 COUNCILLOR NOELEEN REILLY**

To ask the Chief Executive (**details supplied**)



**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

A reply has been issued to the Councillor.

**Q.64 COUNCILLOR NOELEEN REILLY**

To ask the Chief Executive (**details supplied**)

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

A reply has been issued to the Councillor.

**Q.65 COUNCILLOR NOELEEN REILLY**

To ask the Chief Executive (**details supplied**)

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

A reply has been issued to the Councillor.

**Q.66 COUNCILLOR RAY MC HUGH**

To ask the Chief Executive to confirm that funding will be available to the Crumlin area for collection of bonfire materials and co operation with the Gardai and area office continues as in previous years.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Funding will be available for the collection of bonfire materials as in previous years.

**Q.67 COUNCILLOR SEAN PAUL MAHON**

To ask the Chief Executive the following (**details supplied**)

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

A reply has been issued to the Councillor.

**Q.68 COUNCILLOR SEAN PAUL MAHON**

To ask the Chief Executive the following (**details supplied**)

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

A reply has been issued to the Councillor.

**Q.69 COUNCILLOR SEAN PAUL MAHON**

To ask the Chief Executive the following (**details supplied**)

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

A reply has been issued to the Councillor.

**Q.70 COUNCILLOR SEAN PAUL MAHON**

To ask the Chief Executive the following (**details supplied**)

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

A reply has been issued to the Councillor.

**Q.71 COUNCILLOR DAMIAN O'FARRELL**

To ask the Chief Executive (**details supplied**)

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

A reply has been issued to the Councillor.

**Q.72 COUNCILLOR DAMIAN O'FARRELL**

To ask the Chief Executive (**details supplied**)

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

A reply has been issued to the Councillor.

- Q.73 COUNCILLOR DAMIAN O'FARRELL**  
To ask the Chief Executive (**details supplied**)

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

A reply has been issued to the Councillor.

- Q.74 COUNCILLOR DAMIAN O'FARRELL**  
To ask the Chief Executive (**details supplied**)

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

A reply has been issued to the Councillor.

- Q.75 COUNCILLOR CIARAN CUFFE**

To ask the Chief Executive to state what figures are given to the Department of Housing, Communities and Local Government to assist them in the compilation of annual housing completion figures, and to ask whether information on Commencement Notices or Certificates of Compliance on Completion can be used to assist in the production of more accurate figures for housing completions within the County, and to make a statement on the matter.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Dublin City Council submits social housing completion figures to the Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government on a quarterly basis, for both developments delivered by the City Council and Approved Housing Bodies.

City Council housing developments use the Part 8 planning process, whereby a commencement notice is not required. The City Council reaches an agreement regarding the delivery programme, which is monitored throughout the build process until completion date.

Social housing units delivered by Approved Housing Bodies require an open planning process, in most cases, which requires lodgement of a Commencement Notice. The Housing Department liaises regularly with the AHB throughout the build process to completion date, when the units are ready for allocation.

The purpose of the Building Control Management System (BCMS) is to facilitate and improve the efficiency of the Building Control Authorities, building owners, builders and construction professionals in discharging their separate responsibilities under the Building Control Act 1990; the main purpose of the BCMS being in assisting the Building Control Authorities in the Inspection and Building Control compliance process. While data on the BCMS may provide a proxy indicator for some construction/completion activity it should not be taken as an accurate figure of development/dwelling completion activity without significant and further detailed analysis. Furthermore many developments/dwellings have, and are being completed under the pre SI 9 of 2014 Commencement Notice Process (i.e. having been commenced pre-1st March 2014 and in many cases construction was suspended for a number of years) and therefore these developments/dwellings do not and will not require a Certificate of Compliance on Completion for occupation and as such are not recorded in the BCMS.

**Q.76 COUNCILLOR CIARAN CUFFE**

To ask the Chief Executive to update me on the implementation of the Public Realm Masterplan for the North Lotts and Grand Canal Dock SDZ Planning Scheme 2014. In his reply can he identify the individual or offices responsible for delivery of the scheme, monies spent to date on production of the plan and on associated capital projects, and identify projects underway or planned for the remainder of 2017.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The Public Realm Masterplan for the North Lotts and Grand Canal Dock SDZ Planning Scheme 2014 is a non statutory document and provides overall strategic guidance for the proposed layout and design of streets, spaces and parks within the SDZ area. The final Masterplan was noted by the Docklands Oversight and Consultative Forum in March 2017, and by the Central Area and South East Area Committee meetings in April and May 2017.

The delivery of the public realm works in the Masterplan will be undertaken by a number of different parties, to include commercial developers, Dublin City Council, and other agencies such as the NTA.

Approximately 50% of the works will be undertaken by commercial developers as they build out the public realm when completing developments in their urban blocks. An implementation guide is currently being prepared which will translate the strategic guidance contained with the Masterplan to a more detailed level, and will provide a coherent and consistent set of basic design principles, for the design and layout of streets, palettes of materials, planting, street furniture etc for delivery by developers within the SDZ area. This guide will be agreed by an interdisciplinary team in the Public Realm Working Group in DCC.

The remaining 50% of works will generally be undertaken by DCC together with the NTA in tandem with the delivery of key cycle routes in the area, including the Liffey Cycleway, Dodder Greenway, S2S, etc and will require planning permission. The delivery of these public realm works are stalled until these cycle routes are approved. Note that the design and programme for the delivery of new bridges in the Docklands Area including the Dodder Bridge, the proposed relocation of the Forbes Street bridge to Blood Stoney Road / New Wapping Street, and the proposed upgrade of the Tom Clarke bridge will all play a significant role in the timing and delivery of public realm works along the quaysides.

The Public Realm Masterplan for the North Lotts and Grand Canal Dock SDZ Planning Scheme 2014 will be implemented by the Docklands Office. The Masterplan was prepared by consultants over an 18 month period. Fees amounted to €157,895. To date no monies have been spent on public realm capital projects, and no expenditure is envisaged for the remainder of 2017. The proposed Benson Street Park / Chocolate Park is being delivered by the Parks Department and the project is at tender production stage at present.

**Q.77 COUNCILLOR CIARAN CUFFE**

To ask the Chief Executive to state the annual remittances from both the Dublin City Council Fruit Vegetable and Flower Market on Mary's Lane Dublin 1 and the adjacent surface car park (site of the former fish market) giving a full breakdown of same if available.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The fees received in respect of the Fruit and Vegetable Market in 2016 were €258,775.76. The revenue received from the surface car park (former Fish Market site) in 2016 was €147,870.92.

**Q.78 COUNCILLOR CIARAN CUFF**

To ask the Chief Executive if he is aware of the recent report on Street Nameplates that was considered by the Transportation Strategic Policy Committee of Dublin City Council and whether he might consider a more in depth review of signage that would both underpin the principles of Universal Design; improve Dublin's identity through branding; and better reflect the principles of the 'Your City, Your Space; Dublin City Public Realm Strategy' as well as the Official Languages Act (S.I. No. 391 of 2008) which states that the text in the Irish language shall not be less prominent, visible, or legible than the text in the English language.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Road Maintenance is in the process of obtaining a service provider to look at street nameplates in relation to the following:

- Font used
  - Alternative typographical combinations of upper case and lower case lettering
  - Contrast in colours between the letters/borders and the rest of the nameplate
  - Effect of raised lettering being done in aluminium.
- (Ref. Transportation Strategic Policy Committee dated the 28th June 2017)

**Q.79 COUNCILLOR CIARAN PERRY**

To ask the Chief Executive to provide a list of housing allocated in areas E and H since the cessation of the distribution of the Housing List in June 2015?

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The tables below show the breakdown of Housing List Lettings allocated in Areas E and Area H for 2016 and Jan - July 2017.

<b>2016 Housing Lettings by category and Area Housed</b>		
<b>Priority or Points</b>	<b>Area E</b>	<b>Area H</b>
<b>Housing List Band 2</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>30</b>
<b>Housing List Band 3</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>Homeless Priority</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>36</b>
<b>Housing Medical Priority</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Traveller Priority</b>	<b>3</b>	
<b>Welfare Priority</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>108</b>	<b>96</b>

<b>Jan - July 2017 Housing Lettings by category and Area Housed</b>		
<b>Priority or Points</b>	<b>Area E</b>	<b>Area H</b>
<b>Housing List Band 2</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>Housing List Band 3</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>Homeless Priority</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>23</b>
<b>Housing Medical Priority</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Tied Accommodation</b>		<b>1</b>
<b>Traveller Priority</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Housing Welfare Priority</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Housing List Grand Total</b>	<b>77</b>	<b>57</b>

**The above tables do not include HAP, RAS or MTR Lettings**

Following a privacy impact assessment in June 2017, the lettings list is now available to view by Councillors on a monthly basis by appointment in Allocations or in the Area Offices. If you wish to view historical lists, you can contact the Allocations section on 222-2061.

**Q.80 COUNCILLOR CIERAN PERRY**

To ask the Chief Executive to confirm the cost of the Privacy Impact Assessment report compiled by David Fennelly BL. Can the Chief Executive confirm the process for the procurement of the services of Mr Fennelly.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Mr. David Fennelly, BL, is a barrister on Dublin City Council' s panel with expertise in Data Protection. The fee charged was €2,800.71 (inclusive of VAT)

**Q.81 COUNCILLOR CIERAN PERRY**

In relation to the lifebuoys/life rings installed along the various canals and rivers can the Chief Executive answer the following queries?

1. Do DCC keep a current record of the locations of all lifebuoys/ life rings?
2. How many lifebuoys/life rings are located in the DCC administrative area?
3. Do DCC carry out regular checks on the lifebuoys/ life rings?
4. How many lifebuoys/ life rings are damaged or stolen on an annual basis?

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Dublin City Council keeps an up-to-date record of the locations of all lifebuoys/ life rings. Currently there are 194 lifebuoy locations in the Dublin City Council administrative area. Four Inspectors carry out weekly checks on all the ring buoys and rope. The number of lifebuoys damaged or stolen varies but on average 500 ring buoys/ and 288 ropes are damaged/missing annually. This is likely to increase as we have taken on more locations this year with the flood defence wall and also the Docklands area. The average cost per annum is €30,000.

**Q.82 COUNCILLOR CIERAN PERRY**

To ask the Chief Executive to confirm whether DCC record the number of timber framed houses in the DCC administrative area? Fire safety concerns relating to timber-frame dwellings have arisen since a serious incident occurred in Newbridge, Co Kildare in 2015.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The City Council does not have a register of timber framed homes.

**Q.83 COUNCILLOR DAITHI DOOLAN**

To ask the Chief Executive (**details supplied**)

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

A reply has been issued to the Councillor.

**Q.84 COUNCILLOR DAITHI DOOLAN**

To ask the Chief Executive (**details supplied**)

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

A reply has been issued to the Councillor.

**Q.85 COUNCILLOR DAITHI DOOLAN**

To ask the Chief Executive (**details supplied**)

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

A reply has been issued to the Councillor.

**Q.86 COUNCILLOR DAITHI DOOLAN**

To ask the Chief Executive (**details supplied**)

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

A reply has been issued to the Councillor.

**Q.87 COUNCILLOR GAYE FAGAN**

To ask the Chief Executive (**details supplied**)

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

A reply has been issued to the Councillor.

**Q.88 COUNCILLOR GAYE FAGAN**

To ask the Chief Executive (**details supplied**)

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

A reply has been issued to the Councillor.

**Q.89 COUNCILLOR GAYE FAGAN**

To ask the Chief Executive (**details supplied**)

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

A reply has been issued to the Councillor.

**Q.90 COUNCILLOR GAYE FAGAN**

To ask the Chief Executive (**details supplied**)

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

A reply has been issued to the Councillor.

**Q.91 COUNCILLOR FRANK KENNEDY**

To ask the Chief Executive following the introduction of the 30km speed limit in Sandymount, to ask the Chief Executive:

- (a) To explain how Dublin City Council intends to educate motorists on an ongoing basis about the new speed limit;
- (b) To erect some 30km reminder signs (as opposed to poles, due to the surfeit of poles) every so often on Sandymount Avenue and Sandymount Road to help with awareness and compliance; and
- (c) To explain how Dublin City Council intends to play a role in enforcing the new speed limit.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

- a) Dublin City Council regularly through its various communication outlets, VMS signs, Twitter handle and radio station promotes and keeps awareness of the 30 Km/h initiatives and encourages motorists to comply with the limit in the areas where it applies. There are also frequent collaborations with the Road Safety Authority on speed and accident campaigns, which again promote the 30km/h speed limit, as well as speed limits in general.
- b) It is Dublin City Council's policy not to erect repeater signage as it will lead to a proliferation of signage throughout the city.

- c) Dublin City Council actively engages with An Garda Síochána both directly and through working groups on issues such as speed limit and statutory measure enforcement. A review of phases 1 & 2 will be commencing over the coming weeks and if speeds in the 30Km/h zones are not showing a reduction then Dublin City Council may introduce soft engineering measures to assist speed reduction.

**Q.92 COUNCILLOR FRANK KENNEDY**

To ask the Chief Executive:

- (a) If it is correct that the area from Hawkins Street to Lombard Street is to be known as Midtown and from Lombard Street to Cardiff Lane as SOBO District;  
(b) If so, from when will this take effect; and  
(c) Will there be street signs denominating these areas?

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The Environment & Transportation Department is not aware of proposals to rename the areas referred to as Midtown and SOBO district.

**Q.93 COUNCILLOR FRANK KANNEDY**

To ask the Chief Executive to resurface the road on Newgrove Avenue and to repave the footpath on Newgrove Avenue. Both the footpaths and the road surface on Newgrove Avenue are in poor condition and badly worn. The road needs to be resurfaced and the footpaths need to be repaved in full.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Newgrove Avenue carriageway is scheduled to be resurfaced this year. The footpaths will be considered for next year's programme.

**Q.94 COUNCILLOR FRANK KENNEDY**

To ask the Chief Executive as Autumn approaches to take cognisance of the fact that the gullies on Sandford Road at the junction with Cherryfield Avenue often become completely blocked. The problem is particularly acute when leaves from Cherryfield Avenue blow or are swept down the road to Sandford Road. Therefore, to ask the Chief Executive:

- (a) To ensure that the gullies in Sandford Road and Cherryfield Avenue are kept clear and free from leaves; and  
(b) That when Cherryfield Avenue is cleared of leaves in tandem with this the gullies on Sandford Road at the intersection with Cherryfield Avenue are kept clear.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

There are an estimated 55,000 gullies within the Dublin City Council area which are cleaned on a continual basis by the Surface Water and Flood Management Unit. It typically takes 12-18 months to complete one full cycle of cleaning the 55,000 gullies in the city. A number of separate cleaning programmes run alongside the regular cleaning works. A Priority List contains a list of gullies located in areas with high leaf fall which require very regular cleaning. The gullies on Sandford Road are part of the Priority List and, as such, are cleaned every 4-6 weeks.

The gullies on Sandford Road from Milltown Road to Anna Villa were last inspected on the 24.08.2017 and 18 of 18 gullies cleaned.

**Q.95 COUNCILLOR CATHLEEN CARNEY BOUD**

To ask the Chief Executive to arrange (details supplied)

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

A reply has been issued to the Councillor.

- Q.96 COUNCILLOR CATHLEEN CARNEY BOUD**  
To ask the Chief Executive to arrange **(details supplied)**

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

A reply has been issued to the Councillor.

- Q.97 COUNCILLOR CATHLEEN CARNEY BOUD**  
To ask the Chief Executive to confirm **(details supplied)**

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

A reply has been issued to the Councillor.

- Q.98 COUNCILLOR CATHLEEN CARNEY BOUD**  
To ask the Chief Executive to confirm **(details supplied)**

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

A reply has been issued to the Councillor.

- Q.99 COUNCILLOR GARY GANNON**  
To ask the Chief Executive **(details supplied)**

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

A reply has been issued to the Councillor.

- Q.100 COUNCILLOR GARY GANNON**  
To ask the Chief Executive if **(details supplied)**

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

A reply has been issued to the Councillor.

- Q.101 COUNCILLOR GARY GANNON**  
To ask the Chief Executive **(details supplied)**

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

A reply has been issued to the Councillor.

- Q.102 COUNCILLOR SEAMAS MC GRATTAN**  
To ask the Chief Executive **(details supplied)**

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

A reply has been issued to the Councillor.

- Q.103 COUNCILLOR SEAMAS MC GRATTAN**  
To ask the Chief Executive **(details supplied)**

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

A reply has been issued to the Councillor.

- Q.104 COUNCILLOR SEAMAS MC GRATTAN**  
To ask the Chief Executive **(details supplied)**



**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

A reply has been issued to the Councillor.

**Q.105 COUNCILLOR SEAMAS MC GRATTAN**

To ask the Chief Executive (**details supplied**)

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

A reply has been issued to the Councillor.

**Q.106 COUNCILLOR RAY MC ADAM**

To ask the Chief Executive to indicate what plans Dublin City Council has for the possible redevelopment of (**details supplied**)

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

A reply has been issued to the Councillor.

**Q.107 COUNCILLOR RAY MC ADAM**

To ask the Chief Executive the nature of meetings that have taken place to date between Dublin City Council officials and representatives of Croke Park and to indicate whether previous commitments of funding by Croke Park for local improvement works have been acted upon to date?

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Meetings are arranged as necessary with Croke Park officials by DCC or Croke Park representatives on various issues as they arise. Croke Park engages with and provides funding directly to local community groups as it as it determines appropriate. Local improvement works, road maintenance, public lighting etc., specific to Dublin City work programmes are funded entirely and directly by DCC.

**Q.108 COUNCILLOR RAY MC ADAM**

To ask the Chief Executive to indicate the findings of inspections undertaken by the Environmental Health Section into (**details supplied 1**) and if the Environmental Health Section has the following properties (**details supplied 2**) on their radar with regards to standards for privately rented properties?

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

A reply has been issued to the Councillor.

**Q.109 COUNCILLOR RAY MC ADAM**

To ask the Chief Executive to the list of Derelict Sites and properties that Dublin City Council has acquired to date through the CPO process and to provide details of the further eight properties that are to be the subject of the CPO process?

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Derelict Sites – Compulsory Acquisition

The eradication of dereliction in the City is a key priority for the City Council and to achieve this objective and to ensure that properties are redeveloped and returned to active use, the Council does exercise its legislative powers under the Derelict Sites Act, 1990 to acquire sites on the Derelict Sites Register (Section 14 of the 1990 Act: A local authority may acquire by agreement or compulsorily any derelict site situated within their functional area). It will only do so as a last resort in circumstances where all efforts to secure the carrying out of improvement works by property owners have been exhausted.

So far this year the Council has acquired compulsorily the seven derelict properties listed below. Six of the properties were retained by the Council under the control of

the Housing & Residential Services Department, the properties are currently undergoing refurbishment and will be used for social housing. The remaining property was sold at auction and has been rendered non derelict.

188 Downpatrick Road, Crumlin, Dublin 12.

6 Elm Mount Drive, Beaumont, Dublin 9.

30 Merlyn Road, Sandymount, Dublin 4. (sold at auction)

6 Nelson Street, Dublin 7.

7a Oakwood Avenue, Dublin 11.

32 Reuben Avenue, Dublin 8.

3 St Anthony's Road, Rialto, Dublin 8.

The Council is pursuing an ongoing acquisition strategy and published a Notice of Intention to acquire compulsorily a further eight properties, listed below, in July. The period for objections to the compulsory acquisitions ends on 24th August.

Barnamore Park, 25 A, Finglas South, D11

Barry Avenue, 7, Finglas, D11

Creighton Street, 6 , D2

Fairlawn Park, 9, Finglas, D11

Kingsland Park Avenue, 7, Portobello, D8

Rutland Street Lower, 21, D1

St. Brendan's Park, 68B, Artane, D5

Thomas Court, 37, Dublin 8

**Q.110 COUNCILLOR ALISON GILLALAND**

To ask the Chief Executive to carry out a traffic count/impact simulation during peak morning and peak evening week day hours on the planned exit from the Oscar Traynor Lands onto the Oscar Traynor Rd.

This simulation should harness the current pedestrian traffic lights system to stop traffic on the Oscar Traynor Rd to allow for an appropriate exit/ingress periods as would be envisaged for this exit once in use when the lands of development. This simulation should ascertain the number of cars that could actually exit into traffic on the Oscar Traynor Rd as well as allowing for more accurate assessment of the ability of the Oscar Traynor Rd to absorb traffic from the lands.

While Oscar Traynor Rd traffic is stopped at the traffic lights to allow exit from the lands it would be valuable to conduct a survey of cars stopped to ascertain their particular origin and their final destination. In particular data from this survey should be used to ascertain the viability of seeking an exit from the Clonsaugh Industrial Park directly onto the N32 (even if this means CPO'ing land).

It would also be imperative that back up on the M1 exit/sliproad onto the Oscar Traynor Rd be monitored and the surrounding area/arteries.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

This matter has been referred to the Roads & Traffic Planning Unit for assessment and a report will issue to the Councillor when this is complete.

**Q.111 COUNCILLOR ALISON GILLILAND**

To ask the Chief Executive to **(details supplied)**

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

A reply has been issued to the Councillor.

**Q.112 COUNCILLOR VINCENT JACKSON**

To ask the Chief Executive can Dublin City Council please give me an update on the housing situation of **(details supplied)**

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The applicant **(details supplied)** is currently on Band 2 of the Housing list for two bedroom accommodation currently holds position 39 in Area J (Ballyfermot, Bluebell, Chapelizod, Inchicore) Dublin City Council allocates properties based on time on the list and currently there are applicants on the Waiting List of longer standing who have to be considered as suitable vacancies arise. It is not possible to indicate accurately the prospect of an offer for any applicant. The number of vacancies arising will be a determining factor in the length of time applicants could expect to be on the waiting list. In relation to the living conditions that the applicant is facing at the moment this is an issue that she could discuss with a Housing Welfare Officer. The contact number for the Housing Welfare section would be 01-222 2233.

**Q.113 COUNCILLOR VINCENT JACKSON**

To ask the Chief Executive to please give me an indication of the correspondence I recently received from Drimnagh Residents Community Group relating to the decision of DCC to end the collection of bonfire materials prior to Halloween, if this is the case firstly the elected members were not informed & it will end up costing considerably more to clean up the area & create more anti-social behaviour with sporadic bonfires etc.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

All Councillors in South Central have received an email on this. There is no indication in the correspondence as to where the "fake news" originated from. The process for the handling of Halloween is the same as last year. I would also note that an issue like this could be clarified by a phone call to the Area Office.

**Q.114 COUNCILLOR VINCENT JACKSON**

To ask the Chief Executive to please indicate to me the proposal I was recently told of from a constituent in relation to the future use of the Springvale site in Chapelizod & what cost to date we spent on the plans for the site, the Scouts Den promised for the site & indeed the general lack of consultation with the elected members, I well understand the chronic shortage of Social & Affordable housing but why not inform the elected members if & when things are happening it leaves us in a very difficult state having to respond to questions when we are left in a vacuum.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

We identified the site and several others in the city as part of a report submitted to the July meeting of the Housing Strategic Policy Committee. There will be full consultation on such a proposal with the local community and relevant stakeholders in due course.

The identification of sites for Housing is both necessary and essential given the current challenges of housing provision. Consultation with Community and relevant stakeholders is both necessary and welcome.

However the Area Office believes that given the current use of this site for allotments, a definite timeframe for bringing the site into use for housing, should be made and communicated now to the Area Office, so we can give fair notice and due consideration for those holding licences for allotments.

**Q.115 COUNCILLOR VINCENT JACKSON**

To ask the Chief Executive can the NRA please explain the benefit of the extensive road works on the Chapelizod By-Pass which cost probably millions of Euro last year & created traffic mayhem in the Ballyfermot , Chapelizod Areas for many months last year, we not have a very dangerous slip way merging with the traffic at Kylemore Road Ballyfermot travelling west onto the By-Pass. Travelling from the City Centre into Ballyfermot at Sarsfield Road the road markings & signage don't allow traffic time to use the slip-way travelling into Ballyfermot in a safe way whilst trying to negotiate with Buses etc in the bus lane, in addition a footpath at Kylemore Road was done next to the slip-road however it was never completed & is only hard-core awaiting a tarmac surface.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The Background to the Project

The upgrading of the R148 bus corridor is included in the Core Bus Network Strategy for Greater Dublin Area. It is also included Section 5.5 of the Draft Transport Strategy for the Greater Dublin Area 2106-2035 and in the DCC Development Plan 2016 – 2022. All of these reports emphasise the hierarchy of transport users are pedestrians, cyclists and public transport.

In 2011 a report titled the “Chapelizod Bypass Design Study” was presented the National Road Authority. The report recommended a continuous bus lane along the R148 Chapelizod Bypass road corridor No. 6 from Con Colbert Road to Kennelsfort Road in South Dublin County Council area.

Following on from this report the NTA commissioned a Feasibility Design Options Report in 2015. The majority of the corridor improvements were undertaken via resurfacing and realigning the inbound and outbound bus and traffic lanes road markings. This resurfacing was undertaken because of the existing road surfacing was in need upgrading following the results of a pavement management survey. Two traffic lanes have been maintained at all times during peak time traffic flow. These measures were delivered internally by Dublin City Council Road Maintenance Department funded by the NTA.

The two areas where a substantial redesign was required outbound between the Kylemore Road over-bridge merge junction from the Kylemore Road to the boundary with South Dublin County Council and from Memorial Road to Sarsfield Road.

The overriding purpose of this project was to provide a continuous and consistent bus lane along this corridor. The original layout at the merge with Kylemore Road, saw the buses having to exit the bus lane and enter the general traffic lane and having to re-enter the merging lane with traffic merging from Kylemore Road. This has caused considerable delays to public transport on the R148 and coming from the city via Lucan Road.

Dublin City Council engaged Consultant Engineers to produce designs for the preferred options. The options were divided into two zones: Zone 1 Kylemore Road junction to SDCC boundary and Zone 2 Memorial Road to Sarsfield Road.

Proposals for Zone 1 Kylemore Road junction to SDCC boundary

- Road widening along the Kylemore Road slip road and the Chapelizod Bypass. This will allow the installation of a bus lane on the Kylemore Slip Road and Kylemore Road from the Lucan Road.
- Installation of traffic signals on both approaches to the merge junction; on the outbound bus lane on the R148 and on the Kylemore Road slip road.

- Installation of concrete islands at the merging point to segregate public transport from general traffic.
- Proposal for a 1.75m cycleway from Kylemore Road running up the slip road and then alongside the bus lane to Palmerstown.

#### Proposals for Zone 2 Memorial Road to Sarsfield Road

- Road widening at the junction of the ConColbert Road / R148 Chapelized Bypass to provide additional lane for continuous bus lane.
- Repositioning of traffic signals and signage.
- Installation of a 1.75m cycleway from Memorial Road onto Sarsfield Road.
- Installation of concrete islands at the exit to Sarsfield Road to segregate and protect cyclist.

Safety Audits were carried out at all Stages of the design and construction process.

#### Response to Specific Questions

Under legislation in 2012, the National Roads within the Dublin Area were reclassified to Regional Roads. This saw the N4 reclassified as the R148, therefore under the management of Dublin City Council up to the City Boundary. This reclassification changed the R148 into an urban arterial road and so any changes had to be designed under the Design Manual for Urban Roads and Streets (DMURS). The merge junction at Kylemore Road / R148 was designed to this criterion regarding sightlines distances and merging lanes lengths. This junction has been monitored since its construction and it has been found to be operating safely. The new merging lane appears to be operating efficiently with better transitions for merging vehicles. The bus gate is operating very efficiently with reported bus speeds increasing by 10km/h.

The area between Memorial Road and Sarsfield Road was designed to current criteria. The problem as observed is one of enforcement as general traffic are entering the bus lane before the signals on Con Colbert /Memorial and not waiting until the merging point, thus causing points of conflict at the merging point. New directional signage was installed before the merging point. The scheme designer will however be asked to review the current measures in place at the junction with Sarsfield Road.

The area adjacent to the bus lane on the Kylemore Road slip road and on the R148 was proposed to be a 1.75m cycle lane, the installation of which has been postponed at this time, but it is the intention of DCC and NTA to deliver this cycle lane in due course.

The Benefits of the Scheme;

- Continuous Bus Lane from South Circular Road to the City Boundary at Palmerstown, thus attaining a goal set out in the Draft Transport Strategy.
- Improved Bus Priority.
- Reduced delays for buses.
- Reduction in unit costs of passenger journeys
- Two lanes of traffic in both directions remain.
- Segregated cycle lane (when completed).

#### **Q.116 COUNCILLOR PAUL HAND**

To ask the Chief Executive for scanned copies of any letters from any government department in relation to raising the national flag of Palestine last May and for these scanned letters to be attached to the reply to this question.

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

There is no record of the Chief Executive receiving any letters from any government department in relation to raising the national flag of Palestine last May.

**Q.117 COUNCILLOR PAUL HAND**

To ask the Chief Executive how much revenue could be raised if a €5 congestion charge was implemented on all private vehicles entering the cordon and whether Dublin City Council's Executive would consider implementing a feasibility study on this matter.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

152,446 vehicles were recorded as entering the canal cordon during the hours of 07:00 - 19:00 in 2016. At a €5 charge, this would generate €762,230 per week day.

It is not considered that introducing a congestion charge is either at present feasible or desirable and therefore a feasibility study on congestion charging is not recommended.

**Q.118 COUNCILLOR PAUL HAND**

To ask the Chief Executive why solar compacting bins are only being installed in Dublin 4 and not in other parts of the City? Does Dublin City Council have a class bias against other areas of the city who would benefit more from having these installed elsewhere?

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

A trial installation of 54 Solar Powered Compactor Bins was undertaken between June 2016 and April 2017 across a variety of locations assessing the usefulness of the bins in different scenarios set out below.

- Installation of 39 bins on a single collection route in the Baggot Street area. A like for like replacement of existing bins.
- Installation of 10 bins at Sandymount promenade to assess the suitability of the product in an area of high footfall leisure usage.
- Installation of 2 units at Kilmainham Jail to assess the suitability of the product in a high profile tourist location.
- Installation of 3 non compaction solar powered bins were installed in Donnybrook to assess the comparative performance of this product option

In Addition to the above:

- Telemetry services were introduced to 9 existing bins owned by DCC in Temple Bar in November 2016 to assess the efficiencies demonstrated in a City Centre location

These locations were chosen for ease of management of the trial and agreed with the supplier of the units. Containing the majority of the units within the operational area of a single depot allowed for the most accurate assessment of any efficiencies delivered by the installation. Dublin City Council is considering locations throughout all areas of the city that may benefit from this type of bin in completing its business plan for installation of further units. This follows the successful conclusion of a tender for the supply of this type of bin.

**Q.119 COUNCILLOR JOHN LYONS**

To ask the Chief Executive to provide this councillor with a comprehensive report of Dublin City Council's relationships, links, interests, whether institutional, business, financial and/or cultural, with the Israeli state, its various agencies and embassies, Israeli companies and international companies involved in the violation of Palestinian rights.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The main involvement with the State of Israel is through The Office of the Lord Mayor. The Office has ongoing relations with the Israeli Embassy and Ambassador, just as it does with all Embassies and Ambassadors located in Dublin City. There is an annual courtesy call by the Ambassador of Israel to the Lord Mayor following their election. The Lord Mayor would receive invitations to events organised by the Israeli Embassy and it is up to the Lord Mayor of the day whether they attend these events.

The Lord Mayor is invited to, and generally does, attend the annual Holocaust Memorial Day Ceremony held in the Round Room at the Mansion House in January each year. The Lord Mayor is invited to do a reading at this ceremony.

At the request of the Israel Ambassador a meeting was held with the then Lord Mayor and the Chief Executive on the 3rd of May. The Ambassador wished to express the concern of the State of Israel regarding the motion to fly the Palestinian Flag on City Hall. It was explained that this was a decision for the Elected Members of the Council.

In May 2017 Lord Mayor Brendan Carr and Fanchea Gibson from the Office of the Lord Mayor visited Israel and Palestine following an invitation from the Anglican Archbishop of Jerusalem Suheil Dawani following the visit of children from Israel and Palestine in the Kids4Peace Programme to the Mansion House on 16th November 2016. They were accompanied by the Archbishop of Dublin Dr. Michael Jackson and the purpose of the visit was to observe the interaction of the three faiths – Judaism, Christianity and Islam and their contribution to Israeli-Palestinian society and to discuss the Dublin City Interfaith Charter and its aims and equivalent projects in Israel and Palestine.

Dublin City Council deals with hundreds of International companies. The Council would have no mechanism for identifying their interactions, if any, with the Palestinian People.

**Q.120 COUNCILLOR JOHN LYONS**

To ask the Chief Executive to outline in detail in a report to this councillor the various amounts of monies paid for the acquisition and renovation of the new family hubs, the terms of the various leases, and the ownership of these buildings now and in five years time.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

All family hub facilities, with the exception of 19/20 St. Lawrence's Rd., have been acquired under short term lease agreements (3 – 5 years). Refurbishment work is ongoing, and negotiations in relation to leases and the cost of service provision are ongoing. For this reason details of the costs involved are not being released as to do so would undermine the negotiating position of Dublin City Council.

The property at 19/20 St. Lawrence's Rd. in Clontarf was purchased by the Housing Agency on behalf of Dublin City Council for €1.94million. It is the intention of Dublin City Council to use this property as a family hub facility for up to five years, at which point the need for facilities of this type to provide emergency accommodation for families with children will be assessed.

**Q.121 COUNCILLOR JOHN LYONS**

To ask the Chief Executive to report to this councillor on the costs of the ten beach wheelchairs purchased by the City Council last year for use on Dollymount Beach,

the storage costs to date and in detail outline when, where and how these beach wheelchairs will be made accessible for use by members of the public.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Three beach wheelchairs were purchased last summer at a cost of €10,205 and are currently stored in the interpretative centre. Dublin City Council intend making the wheelchairs available to competent members of the public during the bathing season from the lifeguard station and are currently investigating what arrangements need to be put in place to allow this service to be introduced safely.

**Q.122 COUNCILLOR JOHN LYONS**

To ask the Chief Executive to outline the roles and responsibilities of Dublin City Council with regard to the boardwalk public amenity that stretches along the city centre's northern quays.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

With respect to the maintenance of the Liffey Boardwalk, Road Maintenance Services is responsible for the procurement and management of a contractor to undertake the following:-

- Planned and periodic visual inspections of the condition of the boardwalk in order to indentify maintenance issues.
- Supply and replacement of damaged boards, damaged bench seating, damaged leaning rails and damaged balustrade
- Periodic removal of 'love-locks' and graffiti; and
- Annual power-wash of the boardwalk.

Road Design and Construction is responsible for the monitoring and maintenance of the structural elements of the boardwalk and any proposed modifications to the boardwalk. Waste Management Services is responsible for the maintenance of bins on the boardwalk including the removal of waste. Public Lighting is responsible for any issues relating to public lighting on the boardwalk or in the vicinity of the boardwalk.

**Q.123 COUNCILLOR EMMA MURPHY**

To ask the Chief Executive **(details supplied)**

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

A reply has been issued to the Councillor.

**Q.124 COUNCILLOR EMMA MURPHY**

To ask the Chief Executive **(details supplied)**

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

A reply has been issued to the Councillor.

**Q.125 COUNCILLOR EMMA MURPHY**

To ask the Chief Executive **(details supplied)**

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

A reply has been issued to the Councillor.

**Q.126 COUNCILLOR EMMA MURPHY**

To ask the Chief Executive **(details supplied)**



**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

A reply has been issued to the Councillor.

**Q.127 COUNCILLOR EDEL MORAN**

To ask the Chief Executive (**details supplied**)

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

A reply has been issued to the Councillor.

**Q.128 COUNCILLOR EDEL MORAN**

To ask the Chief Executive (**details supplied**)

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

A reply has been issued to the Councillor.

**Q.129 COUNCILLOR EDEL MORAN**

To ask the Chief Executive (**details supplied**)

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

A reply has been issued to the Councillor.

**Q.130 COUNCILLOR EDEL MORAN**

To ask the Chief Executive (**details supplied**)

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

A reply has been issued to the Councillor.

**Q.131 COUNCILLOR ALISON GILLILAND**

To ask the Chief Executive (**details supplied**)

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

A reply has been issued to the Councillor.

**Q.132 COUNCILLOR MICHAEL O'BRIEN**

To ask the Chief Executive if the surface of Bettyglen Grove can be repaired/replaced as soon as possible.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Road Maintenance Services has insufficient resources to complete resurfacing at this location in 2017. Resurfacing will be considered for 2018. Road Maintenance Services will continue to complete pothole repairs if the need arises.

**Q.133 COUNCILLOR MICHAEL O'BRIEN**

To ask the Chief Executive which, if any, by laws would need to be amended to permit Street Traders in Henry Street trade on Sundays in situations where extreme inclement weather on a Thursday, Friday and Saturday of any given week greatly impacts on their trade and income.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

There are no designated trading areas on Henry Street between the months of January and November. The times for designated trading for the month of December are 10.00 a.m. and 9.00 p.m. Monday to Sunday. There are designated trading areas off Henry Street in Henry Place and Coles Lane. The bye-laws would need to be

amended to include Sunday trading in these areas. The 2013 Bye-laws are in the initial stages of review and Sunday trading is being considered.

**Q.134 COUNCILLOR MICHAEL O'BRIEN**

To ask the Chief Executive to comment on the article (link below) which highlights the recent difficulties encountered by rough sleepers accessing emergency accommodation and sleeping bags.

<https://www.dublininquirer.com/2017/07/12/homeless-and-unable-to-to-get-hostel-beds-some-are-refused-even-sleeping-bags/>

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The responses provided by the DRHE in the above article still stand. Please note:

- There is no policy of refusing sleeping bags based on any qualification criteria
- Sleeping bags are issued to people who refuse offers of accommodation – such cases are recorded on PASS
- The Housing First Outreach Team distribute sleeping bags on a nightly basis
- If voluntary groups experience issues as outlined in the article they should contact the Housing First Team
- All calls to the Freephone Number are recorded, the DRHE investigate all complaints received.

**Q.135 COUNCILLOR MICHAEL O'BRIEN**

To ask the Chief Executive how many homeless families have been successfully housed specifically by the placefinders service each month this year.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The Placefinders service operates as part of the Homeless Housing Assistance Payment Section in Homeless Services. To date over 1,000 Homeless HAP tenancies have been created in 2017 across the Dublin Region. Of these tenancies some properties are directly sourced by the Placefinders Service, some are sourced in cooperation with Placefinders, and others are sourced directly by prospective tenants themselves. Since May an analysis of Homeless HAP tenancies has been underway. During this period (1st of May 2017 to 25th August 2017) there were 529 Homeless HAP tenancies created in the Dublin Region. Of these 137 of the tenants had accessed homeless accommodation services and so came through the Placefinders service. The remaining 392 were preventive cases. Of these some will have used the Placefinders service and others will have found the tenancies themselves, this information has not been captured.

**Q.136 COUNCILLOR JANICE BOYLAN**

To ask the Chief Executive **(details supplied)**

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

A reply has been issued to the Councillor.

**Q.137 COUNCILLOR JANICE BOYLAN**

To ask the Chief Executive **(details supplied)**

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

A reply has been issued to the Councillor.

**Q.138 COUNCILLOR JANICE BOYLAN**

To ask the Chief Executive **(details supplied)**

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

A reply has been issued to the Councillor.

**Q.139 COUNCILLOR PAT DUNNE**

To ask the Chief Executive to request that our road maintenance section carries out an immediate inspection of the footpaths on Devenish Road, Dublin 12. To assess the badly damaged sections of the path and kerbs, in particularly around the tree-pits, that needs repair. I've viewed these sections and consider that they constitute a trip hazard.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Road maintenance has recently inspected the footpaths on Devenish Road and confirms that there is a large number of defects present due to tree growth. These defects have been added to our works list and a crew will be starting repairs within the coming weeks.

**Q.140 COUNCILLOR PAT DUNNE**

To ask the Chief Executive to request the house maintenance section to inspect the windows and doors at **(details supplied)** with a view to replacing the old windows and doors.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

An inspection of the windows and doors in this dwelling will be carried out within the next two weeks.

**Q.141 COUNCILLOR PAT DUNNE**

To ask the Chief Executive to request that the house maintenance section carry out the following repairs and inspections at **(details supplied)**

- (i) Immediately inspect and make safe the electrical socket for the cooker. It is currently dangerously hanging from the wall and requires immediate attention.
- (ii) Inspect with a view to replacing the tiles on the kitchen wall and floor.
- (iii) Replace the kitchen worktop with a bigger space. The current worktop is too small to function properly.
- (iv) Decrease the space of the gaps on the railings up the stairs. When children visit the home it is a danger as they try to go through the gaps.
- (v) Casing required for pipes in the living room. Similar with the piping in the back bedroom.
- (vi) Inspect the dampness in the hallway and throughout the home.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Arrangements are being made to carry out an inspection of this dwelling over the next 2 weeks. Any necessary repairs determined by the Housing Maintenance Section will be carried out. Electrical Services will inspect socket in kitchen and carry out any necessary repair.

**Q.142 COUNCILLOR ANDREW MONTAGUE**

To ask the Chief Executive will the council (or ask Irish Water) to replace the missing cover on this drain on Church Avenue, at the side of the Cat and Cage pub.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

As per letter dated 2nd May 2014 from the Chief Executive which was sent to all Councillors, water/drainage queries should be forwarded directly to Irish Water.

The following are the contact details for Irish Water:

Telephone: 1890 278 278 (Lo-Call)  
Web: www.water.ie  
Twitter: @IrishWater  
Postal Address: Irish Water, PO Box 860, South City Delivery Office, Cork City.  
There is a specific e-mail address at Irish Water for Councillors.

**Q.143 COUNCILLOR ANDREW MONTAGUE**

To ask the Chief Executive will the council remove the rubbish outside **(details supplied)** There has been a serious problem with night-time drinking and antisocial behaviour at this location for several months. The local residents have collected and bagged all the rubbish left by the drinkers they need help to make sure this is cleaned up regularly.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The Public Domain Team will arrange for the bagged items to be removed and we will speak with local residents in relation to setting up an Environmental Working Group, which has been successful in many other areas in the locality.

**Q.144 COUNCILLOR ANDREW MONTAGUE**

To ask the Chief Executive **(details supplied)**

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

A reply has been issued to the Councillor.

**Q.145 COUNCILLOR ANDREW MONTAGUE**

To ask the Chief Executive can the council clarify the ownership of Schoolhouse Lane from the junction with the Swords Road to the entrance to Imaal, which was the subject of planning application 2415/17. In particular, who owns the lane between the ESB substation and Imaal.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Laneway at Schoolhouse Lane from ESB station to 'Imaal' is not in charge of Dublin City Council. It is closed by a locked gate. DCC does not have a record as to the physical ownership of the lane. Refer to 'Property Registration Authority' ('Land Registry').

**Q.146 COUNCILLOR NAOISE O'MUIRI**

To ask the Chief Executive on behalf of The Residents Committee at Saint Anne's Court for a meeting as a matter of urgency with senior Dublin City Council Housing officials and local Councillors to discuss issues of concern relating to allocations at this facility. Can the Chief Executive please undertake to organise – I can put him in touch with reps of the Committee.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The Area Housing Manager for this area will arrange to meet with the Residents Committee at St Anne's Court in order to discuss their concerns.

**Q.147 COUNCILLOR NAOISE O'MUIRI**

To ask the Chief Executive about the safety issue for pedestrians alighting from the bus stop on the Malahide Road at the Fairview junction on account of conflicts with cyclists. Can the Chief Executive please organise for an examination of the incident

raised in the **(details supplied)** with a view to implementing physical measures to prevent this happening in future.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The Traffic Engineer will carry out a survey of the area in question to observe cyclist activity at the location of the Dublin Bus Stop 668 opposite St. Aidan's Park Road, during the morning rush-hour. This junction is being re-designed as part of the proposed Clontarf to City Centre Cycle Route. A report will be prepared for the councillor within a two-month timeframe.

**Q.148 COUNCILLOR NAOISE O'MUIRI**

To ask the Chief Executive to address the following a. and b. in relation to the new Happy Out Café on the Bull Island:

a) Please assess the implementation of the double-yellow lines referenced below to facilitate ease of use of the Café:

"First of all can I commend the fantastic initiative to permit the Happy Out Cafe operating on the Bull Island... progressive and innovative... I hope the proprietors are successful and supported (Note: I am in no way connected to them but grew up at the entrance to the Bull Wall and walk there regularly)

Can I suggest that the relevant in Dublin City Council traffic might put some double yellow lines along about 50 meters of the footpath opposite the coffee shop to stop motorists parking there and restricting traffic flow turning left down to the beach car parking area and cars exiting there"

b) Install some litter bins between the Café's location and the statue at the end of the Bull Wall so that there is adequate litter disposal capacity

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Under an agreement with the Dublin Port Company from 1938 the City Council may implement measures on the roadway at this location with the agreement of the company. The request for double yellow lines will be referred to the Traffic Advisory Group for examination and report and if necessary consultation with the Dublin Port Company. The Parks Division will monitor the capacity of existing bin use on the Bull Wall and take any necessary measures to deal with litter problems if they arise.

**Q.149 COUNCILLOR NAOISE O'MUIRI**

To ask the Chief Executive to please provide a detailed report on the water quality problems that have hampered the use of Dollymount Beach over the summer months; there is a perception in the area that the beach is now unusable for swimmers.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Dollymount Bathing Area is inspected by Dublin City Council staff on an ongoing basis throughout the year. An inspection was carried out on 22nd August and no evidence of a sewage discharge was found. However, at present there is a deposit over a wide area of the beach, of a naturally occurring seaweed or macro algae called Ectocarpus. This happens on an annual basis to varying degrees. Ectocarpus siliculosus is considered to be a nuisance species. Its presence in water is often associated with a deterioration in the aesthetic quality of the water body although there is no direct evidence to correlate presence of the weed in bathing water with significant risks to human health. Problems may arise, however, where quantities of the weed accumulate in standing water or on the foreshore due to tidal movement. In these situations, the weed begins to rot; producing malodours as it physically degrades. Under these circumstances, it would be advised to avoid swimming in

affected areas, until the accumulated material has been removed by the tide or by other physical means. At the moment, Dublin City Council's Parks & Landscapes Services Division are removing the accumulated Ectocarpus from the shoreline into confined mounds above the high water line where it will degrade naturally. The growth period for this seaweed may occur as early as spring and continue into late Autumn. The presence of ectocarpus detracts from the amenity value of the beach, especially when they start to build up on the shore and start to decay.

Dublin City Council takes bathing water samples at Dollymount on a weekly basis during the bathing season from the beginning of June to mid September and on a fortnightly basis throughout the remainder of the year. The samples are analysed and assessed in accordance with standards prescribed in the Bathing Water Regulations (S.I. 79 of 2008). During the bathing season, Dublin City Council is required to report sample results to EPA, who then make these available to the public by means of their website [www.beaches.ie](http://www.beaches.ie). These results are also updated on public information cabinet located at Dollymount. Since the beginning of June this year, Dollymount has been sampled on 15 occasions. Of these eleven have shown excellent water quality, three have been classified as good and one has been classified as poor.

**Q.150 COUNCILLOR ANDREW KEEGAN**

To ask the Chief Executive how much was paid to Private Landlords in HAPS/Ras in the NWA 2015 to August 2017

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:** Homeless HAP payments to Landlords are outlined in the table below. Please note these figures are for the Dublin Region, an area by area breakdown is not available.

Year	Rent	Deposit	Total
2015	€ 52,047	€ 33,896	€ 85,943
2016	€ 4,666,186	€ 1,411,337	€ 6,077,523
2017 (to date)	€ 5,639,288	€ 2,624,198	€ 8,263,486

Rental Accommodation Scheme (RAS) payments to Landlords for the NWA are outlined in the table below.

Year	Rent	Total
2015	€3,140,001.91	€3,140,001.91
2016	€3,306,264.84	€3,306,264.84
2017 (to date)	€1,982,333.04	€1,982,333.04
Total		€8,428,598.79

A total of €1.782m was paid to landlords in the North West area under the general HAP scheme.

**Q.151 COUNCILLOR ANDREW KEEGAN**

To ask the Chief Executive how many public housing units have more than one related family unit living in the same house and what percentage is realistically not going to be housed in the Dublin Area and are these family units omitted from the homeless total.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

It is not possible to ascertain how many public units have more than one family related unit living in the same house. However, we do publish quarterly reports that cover both Waiting List figures and Lettings Statistics.

Applicants within Band 2 of the Housing and Transfer waiting lists, would generally be considered to be living in overcrowded circumstances

The table below shows the current Housing List statistics for BAND 2.

Waiting List Code	Area B	Area D	Area E	Area H	Area J	Area K	Area L	Area M	Area N	Area P	Grand Total
Band 2 Housing list	1638	317	1117	716	683	674	501	371	492	121	6630
Band 2 Housing Older Persons	68	2	75	72	21	29	27	43	80	13	430
Housing List Band 2 Total	1706	319	1192	788	704	703	528	414	572	134	7060

**Q.152 COUNCILLOR ANDREW KEEGAN**

To ask the Chief Executive how many cases of homeless people having their possessions removed; because they camped out in public parks have DCC management have to deal with.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The DRHE is not aware of any such cases. However if the Councillor is referring to any particular incident and is in a position to share the information, the DRHE will investigate the matter.

**Q.153 COUNCILLOR ANDREW KEEGAN**

To ask the Chief Executive if management could provide an update on the status of some sort of decent shopping proposal on the Ballymun Main Street Area.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

A 1.2Ha (3 acre) site immediately north of Ballymun Town Centre was placed on the market to address the retail seepage out of the area. In December 2016 this site was 'sale agreed' to Lidl Ireland GMBH subject to planning permission. The disposal obtained Council approval on the 6 February 2017. (Report No: 57/2017 refers).

Lidl are due to lodge a planning application by the end of September for a development comprising a new Lidl store, four additional retail units and student accommodation that will cater for approximately 350 students. All details and particulars relating to this application will be available for public inspection and review, once submitted to the City Council.