

**MINUTES OF ORDINARY MEETING OF CORK CITY COUNCIL**  
**HELD ON MONDAY 13<sup>th</sup> MAY 2024**

<b>PRESENT</b>	Ardmhéara Comhairleoir K. McCarthy.
<b>NORTH EAST</b>	Comhairleoirí K. O’Flynn, J. Maher, T. Tynan, J. Kavanagh, O. Moran, G. Keohane.
<b>NORTH WEST</b>	Comhairleoirí T. Fitzgerald, M. Nugent, J. Sheehan, K. Collins, B. McCarthy, D. Boylan.
<b>SOUTH EAST</b>	Comhairleoirí D. Cahill, L. Bogue, M. R. Desmond, T. Shannon, D. Forde.
<b>SOUTH CENTRAL</b>	Comhairleoirí M. Finn, D. Boyle, S. Martin, S. O’Callaghan, P. Dineen, F. Kerins.
<b>SOUTH WEST</b>	Comhairleoirí F. Dennehy, D. Canty, C. Finn, C. Kelleher, G. Kelleher, T. Moloney, O. O’Leary.
<b>ALSO PRESENT</b>	Ms. A. Doherty, Chief Executive. Mr. B. Geaney, Assistant Chief Executive. Mr. P. Moynihan, Director of Services, Corporate Affairs & International Relations. Mr. N. Ó Donnabháin, Director of Services, Housing Operations. Ms. A. O’Rourke, Director of Services, Housing Delivery & Regeneration. Mr. D. Joyce, Director of Services, Roads & Environment Operations. Mr. J. Hallahan, Chief Financial Officer. Mr. F. Reidy, Director of Services, Strategic Planning & Economic Development. Mr. G. O’Beirne, Director of Services, Infrastructure Development. Ms. R. Loughry, Senior Executive Officer, Community, Culture & Placemaking. Ms. A. Murnane, Meetings Administrator. Ms. V. Keating, Staff Officer, Corporate Affairs & International Relations.

An tArdmhéara recited the opening prayer.

1. **VOTES OF SYMPATHY**

- The Leahy family on the death of Marie Leahy.
- The Kelleher family on the death of Sr. Ambrose Kelleher.
- The Walsh family on the death of Tommy Walsh.
- The Heaphy family on the death of William Heaphy.
- The Foley family on the death of Tony Foley.

- The Bolster family on the death of Tom Bolster.
- The Haugh family on the death of Meg Haugh.
- The Kinsella family on the death of Bobbie Kinsella.
- The Tierney family on the death of Pat Tierney.
- The O’Flaherty family on the death of Frank O’Flaherty.
- The Foley family on the death of Marc Foley.
- The Delaney family on the death of Edwin Delaney.
- The O’Sullivan family on the death of Damian O’Sullivan.
- The Tingle family on the death of James Tingle.
- The Drennan family on the death of Joe Drennan.
- The Malone family on the death of Eleanor Malone.
- The Foley family on the death of Deirdre Foley.
- The Murphy family on the death of William Murphy.
- The Walsh family on the death of Marie Walsh.
- The Owens family on the death of Biddy Owens.
- The Cronin family on the death of Kathleen (Kay) Cronin.
- The Mohally family on the death of Michael Mohally.
- The White family on the death of John White.
- The O’Riordan family on the death of Pat O’Riordan.
- The O’Hanlon family on the death of Michael O’Hanlon.
- The Bridgeman family on the death of Michael Bridgeman.
- The Doyle family on the death of Pat Doyle.
- The Conroy family on the death of Chris Conroy.
- The Budden family on the death of Marian Budden.

## 2. **VOTES OF CONGRATULATIONS/BEST WISHES**

- Patrick Murdock in recognition of his community spirit in installing solar-powered lights to assist elderly residents of the area navigate the public steps outside his home.
- Cork Constitution RFC on winning the Energia All-Ireland League Cup.
- Councillor Derry Canty on 34 years of service.

## 3. **LORD MAYOR’S ITEMS**

### 3.1 **ORDINARY MEETING OF AN CHOMHAIRLE – 4<sup>th</sup> JUNE 2024**

An tArdmhéara advised that the next Ordinary Meeting of An Chomhairle would take place online on 4<sup>th</sup> June to deal with statutory business only. An Chomhairle agreed that the meeting would take place at 4pm.

### 3.2 **EUROPEAN MARITIME DAY CONFERENCE**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the travel of An tArdmhéara Comhairleoir K. McCarthy to Svendborg for the European Maritime Day Conference from 29<sup>th</sup> May – 1<sup>st</sup> June 2024.

### 3.3 **CIVIC RECEPTION**

An tArdmhéara reminded An Chomhairle that a Civic Reception for Bishop Colton would take place on 16<sup>th</sup> May 2024 at 6pm in the Council Chamber.

### 3.4 **INTERNATIONAL FORUM ON LEADERS OF REVOLUTIONS WORLDWIDE**

An tArdmhéara acknowledged the success of the recent trip to Korea to partake in an International Forum on Leaders of Revolutions Worldwide.

### 3.5 **CERTIFICATES**

An tArdmhéara presented certificates to Comhairleoirí in recognition of service to Cork City Council from 2019-2024.

### 3.6 **RETIRING COUNCILLORS**

An tArdmhéara expressed his best wishes and thanks to the four retiring Cork City Councillors: Comhairleoirí D. Canty, M. Finn, T. Moloney and G. Keohane.

## 4. **CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S ITEMS**

### 4.1 **PROPOSED HOLDING OF AN EVENT**

An Chomhairle considered the report of the Chief Executive, dated 9<sup>th</sup> May 2024 on the proposed holding of Cork Carnival of Science on 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> June 2024 in Fitzgerald Park.

A vote was called for on the approval of the proposed holding of Cork Carnival of Science, where there appeared as follows:-

**FOR:** Comhairleoirí K. O'Flynn, J. Maher, J. Kavanagh, O. Moran, G. Keohane, T. Fitzgerald, J. Sheehan, D. Boylan, D. Cahill, M.R. Desmond, K. McCarthy, T. Shannon, D. Forde, M. Finn, D. Boyle, S. Martin, S. O'Callaghan, P. Dineen, F. Dennehy, D. Canty, C. Finn, C. Kelleher, G. Kelleher. (23)

**AGAINST:** Comhairleoirí T. Tynan, M. Nugent, K. Collins, B. McCarthy, L. Bogue, F. Kerins, O. O'Leary. (7)

**ABSTAIN:** Comhairleoir T. Moloney. (1)

As those voting in favour were greater than those voting against, An tArdmhéara declared the vote carried and the holding of the event approved, subject to clarification on sponsorship.

## 5. **ANNUAL REPORT 2023**

On the proposal of Comhairleoir T. Moloney, seconded by Comhairleoir S. Martin, An Chomhairle considered and approved the Annual Report 2023.

6. **MINUTES**

On the proposal of Comhairleoir D. Canty, seconded by Comhairleoir M. Finn, An Chomhairle considered and approved the minutes of:-

- Ordinary Meeting of An Chomhairle held, 8<sup>th</sup> April 2024.

7. **QUESTION TIME**

7.1 **NUMBER OF CONSTRUCTION CONTRACTS**

In response to the following question submitted by Comhairleoir K. Collins, a written reply was circulated as outlined below:-

To ask the CE to report, by company, the current number of construction contracts open and the cumulative value of same over the last five years in tabular form by company.

**REPLY**

The City Council's open housing construction, via public works contracts in the Housing Delivery and Regeneration Directorate comprises the following:

<b>COMPANY</b>	<b>CURRENT NUMBER OF HOUSING CONSTRUCTION CONTRACTS</b>	<b>CUMULATIVE VALUE OF THE HOUSING CONSTRUCTION CONTRACTS (EXCL. VAT)</b>
BPH Construction Limited	2	€3,145,392.84
Brendan Woods Construction Ltd.	1	€1,330,439.25
Deermount Construction Ltd.	1	€797,291.82
HG Construction Limited	1	€926,347.00
MMD Construction Cork Ltd.	2	€23,639,562.00
Murnane & O'Shea Ltd.	2	€25,777,723.82

Alison O'Rourke  
Director of Services  
Housing Delivery & Regeneration

7.2 **CEOL TRADITIONAL MUSIC & CULTURE EXHIBITION**

In response to the following question submitted by Comhairleoir K. O'Flynn, a written reply was circulated as outlined below:-

Please update the Council on the prestigious Ceol traditional music and culture exhibition that was purchased by the Council under the 2006/2007.

Could you please provide information on the current whereabouts of this collection and how it is being stored? Additionally, the state of preservation of this collection

and what measures have been taken to ensure its pristine condition since the day of purchase.

Furthermore, provide details on the total cost of acquiring this exhibition and the estimated storage costs incurred by the city.

Finally, could you please outline any future plans regarding the exhibition's return to the public domain?

## **REPLY**

The CEOL exhibition was acquired by Cork City Council in 2007. The exhibition had initially opened in Dublin in 1999 where it operated for a number of years. The exhibition told the story of Irish traditional music, using technology to showcase the audiovisual content.

The exhibition was archived until a suitable location, permissions and the resources needed to stage it could be identified.

Following a review in 2019 it was determined that elements of the exhibition (electrical equipment, computers etc) were obsolete and/or unsalvageable. These were subsequently decommissioned and those physical elements capable of reuse (largely visual staging elements) were archived in Council property, with no further storage costs to be incurred. The audio visual files on which the exhibition was based are retained by Cork City Council.

The agreed cost of acquiring the exhibition was €75,000. Archive costs are c. €61,568. No additional costs have been incurred since January 2020. The contents of the storage unit were in good condition when last inspected.

When acquired by Cork City Council, the contents were 8 years old. Any installation based around the use of technology quickly becomes obsolete. CEOL is now 25 years old and significant investment would be required to restage the exhibition. Cork City Council is open to consideration of proposals for suitable uses for CEOL subject to permission of the intellectual property and copyright owners, and suitable funding sources for same.

Fearghal Reidy,  
Director of Services,  
Strategic & Economic Development.

### 7.3 **SPECIAL EDUCATION SCHOOL, BROOKLODGE**

In response to the following question submitted by Comhairleoir G. Keohane, a written reply was circulated as outlined below:-

Could I ask the CEO please on an update or progress report on the proposed Special Education School earmarked for the site formerly owned by the NTA which was purchased by Cork County Council and inherited by Cork City Council in Brooklodge, Glanmire.

## **REPLY**

The Council passed a motion to dispose of the Brooklodge site to the Department of Education in June 2022. Conveyancing commenced with the closure of the transaction being subject to Planning to allow the Department to secure the necessary permission. The Department of Education have not made a planning application to date for the site. The City Council's Property section remains engaged with the Department of Education and understand that it is still the Department's intention to develop a Special Education School on this site.

Paul Moynihan,  
Director of Services,  
Corporate Affairs & International Relations.

### 7.4 **FUNDING FOR NORTH EAST WARD**

In response to the following question submitted by Comhairleoir B. McCarthy, a written reply was circulated as outlined below:-

In 2021/22 €46 million in funding was secured for the North East ward with some of this being ring fenced for paths and traffic calming measures for the Kilcully area. However, the residents have since been informed that this funding is no longer available and the promised measures will be delayed. This is urgently needed as there have been several accidents in the last few weeks alone so could the CE please explain what has happened to the funding that was supposed to be ring fenced for this project?

## **REPLY**

As Members will be aware, the Council's Active Travel capital works programme is funded by grants from the National Transport Authority (NTA). Funding allocations are made by the NTA on a scheme by scheme basis and not on the basis of electoral wards. The allocations are made each year and cover expenditure over the period to the year end.

In 2021 the Council secured initial grant funding of €100,000 to enable the appointment of a design team to assess and prepare proposals for road improvements in the Kilcully and Upper Glanmire area. The team assessed the need for improvements and recommended that works be progressed in two phases. In this regard it is to be noted that (Phase 1) Upper Glanmire has a more concentrated urban form and the related improvements could be delivered relatively quickly and without the need for land acquisition.

Preliminary road improvement designs were prepared for Phase 1 Upper Glanmire and in 2022 these proposals were approved by Council following public consultation under Section 38 of Road Traffic Act 1994, as amended. In 2022 the Council also progressed preliminary design proposals for the Phase 2 Kilcully and this included engagement with landowners as well as environmental surveys and engineering assessments. The proposed improvement works for Kilcully were published in late 2022 in accordance with the Part 8 Planning process and Section 179 of the Planning

and Development Act, 2000 (as amended). The proposals were subsequently approved by Council in early 2023. The design and planning of both phases were funded by way of further grants from NTA in 2022 and 2023. In late 2023 a contractor was appointed for Phase 1 Upper Glanmire and the related works are now well advanced. The Council secured grant funding of €1.2m for 2024, primarily to support the construction of Phase 1 (which is expected to be complete in the coming months) but also to further advance Phase 2. Engagement with local property owners in relation to the acquisition of lands necessary for Phase 2 Kilcully will be progressed over the coming months and further funding sought for next year to complete the necessary land acquisition and to finalise the detailed design and tender documents. Subject to continued funding the project will proceed to tender following completion of land acquisition and the estimated construction period is 8 - 10 months.

G O Beirne  
Director of Services  
Infrastructure Development

## 7.5 **PLANNING APPLICATIONS QUERY**

In response to the following question submitted by Comhairleoir K. O'Flynn, a written reply was circulated as outlined below:-

To inquire about the number of planning applications that have been submitted for derelict sites within Cork City over the past two decades. Could you provide the Cork City Council with information on the total number of planning applications made for such sites during this time period. Additionally, it would be beneficial to understand how many of these applications have been granted approval by the Council.

### **REPLY**

It is difficult to quantify the number of planning applications submitted on derelict sites over the past 20 years, mainly due to the way information was captured at that time and over the intervening years. However, the following metrics provide a snapshot of planning activity on current derelict sites and activity on the Derelict Sites Register (DSR) over the past 5 years:

Of a current DSR list of 157 sites:

- 34 sites on the DSR with "active" planning permission
- 8 sites currently in the planning process
- 11 sites refused planning permission
- 36 sites with expired planning permissions
- 2 sites with withdrawn planning applications
- 66 sites with no planning activity

It is not always necessary to obtain planning permission to remove dereliction. Over the last 5 years (01/01/2019 - 31/12/2023):

- 56 sites removed from DSR
- 85 Derelict Sites files closed (without being added to DSR)

Cork City Council will continue to proactively engage with owners of properties on the Derelict Sites Register to address the dereliction issues affecting their sites and to encourage those with development proposals to submit planning applications with a view to redeveloping and regenerating those properties. A series of clinics are organised at local libraries and a public event is scheduled to take place on 24<sup>th</sup> May, 2024. In addition, Cork City Council is working with 250 vacant and derelict properties under the Croi Connaithe grants scheme.

Fearghal Reidy  
Director of Services  
Strategic and Economic Development

7.6 **INSTALLATION OF TRAFFIC LIGHTS AT ST. LUKES CROSS JUNCTION**

In response to the following question submitted by Comhairleoir J. Kavanagh, a written reply was circulated as outlined below:-

Can the CE please provide an update on the current status and progress in terms of delivery timeline on the installation of Traffic Lights at the St Lukes Cross junction which is supposed to be happening as part of the Bus Connects project in this area.

**REPLY**

As Members will be aware, Bus Connects is the National Transport Authority (NTA) led programme for the improvement and expansion of bus services across Cork City. It comprises of a range of proposed improvements including – a network review, corridor improvements, zero emission fleet, fare review, payment system improvements, ticketing, additional park and rides, new livery and improved bus stop facilities.

As part of the corridor improvement element NTA have prepared proposals for 11 key transport corridors across the City. These include the Mayfield to City Sustainable Transport Corridor B (STC B - Mayfield to City). The proposals for this corridor include provision for a complete upgrade to the junction at St Lukes Cross including signals and crossings. The related proposals have been developed across three rounds of public consultation and are expected to be finalised shortly following which the relevant documentation will be prepared for submission to An Bord Pleanala in early 2025. It is anticipated that the that works will proceed to detailed design, tender and construction following An Bord Pleanala approval. The Cork Bus Connects programme represents a €600m investment in sustainable transport improvement across the City and it is supported by the National Development Plan.

G O Beirne  
Director of Services  
Infrastructure Development



7.7 **BANDSTAND IN TORY TOP PARK**

In response to the following question submitted by Comhairleoir S. O'Callaghan, a written reply was circulated as outlined below:-

To ask the Chief Executive for an update regarding the restoration of the Bandstand in Tory Top Park, including the approximate date upon which it is hoped that the restoration works will be completed, and the Bandstand will be ready for use by the public.

**REPLY**

Extensive works to the Bandstand are nearly complete with a delay experienced with supply of a roof piece fitting. It is expected that the facility will be open to the public by the end of the month.

David Joyce,  
Director of Services,  
Environment & Roads Operations.

7.8 **TAKING IN CHARGE - MOUNT EDEN RISE**

In response to the following question submitted by Comhairleoir T. Fitzgerald, a written reply was circulated as outlined below:-

To ask Council when will Mount Eden Rise be taken in charge following the submission of a plebiscite signed by the majority of residents in 2022?

**REPLY**

A plebiscite was received from the residents on the 31/05/2022. The Estates Team carried out an inspection of the estate on the 19/06/2023. Extensive works, in the order of €300,000, were identified which are required to bring the estate up to a taking in charge standard. No bond is in place and there is no alternative funding stream available.

Members have previously been advised that an assessment is currently underway to identify the scope of works required on the estates to be taken in charge. The Council can then make a submission to central Government where applicable to source the funding required to carry out the necessary works.

David O'Brien  
Interim Director of Services  
Community Culture and Placemaking

7.9 **GRANTS ALLOCATED**

In response to the following question submitted by Comhairleoir D. Boyle, a written reply was circulated as outlined below:-

To ask the Chief Executive to detail the total grants facilitated and allocated in the lifetime of this Council, during its current term (2019-2024) in the following areas,

- a/ Community Development;
- b/ Arts and Culture;
- c/ Sporting Organisations and
- d/ Environmental and Heritage work?

**REPLY**

The following grant totals are overall amounts facilitated and allocated across a range of areas and interests over the life of this Council 2019-2024

Community Development and Community Grants - €6,986,800  
Arts and Culture grant allocations to arts organisations, groups and individuals across the professional, voluntary and community arts sectors - €6,310,323  
Sporting and Sports Capital Grants to clubs and groups €2,440,000  
Environment and Heritage including Biodiversity, €3,569,497

David O'Brien  
Interim Director of Services  
Community Culture and Placemaking

7.10 **AVERAGE LENGTH TO PROCESS APPLICATION FOR SOCIAL HOUSING**

In response to the following question submitted by Comhairleoir K. Collins, a written reply was circulated as outlined below:-

To ask the CE the average length to process an application for social housing currently, in 2022 and in 2019 respectively in tabular form.

**REPLY**

The conducting of a social housing assessment is carried out under the criteria detailed in the Social Housing Assessment Regulation 2011, in particular Section 12 refers;

*12. (1) Subject to proper completion of the application form by the household and to paragraph (2), the housing authority of application shall deal with the application within a period of 12 weeks of receipt or, where the authority has requested additional information for the purpose of verifying information relating to the application, within 6 weeks of the receipt of such additional information.*

As the time frame for assessing an application is dependent on the Assessment Officer having all the required information, it is not possible to give an average length of time

to process an application. However, the table below gives an indication of the volume of application being received in recent years.

<b>Period</b>	<b>Number of Applications Received</b>
Q.1/2019	294
Q.1/2020	251
Q.1/2021	274
Q.1/2022	298
Q.1/2023	391
Q.1/2024	468

Once an application is received in the Allocations Section it is reviewed to ensure it includes all the necessary documentation. This would include personal information for all household members, income details for the preceding 12 months for all household members, documentation in relation to separation/divorce and property ownership. If any of this documentation is missing the application form may be returned to the applicant with a letter advising what information is required. This initial review is done to reduce the likelihood of delays at assessment stage.

Once a completed application has been received it is forwarded to an Assessment Officer for full assessment. The Assessment Officer may require additional information or clarification in relation to the application. In most cases this relates to information regarding income, previous tenancies with a Local Authority/Approved Housing Body, access & maintenance arrangements, documentation regarding Mortgage Arrears Process (MARF) (if relevant) or proof of citizenship/permission to remain in the country. If the information is not received within the appropriate time frame an application will remain closed until the applicant re-engages.

It should be noted that the change in the income bands introduced in January 2023 means that an Assessment Officer is now required to review documentary evidence of income for the preceding 12 months. This can involve a number of interactions with an applicant. Also, the removal of the Central Broker function on the iHouse system means that we can no longer determine if an applicant has an open application with another local authority. This means that we may need an applicant to provide a letter from a local authority in whose area they previously lived confirming they do not have a tenancy or open application with them. Alternatively, we may have to contact the local authority to investigate this. This additional work, which was not required in previous years, can result in delays in processing an application.

In all cases we endeavour to process an application as quickly as possible. While applications are processed in the order they are received, we do prioritise applicants identified to us as being particularly vulnerable. This would include those in emergency accommodation or at risk of imminent homelessness, care leavers, those accommodated in a domestic violence refuge or persons unable to leave hospital due to lack of suitable accommodation.

In all assessments where the application is approved, the applicant's credit time on our social housing list is back dated to the date the application was received.

Niall Ó Donnabháin,  
Director of Services,  
Housing Operations Directorate.

7.11 **IS THERE ANY PROHIBITION ON DISPLAY OF COMMERCIAL ADVERTISING ON PROPERTIES LISTED ON DERELICT SITES REGISTER**

In response to the following question submitted by Comhairleoir C. Finn, a written reply was circulated as outlined below:-

Is there any prohibition on the display of commercial advertising on a property that is listed on the Cork City Council derelicts sites register?

**REPLY**

There are no specific statutory restrictions on placing advertising on a property which is listed on the Derelict Sites Register. However, all advertising on buildings requires the benefit of planning permission, unless deemed exempt under the Planning & Development Regulations 2001, Schedule 2, Part 2: Exempted Development - Advertisements.

David O'Brien,  
Interim Director of Services,  
Community Culture and Placemaking.

There is no specific regulation relating to the display of commercial advertising on property that listed on the Derelict Sites Register, except for the standard regulations that pertain to outdoor advertising under the Litter Pollutions Act 1997 and 2003 and the Planning and Development Regulations 2001.

Fearghal Reidy,  
Director of Services,  
Strategic & Economic Development.

7.12 **MOSS WALLS/CITY TREES**

In response to the following question submitted by Comhairleoir O. O'Leary, a written reply was circulated as outlined below:-

Can the CE report on the next steps concerning the Moss Walls/CityTrees?

**REPLY**

Cork City Council continues to engage with a number of third parties with a view to identifying opportunities to evaluate the performance of the Moss Walls in alternative

indoor locations, as proposed in the review of the Moss Walls undertaken in 2023. The next steps to be taken will depend on the outcomes of these engagements.

David Joyce,  
Director of Services,  
Roads & Environment Operations Directorate

### 7.13 **NORTHERN DISTRIBUTOR ROAD**

In response to the following question submitted by Comhairleoir O. Moran, a written reply was circulated as outlined below:-

To ask the Chief Executive for the current status of identifying a route for the Northern Distributor Road; when she expects public consultation on the emerging preferred route to be held; and if a route involving Silversprings and Mayfield is still being considered or if another route is emerging as preferred?

#### **REPLY**

The Cork Metropolitan Area Transport Strategy (2020) sets out the transport investment required to support the development of Cork over the period to 2040. The strategy identifies the need for a new Northern Distributor Road as a critical enabler to the established transport and planning objectives for Cork. The proposed new road will create opportunities for sustainable residential and commercial development, facilitate the roll out of planned transport improvements (incl new bus, cycle and pedestrian facilities) and establish much needed connectivity for both local movement and broader HGV and other routing.

With funding support from the National Transport Authority, the City Council appointed a project design team in 2021 and the proposal is now progressing through the early stage processes in accordance with the Public Spending Code. The Strategic Appraisal Phase for the project (phase 1) was completed in 2023 and the related gateway 1 approval was received in December 2023. The strategic appraisal phase addresses the rationale for the project to ensure its strategic fit with government policy, in particular the National Planning Framework and National Development Plan.

The design team is currently closing out on the Concept Development and Options Phase (phase 2) for the scheme. This involves examination of the alternatives and identification of the emerging preferred route based on a standard set of criteria. The options appraisal phase is expected to be complete in the third quarter of this year at which point the emerging preferred route will be identified and published. Following confirmation of the preferred route, the project can progress onto the preliminary design and formal planning consent phases subject to continued funding. Ongoing updates on the development of the new road will be issued to Members as the scheme progresses.

G. O' Beirne,  
Director of Services,  
Infrastructure Development Directorate.

7.14 **PHASE 2 CITY NORTH WEST REGENERATION SCHEME**

In response to the following question submitted by Comhairleoir M. Nugent, a written reply was circulated as outlined below:-

Can the CE report on the next phase of finishing out Phase 2C of the City North West Regeneration Scheme?

**REPLY**

Cork City Council has concluded its contractual arrangements with the initial building contractor on the twenty-four-unit housing development referred to as Phase 2C, Cork City Northwest Quarter Regeneration on its site at Kilmore Road, Knocknaheeny, Cork City.

Cork City Council's Housing Delivery and Regeneration Directorate will immediately re-set the project to deliver quality homes on the site for the community in a timely manner.

The Council is therefore making immediate arrangements to take over and secure the site and to undertake any urgent or necessary works. Safety and enabling works will be prioritised and ongoing.

It has always been the aim of Cork City Council to provide a sustainable and high-quality place for the community to live and prosper in, and a further update will issue in the coming weeks by the Council on the timeline for procurement of a new contractor and the programme for delivery of these homes for our Regeneration residents.

Alison O'Rourke  
Director of Services  
Housing Delivery & Regeneration

7.15 **CITY FIREFIGHTER CALLOUTS SINCE 2019**

In response to the following question submitted by Comhairleoir L. Bogue, a written reply was circulated as outlined below:-

To ask the Chief Executive to present data in tabular form for cork city firefighter callouts since 2019, as well as information on the methodology of the reportage and gathering of these statistics and whose role it is to record these statistics?

**REPLY**

Please see below Operational Statistics for Cork City Fire Brigade from 2019 to 2023. The Munster Regional Control Centre provides mobilisation data to Cork City Fire Brigade when they receive a callout. Upon completion of the incident, personnel from Cork City Fire Brigade input the details of the call on the Cork City incident recording system. All reports are checked and signed off by the Third Officer at the end of the

shift. The Second Officer will also check these reports for accuracy. Reports are ran from the Incident Recording system to provide local and national statistics.

Note in 2023 there was industrial action with effect from 20/04/2023-21/08/2023. This resulted in no detailed reports being entered into the Incident recording system. For this period we relied on the data from the Munster Regional Control Centre to record the number of calls. They cannot provide detailed at incident data. This can only be done by the crews in attendance at an incident.

David O'Brien,  
Interim Director of Services,  
Community Culture and Placemaking.

#### Cork City Fire Brigade Operational Statistics 2019 – 2023

	<b>2019</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>2021</b>	<b>2022</b>	<b>2023</b>
Fire	1176	1063	1097	1247	571
False Alarms	571	526	578	778	485
Special Services	1069	1138	1216	1308	1132
detailed reports not available due to industrial relations issues					904
<b>Total</b>	<b>2816</b>	<b>2727</b>	<b>2891</b>	<b>3333</b>	<b>3092</b>

#### 7.16 **EVENTS CENTRE**

In response to the following question submitted by Comhairleoir M. Finn, a written reply was circulated as outlined below:-

With Q1 gone, and the anticipation of construction unrealised yet again, can the CE confirm if the request for extra funding - to build Cork's Event Centre has gone to cabinet and if a decision is likely to be made on what could now be a €150m project before another five-year council term expires in June?

#### **REPLY**

Cork City Council has made a recommendation to the DHLGH in respect of the Cork Event Centre. The Department have been in discussions with cabinet members in recent weeks to agree next steps so that the funding decision can be made. At present we do not have a timeline for this process to take place.

Ann Doherty,  
Chief Executive.

7.17 **TRAVELLER HOMELESS TASK FORCE**

In response to the following question submitted by Comhairleoir T. Moloney, a written reply was circulated as outlined below:-

To ask the CE, in relation to my motion below at the housing SPC on 19<sup>th</sup> December 2023 & accepted at full council on the 8<sup>th</sup> January 2024, Can I ask when in 2024 “review of the partnership will be conducted in 2024 to determine its effectiveness and consideration can be made at that point in relation to the establishment of a local Traveller Homeless Task Force”.

*6.8 Traveller Homeless Task Force*

*Members considered the report of the Director of Services, Housing Operations dated 14<sup>th</sup> December, 2023 on the following motion referred to the Committee by An Chomhairle:*

**TRAVELLER HOMELESS TASK FORCE**

*‘Calls on Cork City Council to establish a local Traveller Homeless Task Force, which will be action and outcome focused to overcome the ever-increasing, disproportionate and intergenerational degree of traveller homelessness.’*

*(Proposer: Cllr. T. Moloney 23/466)*

*Response:*

*The report of the Director of Services, Housing Operations advised that following a presentation by Cena to the Local Traveller Accommodation Consultative Committee on the 16<sup>th</sup> May, 2023, the Traveller Accommodation Unit and the Accommodation Placement Service have engaged with Cena to address the number of representatives of the Traveller Community currently availing of homeless services. Cena (the word means ‘home’ in the Traveller language) is an Approved Housing Body that is working for and with Travellers to address critical accommodation needs. This collaboration with Cena will be focused on and targeted at traveller homelessness. A review of the partnership will be conducted in 2024 to determine its effectiveness and consideration can be made at that point in relation to the establishment of a local Traveller Homeless Task Force.*

**REPLY**

The collaboration between Cork City Council and Cena has and will continue throughout 2024. While Cork City Council and Cena are involved in a number of initiatives, this collaboration with Cena will be focused on and targeted at traveller homelessness. The review of the partnership will be conducted in Q4, 2024.

Niall O’Donnabhain,  
Director of Services,  
Housing Operations Directorate.



8. **STATUTORY ITEMS**

8.1 **CORK CITY ROAD TRAFFIC (SPECIAL SPEED LIMITS) BYE-LAWS 2024**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Director of Services, Roads & Environment Operations, dated 9<sup>th</sup> May 2024 in relation to the proposed Cork City Road Traffic (Special Speed Limits) Bye Laws 2024 and approved the Cork City Road Traffic (Special Speed Limits) Bye Laws 2024, in accordance with Section 9 of the Road Traffic Act 2004 as amended by Section 22 of the Road Traffic Act.

On the proposal of Comhairleoir S. Martin, seconded by Comhairleoir K. Collins, An Chomhairle further agreed to adopt the following Resolution:-

“In the matter of the proposed Cork City Road Traffic (Special Speed Limits) Bye-Laws 2024 Cork City Council having given notice to the elected Members of Cork City Council and the Garda Commissioner and having complied with the provisions of Section 9 of the Road Traffic Act, 2004 as amended by Section 22 of the Road Traffic Act 2016 and having considered the proposed Bye-Laws, representations received following publication of notices and the Director of Services Report dated the 9<sup>th</sup> day of May 2024 and having considered the written submission with respect thereto, it is hereby resolved to make the proposed Cork City Road Traffic (Special Speed Limits) Bye-Laws 2024 in accordance with the draft attached hereto.”

8.2 **KERRY PIKE PEDESTRIAN IMPROVEMENT SCHEME - SECTION 38 APPROVAL**

On the proposal of Comhairleoir J. Sheehan, seconded by Comhairleoir M. Nugent, An Chomhairle considered and approved the report and recommendation of the Director of Services, Infrastructure Development, following public consultation, on the proposed Kerry Pike Pedestrian Improvement Scheme pursuant to Section 38 of the Road Traffic Act, 1994, as amended by Section 46 of the Public Transport Regulation Act, 2009.

8.3 **PROPOSED RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT AT SPRING LANE HALTING SITE AND ELLIS YARD, CORK**

In accordance with Section 179(4)(a) of the Planning and Development Act 2000, An Chomhairle considered the proposed redevelopment of Spring Lane Halting Site, along with the construction of a new purpose-built group housing scheme on the land adjacent to Spring Lane, known as Ellis Yard, Ballyvolane, in the City of Cork and the report of the Deputy Chief Executive thereon as required under Section 179(3) of the Planning and Development Act, 2000 (as amended) dated 9<sup>th</sup> May 2024.

On the proposal of Comhairleoir J. Kavanagh, seconded by Comhairleoir K. O’Flynn, a vote was called for on the approval of the proposed residential development at Spring Lane Halting Site and Ellis Yard where there appeared as follows:-

**FOR:** Comhairleoirí J. Maher, T. Tynan, O. Moran, G. Keohane, T. Fitzgerald, M. Nugent, J. Sheehan, K. Collins, B. McCarthy, D. Boylan, L. Bogue, M.R. Desmond,

K. McCarthy, M. Finn, D. Boyle, S. Martin, S. O’Callaghan, P. Dineen, F. Kerins, F. Dennehy, D. Canty, C. Finn, C. Kelleher, T. Moloney, O. O’Leary. (25)

**AGAINST:** Comhairleoirí K. O’Flynn, J. Kavanagh, D. Cahill. (3)

**ABSTAIN:** (0)

As those voting in favour were greater than those voting against, An tArdmhéara declared the vote carried and the proposed residential development at Spring Lane Halting Site and Ellis Yard approved.

On the proposal of Comhairleoir O. Moran, seconded by Comhairleoir T. Moloney, An Chomhairle further agreed to adopt the following Resolution:-

“Now Council hereby RESOLVE THAT having considered the proposed redevelopment of Spring Lane Halting Site, along with the construction of a new purpose-built group housing scheme on the land adjacent to Spring Lane, known as Ellis Yard, Ballyvolane, in the City of Cork and the report of the Deputy Chief Executive, Cork City Council thereon, it is hereby resolved pursuant to the provisions of Section 179 (4) of the Planning and Development Act, 2000, as amended, that the development at Spring Lane Halting Site, in the City of Cork be carried out as recommended in the said report of the Deputy Chief Executive, Cork City Council, which was put before Council on the 13<sup>th</sup> May 2024.”

8.4 **CAPITAL ASSISTANCE SCHEME: 129 CONNOLLY ROAD, BALLYPHEHANE, CORK - FOCUS HOUSING ASSOCIATION CLG**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Director of Services, Housing Delivery & Regeneration dated 17<sup>th</sup> April, 2024 in relation to a loan facility for Focus Housing Association CLG in respect of the provision of one unit of accommodation at 129 Connolly Road, Ballyphehane, Cork.

On the proposal of Comhairleoir S. Martin, seconded by Comhairleoir M. Finn, An Chomhairle further agreed to adopt the following Resolution:-

“Resolved that, pursuant to the provision of Section 6 of the Housing (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1992, a loan facility not exceeding €382,950 be granted to Focus Housing Association CLG, subject to the terms of the Capital Assistance Scheme for the provision of 1 three bed unit of accommodation at 129 Connolly Road, Ballyphehane, Cork.”

8.5 **CAPITAL ASSISTANCE SCHEME: 2 BOTANIC ROAD, BALLYPHEHANE, CORK - FOCUS HOUSING ASSOCIATION CLG**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Director of Services, Housing Delivery & Regeneration dated 17<sup>th</sup> April, 2024 in relation to a loan facility for Focus Housing Association CLG in respect of the provision of one unit of accommodation at 2 Botanic Road, Ballyphehane, Cork.

On the proposal of Comhairleoir S. Martin, seconded by Comhairleoir C. Kelleher, An Chomhairle further agreed to adopt the following Resolution:-

“Resolved that, pursuant to the provision of Section 6 of the Housing (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1992, a loan facility not exceeding €372,600 be granted to Focus Housing Association CLG, subject to the terms of the Capital Assistance Scheme for the provision of 1 three bed unit of accommodation at 2 Botanic Road, Ballypheane, Cork”.

8.6 **CAPITAL ASSISTANCE SCHEME: 9 SEMINARY WALK, FARRANREE, CORK - FOCUS HOUSING ASSOCIATION CLG**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Director of Services, Housing Delivery & Regeneration dated 17<sup>th</sup> April, 2024 in relation to a loan facility for Focus Housing Association CLG in respect of the provision of one unit of accommodation at 9 Seminary Walk, Farranree, Cork.

On the proposal of Comhairleoir T. Fitzgerald, seconded by Comhairleoir K. Collins, An Chomhairle further agreed to adopt the following Resolution:-

“Resolved that, pursuant to the provision of Section 6 of the Housing (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1992, a loan facility not exceeding €331,200 be granted to Focus Housing Association CLG, subject to the terms of the Capital Assistance Scheme for the provision of 1 three bed unit of accommodation at 9 Seminary Walk, Farranree, Cork”.

8.7 **CAPITAL ASSISTANCE SCHEME: 22 E, F, H, J, LOWER JOHN STREET, CORK - FOCUS HOUSING ASSOCIATION CLG**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Director of Services, Housing Delivery & Regeneration dated 17<sup>th</sup> April, 2024 in relation to a loan facility for Focus Housing Association CLG in respect of the provision of four units of accommodation at 22 E, F, H, J, Lower John Street, Cork.

On the proposal of Comhairleoir C. Kelleher, seconded by Comhairleoir T. Fitzgerald, An Chomhairle further agreed to adopt the following Resolution:-

“Resolved that, pursuant to the provision of Section 6 of the Housing (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1992, a loan facility not exceeding €1,079,436 be granted to Focus Housing Association CLG, subject to the terms of the Capital Assistance Scheme for the provision of 2 one bed units and 2 two bed units of accommodation at 22 E, F, H, J, Lower John Street, Cork”.

8.8 **CAPITAL ASSISTANCE SCHEME: 201B OLD YOUGHAL ROAD, CORK - FOCUS HOUSING ASSOCIATION CLG**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Director of Services, Housing Delivery & Regeneration dated 17<sup>th</sup> April, 2024 in relation to a loan facility for Focus Housing Association CLG in respect of the provision of one unit of accommodation at 201B Old Youghal Road, Cork.

On the proposal of Comhairleoir J. Maher, seconded by Comhairleoir C. Kelleher, An Chomhairle further agreed to adopt the following Resolution:-

“Resolved that, pursuant to the provision of Section 6 of the Housing (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1992, a loan facility not exceeding €362,250 be granted to Focus Housing Association CLG, subject to the terms of the Capital Assistance Scheme for the provision of 1 three bed unit of accommodation at 201B Old Youghal Road, Cork”.

## 9. **CORPORATE POLICY GROUP – 7<sup>th</sup> MAY 2024**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the minutes of the Corporate Policy Group from its meeting held, 7<sup>th</sup> May 2024.

### 9.1 **AUDIT**

On the proposal of Comhairleoir T. Fitzgerald, seconded by Comhairleoir D. Boylan, An Chomhairle considered and approved the Audit Committee Charter and the Audit Committee Work Programme 2024.

An Chomhairle considered and noted the Audit Committee Annual Report 2023 and Section 121 Report (dated 14.03.24).

### 9.2 **REPORT OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT AUDITOR**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the Report of the Local Government Auditor 2022.

### 9.3 **ANNUAL FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

#### 9.3.1 **AUDITED ANNUAL FINANCIAL STATEMENT 2022**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the (audited) Annual Financial Statement 2022.

#### 9.3.2 **(UNAUDITED) ANNUAL FINANCIAL STATEMENT 2023**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the (unaudited) Annual Financial Statement 2023.

### 9.4 **RESOLUTION**

On the proposal of Comhairleoir T. Fitzgerald, seconded by Comhairleoir M.R. Desmond, An Chomhairle agreed to adopt the following Resolution:-

“The Council Resolves that “the Annual Financial Statement for 2023 and, pursuant to Section 104 of the Local Government Act 2001, the over / under expenditure as outlined in note 16 are hereby approved”.

9.5 **FINANCIAL STATEMENT TO 31/03/2024**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the Financial Statement of Cork City Council to 31/03/2024.

9.6 **INTEREST-FREE LOAN APPROVAL**

On the proposal of Comhairleoir C. Finn, seconded by Comhairleoir K. O’Flynn, An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Chief Executive, dated 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2024, in relation to the proposal for an Interest-Free Loan to Leisureworld.

An Chomhairle further noted declarations of conflict of interest from Comhairleoirí F. Dennehy, C. Finn, D. Canty and K. Collins in relation to Leisureworld.

9.7 **MOTIONS**

9.7.1 **APARTHEID FREE ZONE**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the report of the Director of Services, Corporate Affairs & International Relations, dated 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2024 on the following motion:-

‘In 2021 this Council voted to declare Cork City an apartheid free zone. However, this is meaningless unless we back up our words with action. There are numerous companies with links to the Israeli State, the occupation and the genocide that have operations and premises here in Cork. None of these companies should receive any public contracts and the City Council should not conduct any business with them. Any companies we do have business with should sign a declaration stating that they have no links or dealings with the Israeli State, the occupation or the genocide.’

(Proposer: Cllr. B. McCarthy 24/183)

The report of the Director of Services stated that any public contracts being awarded by Cork City Council are subject to procurement rules and regulations both at National and European levels. Accordingly, public contract awards are necessarily highly regulated in this country so as to effectively ensure compliance with National Public Procurement Policy Framework and to deal with the complex legal issues involved. Cork City Council complies with this framework and our compliance is subject to audit, both internally and externally.

Any material change initiated or any form of prohibition being imposed as is being sought in the motion would need to be actioned at a national level and supported by national policy measures. It would be inappropriate for Cork City Council to itself impose such changes at a local level.

### 9.7.2 **FLY THE TRICOLOUR**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the report of the Director of Services, Corporate Affairs & International Relations, dated 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2024 on the following motion:-

‘That Cork City Council would ensure that the Tricolour fly from all public buildings and at public parks/cemeteries where possible.’

(Proposer: Cllr. M. Nugent 24/187)

The report of the Director of Services stated that for the past number of years the Irish National Flag has been flown at Cork City Hall. The Flag is also flown at a number of other locations where facilities exist for same.

Should it be the wish of Council to fly the National Flag from all public buildings and at public parks/cemeteries a detailed audit would be required as to locations. Options for safe placement of flagpoles would then need to be assessed and costed and appropriate funding would require to be approved as part of the Budget process.

### 9.7.3 **CHIEF EXECUTIVE’S REPORT**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the report of the Director of Services, Corporate Affairs & International Relations, dated 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2024 on the following motion:-

‘That Cork City Council recognises:

- The importance of accountability and transparency
- That making information available is empowering for individuals and communities
- There are significant delays in uploading the Chief Executive’s report monthly with current uploads finishing in 2023

And agrees to:

- Upload the Chief Executive’s report within one week of the full monthly Council meeting
- Update contracts awarded and other information on the website monthly
- Provide the number of bids on each individual property on CBL monthly in the Chief Executive’s report or in another uploaded report.’

(Proposer: Cllr. K. Collins 24/193)

The report of the Director of Services stated that the Chief Executive’s Monthly Management Report is coordinated by CAIR Directorate as required under Section 51 of the Local Government Reform Act 2014. Its importance as a governance mechanism and as a tool to provide information is well appreciated. Issues resulting in delays in uploading of the Report to the website have now been dealt with and the Report is now promptly uploaded, and the intention is to have it uploaded within the week following Council approval. I will arrange for a review in relation to the process regarding information on contract awards.

As part of the Report, Housing provide statistics on the choice-based letting scheme. Any request for additional information will need to be fully assessed by Housing in relation to the related resource requirements and implications.

#### 9.8 **LOCAL ECONOMIC & COMMUNITY PLAN 2024-2029**

On the proposal of Comhairleoir F. Dennehy, seconded by Comhairleoir D. Boyle, An Chomhairle considered and approved the Local Economic and Community Plan.

Members further acknowledged Mr. Tony Power (RIP), Cork City Council, for his contribution in this area.

#### 10. **PARTY WHIPS – 22<sup>nd</sup> APRIL 2024**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the minutes of the Party Whips from its meeting held, 22<sup>nd</sup> April 2024.

#### 10.1 **LORD MAYOR ITEMS**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the Part A schedule/consolidation of the changes to Standing Orders.

#### 11. **ROADS & TRANSPORTATION STRATEGIC POLICY COMMITTEE – 15<sup>th</sup> APRIL 2024**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the minutes of the Roads & Transportation Strategic Policy Committee from its meeting held, 15<sup>th</sup> April 2024.

#### 11.1 **MOTIONS**

##### 11.1.1 **MOBILE SPEED-ACTIVATED RADAR SIGNS**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Director of Services, Roads & Environment Operations, dated 5<sup>th</sup> April 2024 on the following motion:-

‘That Cork City Council will periodically locate mobile speed-activated radar signs within special 30km/h zones (such as housing estates) to emphasise the speed limit in these areas and communicate to motorists their speed.’

(Proposer: Cllr. O. Moran 24/076)

The report of the Director of Services stated that the selection of appropriate locations for Driver Feedback Signs is subject to minimum criteria including locations where the Average Annual Daily Traffic is >1500 vehicles per day minimum and where the road is a Local Primary, Regional or National Road. In addition, there must be a verifiable history of speeding where the V85 is greater than the posted speed limit in the area. 30 km/hr slow zones are located in housing estates which in general do not meet the above criteria. In addition, prior to the implementation of a 30 km/hr slow zone in a housing estate, a pre implementation speed survey is carried out to verify the speed at the location prior to the recommendation for a reduction in speed limit.

All such slow zones are signed with the slow sign specified in the Guidelines for Setting and Managing of Speed Limits in Ireland.

#### 11.1.2 **BIKE SHARE STATIONS**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Director of Services, Infrastructure Development, dated 5<sup>th</sup> April 2024 on the following motion:-

‘That new locations be found for bike share stations that had been on Washington Street and Sullivan’s Quay, as well as requesting that the National Transport Authority provide for more bike share stations across a wider area in the City.’

(Proposer: Cllr. D. Boyle 24/090)

The report of the Director of Services stated that the Public Bike Scheme is operated and managed by the National Transport Authority. Committee queries and recommendations regarding current services and future proposals have been submitted as requested and the related response dated 25<sup>th</sup> March 2024 is now being circulated to Members.

#### 12. **STRATEGIC, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, ENTERPRISE & PLANNING STRATEGIC POLICY COMMITTEE – 15<sup>th</sup> APRIL 2024**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the minutes of the Strategic, Economic Development, Enterprise & Planning Strategic Policy Committee from its meeting held, 15<sup>th</sup> April 2024.

#### 12.1 **NOTICE OF HERITAGE GRANTS ADVERTISEMENT**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the Notice of Heritage Grants Advertisement.

#### 12.2 **NATIONAL PLANNING FRAMEWORK REVIEW**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the National Planning Framework Review.

#### 12.3 **FINAL SED SPC APPROVAL OF DRAFT LOCAL ECONOMIC & COMMUNITY PLAN 2024-2029**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the Draft Local Economic and Community Plan (LECP) 2024 – 2029.

#### 12.4 **MOTIONS**

##### 12.4.1 **SHOP FRONTS POLICY**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Director of Services, Strategic & Economic Development, dated 15<sup>th</sup> April 2024 on the following motion:-

‘That this Council adopts a Shop Fronts policy protecting and encouraging the use of materials in signage that enhance the character of the City.’



(Proposer: Cllr. D. Boyle 24/174)

The report of the Director of Services stated that Cork City Council's existing policy on shop fronts and commercial façades is set out in the City Development Plan. This policy refers to traditional and contemporary pub fronts and shop fronts, visual clutter, security screens, and references the need for particular care and regard for shop fronts in Architectural Conservation Areas (ACAs).

Cork City Council's Strategic Planning and Heritage section intends to commission conservation specialists in Q2 2024 to prepare a guidance document on the management and care of ACAs in the city and providing technical guidance for development in ACAs. It is intended that this guidance document would be made available to public and private sector planning professionals, architects, developers and the general public.

Consideration of shop fronts will be included in the brief for the ACA guidance document, to supplement the policy contained the City Development Plan.

13. **HOUSING STRATEGIC POLICY COMMITTEE – 17<sup>th</sup> APRIL 2024**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the minutes of the Housing Strategic Policy Committee from its meeting held, 17<sup>th</sup> April 2024.

13.1 **HOUSING PROGRESS REPORT**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the Housing Progress report for February 2024.

13.2 **MOTIONS**

13.2.1 **CHILDREN IN EMERGENCY ACCOMMODATION**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Director of Services, Housing Operations, dated 12<sup>th</sup> April 2024 on the following motion:-

‘That Cork City Council:

- Recognises the particular harm caused to children in emergency accommodation who struggle to maintain links with their school/education facility

And agrees to:

- Compile an anonymised report on all families currently in emergency accommodation and the distance they travel to school, the number currently engaged with a child support worker and the number offered such a service
- Seek funding from Government to provide Leap Cards to all families of school-going children in emergency accommodation similar to the scheme operated in Dublin
- Review all available accommodation and offer any available spaces closer to children's schools to relevant families at their discretion.’

(Proposer: Cllr. K. Collins 24/142)

The report of the Director of Services stated that Good Shepherd Cork is currently operating a B&B Outreach Service, that is Section 10 funded, which has a support avenue to provide leap cards to families who require assistance to travel to school. Cork City Council does not have access to any data relating to a child support worker, Tusla are the governing body that would provide such information. The B&B Outreach workers would engage and communicate with families in Emergency Accommodation and assess and support a family's needs accordingly.

Cork City Council has engaged with Good Shepherd Cork in relation to a leap card project. Good Shepherd Cork had a pilot project for 2022/2023 and presented the findings to the Homeless Consultative Forum in September 2023. They have, through the homeless office, also engaged with Cork City Council's Community, Culture and Placemaking Directorate for additional funding. Good Shepherd Cork have funding received for this current school term and plan to apply for additional funding via Cork City Council for 2024/2025 school year. Cork City Council will support this application.

The majority of emergency accommodation providers are city centre based (the Family Hub, Edel House etc.) and this may impact some families given the transport needs from these settings. All families would be referred to Good Shepherd Cork and if the issue of transport is raised, Good Shepherd Cork would support the family through that process.

### 13.2.2 **HOUSING TARGETS FOR 2023**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Director of Services, Housing Delivery & Regeneration, dated 15<sup>th</sup> April 2024 on the following motion:-

‘That Cork City Council notes that social and affordable housing targets for 2023 were too low to meet the real need of those in the City, that Council failed to meet these targets and calls for an urgent meeting with Minister Darragh O’Brien to develop a plan to realistically meet the City’s real housing need.’

(Proposer: Cllr. K. Collins 24/194)

The report of the Director of Services stated that Cork City Council's overall delivery programme is outlined in its Housing Delivery Action Plan (HDAP) (2022). The Action Plan is prepared to be in line with targets set under Housing for All (2022-2026) by the Department of Housing Local Government and Heritage (DHLGH), the relevant adopted Development Plan, together with the Cork Joint Housing Strategy, and the Housing Need Demand Assessment.

Cork City Council's target for social housing provision under Housing for All is 3,023 homes, and reflective of this target and the HNDA, a more ambitious target was set for social housing provision in the Council's HDAP of 3,934 homes. A parallel target for overall affordable housing provision is set at 1,737 homes, with 378 homes to be

delivered directly by Cork Council and the balance of 1,359 homes to be delivered by the AHB and LDA Sector.

It should be noted that since adoption of the HDAP, significant change has occurred to programme, affected by a number of events and challenges including international economic headwinds such as: the introduction of the Tenant in Situ scheme, construction cost hyperinflation, phasing out of Leasing provision, and global supply chain disruption. The projected pipeline and constituent delivery elements has therefore been adapted on a regular basis as a result, e.g. build delivery was projected to peak in the period 2023-2024, however delivery is now more evenly distributed between each of the 5 years of the plan.

Cork City Council's delivery target for affordable purchase homes set by the DHLGH and as set out in the HDAP is 378 homes. Already, Cork City Council has delivered 179 affordable homes, which is 47% of target. A total of 105 cost rental homes have been delivered to date, with a current projected pipeline out to 2026 of over 1,300 homes to be delivered.

Cork City Council's delivery target for social homes under Housing for All has been met and exceeded for 2022 and 2023. Indeed, Cork City Council did not fail to meet its housing delivery targets, in fact the opposite is the case. The 2022 target of 596 homes was exceeded by Cork City Council with the delivery of 731 homes, and the 2023 target of 624 homes was exceeded by Cork City Council with the delivery of 804 homes. I can therefore confirm that Cork City Council has met and exceeded its Housing for All targets for the period 2022-2023 with the provision of 1,535 homes across the build, leasing and acquisition delivery streams. The HDAP target for the equivalent period was 1,538 homes. Cork City Council is confident of delivery of its full DHLGH and HDAP targets out to 2026.

14. **COMMUNITY, CULTURE & PLACEMAKING STRATEGIC POLICY COMMITTEE – SPECIAL MEETING 2<sup>nd</sup> MAY 2024**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the minutes of the Community, Culture & Placemaking Strategic Policy Committee from its special meeting held, 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2024.

14.1 **DRAFT LOCAL ECONOMIC & COMMUNITY PLAN**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the Draft Local Economic & Community Plan.

15. **CLIMATE ACTION COMMITTEE – 9<sup>th</sup> APRIL 2024**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the minutes of the Climate Action Committee from its meeting held, 9<sup>th</sup> April 2024

16. **SPORTS COMMITTEE – 18<sup>th</sup> APRIL 2024**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the minutes of the Sports Committee from its meeting held, 18<sup>th</sup> April 2024.

16.1 **SPORTS CAPITAL GRANTS ALLOCATION FOR 2024**

On the proposal of Comhairleoir D. Cahill, seconded by Comhairleoir T. Fitzgerald, An Chomhairle considered and approved the Sports Capital Allocation Grant Scheme 2024.

17. **SOUTH CENTRAL LOCAL AREA COMMITTEE – 22<sup>nd</sup> APRIL 2024**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the minutes of the South Central Local Area Committee from its meeting held, 22<sup>nd</sup> April 2024.

17.1 **MOTIONS**

17.1.1 **PATHWAY/CYCLEWAY ALONGSIDE THE UCC MARDYKE SPORTS TRACK**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the report of the Director of Services, Roads & Environment Operations, dated 18<sup>th</sup> April 2024 on the following motion:-

‘That for reasons of better permeability the section of pathway/cycleway alongside the UCC Mardyke Sports Track, no longer be gated or be subjected to closure times.’

(Proposer: Cllr. D. Boyle 24/175)

The report of the Director of Services stated that this section of walkway is opened and closed in line with Fitzgerald’s Park. It was the request of local residents to have it gated to help deal with anti social activity at night time and no change is recommended.

17.1.2 **CONTROLLED GATE AT ST. PETER'S AVENUE, GRATTAN STREET**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the report of the Director of Services, Roads & Environment Operations, dated 18<sup>th</sup> April 2024 on the following motion:-

‘That to enhance residents' safety, after several break-ins and public order issues, a controlled gate be considered for St. Peter's Avenue, Grattan Street.’

(Proposer: Cllr. M. Finn 23/473)

The report of the Director of Services stated that the issue of anti social behaviour has been discussed a number of times at Council with varied views being expressed by Members with regards to same. However, the outcome of said discussions was that anti social behaviour should be tackled through means other than removing public infrastructure or access to same. Having a City comprised of nothing but private streets would not be a good thing. In addition, the City Development plan’s Objective 6.16 identifies the “the need to preserve all public rights of way in Cork City”. It is also Government policy to maintain permeability and not to remove public access unnecessarily. Thus the issue of anti social behaviour identified should be resolved by other means rather than excluding members of the public from accessing this roadway.

18. **SOUTH WEST LOCAL AREA COMMITTEE – 22<sup>nd</sup> APRIL 2024**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the minutes of the South West Local Area Committee from its meeting held, 22<sup>nd</sup> April 2024.

19. **NORTH WEST LOCAL AREA COMMITTEE – 22<sup>nd</sup> APRIL 2024**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the minutes of the North West Local Area Committee from its meeting held, 22<sup>nd</sup> April 2024.

20. **NORTH EAST LOCAL AREA COMMITTEE – 22<sup>nd</sup> APRIL 2024**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the minutes of the North East Local Area Committee from its meeting held, 22<sup>nd</sup> April 2024.

21. **NORTH EAST LOCAL AREA COMMITTEE – SPECIAL MEETING 8<sup>th</sup> MAY 2024**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the minutes of the North East Local Area Committee from its special meeting held, 8<sup>th</sup> May 2024

22. **SOUTH EAST LOCAL AREA COMMITTEE – 23<sup>rd</sup> APRIL 2024**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the minutes of the South East Local Area Committee from its meeting held, 23<sup>rd</sup> April 2024.

23. **SOUTH EAST LOCAL AREA COMMITTEE – SPECIAL MEETING 2<sup>nd</sup> APRIL 2024**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the minutes of the South East Local Area Committee from its special meeting held, 2<sup>nd</sup> April 2024.

24. **CORRESPONDENCE**

An Chomhairle noted correspondence received.

25. **CONFERENCE/SEMINAR SUMMARIES**

An Chomhairle noted summaries of conferences/seminars attended as follows:-

- Comhairleoir C. Kelleher as part of the Cork City Council Delegation visit to San Francisco, USA, 1<sup>st</sup> - 8<sup>th</sup> March 2024.
- Ardmhéara Comhairleoir K. McCarthy as part of the Cork City Council Delegation visit to New York and San Francisco, USA, 29<sup>th</sup> February - 8<sup>th</sup> March 2024.
- Comhairleoir G. Kelleher at the AILG Annual Training Conference, held at Arklow Bay Hotel, Co. Wicklow, 14<sup>th</sup> - 15<sup>th</sup> February 2024.
- Comhairleoir G. Kelleher at the New Ireland Commission Event, held at Seamus Heaney Centre, Bellaghy, Co. Derry, 29<sup>th</sup> February 2024.

- Comhairleoir J. Kavanagh at the AILG Module 2 Training, Local Election Preparation, held at Kilkenny, 21<sup>st</sup> March 2024.
- Ardmhéara Comhairleoir K. McCarthy as part of the Cork City Council Delegation trip to Shanghai, China, 30<sup>th</sup> October - 8<sup>th</sup> November 2023.

26. **SECTION 141 REPORTS**

None received.

27. **CONFERENCES/SEMINARS**

27.1 **IRISH PUBLIC BODIES MUTUAL INSURANCES LIMITED CONFERENCE**

An Chomhairle considered and retrospectively approved the attendance of Comhairleoir S. Martin at the Irish Public Bodies Mutual Insurances Limited conference, held at the Gibson Hotel, Dublin, 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2024.

28. **TRAINING**

None received.

29. **CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S MONTHLY MANAGEMENT REPORT**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the Chief Executive's monthly management report for March 2024.

30. **MOTIONS REFERRED TO COMMITTEES**

An Chomhairle noted the motions on Appendix 1, that have been referred to the relevant Committees as determined by the Meetings Administrator, due notice of which has been given.

On the proposal of Comhairleoir K. Collins, An Chomhairle agreed that motion 34, No HGV Access On Dublin Hill, be referred to the North West Local Area Committee as well as the North East Local Area Committee for consideration.

31. **MOTIONS**

31.1 **COMPREHENSIVE REPLACEMENT OF ALL PIPES WITHIN THE CITY**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the following motion:-

‘That Cork City Council calls upon Irish Water and the Government of Ireland to allocate a substantial fund of at least €500 million for the comprehensive replacement of all pipes within the city limits.

This significant investment is crucial to safeguarding the health and well-being of our community members, as well as preserving our valuable water resources for future generations. By addressing the issue proactively, we can mitigate potential risks

associated with aging infrastructure and ensure a reliable water supply system that meets modern standards.

I urge all Council Members to support this motion in the best interest of our City and its residents.'

(Proposer: Cllr. K. O'Flynn 24/116)

### **SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS**

On the proposal of Comhairleoir M. Finn, seconded by Comhairleoir T. Moloney, An Chomhairle agreed to suspend standing orders to continue the meeting past 8pm.

### 31.2 **BUS SHELTER IN ASHMOUNT ESTATE**

An Chomhairle considered the following motion:-

'That Cork City Council would write to Bus Éireann and request that the following works be implemented around the recently installed Bus Shelter at the bottom of Ashmount Estate:-

- That the three missing Perspex back panels along the bottom of the Bus Shelter be installed. They haven't yet been installed.
- That a digital monitor illustrating the relevant bus times be put in place adjacent to the Shelter.
- That a side panel be put in place where there currently isn't one, as this Shelter is in a quite exposed location in terms of wind and rain, etc.

Also, can Cork City Council Parks Department look at grassing the area at the rear of this Bus Shelter and remove the rocks and stones that are currently there.'

(Proposer: Cllr. J. Kavanagh 24/218)

On the proposal of Comhairleoir J. Kavanagh, seconded by Comhairleoir M. Finn, An Chomhairle approved the motion revised to read as follows:-

'That Cork City Council would write to the NTA and request that the following works be implemented around the recently installed Bus Shelter at the bottom of Ashmount Estate:-

- That the three missing Perspex back panels along the bottom of the Bus Shelter be installed. They haven't yet been installed.
- That a digital monitor illustrating the relevant bus times be put in place adjacent to the Shelter.
- That a side panel be put in place where there currently isn't one, as this Shelter is in a quite exposed location in terms of wind and rain, etc.

Also, can Cork City Council Parks Department look at grassing the area at the rear of this Bus Shelter and remove the rocks and stones that are currently there.'

(Proposer: Cllr. J. Kavanagh 24/218)

31.3 **PERSISTENT PROBLEMS OF WATER DISCOLOURATION AND OUTAGES**

An Chomhairle considered the following motion:-

‘That Cork City Council call upon the Chief Executive Officer of Uisce Éireann/Irish Water, Niall Gleeson, to come before the meeting of Cork City Council on 4<sup>th</sup> June 2024 to account for the consistent failure by the management of Uisce Éireann/Irish Water to tackle the persistent problems of water discolouration and water outages without sufficient notice in large areas of Cork. At the meeting, Chief Executive Officer Gleeson should be in a position to answer questions from City Councillors on the issues concerned and to provide a detailed report regarding what efforts have been made to tackle these issues to date and what further steps the management of Uisce Éireann/Irish Water propose to take to resolve these problems.’

(Proposer: Cllr. S. O’Callaghan 24/254)

On the proposal of Comhairleoir S. O’Callaghan, seconded by Comhairleoir D. Boylan, An Chomhairle approved the motion revised to read as follows:-

‘That Cork City Council call upon the Chief Executive Officer of Uisce Éireann/Irish Water, Niall Gleeson, to come before the meeting of Cork City Council in early July 2024 to account for the consistent failure by the management of Uisce Éireann/Irish Water to tackle the persistent problems of water discolouration and water outages without sufficient notice in large areas of Cork. At the meeting, Chief Executive Officer Gleeson should be in a position to answer questions from City Councillors on the issues concerned and to provide a detailed report regarding what efforts have been made to tackle these issues to date and what further steps the management of Uisce Éireann/Irish Water propose to take to resolve these problems.’

(Proposer: Cllr. S. O’Callaghan 24/254)

31.4 **LOCAL IMPROVEMENT SCHEME**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the following motion:-

‘That Cork City Council requests the Minister for Rural and Community Development to extend the Local Improvement Scheme to Cork City Council given the five-fold increase in the size of Cork City post the city expansion in 2019.

A Local Improvement Scheme is a scheme for carrying out improvement works on private/non-public roads. The scheme currently operates in Cork County Council and every other local authority with the exception of Cork City and Dublin City Council.’

(Proposer: Cllr. F. Dennehy 24/257)



31.5 **ST. KILLIAN’S SPECIAL SCHOOL, MAYFIELD**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the following motion:-

‘I want to bring to the attention of the Council, the urgent situation regarding the lack of provision of vital health services to the children of St. Killian’s Special School, Mayfield.

St. Killian's is a primary school that caters for pupils with Dyslexia/Dyspraxia/Speech and Language Disorder and pupils with a diagnosis of Autism and complex needs.

It provides vital interventions to children who can't be easily diagnosed and is a place for children who don't fit in anywhere else. All of the children attending St. Killian’s are in receipt of a psychological assessment that recommends they attend a special school on the basis that they have very complex and specific needs and demand support beyond the abilities of mainstream education.

Since 2020 however, St. Killian’s has not received any hours of therapy in the vital areas of Speech and Language Therapy, Occupational Therapy, Social Work, Play Therapy and Physiotherapy. For context, in 2020 St. Killian’s was receiving 3.5 days of therapy every week. Since that ended, the school has received zero hours.

I have heard of the repeated attempts from St. Killian's Parent's Unite to demand a response from the relevant bodies to provide vital assistance to the children of the school, yet no adequate provision has been made.

I urge members of this Council to use their powers as elected representatives, so that the children of St. Killian's receive the educational supports that they deserve. In addition, I request that this motion be forwarded to the offices of Taoiseach Simon Harris and Minister Anne Rabbitte, with the full support of the Council.’

(Proposer: Cllr. T. Tynan 24/264)

An Chomhairle further agreed to forward this motion to Bishop Fintan Gavin.

31.6 **BUS SHELTER AT PARKLANDS DRIVE, FAIRHILL**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the following motion:-

‘That Cork City Council write to the NTA to install a bus shelter at Parklands Drive, Fairhill.’

(Proposer: Cllr. K. Collins 24/274)

31.7 **DIRECTLY ELECTED MAYOR OF CORK CITY**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the following motion:-

‘That Cork City Council write to the Minister for Local Government, in light of legislation having been enacted in relation to the position of directly elected mayors, to ask that a second plebiscite for a directly elected mayor of Cork City be held during the next Council term.’

(Proposer: Cllr. L. Bogue 24/291)

This concluded the business of the meeting

**ARDMHÉARA**  
**CATHAOIRLEACH**