

Question to City Manager

South East Area Committee
Meeting 12th November 2012

Q1. Councillor Edie Wynne

To ask the Manager to re instate the double yellow lines at the entrance to the Sherborne Apartments on the newly re-surfaced Rathgar Road'. (Details supplied)

Reply:

The Traffic Officer has investigated the above location and reports that the above work has since been completed.

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Q2. Councillor Edie Wynne

To request the Manager to have the nameplate of Maxwell Road, which is missing, replaced at the junction with Maxwell Road and Upper Rathmines Road.

Reply

This nameplate has been ordered and will be erected before the end of the year by a contractor working on behalf of Road Maintenance Division. This contract is to be sent to tender this week.

Q3. Councillor Edie Wynne

To ask the Manager to have the pathway on one side (east side) of Ferrard Road, off Terenure Road East, repaired as a matter of urgency because the path has been reported as being in a deplorable condition with one section around a manhole completely broken up and loose debris creating a very dangerous situation for users.

Reply

This matter has been referred to the area inspector via our Sharepoint system and repairs will be carried out as soon as possible. This should be within several weeks.

Q4. Councillor Edie Wynne

To ask the Manager to address the problem of insufficient access to and exit from St. Joseph's National School, Terenure, D6, particularly in the mornings when traffic is at its peak.

Reply

This Roads & Traffic Department will carry out the relevant investigations to identify the issues. The Councillor will be informed of what course of action is proposed to deal with the above matter.

Question to City Manager

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Q5 Councillor Edie Wynne

To ask the Manager to provide more glass recycling facilities in the Donnybrook area, somewhere in the village.

Reply

There are both Planning and Health & Safety issues to be considered before glass recycling facilities can be provided and if the Councillors can assist with any suitable location in Donnybrook, then we will certainly consider the matter.

Q6. Councillor Dermot Lacey

To ask the Manager if he would reassess the general street lighting on Eglinton Road, which is very inadequate? At this time of the year, when there are still lots of leaves on the trees & it gets dark earlier, the pavement lighting is quite unacceptable? I suggest that many more overhead lights strung across the centre of the road would be the best solution.

Reply

Some of the lights are blocked by the trees and we will ask Parks Department to prune the trees here. We will also keep this under review for future improvements if necessary.

Q7. Councillor Dermot Lacey

To ask the Manager if he would respond to the suggestion outlined below:

The southside footpath on the DTC side of Brookvale Road is very inadequate & uneven. I have lived in the area for 35 years & have almost never seen anyone use the other footpath, except for illegal car parking. I suggest that the northside footpath be removed entirely & the carriageway widened to allow safer passage for the increasing volume of vehicular traffic on it.

Reply:

The traffic department does not recommend the removal of the footpath and the widening of the carriageway on Brookvale Road as this is a minor road in a residential area and the widening of the carriageway is likely to increase the volume of rat running on the road. In addition the existing footpath acts as a buffer which protects the traffic from the wall along the road. Road Maintenance Division has been requested to examine the condition of the footpath.

Q8. Councillor Dermot Lacey

To ask the Manager if he will arrange to have the matter referred to in the message submitted with this Question dealt with as soon as possible.

Dear Dermot,

Recently has come to an end the demolition of the remains of Blackrock baths. The removal of the rubble was done through the entrance / exit at Merrion Gates. Regrettably the beach was not left in its original condition in that many stones now corrupt the sands. I am not sure what department is responsible. If you can spare the time perhaps you might look into the matter, or tell me whom to contact.

Reply

There was a small amount of material washed up on the shore at this location in recent weeks, following a high tide and winds. The material has now been collected and removed off site. The area will continue to be monitored, especially after high tides and storm weather, and any additional material will be removed.

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Q9. Councillor Paddy McCartan

To ask the Manager to have the lane at the rere of Anglesea Road, Ballsbridge, cleaned on a more regular basis.

Reply

Waste Management Services will monitor the above mentioned laneway and have it cleaned when necessary.

Question to City Manager

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Q10. Councillor Paddy McCartan

To ask the Manager to have extra lighting installed in the carpark opposite the Catholic Church in Milltown.

Reply

The Traffic Officer is investigating the above matter and the Councillor will be informed about the recommendation in due course.

Question to City Manager

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Q11. Councillor Paddy McCartan

To ask the Manager to consider the possibility of having a bottle bank in the Donnybrook area.

Reply

There are both Planning and Health & Safety issues to be considered before glass recycling facilities can be provided and if the Councillors can assist with any suitable location in Donnybrook, then we will certainly consider the matter.

Question to City Manager

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Q12. Councillor Paddy McCartan

To ask the Manager to have the pothole at the junction of Leeson Park Avenue and Appian Way repaired.

Reply

The area will be investigated and the necessary repairs carried out at this location.

Question to City Manager

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Q13. Councillor Paddy McCartan

To ask the Manager to have the graffiti removed from the green box adjacent to the apartments at Mount Sandford on the Milltown Road.

Reply

This location has been reported to our Graffiti removal contractor on 06/11/12.

Question to City Manager

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Q14. Councillor Paddy McCartan

To ask the Manager to have the potholes on Prince of Wales Terrace, Sandymount repaired.

Reply

This matter has been referred to the area inspector via our Sharepoint system and repairs will be carried out as soon as possible. This should be within weeks.

Q15. Councillor Dermot Lacey

To ask the Manager if there is any update on this matter since first reported and action requested last July relating to Ballsbridge Avenue.

I would like to bring to your attention the issue of parking on Ballsbridge Avenue. The hedge that has runs between the Sweepstakes and Ballsbridge Avenue has become increasingly overgrown. It is now causing considerable parking problems which are resulting in issues for the local residences.

Part of Ballsbridge Avenue has parking either side of the road. The rest of the Avenue is meant to be free of cars. The overgrown hedge has encroached in the parking space opposite the houses to such an extent that it makes it impossible for cars to park with out parking a considerable distance from the hedge resulting in the driver partly encroaching on the road.

The overgrown hedge has covered over the double yellow lines at the top of the road so they are now completely covered. Cars now park there creating more congestion and obstacles for the residences. The clampers can't clamp them as the yellow lines are not visible.

All the road sign is no longer visible on the hedge side of the road. There is a *no turn left sign* to stop people turning into the Avenue from the wrong way and a *Ballsbridge Avenue* sign somewhere underneath the undergrowth.

I have had first had issues with the parking situation. I have been unable to move my own car as the car opposite is parked so far out that I don't have enough space to maneuver out. One resident informed me that an ambulance could not make it down the street because of the congestion. That alone makes the situation more pressing than one of an annoyed resident.

From my own research I have discovered that the land that the hedge stands on is privately owned. This is apparently why the council won't cut the hedge back even on the Ballsbridge Avenue side. They say it has nothing to do with them. To further complicate matters I have been told it is owned by NAMA. The agents responsible are Bannon Commercial the person in charge of the Sweepstakes is Ed Smyth, or so I'm led to believe. I have left him several messages but as yet he has not returned my calls. Everyone is washing their hands of the problem and as usual the people it affects directly are left with the consequences.

This matter has to be dealt sooner than later, the hedge is only going to grow. It is already causing considerable inconvenience to the local residences and could even cause the life of one of them. I don't want to be over dramatic but there are several elderly residences in the Ballsbridge Avenue area. I have also included two pictures with this email to illustrate the issue.

I hope that one of you can get some good out of either the council or the relevant private parties responsible. If this matter has already been brought to your attention I would like to add my concerns. Please keep me informed of any developments.

Reply

The South East Area office is currently attempting to get the co-operation of the owners to resolve this situation. If this is not successful, Roads Maintenance will serve a notice obliging the owners to take the appropriate action.

Q16. Councillor Edie Wynne

To ask the Manager to consider installing Pay and Display in Dartry Park.

Reply:

Dublin City Council will proceed with the preparation of a Pay and Display and Permit Parking Scheme and subsequent ballot of residents where there is a demonstrable and clear desire in favour of a Scheme. This may take the form of a number of written requests or a signed petition from the residents of the road. On receipt of written supporting evidence from residents of the road, the request for a Parking Scheme will be referred to the Traffic Advisory Group for examination and report.

On referral to the Traffic Advisory Group, the request will be examined in accordance with the following guidelines:

The road is mainly residential where in excess of 80% of available on-street parking is normally occupied on inspection during business hours.

A proposed Parking Scheme would be subject to a plebiscite of the residents.

The road must have a minimum width of 6.5 metres for two side parking and a minimum width of 4.6 metres for one-sided parking to allow access for emergency services and refuse collection. These are minimum dimensions which only provide for one lane of traffic and are only suitable for roads with low traffic volumes. A Parking Scheme cannot be recommended on a road where the minimum width is less than 4.6 metres. Where a road is wide enough for a Scheme with one-sided parking only, double yellow lines will be required on the opposite side of the road. As a result, there may be a reduction in the number of parking spaces currently available to residents.

In order, therefore, to proceed with the request to introduce Pay and Display and Permit Parking on Cameron Square, it will be necessary to receive written supporting evidence for the introduction of a Parking Scheme, such as a number of written requests or a signed petition from the residents of the road, giving names and addresses, indicating their clear support for such a Scheme. Ideally, this should represent 25% of households.

Q17 Councillor Gerry Ashe

Could the Area Manager arrange to have the heating system in 15 / 17 Lord Edward Street looked at. Residents are complaining that it is very cold in the building.

Reply

The heating system in these apartments is electric storage heating. Our Electrical Services Section had received a report in relation to No.3, however have not been successful in gaining access to inspect the storage heaters. The Area Maintenance Officer has requested that calls are made to all flats in this building and the storage heaters checked in each. This will be carried out within the next two weeks.

Q18. Councillor Gerry Ashe

To ask the Area Manager if the cycle lane surface on Bride Road could be reinstated to a safe level following recent road works.

Reply

The area in question was inspected by Road Maintenance on 07/11/2012. Temporary repairs will be carried out to make the cycle lane safe. It is intended to commence permanent repairs to this area in early 2013 as no new major works are due to commence before operation free-flow starts on 1st of December. This is to ensure that all works currently under construction are substantially completed before operation free flow commences.

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Q19. Councillor Oisín Quinn

Can the Manager contact Dublin Bus again to ask them to clarify in writing when they will install the Bus Shelter they have promised at the Palmerston Park bus stop?

Reply

The matter has been referred to Dublin Bus and the Councillor will be contacted upon receipt of a reply.

Q20. Councillor Dermot Lacey

To ask the Manager if it is permissible for the residents of * (details supplied) to erect at their own expense signs encouraging drivers to go slowly – children in area.

Reply:

Requests for “Children Crossing” signs are considered by the Traffic Advisory Group in accordance with the approved criteria. A request for a “Children Crossing” sign at *details supplied will be referred to the Traffic Advisory Group for examination and report. The Councillor will be advised of their recommendation in due course.

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Q21. Councillor Gerry Ashe

To ask the Area Manager the current status of the Bottle Hall on Ringsend Road and if it has been placed on the derelict sites list.

Reply

This property will be inspected within two weeks and a report will be sent to the Councillor.

Q22. Councillor Gerry Ashe

To ask the Manager who knocked the Hailing Station?

Reply

An order under the Dublin Docklands Development Authority (DDDA) Section 25 was passed on January 2007 for the demolition of the Hailing Station in order to accommodate the proposed U2 tower and urban space, in accordance with the 2003 DDDA Masterplan, which recommended that the Hailing Station be removed in order to build the U2 tower. As this building is no longer in existence it was deleted from the RPS as part of the Draft Development Plan 2011-2017.

Q23. Councillor Dermot Lacey

To ask the Manager if he has any response to this proposal from the Donnybrook Business Association and which has been discussed with the relevant official (details supplied).*

Reply

There is no corporate policy on advertisements on public lighting poles therefor this question has been referred to the Corporate Services section for their attention. When a reply is available the Councillor will be notified.

Q24. Councillor Gerry Ashe

To ask the manager to identify the source of the sewage discharge which is evident on Sandymount Strand adjacent to the nature park and arrange to have measures put in place to prevent this problem in the future.

Reply

A site inspection was carried out on Sandymount Strand on 7th November adjacent to the nature park, and there was no evidence found of any discharge of sewage.

However, at present there is a deposit over a wide area of the beach, of brown algae called Ectocarpus. *Ectocarpus siliculosus* is considered to be a nuisance species. It's 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 become cast up on the foreshore due to tidal movement. In these situations, the weed may begin to rot, producing malodours and physically degrade. This material is often removed naturally following high tides.

The City Council's Pollution Control staff will continue to monitor the ectocarpus.

Q25. Councillor Gerry Ashe

To ask the Manager if he can arrange to have the gas meter box repositioned further away from the door at *(Details Supplied) because it is currently impeding the resident's (who is a wheelchair user) access.

Reply

The Area Maintenance Officer confirms that the gas meter box is slightly obstructing access for the resident of this flat who is a wheelchair user. The manager of Housing Maintenance Heating Section has requested Bord Gais to examine the feasibility of repositioning this meter to allow easy access for this tenant.

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Q26. Councillor Gerry Ashe

To ask the Manager to arrange to have any graffiti in the area of *(Details Supplied) removed and if any further progress has been made in getting Irish Rail to remove graffiti from its property in the area.

Reply

The matter has been referred to Iarnród Éireann and the Councillor will be contacted upon receipt of a reply.

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Q27. Councillor Gerry Ashe

To ask the Manager when a permanent solution is likely to found to stop the regular flooding at *(Details Supplied)

Reply:

Our Housing Maintenance Executive Engineer is currently carrying out investigations into the source of the water ingress into this flat. Any necessary works by Housing Maintenance will be carried out to alleviate the problem.

Q28. Councillor Edie Wynne

To ask the Manager to install a full yellow box at the entrance / egress of Dartry Park where, because of its proximity to the Orwell Park / Dartry Road traffic lights combined with the road becoming three-laned at that point is a danger to cars exiting from Dartry Park.

Reply

The above matter has been referred to the Traffic Advisory Group for investigation and the Councillor will be advised of their recommendation in due course.

Q29. Councillor Edie Wynne

To ask the Manager, from a street cleaning point of view, to change the heavily wooded area of Brighton Square area from Category C to Category B(1) from September to January as, in the interest of safety, the Square should be cleaned of leaves on a weekly basis.

Reply

Waste Management Services operate a leaves removal programme during the autumn and winter months. Priority is given to tree-lined streets with heavy pedestrian use and areas particularly prone to flooding. We will ensure that the Brighton Square area is included as often as possible during the course of this programme.

Q30. Councillor Edie Wynne

To ask the Manager to re-furbish the surface of the road at the rear of Palmerston Park, i.e. on the Temple Road side of the Park.

Reply

While it is old and worn, the carriageway on Palmerston Park is in reasonable condition. Due to financial constraints the Road Maintenance Services Section is not in a position to consider the resurfacing of the road as Palmerston Park at present.

Q31. Councillor Mannix Flynn

Can the Manager issue a full updated report with regards the trespass into the sewer system at Ship street in the South East Area. This issue has many property owners in this area, concerned, with regards the security of their premises. This report to include an update on the new security arrangements if any. What previous security arrangements were in place. How often this system is inspected and by whom. And who is ultimately responsible for its maintenance, upkeep and security?

Reply

As the trespass into the Poddle Culvert at Ship Street is still under investigation by An Garda Síochána, it is not appropriate for DCC to issue a report on this matter.

The sewers in Ship Street are inspected regularly by the Drainage Division. The City Council is liaising with An Garda Síochána concerning the appropriate measures to be taken in relation to the public sewers at this location.

The prime responsibility for the protection of properties lies with their owners. Property owners in this area who have concerns about security should make contact with An Garda Síochána for advice on the measures how best to protect their premises.

Q32. Councillor Mannix Flynn

Can the Manager investigate the placing of signs on St. Michael's and St. John's Church and the former school building, (at the West Essex Street side and the front entrance on Woodquay) both protected structures.

Reply

The signage for the buildings referred to is unauthorised and is the subject of enforcement proceedings, EO522/12 refers. A planning application is due to be lodged to rationalise the signage.

Q33. Councillor Mannix Flynn

Can the Manager issue a report as to the number of incidents where the contents of the ashtray section of the DCC public bins in the South East Area have ignited sending large volumes of toxic cigarette smoke into the street. This appears to be a design flaw with these litter bins and is causing a potential health hazard in many of our busy streets. Can the Manager investigate ways and means that would prevent this regular occurrence.

Reply

It would appear that some members of the public are disposing of their cigarette butts into the ashtray compartment of litter bins without extinguishing the cigarettes properly. This in turn is very likely leading to the re-ignition of some or all of the existing contents of the ashtray. I am advised that it is a common enough occurrence. Unfortunately, however, we do not have figures on the number of bins damaged in this way. These incidents can be minimised by Waste Management staff ensuring that the ashtray is left empty when servicing the bin.

Q34. Councillor Mannix Flynn

Can the Manager a report on how many homeless hostels are being used by the homeless services in the Camden Street area. The report to include how many of these hostels are wet or dry hostels, ratio of male and female, those who have disability (wheelchairs etc). The report also to include up to date health and safety checks and also issues of anti social behaviour potentially associated with the upsurge of homeless services in the Camden St area. It would appear that a culture of warehousing those in homeless services is emerging in this city quarter.

Reply

Dublin City Council (DCC) exercises its authority to provide for emergency accommodation to avoid rough sleeping arising from its obligation under the National Homeless Strategy in addition to homeless provisions contained in the 1988 housing act. It is in this context, Dublin City Council has a temporary arrangement to one facility located on Camden Street (Camden Hall) which is operated as Private Emergency Accommodation (PEA). Therefore it is noted that there is 'one' facility in use on Camden street.

Approximately 12-14 women stay in the accommodation nightly and the remainder would be males, circa 76 beds. The Council has no long-term interest in using this facility and has plans to discontinue its use in approx 6 months time. To this end, DCC has installed a 24 professional settlement team with a view to undertaking assessment and settlement into housing for those attending. In terms of disability access, the facility has access to the rear and can therefore facilitate wheelchair access if required.

The consumption of alcohol is not permitted within the facility and there are separate male and female sections.

In terms of health and safety, DCC have reviewed the facility in terms of health and safety and conduct site inspections (both planned and on the spot checks). There are CCTV's which cover the pathway outside Camden Hall and all the communal areas within the hostel. House rules are prominently displayed in the reception area and clients who breach the house rules are placed on a "barred" list. Dublin City Council and Peter McVerry Trust work closely with An Garda Siochana in order to combat any anti-social behaviour in the area.

Q35. Councillor Mannix Flynn

Can the Manager investigate the erection of giant flagpoles and other paraphernalia at the front entrance of St Teresa church Clarendon Street. These poles completely interfere with the façade of this historic church.

Reply

The Planning Enforcement Section has not received a formal complaint about the erection of the said flagpoles. The matter will be investigated.

Q36. Councillor Mannix Flynn

Can the Manager issue a full report with regards the continuing anti-social behaviour at Tom Kelly flats, Charlemont Street. It was recently reported that a firearm was discharged in this flat complex also can the Manager supply a full report of all allegations and complaints of anti-social behaviour throughout the South East Areas social housing estate to the South East Area Committee.

Reply

An Garda Siochana is currently investigating an incident during which several shots were fired into a flat at Charlemont Gardens.

Dublin City Council, the Gardai and members of the Redevelopment Group form the Charlemont Street Anti-Social Behaviour Task Force who meet monthly to discuss ongoing issues in the Charlemont Street area. This is an important forum which allows residents express their concerns directly to the Gardai & Council.

All complaints of anti-social behaviour are investigated in accordance with Dublin City Council Anti Social Behaviour Policy and Procedure. Statistics for anti social behaviour in the South East Area will be compiled and forwarded to The Councillor at a later date.

Q37. Councillor Mannix Flynn

Can the Manager issue a report with regards the cleaning and maintenance and general estate management at Boyne Street housing complex.

Reply

Two Caretakers are assigned to the Boyne St Complex. The common areas are regularly brushed and cleaned; litter items are picked up and disposed of in euro bins. The bins are power washed (inside and outside) when required and emptied twice a week. In summertime spraying of weeds are carried out by the caretakers (weather & Health and safety issues permitting). In general the Complex is very well kept and looks extremely well and compares very well with any complex in the city. The Complex has won various awards over the years in the tidy districts competition, (where the condition of the common areas is of paramount importance) and its desirability as a place to live, is reflected in the fact that the Complex is the highest demand Complex in the South East Area, Allocations wise.

Q38. Councillor Mannix Flynn

That this committee calls on the Manager to open the front garden at the Mansion House to the public for public enjoyment. In 2013, will see big infrastructural works on Dawson Street, this street will be closed to private cars and as a result of the new Luas line traffic will be greatly reduced. This small garden at this very important location is ideally placed for public recreation amenity. It should be opened to the public for that purpose.

Reply

The proposed works to Fire Restaurant, which include works to the Lord Mayor's Garden are due to commence this month and will continue during much of 2013. During the construction period the Lord Mayor's garden will not be accessible and there are no plans to open it to the public.

Q39. Councillor Mannix Flynn

Can the Manager have an assessment done of the potential damage done as a result of power hosing the protected structures of the Liffey walls on the South side of the city beginning at Wood Quay. This practice erodes the granite and leaves it porous and open to the impact of the elements. There are well tried and tested methods and processes for dealing with the cleaning of granite.

Reply

The cleaning of the river Liffey walls was carried out after taking into consideration issues associated with such structures. In addition, the contractor carrying out the work is competent in dealing with conservation matters on stonework.

Q40. Councillor Gerry Ashe

To ask the Manager to arrange to have the trees at the rear *(details supplied) be removed or pruned.

Reply

The trees at this location are part of an excellent 'stand' of semi mature trees which add to the streetscape, environmental enhancement of the area and protection from onshore winds. While it will be necessary to undertake pruning of the lower branches and in some cases removal of a small number of trees, over the coming years, to allow sufficient space for natural tree growth and 'crown' formation to take place this is not considered necessary at present.

Having inspected the trees at rear (details supplied) it is not proposed to undertake tree pruning or removal as requested at this time due to the age of the trees and distance from dwellings. However, the growth of the trees will be monitored over the coming years and necessary tree works undertaken as required.

Q41. Councillor Kieran Binchy

To ask the manager why the following parking scheme (details supplied) has been delayed and to ask him to intervene to ensure that it is implemented as a matter of urgency before the Christmas shopping period.

Reply

The Traffic Advisory Group at its meeting of 22nd August, 2012, recommended an extension of the operative hours of the parking scheme on *details supplied to Monday to Sunday, 07:00 to 24:00 hours, following a majority vote in favour in June/July 2012. 150 residents were balloted at the time. 75 ballots were returned.

The recommendation for the revised hours was noted by the Members of the South East Area Committee at their meeting of 10th September, 2012. The statutory consultation process with the Gardaí was completed on 25th October, 2012. The Executive Manager's Order approving of the implementation of the measure will be signed shortly. Following signing of the Order, the Parking Enforcement Section will give notice in writing to the 150 residents of the proposed commencement date of the extended operative hours.

It is expected that the extended hours will come into operation before the end of 2012.

Q42. Councillor Kieran Binchy

To ask the Manager to tackle the following issues (details supplied) at Holyrood Park and Oaklands Park, Sandymount, in conjunction with Irish Rail where necessary.

Reply

A letter has been sent to Iarnród Éireann instructing them to cut back the foliage along Holyrood Park.

A Litter Warden inspected this area on 03/11/12 and found no evidence of untagged bins.

Waste Management Services had extra cleaning carried out on Holyrood Park and Oaklands Park on the 6th November 2012. Like all residential streets, they are cleaned every twelve weeks as per Litter Management Plan.

Q43. Councillor Kieran Binchy

To ask the Manager to tackle the following issues (details supplied) at Holyrood Park and Oaklands Park, Sandymount, in conjunction with Irish Rail where necessary.

Reply

As the pathway in question is under the control of Iarnrod Eireann, a letter has been sent to them and the Councillor will be contacted upon receipt of a reply.

While it is old and worn, the carriageway on Oaklands Park is in reasonable condition. Due to financial constraints the Road Maintenance Services Section is not in a position to consider the resurfacing of the road as Oaklands Park is not a major thoroughfare.

With regard to the road drainage, it was inspected and cleaned this week and is adequate.

Q44. Councillor Kieran Binchy

To ask the Manager to ensure that the following household (details supplied) remains a priority for work on making their home suitable for the medical conditions of the residents, as they were approved for works to the house in March, but no work has been done due to a lack of funding. When funding becomes available in the New Year they should therefore be top of the list, if the work is not done before then.

Reply

An application from the tenant of this dwelling was approved and was awarded a high medical priority on 28th May 2012 for adaptations to be carried out at the property. Only those cases that merit a high medical priority are being considered at this time due to the volume of such cases currently on our waiting list for adaptations and ongoing budgetary constraints.

The budget for this programme for 2012 is expended. It is not possible to give a date of commencement for the works at this property until the budget for this programme for 2013 has been established and all cases with a high priority on our waiting list longer than this application have been dealt with.

Q45. Councillor Kieran Binchy

To ask the manager to address the following issue (details supplied).

Reply

This area was visited about two weeks ago and the occupants of the caravans were requested to vacate the site. The occupants will be approached again on the 9th November by senior staff and will be formally requested to move. If they fail to do so the assistance of An Garda Síochána will be sought.

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Q46. Councillor Kieran Binchy

To ask the manager to address the following issue (details supplied):

Reply

Waste Management Services had this location cleaned and disinfected on the 6th November 2012. The location of these cabinets is a matter for the service providers who they belong to.

Q47 Councillor Kieran Binchy

To ask the manager to consider the following proposal (details supplied):

Reply

I can confirm that revised operational times will be introduced at the location referred to (details supplied) in the near future. This measure is in response to requests from residents and subsequent ballot which indicated a clear majority of residents in favour of the extension of the restrictions. Typically such requests are a response to on-going difficulties with parking for residents and the proportion of residents in favour in this instance would tend to support this. In the circumstances it would therefore be remiss of the City Council, having established the preference of residents, to then extend the eligibility for parking on (details supplied) to non-residents. Any extension in eligibility would likely negate any benefit the residents derive from the extension of the operational hours and days.

It should be noted that there continues to be considerable additional capacity available on street where the resident (details supplied) resides in comparison to the additional street (details supplied) being sought (14 Residents' Parking Permits and 26 spaces on-street in comparison to 96 Residents' Parking Permits and 110 spaces on-street).

In the circumstances it is not proposed to extend the eligibility for the residents of (details supplied) to include the additional street being sought. However, if residents wish to propose a similar extension of operational times for their street (details supplied) this can be given further consideration upon request to the Traffic Advisory Group by the residents.

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Q48 Councillor Kieran Binchy

To ask the manager for an update on the following issue (details supplied)

Reply

The report has only been received in the last few days, it is currently under review and we will revert back to the Area Committee with our findings.

Q49. Councillor Jim O'Callaghan

To ask the City Manager whether the Traffic Engineer could assess the traffic levels at busy times at the Ailesbury Grove / Ailesbury Road junction and the Ailesbury Drive / Anglesey Road junction to assess what can be done to ease traffic at these junctions at busy times.

Reply

This Roads & Traffic Department will carry out the relevant investigations to identify the issues. The Councillor will be informed of what course of action is proposed to deal with the above matter.

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Q50. Councillor Jim O'Callaghan

To ask the City Manager what is the current status of the plans to pedestrianise Barrow Street and whether the local residents will be given an opportunity to be consulted in respect of any closure of Barrow Street as a road for traffic.

Reply

As part of the ongoing Part 8 process and following on from the statutory public consultation phase, a report will be going to the South East Area Committee on 12th November 2012 for approval.

Q51. Councillor Jim O'Callaghan

To ask the City Manager whether the Waste Management Department could send reminder letters outlining the bye laws for the storage and presentation of household waste to residents of Elm Park Avenue, Ranelagh, Dublin 6 requesting them to take their bins back in off the street after collection.

Reply

Arrangements will be made to have letters delivered to the residents of Elm Park Avenue requesting them to take their bins back in off the street after collection.

Q52. Councillor Jim O'Callaghan

To ask the City Manger whether the Council has any plans to refurbish the flats at Beech Hill Terrace, Donnybrook, Dublin 4 in the near future.

Reply

The Royal Hospital Donnybrook Housing Association submitted proposals to redevelop the maisonettes in 2011 and sought funding under the Capital Assistance Funding Scheme for Approved Housing Bodies from the Department of the Environment, Community and Local Government. The Department in July 2012 indicated that they were not in a position to consider progressing the submission to approval at this time. Further consideration may be given to this proposal subject to the availability of funding in the 2013/2014 period.

Q53. Councillor Jim O'Callaghan

To ask the City Manager whether the large pothole on Sandymount Avenue (directly outside No. 13 Sandymount Avenue) can be filled in as it is causing damage to vehicles travelling down the Avenue.

Reply

This pothole has been filled and is no longer causing a hazard. The matter has been referred to our direct labour crews via our Sharepoint system, with permanent repairs being carried out as soon as possible.

Q54. Councillor Jim O'Callaghan

To ask the City Manager to explain the road sign on the excellent new wide cycle lane on South Richmond Street which suggests the lane is for use only during rush hours.

Reply

Cycle lanes have been in place on Richmond Street South for a number of years. In recent weeks as part of a programme funded by National Transport Authority, Road Maintenance Section organised and managed the resurfacing of the road. Following the resurfacing the road markings including cycle lanes were reinstated. The hours of operation of the cycle lane were not changed. In common with many areas of the city the cycle lane does not operate on a 24 hour basis as to do so would be very restrictive on business and householders along the route who may require deliveries or parking during off peak times of the day .

Q55. Councillor Jim O'Callaghan

To ask the City Manager whether any further progress has been made with the proposers, artist and owners of the childhood home of Maureen O'Hara re the erection of a plaque in her honour.

Reply

At the July meeting of the SEA Committee Meeting the following reply was given by the Arts Officer:

At a meeting with the proposers of this plaque and the artist it was agreed that the best procedure was to have the plaque erected on the house itself. The proposers were to negotiate this with the owners of the house. There has been no further contact with Dublin City Council.

To date the proposers still have not been in contact with Dublin City Council.

Q56. Councillor Jim O'Callaghan

To ask the City Manager whether a meeting can be arranged between representatives of the Roads Maintenance Department and the property owners along the lane at the rear of Ardee Road, Rathmines, Dublin 6. The residents want the Council to take ownership of the lane, its upkeep and maintenance.

Reply

If residents wish an area to be taken in charge they must apply to Dublin City Council. The area must be inspected to ascertain the condition of the roadway and services on or under the road. Dublin City Council would only consider taking the laneway in charge if the roadway, services etc., meet minimum standards required.

Q57. Councillor Mary Freehill

Would the Manager please state what is the annual income accrued from the Car Park at the back of the Mansion House on Schoolhouse Lane and also the office block to the south west of the mansion House which was built on Mansion House grounds.

Reply

The net income received from the multi storey car park on Schoolhouse Lane was €1,892,160 in 2011.

By way of Indenture of Lease, the office building now known as Joshua Dawson House and located to the South West of the Mansion House was demised by Dublin City Council to KBC Asset Management Limited for a term of 25 years from 13th December 2001 subject to an initial annual rent of €1,015,790.46. The current passing rent is €1,100,000 per annum.

Q58. Councillor Maria Parodi

To ask the Manager to address the following in *(details supplied).

Reply

The Area Maintenance Officer has confirmed the following:

- a) A cowl will be fitted on the chimney.
- b) The walls were insulated at the time of refurbishment of these dwellings. No further insulation will be fitted at this time.
- c) The servicing of all boilers will be completed by February 2013.

Q59. Councillor Maria Parodi

Can the Manager please address the issues and provide me with a response to *(details supplied).

Reply

The Boyne Street complex is cleaned and maintained by our caretaking service. The Caretaker's Supervisor inspects the complex regularly and has found it to be in a satisfactory condition.

The tiles on the stairs are on order from abroad. As soon as they are delivered, Housing Maintenance will replace them as appropriate.

A letter regarding dog fouling was issued to residents on 19/09/12.

I have made enquiries regarding the painting of the complex and I will revert to the Councillor when I have a schedule of works.

Dublin City Council are currently negotiating a contract for boiler maintenance works. This contract should be in place by the end 2012/early 2013.

I have been informed that the necessary lighting adjustment has been done. If the problem continues let me know.

Q60. Councillor Maria Parodi

To ask the Manager for a report regarding the current situation with the servicing of boilers in DCC housing in the South east Area as several residents have reported that their boilers have not been serviced in over a year.

Reply

Tenants occupying units with individual boilers (gas central heating) pay a Boiler Maintenance Fee (currently €3 per week). This fee contributes approximately 79% to the overall total annualised cost of maintaining the boilers and includes:

- Servicing,
- Emergency call-outs (24 to 48 hour),
- Maintenance and repairs,
- Spare parts cost and installation
- Boiler replacement, if required.

Housing Maintenance (Heating Section) aims to have each of 18,500 boilers installed in DCC units serviced at least once in any twelve month period.

The Heating Section had anticipated that a new contractual framework would have been in place by mid 2012, however as a result of issues raised during the tendering procedure; this new framework has been postponed until March 1st 2013.

Notwithstanding, the maintenance of boilers has continued throughout 2012 with 6,210 call outs to date with a further 4,500 call outs scheduled to year end. The remaining boilers, due for service, to be complete by February 29th, 2013. This activity will be carried out under the current contractual arrangements in place.

The contractual arrangements may have resulted in a delay to servicing of a number of boilers, however all boilers are due to be complete by Feb 2013, with a new round on annual servicing commencing immediately thereafter.

Q61. Councillor Maria Parodi

Can the Manager provide a response to *details supplied.

Reply

During this period we received some reports of foul smells and what appeared to be sewage sludge on *details supplied. On investigation, the material was found to be a species of brown algae called ectocarpus. *Ectocarpus siliculosus* is considered to be a nuisance species. It's 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 become cast up on the foreshore due to tidal movement. In these situations, the weed may begin to rot, producing malodours and physically degrade. This material is often removed naturally following high tides.

Sandymount Strand was sampled on three occasions in October 2012. Results were generally good (see Table 1). On 15/10/2012 a value of 420 intestinal Enterococci (per 100ml of sample) was reported. This value falls within the category of good quality (<500 cfu/100ml) under the current Bathing Water Regulations. All other sample results for each parameter (E Coli and Enterococci) were within the excellent quality standard.

Table 1. Sandymount Strand Water Quality Results (October 2012)

Location	Date	E. coli MPN/100ml	Enterococci CFU/100ml
Sandymount	02/10/2012 21:00	171	16
	15/10/2012 13:10	228	420
	30/10/2012 12:15	85	18

The City Council's Pollution Control staff will continue to monitor the ectocarpus.