

**MINUTES OF ORDINARY MEETING OF CORK CITY COUNCIL**  
**HELD ON MONDAY 13<sup>th</sup> JANUARY 2020**

<b>PRESENT</b>	Ardmhéara Comhairleoir J. Sheehan.
<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, T. Gould, K. Collins, F. Ryan, D. Boylan.
<b>SOUTH EAST</b>	Comhairleoirí D. Cahill, L. Bogue, M. R. Desmond, K. McCarthy, T. Shannon, D. Forde.
<b>SOUTH CENTRAL</b>	Comhairleoirí M. Finn, D. Boyle, S. Martin, S. O’Callaghan, P. Dineen.
<b>SOUTH WEST</b>	Comhairleoirí F. Dennehy, D. Canty, C. Finn, C. Kelleher, G. Kelleher, T. Moloney, H. Cremin.
<b>ALSO PRESENT</b>	Ms. A. Doherty, Chief Executive. Ms. C. Kelly, Meetings Administrator. Ms. C. Currid, Staff Officer, Corporate Affairs & International Relations. Mr. P. Moynihan, Director of Services, Corporate Affairs & International Relations. Mr. F. Reidy, Director of Services, Strategic & Economic Development. Mr. B. Geaney, Director of Services, Housing. Ms. V. O’Sullivan, Director of Services, Operations. Ms. A. Rodgers, Director of Services, Community, Culture & Placemaking. Mr. K. O’Connor, Senior Planner, Strategic & Economic Development. Mr. J. Hallahan, Head of Finance.

An tArdmhéara recited the opening prayer.

1. **VOTES OF SYMPATHY**

- The Quinn Family on the death of Joe Quinn.
- The Fielding Family on the death of Lil Fielding.
- The Gogan Family on the death of Larry Gogan.
- The Finucane Family on the death of Marian Finucane.
- The Feehan Family on the death of Sheila Feehan.
- The Hanley Family on the death of Brian Hanley.
- The Dorney Family on the death of Martin Dorney.
- The Long Family on the death of Richard Long.
- The Curtin Family on the death of Fintan Curtin.

- The McMahon Family on the death of Liam McMahon.
- The Cotter Family on the death of Jim Cotter.
- The Cadogan Family on the death of Denis Cadogan.
- The O’Callaghan Family on the death of Deirdre O’Callaghan.
- The Dunne Family on the death of Frank Dunne.
- The Nolan Family on the death of John Nolan.
- The Grandon Family on the death of Billy Grandon.
- The O’Leary Family on the death of George O’Leary.
- The McDonnell Family on the death of Michael McDonnell.
- The Coppinger Family on the death of Conor Coppinger.
- The Kenneally Family on the death of Derry Kenneally.
- The Barrett Family on the death of Catherine Barrett.

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

- Cork City Council Community Section on their Trauma Training for groups in Cork.
- Tomás McCurtain GAA Club, London on their 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary and on winning the London Intermediate Football Championship and the All Britain Gaelic Football Championship.
- Cork Rotary Club and Bishopstown Rotary Club for their Tree of Remembrance.
- St. Michael’s Football Club on winning the U21 County Championship.
- Coláiste Choilm, Ballincollig on winning the BT Young Scientist Award 2020.

**SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS**

An tArdmhéara advised An Chomhairle that three requests to suspend Standing Orders had been received, two in relation to vandalism at St. Catherine’s cemetery, Kilcully, and a third in relation to Part 8 proposals at Ennismore, Montenotte. An Chomhairle agreed that the two proposals in relation to St. Catherine’s cemetery would be jointly discussed.

On the proposal of Comhairleoir T. Fitzgerald, seconded by Comhairleoir K. O’Flynn, An Chomhairle agreed to suspend Standing Orders to discuss the following motions in relation to vandalism at St. Catherine’s cemetery, Kilcully, after item 8 on the agenda:-

‘That in light of the recent damage to multiple graves and headstones at St. Catherine’s cemetery, that Cork City Council would put in place enhanced security measures, including CCTV, to protect St. Catherine’s Cemetery, Kilcully.’

(Proposers: Cllr. J. Sheehan, Cllr T. Fitzgerald 20/004)

‘Following recent attacks and serious vandalism on head stones and graves at St. Catherine’s cemetery, Kilcully, that Cork City Council will respond to the widespread hurt, anger and concern by the families and the community by;

Installing CCTV and adequate lighting within the cemetery perimeter.

Ensure 24/7 security is maintained until CCTV is installed.

Survey the cemetery boundary wall to see if it can be raised to prevent unauthorised access.

Meet with the newly formed St. Catherine’s Cemetery Kilcully Community Action Group to address their concerns and recommendations.

Support where possible the families affected by vandalism to the graves of loved ones.’

(Proposer: Cllr. T. Gould 20/041)

On the proposal of Comhairleoir T. Tynan, seconded by Comhairleoir F. Ryan, a vote was called for the suspension of Standing Orders to discuss Part 8 proposals at Ennismore, Montenotte, where there appeared as follows:-

**FOR:** - Comhairleoirí J. Maher, T. Tynan, O. Moran, G. Keohane, T. Gould, K. Collins, F. Ryan, L. Bogue, K. McCarthy, M. Finn, D. Boyle, S. Martin, C. Finn, T. Moloney, H. Cremin. (15)

**AGAINST:** - Comhairleoirí K. O’Flynn, J. Kavanagh, T. Fitzgerald, Ardmhéara J. Sheehan, D. Boylan, D. Cahill, M. R. Desmond, T. Shannon, D. Forde, S. O’Callaghan, P. Dineen, F. Dennehy, D. Canty, C. Kelleher. (14)

**ABSTAIN:** - (0)

The numbers voting for were greater than those voting against. However, given the vote was not carried by a 2/3 majority, as prescribed in Standing Orders, An tArdmhéara declared the vote, and the proposal to suspend Standing Orders defeated.

### 3. **LORD MAYOR’S ITEMS**

#### 3.1 **CIVIC RECEPTIONS**

An Chomhairle approved An tArdmhéara’s proposal to host Civic Receptions as follows:-

- Doctor Con Murphy to mark his retirement from General Practice.
- Mr. Garrett Fitzgerald, former Chief Executive of Munster Rugby, to mark his retirement.

#### 3.2 **SPECIAL MEETING OF AN CHOMHAIRLE**

An tArdmhéara advised An Chomhairle that a Special Meeting will be held on Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> January 2020 to commemorate the centenary of the meeting of the first Corporation elected by proportional representation, held in January 1920.

3.3

### **COMMEMORATIVE PROGRAMME 2020**

An tArdmhéara advised An Chomhairle that at the meeting of the Centenary Commemoration 2019-2023 Steering Committee, held Monday 13<sup>th</sup> January 2020, it was proposed that a meeting of An Chomhairle be held at the North Monastery School to commemorate Tomás MacCurtain, Terence MacSwiney and Donal O’Ceallachain, former pupils of the school.

An tArdmhéara further advised that at the same meeting, it was proposed to hold another meeting of An Chomhairle off site to commemorate the centenary of women’s right to vote and Cumann na mBan, venue to be decided.

4.

### **CHIEF EXECUTIVE’S ITEMS**

4.1

#### **MATERIAL CONTRAVENTION OF THE CORK CITY DEVELOPMENT PLAN 2015-2021**

An Chomhairle considered the material contravention of the Cork City Development Plan 2015-2021 in relation to the construction of 30 no. apartment units at the site off Cherry Lawn, Church Road, Blackrock, Cork under Planning Reference No. 18/38157.

A vote was called for on the approval of the material contravention where there appeared as follows:-

**FOR:-** Comhairleoir F. Ryan. (1)

**AGAINST:-** Comhairleoirí K. O’Flynn, J. Maher, T. Tynan, J. Kavanagh, O. Moran, G. Keohane, T. Fitzgerald, T. Gould, Ardmhéara J. Sheehan, D. Boylan, D. Cahill, L. Bogue, M. R. Desmond, K. McCarthy, T. Shannon, M. Finn, D. Boyle, S. Martin, S. O’Callaghan, P. Dineen, F. Dennehy, D. Canty, C. Finn, C. Kelleher, T. Moloney, H. Cremin. (26)

**ABSTAIN:-** (0)

As those voting against were greater than those voting for, An tArdmhéara declared the vote, and the material contravention of the Cork City Development Plan 2015-2021 in relation to the construction of 30 no. apartment units, at the site of Cherry Lawn, Church Road, Blackrock, Cork under Planning Reference No. 18/38157 defeated.

5.

### **MINUTES**

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

- Ordinary Meeting of An Chomhairle held, 9<sup>th</sup> December 2019.

On the proposal of Comhairleoir T. Gould, seconded by Comhairleoir T. Fitzgerald An Chomhairle considered and approved the minutes of:-

- Special Meeting of An Chomhairle held, 16<sup>th</sup> December 2019.

6. **QUESTION TIME**

6.1 **HALF MOON PEDESTRIAN ACCESS TO TRAMORE VALLEY PARK**

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

Can an update and full report be given at our first meeting of Council in 2020 as to the progress in the opening up of the Half Moon Lane pedestrian access point to Tramore Valley Park to include the factors involved in the process and any necessary reconfiguration works. Also to include details of the tree planting regime planned.

(Cllr. Mick Finn)

**REPLY**

Half moon Lane is a narrow lane off South Douglas Road serving Christ King Girls Secondary School, a number of commercial premises, ESB pitch & putt club, one residential property and a large City Council Depot accommodating Plant & Machinery, Cleansing and Traffic Departments. All these uses generate considerable vehicular

traffic ranging from large commercial vehicles to family saloons. The lane measures approximately 250 metres in length and ranges in width from 4m – 5.5m. There is no public footpath and no dedicated car park spaces along the lane. The junction with the South Douglas Road is not a controlled junction (no traffic lights) and is completely blind in both directions when exiting. In the context of the above, the lane is completely unsafe for pedestrians and cyclists using it to access Tramore Valley Park and considerable improvement works are required to bring it up to a safe standard. It is also important to note that providing an access to the park from Halfmoon Lane will also attract visitors arriving by car and, given that there is no dedicated parking area, cars are likely to be abandoned along the narrow lane creating a serious obstruction for other vehicles using the lane to access their premises and for parents dropping and collecting school children. Consultants will be appointed in the coming weeks to undertake a traffic assessment and survey of the lane and prepare draft improvement proposals to address the above issues.

This exercise will be followed by a part 8 application and, if approved, detailed design, tender and contract will follow. Total timescale is approximately twelve months.

Extensive tree and shrub planting has been undertaken throughout the park in recent years in line with the 2015 Landscape Proposals. The park due to its previous use as a Landfill has an extensive network of gas, leacheate, surface water and utility infrastructure and this restricts the areas that can be planted. Unplanted areas are being managed as wild flower meadows giving a balance to the park of areas with tree cover and wild flower meadow.

Perimeter hedgerow planting along the boundary with the South City Link will be undertaken this spring.

Valerie O' Sullivan  
Director of Operations

6.2

**TELECOMMUNICATION MASTS - HARBOUR VIEW ROAD & ARDCULLEN**

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

To ask the Chief Executive to publish a report relating to the installation of two columns on Harbour View Road, Knocknaheeny and Ardcullen, Hollyhill, stating the process and legal requirements for these masts, why local representatives the local community were not consulted and if there are other applications on file across the city?

(Cllr. Tony Fitzgerald)

**REPLY**

The Government's National Broadband Plan is a framework for the provision of high speed broadband through a combination of commercial and state investment. Cignal are a registered provider for the communications industry and is authorised by ComReg to provide electronic communications networks and services. This authorisation from ComReg allows Cignal to apply for licences for over ground electronic communications infrastructure.

Cignal provide tower, mast, rooftop and street work solutions for the expanding requirements of operators including EIR, Vodafone and Three. Cignal work closely with mobile operators to identify locations known as 'blackspots' for mobile and wireless broadband. It is on this basis that licence applications for street work solutions are made. These proposed sites/locations are areas where coverage for mobile phones and data devices is required.

As such, the location of street work solutions are proposed by the applicant/registered provider. These locations are then considered by the Planning Authority.

The licensing process for this over ground electronic communications infrastructure and any associated physical infrastructure' i.e. a street work solution is set out in Section 254 (1) (ee) of the Planning and Development.' In considering a licence under Section 254 for such infrastructure the Planning Authority in consultation with the Roads Operations Division of the Council must have regard to four considerations as prescribed by the Act:

- (a) the proper planning and sustainable development of the area,
- (b) any relevant provisions of the development plan, or a local area plan,
- (c) the number and location of existing appliances, apparatuses or structures on, under, over or along the public road, and,
- (d) the convenience and safety of road users including pedestrians.

A referral report is received on all files from the Roads Operations Division, and where appropriate from the Housing Capital and Regeneration Section of the Council. Unlike a planning application, there is no requirement for the applicant to put up a site notice or to place an ad in the newspaper. Moreover, the Section 254 licensing process does not provide for the consideration of third party submissions as part of the decision making process.

A licence may be granted by the Planning Authority for such period and upon such conditions as the authority may specify, including conditions in relation to location and design. Developments which are carried out in accordance with a licence are exempted development in accordance with Section 254(7) of the Planning and Development Act. This provision exempts this type of development, meaning that planning permission is not required.

Further to the initial licence, Section 101D of the Road Traffic Act relates to carrying out roadworks or works on the road inclusive of reinstatements and road opening licenses applies where necessary to the works when the poles are being installed.

To date; 16no applications have been made to the planning authority for a licence. A complete list of all applications received is attached as Appendix A of this response.

- 10 no. have been approved, which include repeat applications for revised locations and/or design.
- 3 no. applications have been refused.
- 2 no. application has been withdrawn, and
- 1 no. applications remain pending decision.

The applicant for all sixteen applications are Cignal Ltd. Cignal Ltd. carry out surveys of mobile phone blackspots and where these blackspots are noted they apply for a Section 254 license for provision of a telecommunications pole. It is on this basis the applications have been made for Harbour View Road, Knocknaheeny and Ardculen, Hollyhill, together with a number of other site across the City. It is intended that this infrastructure is shared which could in fact reduce the number of installations required to provide mobile phone coverage across a number of operators.

Guidance on the process has been published by the Department of Communications, Energy and Natural Resources, and is available for review at the following link: [https://www.dccae.gov.ie/en-ie/communications/publications/Pages/Guidance-on-the-Potential-Location-of-Overground-Telecommunications-Infrastructure-on-Public-Roads.aspx\\*](https://www.dccae.gov.ie/en-ie/communications/publications/Pages/Guidance-on-the-Potential-Location-of-Overground-Telecommunications-Infrastructure-on-Public-Roads.aspx*).

\*It should be noted that there is a discrepancy in the Guidelines which states that Class 31 of the Planning and Development Regulations allows for exempted development outside of public roads for poles or support structures up to 10 meters in height. Class 31 in fact allows for a height of up to 12 meters.

Adrienne Rodgers,  
Director of Community, Culture & Placemaking.

#### **APPENDIX A – REGISTER OF SECTION 254 STREETWORK SOLUTION APPLICATIONS**

<b>Applicant</b>	<b>Address</b>	<b>Application Number</b>	<b>Decision</b>	<b>Number of years granted</b>	<b>Licence issued</b>
Cignal Infrastructure	St Finbarr's Road	T19.001	Granted	3 Years	01/02/2019
Cignal Infrastructure	Ardcullen, Harbour View Road, Cork	T19.002	Granted	3 Years	01/02/2019
Cignal Infrastructure	Harbour View Road, Cork City	T19.003	Granted	3 Years	01/02/2019
Cignal Infrastructure	Rossa Avenue, CIT, Cork	T19.004	Withdrawn	N/A	N/A
Cignal Infrastructure	Ardcullen, Harbour View Road, Cork	T19.005	Granted	3 Years	01/11/2019
Cignal Infrastructure	Harbour View Road, Cork City	T19.006	Granted	3 Years	01/11/2019
Cignal Infrastructure	Rochestown Road, Cork	T19.007	Refused	N/A	N/A
Cignal Infrastructure	Grange Road, Grange, Douglas	T19.008	Granted	3 Years	02/10/2019
Cignal Infrastructure	Victoria Avenue, Boreenmana Road Junction, Ballintemple	T19.009	Granted	3 Years	02/10/2019
Cignal Infrastructure	Drummond Warehouse, Glen Avenue, The Glen	T19.010	Granted	3 Years	30/10/2019
Cignal Infrastructure	Glendale Grove, Glasheen	T19.011	Granted	3 Years	30/10/2019
Cignal Infrastructure	Rossa Avenue, CIT, Cork	T19.012	Granted	3 Years	19/11/2019
Cignal Infrastructure	Mount Oval, Rochestown, Co Cork	T19.013	Withdrawn	N/A	N/A



Cignal Infrastructure	Lakeland, Co Cork	T19.014	Refused	N/A	N/A
Cignal Infrastructure	Curaheen Road, Bishopstown, Co Cork	T19.015	Refused	N/A	N/A
Cignal Infrastructure	Deerpark Road, Greenmount, Cork	T19.016	FI requested 02/01/2020	N/A	N/A

6.3

**HOUSING APPLICATIONS GARDA VETTING CHECKS**

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

To ask the CE how many housing applications in emergency accommodation have failed due to Garda vetting checks?

(Cllr. Kenneth O’Flynn)

**REPLY**

Twenty nine families/individual applicants in homeless services in 2019, that would have been considered by the Council for a housing allocation, have not been made an offer due to a related negative Garda vetting report.

B. Geaney,  
Director of Housing.

6.4

**TELECOMMUNICATION MASTS – HARBOUR VIEW ROAD & ARDCULLEN**

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

Can the CE outline the process involved in the installation of two telecommunications masts on Harbour View Knocknaheeny and ArdCullen Hollyhill. Is the Ce aware of any further masts being installed across the city and can she ensure that there is consultation with community group and local public representatives if so.

(Cllr. Kenneth Collins)

**REPLY**

The Government’s National Broadband Plan is a framework for the provision of high speed broadband through a combination of commercial and state investment. Cignal are a registered provider for the communications industry and is authorised by ComReg to provide electronic communications networks and services. This authorisation from ComReg allows Cignal to apply for licences for over ground electronic communications infrastructure.

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- (d) the convenience and safety of road users including pedestrians.

A referral report is received on all files from the Roads Operations Division, and where appropriate from the Housing Capital and Regeneration Section of the Council. Unlike a planning application, there is no requirement for the applicant to put up a site notice or to place an ad in the newspaper. Moreover, the Section 254 licensing process does not provide for the consideration of third party submissions as part of the decision making process.

A licence may be granted by the Planning Authority for such period and upon such conditions as the authority may specify, including conditions in relation to location and design. Developments which are carried out in accordance with a licence are exempted development in accordance with Section 254(7) of the Planning and Development Act. This provision exempts this type of development, meaning that planning permission is not required.

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[https://www.dcae.gov.ie/en-ie/communications/publications/Pages/Guidance-on-the-Potential-Location-of-Overground-Telecommunications-Infrastructure-on-Public-Roads.aspx\\*](https://www.dcae.gov.ie/en-ie/communications/publications/Pages/Guidance-on-the-Potential-Location-of-Overground-Telecommunications-Infrastructure-on-Public-Roads.aspx*)

\*It should be noted that there is a discrepancy in the Guidelines which states that Class 31 of the Planning and Development Regulations allows for exempted development outside of public roads for poles or support structures up to 10 meters in height. Class 31 in fact allows for a height of up to 12 meters.

Adrienne Rodgers,  
Director of Service  
Community, Culture & Placemaking

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Cignal Infrastructure	Curaheen Road, Bishopstown, Co Cork	T19.015	Refused	N/A	N/A
Cignal Infrastructure	Deerpark Road, Greenmount, Cork	T19.016	FI requested 02/01/2020	N/A	N/A

6.5

### **WATER REFILL STATIONS**

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

Can the Chief Executive approve water refill stations for Emmet Place, Patrick's Street & Grand Parade which would also tie in with Bishop Lucy Park and provide dates for delivery for both city and parks which would be required by Spring 2020? Can the Chief Executive & Council agree that no plastic bottles are provided at the 2020 mini marathon and marathon to emphasize our commitment to the single use plastic bottle reduction/exclusion as part of our Healthy City? An App should be provided to locate the installed Water Refill Stations in our parks and city?

(Cllr. Des Cahill)

### **REPLY**

Irish Water is in the process of developing a policy in relation to drinking water points in public areas, and are in discussions with the Regulator as to how they

should be progressed. Their installation in public areas is being investigated under a current Cork City Council Infrastructure project

Confirmation of a successful application to the Healthy Ireland Fund for 50% grant funding that would allow installation of 5 no drinking water fountains in our Parks has just been received, and this will be progressed in the coming months.

Cork City Marathon has been working with the Council's Environment Office for the last few years to gradually eliminate single-use plastic and waste from the event. We compost all organic waste at the finish line, provide reusable goody bags, have removed all plastic wrapping from medals and shirts, and engage Refill Ireland to provide filtered water in reusable tumblers at the finish line. Given the critical role of hydration, particularly in a summer race, we still provide plastic bottled water on the course, but aspire to eliminate all bottles from the race by 2021. Other event organisers will also be encouraged to follow similar practices.

In addition, one of the main water stations on the course in 2020 will be stocked with water-filled Oohos – seaweed-based compostable pouches that can be eaten or discarded to biodegrade within 4-6 .

The City Council also received funding from the EPA's Local Authority Prevention Network in 2018 *to promote Refill.ie at a local level in order to increase the number of Refill.ie members in Cork City and increase the awareness of Refill.ie amongst the general public.*

*The project was delivered by Cork City Council in partnership with Refill.ie and Cork Environmental Forum. Over the three month period, approximately 50 premises were visited and 28 premises signed up for the Refill.ie scheme. All of these businesses were issued with stickers to be displayed on their premises. In addition, each of the premises was added to the Refill.ie Tap Map. At present, there are over 60 premises in Cork City signed up to Refill.ie which means that they provide tap water refills to the general public free of charge.*

Valerie O Sullivan  
Director of Operations  
Roads & Environment

6.6

### **SPC REPORTS FOR CONSIDERATION**

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

To ask the Chief Executive, pursuant to sections 132 and 133 of the Local Government Act, for advice in relation to the right of a Strategic Policy Committee to submit a report for consideration by the elected council that differs from a report of a Director of Services in response to a policy motion.

(Cllr. Oliver Moran)

## **REPLY**

Sections 133 of the Local Government Act 2001 relates to the establishment by local authorities of a Corporate Policy Group, and subsection (2) (c) states that “nothing in this subsection prevents the submission of a report by a Strategic Policy Committee directly to the elected council”.

It is a matter for each committee, when considering the report of a Director of Services on a motion, to make such recommendation to An Chomhairle in relation to that report as it sees fit.

Paul Moynihan,  
Director of Corporate Affairs & International Relations.

6.7

## **OLD DENNEHY’S CROSS GARAGE**

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

Can the CE give a complete update and outline what’s happening with the Old Dennehy’s Cross Garage as it’s a complete eyesore to thousands of people who pass it daily and a complete embarrassment for the residents who live in close proximity to this site who care and maintain their own properties to the highest standards.

(Cllr. Henry Cremin)

## **REPLY**

In 2018, this site was placed on the derelict sites register. The owner has engaged with planning officials with a view to potential development of the site. Cork City Council is actively engaging with the owners with a view to developing the site.

Fearghal Reidy,  
Director of Strategic & Economic Development.

6.8

## **SUPREME COURT DECISION IMPLICATION**

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

To ask the Chief Executive if she has considered the implications of the recent Supreme Court decision in Fagan v. Dublin City Council and whether Cork City Council operates a similar policy to Dublin City Council with respect to the treatment of separate fathers who are social housing applicants and do we know how many applicants may be impacted by this ruling and will it require a revision of our Social Housing Allocation Scheme?

(Cllr. Dan Boyle)

## **REPLY**

The City Council has reviewed the recent Supreme Court decision in Fagan v Dublin City Council and has considered the implications of this judgement.

Cork City Council does not operate a similar policy to Dublin City Council in its assessment process for the social housing requirements of separated parents regarding access requirements for children. The City Council assesses each individual application for housing or housing support on its own merits.

The City Council Housing Directorate does not envisage any housing applications being affected or a change in allocation procedures in Cork City as the Council's procedures are broadly in line with the findings of the Judgement and a revision of the Allocation Scheme is not deemed to be necessary.

B. Geaney,  
Director of Housing.

6.9

## **ARCHAEOLOGICAL DIG – BESSBOROUGH GROUNDS**

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

To ask the CE for the City Council's role, if any, in the archaeological dig that recently took place on Bessborough grounds?

(Cllr. Kieran McCarthy)

## **REPLY**

A programme of pre-development geophysical survey and archaeological test trenching was recommended by the City Archaeologist as part of pre-planning discussions in relation to a proposed development at this site. This is a standard recommendation given the size and scale of the proposed development and the sites location in close proximity to known archaeological Recorded Monuments and Places (RMP).

The site was examined by a geophysical surveyor and was deemed unsuitable for Ground Penetrating Radar (GPR) GPR requires a very even ground surface free from excess vegetation and modern debris.

A programme of archaeological test trenching commenced on Monday 9<sup>th</sup> December 2019. This work involved some necessary site clearance works. This work was carried out under archaeological licence issued by the National Monuments Service, Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht. The trenches were excavated, under supervision by a suitably qualified and experienced archaeologist, with a machine with a toothless bucket. The soil was removed in spits and was subsequently sieved on site. This is considered best practice. The City Archaeologist was kept informed at all times and undertook a site inspection on Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> December 2019.

The ground works ceased on the afternoon of Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> December following discussions with the National Monuments Service and the developer's archaeologist. This was due to a technical issue with the archaeological licence.

No archaeological features or finds were noted in the trenches excavated.

Cork City Council is aware of the sensitivities associated with the site and this was also discussed with the representatives of the developer. The approach taken to the archaeological testing recognised the sensitivities of the site.

Fearghal Reidy

Director of Services, Strategic Planning and Economic Development

6.10

**ENFORCEMENT OF PARKING OFFENCES - PÁIRC UÍ CHAOIMH AREA**

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

To ask the Chief Executive who is responsible for the lack of enforcement of parking offenses in the areas surrounding Páirc Uí Chaoimh on match days and during events. As part of this answer I would like outlined what existing agreements are in place between all relevant actors and Cork City Council around the issue of visitor/attendee parking and whether these agreements have been implemented?

(Cllr. Lorna Bogue)

**REPLY**

Cork City Council parking enforcement increase patrols in the area of Páirc Uí Chaoimh during match days and events and AGS also carry out parking enforcement in the area.

Traffic management for events is coordinated between AGS, Cork City Council and other relevant stakeholders. Each event is reviewed at event planning meetings and a relevant traffic management plan is agreed with actions to implement on event days (i.e. vehicular routes, diversions at key junctions, road closures, pedestrian routes and emergency access). AGS coordinate this on event days.

Valerie O'Sullivan,  
Director of Operations.

7.

**PROPOSED RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT AT POULADUFF ROAD, CORK**

An Chomhairle considered the proposed residential development at Pouladuff Road, in the City of Cork and the report of the Acting Director of Housing thereon as required under Section 179 (3) of the Planning and Development Act, 2000 (as amended) dated, 31st December 2019.



On the proposal of Comhairleoir S. Martin, seconded by Comhairleoir M. Finn, An Chomhairle agreed that the proposed residential development at Pouladuff Road in the City of Cork and the report of the Acting Director of Housing thereon as required under Section 179 (3) of the Planning and Development Act, 2000 (as amended) dated, 31st December 2019 would be deferred to the next meeting of An Chomhairle to be held, 10<sup>th</sup> February 2020.

8. **PROPOSED RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT AT SKEHARD ROAD, CORK**

An Chomhairle considered the proposed residential development at Skehard Road, in the City of Cork and the report of the Acting Director of Housing thereon as required under Section 179 (3) of the Planning and Development Act, 2000 (as amended) dated, 31st December 2019.

On the proposal of Comhairleoir P. Dineen, seconded by Comhairleoir T. Moloney, a vote was called for on the approval of the proposed residential development at Skehard Road in the City of Cork and the report of the Acting Director of Housing thereon as required under Section 179 (3) of the Planning and Development Act, 2000 (as amended) dated, 31st December 2019 where there appeared as follows:-

**FOR:-** Comhairleoirí J. Maher, T. Tynan, J. Kavanagh, O. Moran, G. Keohane, T. Gould, K. Collins, F. Ryan, D. Boylan, L. Bogue, D. Boyle, S. O’Callaghan, P. Dineen, D. Canty, C. Finn, T. Moloney, H. Cremin. (17)

**AGAINST:-** Comhairleoirí K. O’Flynn, T. Fitzgerald, Ardmhéara J. Sheehan, D. Cahill, M. R. Desmond, K. McCarthy, T. Shannon, D. Forde, S. Martin, F. Dennehy, C. Kelleher. (11)

**ABSTAIN:-** (0)

As those voting for were greater than those voting against, An tArdmhéara declared the vote carried, and the proposed residential development at Skehard Road, in the City of Cork and the report of the Acting Director of Housing thereon as required under Section 179 (3) of the Planning and Development Act, 2000 (as amended) dated, 31st December 2019 approved.

**SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS – VANDALISM AT ST. CATHERINE’S CEMETERY, KILCULLY**

‘That in light of the recent damage to multiple graves and headstones at St. Catherine’s cemetery, that Cork City Council would put in place enhanced security measures, including CCTV, to protect St. Catherine’s cemetery, Kilcully.’

(Proposers: Cllr. J. Sheehan, Cllr T. Fitzgerald 20/004)

‘Following recent attacks and serious vandalism on head stones and graves at St. Catherine’s cemetery, Kilcully, that Cork City Council will respond to the widespread hurt, anger and concern by the families and the community by;

Installing CCTV and adequate lighting within the cemetery perimeter.  
Ensure 24/7 security is maintained until CCTV is installed.  
Survey the cemetery boundary wall to see if it can be raised to prevent unauthorised access.  
Meet with the newly formed St. Catherine's Cemetery Kilcully Community Action Group to address their concerns and recommendations.  
Support where possible the families affected by vandalism to the graves of loved ones.'

(Proposer: Cllr. T. Gould 20/041)

An Chomhairle discussed the vandalism that occurred on 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2020, at St. Catherine's cemetery, Kilcully, and raised a number of queries to which the Director of Operations responded.

On the proposal of Comhairleoir T. Fitzgerald, An Chomhairle agreed that a special joint meeting of the North East and North West Local Area Committees would be held on Monday 20<sup>th</sup> January 2020 to further discuss the matter, to which the Gardaí and representatives of the families affected would be invited.

#### **SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS**

On the proposal of Comhairleoir S. Martin, seconded by Comhairleoir T. Moloney, An Chomhairle agreed to suspend Standing Orders to continue the meeting past 8pm.

#### 9. **ARTS GRANTS 2020**

On the proposal of Comhairleoir D. Boyle, seconded by Comhairleoir S. Martin, An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Director of Services, Community, Culture and Placemaking dated, 9<sup>th</sup> December 2019 on Arts Grants 2020.

#### 10. **CORPORATE POLICY GROUP – 6<sup>th</sup> JANUARY 2020**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the minutes of the Corporate Policy Group from its meeting held, 6<sup>th</sup> January 2020.

#### 10.1 **FINANCIAL STATEMENTS TO 30<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER 2019**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the Financial Statements to 30<sup>th</sup> November 2019.

#### 11. **ROADS & TRANSPORTATION STRATEGIC POLICY COMMITTEE – 16<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER 2019**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the minutes of the Roads and Transportation Strategic Policy Committee from its meeting held, 16<sup>th</sup> December 2019.

11.1 **MOTIONS REFERRED TO THE COMMITTEE**

11.1.1 **RESIDENTIAL PERMIT PARKING IN THE VICINITY OF THE DOCKLANDS**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the report of the Director of Operations, dated 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2019 on the following motion referred to the Committee:-

‘That, in order to prevent unwanted on-street parking in the vicinity of city and docklands developments with reduced or no parking provision, Cork City Council will (a) introduce residential permit parking for pre-existing residents on streets in the vicinity of these developments and (b) require the developer/management company of these developments to make contributions towards the implementation and on-going costs of the enforcement of parking regulations in the vicinity of these developments.’

(Proposer: Cllr. O. Moran 19/413)

The report of the Director of Operations stated that parking space is a scarce resource and balanced between the competing needs of residents, businesses, visitors, the disabled and public transport providers. Parking Management is controlled through a combination of pricing, time restrictions and enforcement to achieve a number of objectives:

- Maximise space turnover;
- Accommodate all-day commuters in the Park & Ride site
- Reflect the parking needs of residents within the Pay Parking Control Zone
- Reflect the need for Disabled Parking, Loading Bays and Taxi Ranks

Maintaining the turnover of on street spaces to ensure optimum availability of parking in the city is one of the main aims of the enforcement regime.

To reflect the needs of residents within the Pay Parking Area, Cork City Council operates a Resident’s Parking Permit Scheme as prescribed in Cork City Council Parking Bye-Laws 2016 and in accordance with the Residents Permit Policy of Cork City Council. A resident who is the owner of a vehicle and who lives in a pay parking area can apply to Cork City Council for a Parking Permit, which allows the vehicle to be parked without limitation as to time in a specified area to which the permit relates, and the application will be determined in accordance with the Bye-Laws and Policy. Public roads may not be allocated to or assigned for residential permit parking only.

Cork City Council has no power to request developers / management companies to contribute to the implementation and on-going maintenance costs of the enforcement of parking regulations.

11.1.2 **REINSTATING ROADS AND FOOTPATHS AFTER WATER WORKS**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the report of the Director of Operations, dated 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2019 on the following motion referred to the Committee:-

‘That Cork City Council work in tandem with Irish Water and pool resources when reinstating the roads and footpaths after water works. We should also collaborate when reinstating road paintings and markings.’

(Proposer: Cllr. S. Martin 19/167)

The report of the Director of Operations stated that Irish Water are required by the conditions of their road opening licences to comply fully with the standards laid down in the ‘Guidelines for the Managing Openings in Public Roads’ published by the Dept of Transport, Tourism and Sport. This document outlines the requirements for temporary and permanent reinstatement of public roads and footpaths including road markings.

12. **HOUSING STRATEGIC POLICY COMMITTEE – 16<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER 2019**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the minutes of the Housing Strategic Policy Committee from its meeting held, 16<sup>th</sup> December 2019.

12.1 **MONTHLY REPORT ON HOUSING**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Director of Housing for October 2019.

12.2 **MOTIONS**

12.2.1 **SOCIAL HOUSING DEVELOPMENT**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Director of Housing dated 12<sup>th</sup> December, 2019 on the following motion referred to the Committee:-

‘That Cork City Council will report on the progress of social housing developments that have received Part 8 planning approval since 2014 indicating completion timelines for schemes underway.’

(Proposer: Cllr. F. Kerins 19/450)

The report of the Director of Housing stated:-

<b>PROJECT</b>	<b>PART 8 APPROVAL</b>	<b>PROGRESS</b>
BOYCES STREET	2018	Construction has commenced with phased completion planned over 3 years.
DEANROCK	2016	Housing construction due for practical completion at the end of 2019.
GERALD GRIFFIN APARTMENTS	2016	Enabling works completed. Housing construction to commence on site in 2020, with completion due in 2021.
SHANDON STREET/JOHN PHILPOTT STREET	2018	Works have commenced on site, with practical completion due in 2020.
TRAMORE ROAD	2017	Housing completed.
HIGH STREET	2017	Housing construction due for practical completion at the end of 2019.
WOODS STREET	2017	Probate issues delayed project, to commence construction Q1 2020.
BARRACK STREET	2017	Probate issues delayed project, to commence construction Q1 2020.
ARUS MHUIRE	2017	Housing completed and occupied. Won national awards.
FARRANREE	2017	Housing construction due for practical completion early 2020.
WHITE STREET	2017	Housing construction due for practical completion at the end of 2019.
BLARNEY STREET	2017	Housing construction due for practical completion at the end of 2019.
ST. JOHN'S WELL	2017	Housing construction due for practical completion at the end of 2019.
BALLINURE ROAD	2019	Works have commenced on site, with completion due in 2020.
SPRINGVILLE HOUSE	2019	Works due to commence on site, with completion due in 2021.
CNWQR PHASE 1B	2015	Housing completed.
CNWQR PHASE 2A	2017	Housing construction due for practical completion at the end of 2019.
CNWQR PHASE 2B	2018	Works due to commence on site in 2020, with completion due in 2021.
CNWQR PHASE 1C	2018	Works due to commence on site in 2020, with completion due in 2021.
CNWQR PHASE 2C	2018	Works have commenced on site, with completion due in 2020.

## 12.2.2 **REVIEW OF CBL PROCESS**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Director of Housing dated 12<sup>th</sup> December 2019 on the following motion referred to the Committee:-

‘That City Council Housing Dept. would review the CBL process in relation to informing housing applicants bidding for properties on this site.

Reasons for this is that applicants are bidding on properties but not going through the whole process because when they put the property in the basket they then assume that it’s logged and sign out.’

(Proposer: Cllr. H. Cremin 19/508)

The report of the Director of Housing stated that, similar to the procedure for online shopping, users of the CBL system should proceed to checkout to complete the bidding process.

Housing will check with the designers of the CBL system as to whether it would be possible to warn users when they have not completed the process and, if so, such an upgrade will be actioned.

In the meantime, users should contact the Allocations Section as usual for support and assistance, if required, with this or any other aspect of the system.

## 13. **STRATEGIC AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND PLANNING STRATEGIC POLICY COMMITTEE - 16<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER 2019**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the minutes of the Strategic, Economic Development, Enterprise and Planning Strategic Policy Committee from its meeting held, 16<sup>th</sup> December 2019.

### 13.1 **MOTIONS**

#### 13.1.1 **PROVISION OF SCHOOL PLACES IN AREAS OF POPULATION GROWTH**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the report of the Director of Services, Strategic and Economic Development dated 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2019 on the following motion referred to the Committee:-

‘That Cork City Council would work with the Department of Education in relation to the provision of school places in areas of population growth such as Ballincollig.’

(Proposer: Cllr. C. Finn 19/479)

The report of the Director of Services stated that a meeting between Cork City Council and representatives of the Department of Education took place on November 14th in relation to the provision of new school sites. The discussions focused primarily on Ballincollig but also school provision in other areas of the city was also discussed. A number of options were reviewed and new prospective sites were outlined to the Department of Education and Skills.

It was agreed that the Department of Education and Skills would furnish Cork City Council with a list of areas with high demand for new schools and that both parties would meet on a regular basis to discuss same and appraise prospective sites.

In the interim Cork City Council will endeavour to identify additional suitable sites as part of the Development Plan preparation process.

### 13.1.2 **ZONING LAND FOR EDUCATIONAL USE**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the report of the Director of Services, Strategic and Economic Development dated 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2019 on the following motion referred to the Committee:-

‘Given the extremely long waiting lists for ASD classes in local primary and secondary schools and the serious shortage of special schools in Cork, that Cork City Council ensure that, in the City Development Plan, a particular emphasis is placed on zoning land for educational use.’

(Proposer: Cllr. S. O’Callaghan19/511)

The report of the Director of Services stated that the provision of schools is an integral element of the social and community requirements of an area and the Planning Authority endeavours to make provision for schools as part of its land use planning policy.

A meeting between Cork City Council and representatives of the Department of Education took place on 14th November, 2019 in relation to the provision of new school sites in Cork City.

It was agreed that the Department of Education would furnish Cork City Council with a list of areas with high demand for new schools and that both parties would meet on a regular basis to discuss same and appraise prospective sites.

In the interim Cork City Council will endeavour to identify additional suitable sites as part of the Development Plan preparation process.

13.2 **MOTIONS HELD IN COMMITTEE**

13.2.1 **FORMER GARDA STATION AT MACCURTAIN STREET**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the reports of the Director of Services, Corporate Affairs and International Relations dated, 4<sup>th</sup> April 2019 and 8<sup>th</sup> October 2019 on the following motion referred to the Committee:-

‘Can the City Council report if there any plans for the long vacant former Garda Station at MacCurtain St., Cork? If not perhaps the Council could engage the Department of Justice to request that building be gifted or made available to the Council for public use, with a community dividend, in a key area of Cork City for tourism, business and other interests. One proposal could be that the building be an offshoot of the Cork Public Museum during the 'Decade of Centenaries' period which would be significant on a street named after former Ard-Mhéara Tomás MacCurtáin.’

(Proposer: Cllr. M. Nugent 19/134)

The reports of the Director of Services stated that the property at 58 MacCurtain Street is in the control of the Office of Public Works, having previously been used as a Garda Station. The property has not been in use for a number of years, and some reconfiguration and refurbishment will be required to bring the building back to active use. It is clear that substantial capital and revenue investment will be required. Previously, some private interest was expressed to develop the property for tourism purposes and the City Council engaged with the Office of Public Works in relation to same. The Property Department has again been in contact with the Office of Public Works requesting that the property would be brought forward for disposal to enable it to be brought back to active use. A further report will issue outlining any progress in this regard. (4<sup>th</sup> April 2019)

There is no further update. (8<sup>th</sup> October 2019)

Property has been sold, confirmed by Linsey’s Auctioneers (10<sup>th</sup> December 2019).

13.3 **ANY OTHER BUSINESS/ DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the report of the Director of Services, Strategic and Economic Development outlining the City Development Plan review process, the indicative work program and timescales involved.

14. **CLIMATE ACTION COMMITTEE - 9<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER 2019**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the minutes of the Climate Action Committee from its meeting held, 9th December 2019.



15. **FINANCE & ESTIMATES COMMITTEE – 6<sup>th</sup> JANUARY 2020**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the minutes of the Finance and Estimates Committee from its meeting held, 6<sup>th</sup> January 2020.

15.1 **FINANCE RELATED REPORTS**

15.1.1 Financial Statements to end of November 2019 (excluding EBA)

15.1.2 Financial Statements for Extended Boundary Area (EBA) to end of November 2019

An Chomhairle considered and approved the Financial Statements to end of November 2019.

15.2 **PROPERTY DISPOSALS**

An Chomhairle considered the report of the Chief Executive dated 2<sup>nd</sup> January, 2020 in relation to the following disposal: -

Disposal of a plot of ground situated adjacent to No. 245, Old Youghal Road, Cork to Mark Fox c/o Joyce & Co. Solicitors, No. 9, Washington Street West, Cork for nil consideration with each party to bear their own costs in this transaction.

On the proposal of Comhairleoir K. McCarthy, seconded by Comhairleoir S. Martin, An Chomhairle approved the disposal.

16. **CORRESPONDENCE**

An Chomhairle noted correspondence as follows:-

- Email from the Minister for Health dated 8<sup>th</sup> January 2020.
- Letter to the Minister for Health dated 5<sup>th</sup> December 2019.
- Letter from the Regional Operations Manager, Bus Éireann dated 7<sup>th</sup> January 2020.
- Letter to the Managing Director, Bus Éireann dated 11<sup>th</sup> December 2019.
- Letter from the Regional Operations Manager, Bus Éireann dated 7<sup>th</sup> January 2020.
- Letter to the Managing Director, Bus Éireann dated 9<sup>th</sup> October 2019.
- Letter from Westmeath County Council dated 19<sup>th</sup> December 2019.
- Letter from Westmeath County Council dated 19<sup>th</sup> December 2019.
- Letter from Kerry County Council dated 17<sup>th</sup> December 2019.
- Letter from Monaghan County Council dated 16<sup>th</sup> December 2019.
- Letter from the Minister for Housing, Planning and Local government dated 16<sup>th</sup> December 2019.
- Letter to the Minister for Housing, Planning and Local government dated 11<sup>th</sup> December 2019.
- Letter from the Office of the Taoiseach dated 13<sup>th</sup> December 2019.
- Letter to the Office of the Taoiseach dated 5<sup>th</sup> December 2019.

- Email from the National Transport Authority dated 20<sup>th</sup> December 2019.
- Letter from the Minister of Transport, Tourism and Sport dated 11<sup>th</sup> December 2019.
- Letter to the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport dated 9<sup>th</sup> October 2019.
- Letter to Mr. Tom Barry, Transition Manager, Oversight Committee dated 6<sup>th</sup> December 2019.
- Letter from Laois County Council dated 4<sup>th</sup> December 2019.
- Letter to the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport dated 9<sup>th</sup> October 2019.
- Letter from the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport dated 11<sup>th</sup> December 2019.

17. **CONFERENCE/SEMINAR SUMMARIES**

An Chomhairle noted Conferences/Seminars summaries as follows:-

- Comhairleoir T. Shannon at the Managing Better-Support & Advice for Trustees of Not for Profit Organisations held at the Iontas Arts and Community Resource Centre, Castleblayney, Co. Monaghan on the 12<sup>th</sup> November 2019.
- Comhairleoir D. Boyle at the Environmental Pillar, Climate and Biodiversity Workshop held at the Wood Quay Event Centre, Dublin on the 4<sup>th</sup> December 2019.

18. **CONFERENCES/SEMINARS**

None received.

19. **TRAINING**

An Chomhairle approved attendance at training as follows:-

- Comhairleoir D. Boyle at AILG Module 1 training, GDPR – An updated briefing for Elected Members on the operation and implications of GDPR to be held at the Hotel Kilkenny, College Road, Kilkenny on the 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2020.
- Comhairleoir C. Finn at AILG Module 2 training, The Development Plan Making Process – A briefing for Elected Members to be held at Dooley’s Hotel, The Quay, Waterford on the 15<sup>th</sup> February 2020.

**ATTENDANCE AT TRAINING AND CONFERENCES**

On the proposal of Comhairleoir T. Shannon, seconded by Comhairleoir S. Martin, An Chomhairle approved the attendance of members at Association of Irish Local Government (AILG) and Local Authority Members Association (LAMA) training and conferences for 2020.

20. **MOTIONS REFERRED TO COMMITTEES**

An Chomhairle considered and 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.

21. **MOTIONS**

21.1 **SAFETY OF 5G**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the following motion:-

‘I am asking Cork City Council to conduct a detailed report into the safety of 5G. People are extremely worried and voicing their concerns about the harmful effects of radiation. Concerns must be addressed as there could be implications for the public. I call on this Council to support a report and alleviate the concerns of the public of this City.’

(Proposer: Cllr. T. Moloney 19/537)

21.2 **BUS SERVICES**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the following motion:-

‘That this Council request the manager of Bus Éireann, Cork to come to meet with City Councillors and executive to discuss all matters relating to bus services, in particular the 207, 216, digital alerts and other issues.’

(Proposer: Cllr. D. Forde 19/538)

21.3 **BROADBAND PROVISION**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the following motion:-

‘Because the lack of fixed line broadband in various areas in Cork remains an issue of concern and frustration for residents, it is now over THREE years since this issue was raised with Eir and as yet we are no closer to having broadband installed. I call on City Council to urgently bring senior representatives of EIR in to discuss the issue with Councillors to clarify and update us on the situation.19546

The fact that broadband is supplied in other apartments and estates in the area only further exasperates the situation.

Fibre optic cables are in place but as of now have not been activated despite countless requests to Eir/OpenEir/KN Networks to do so.’

(Proposer: Cllr. D. Forde 19/546)

21.4 **EXPRESSION OF SOLIDARITY WITH THE PEOPLE OF AUSTRALIA**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the following motion:-

‘That this Council express solidarity with the people of Australia on enduring a climate change induced series of bush fires engulfing the country; realising the scale of action all of us on this planet need to undertake to stem and reverse future catastrophic events.

(Proposer: Cllr. D. Boyle 20/022)

21.5 **CALL ON GOVERNMENT TO REVERSE RETIREMENT AGE**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the following motion:-

‘That Cork City Council call on the Government to reverse the retirement age from 66 years back to 65 years. Forcing 65 year old people on to a jobseekers payment for one year before accessing their State Pension at 66 years is wrong and from next year the retirement age will increase to 67 years and this should also be stopped.’

(Proposer: Cllr. T. Gould 20/029)

21.6 **NORTHERN RING ROAD**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the following motion:-

‘That Cork City Council would write to the Government to protest the announcement that there will be no progress on the Northern Ring Road until after 2027. That the Northern Ring is a vital piece of infrastructure for Cork City and needs to be advanced immediately.’

(Proposer: Cllr. T. Gould 20/030)

21.7 **INTEGRATED BUS SERVICE**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the following motion:-

‘That Cork City Council would request a meeting with the Minister for Transport, Bus Éireann and the National Transport Authority to secure the resources to put in place a proper integrated bus service for the new areas that are now part of the extended Cork City.’

(Proposer: Cllr. T. Gould 20/031)