

Q.16 COUNCILLOR DERMOT LACEY

E&T To ask the Chief Executive:

- a) Which drains are the most important in relieving the volume of floodwater off the Sandymount and Merrion land area back to sea/river outflow?
- b) Out of the long list of Drains and Gullies which of them receive the highest priority maintenance to ensure that they are "not blocked"? i.e. Is there a prioritisation schedule?
- c) Do you have the flood risk hot spots mapped?

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

- a) Mainly combined piped network system which goes to Ringsend Wastewater Treatment Plant so in Irish Water's area of responsibility. The majority of the gullies drain to the combined network, however some on Strand Road drain to the sea.
- b) Some would be checked more often than others, such as St Johns Road in Sandymount, due to historical flooding issues.
- c) These are mainly shown on OPW tidal, and pluvial flood maps, extracts attached. These are available on the new OPW web-site floodinfo.ie. Projects are being developed to protect the tidal areas most at risk. Flood Defences on the Dodder now protect the fluvial risk in this area up to the 200 year flood event plus 300mm freeboard plus an allowance for global warming. The Drainage Division know from experience which areas to attend to first during a flood. The preparation and response to a tidal flood is often different to that of a pluvial flood.

With regard to gully cleaning in response to a)-c) above, the normal gully cleaning frequency Citywide is once per 12-18 months. However, the gullies along the Sandymount & Merrion coastal area are scheduled to be cleaned 3 to 4 times per year. In addition to this, there are particular gullies that are cleaned even more frequently than that. Furthermore, if tidal flooding is predicted then the gully cleaning crews are mobilised to the coastal areas of the City in advance to carry out gully cleaning works.

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