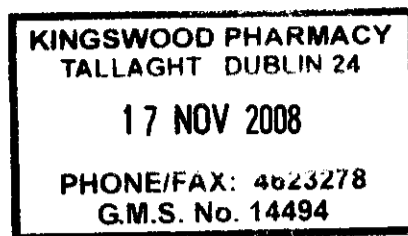


Alison Rooney
Senior Staff Officer
Housing Administration
South Dublin County Council
17th November 2008.



RE: Letter of 10th November 2008.

Dear Alison,

Thank you for your letter of 10th November 2008. I am in full agreement with your committee's recommendation that remedial works are urgently needed for the shopping centre in Kingswood. Presently I am trying to have works organised to repair the pot holes that exist in the car park area as a matter of urgency, and also in conjunction with Gerard Murphy, of the Centra store, to repair the paving at either end of the block of shops to make it safe for pedestrians.

In the medium term the drains will need to be unblocked and the whole car park, and access roads, will need to be resurfaced. Given the discussions taking place about redeveloping the whole site, the chances of a major investment in the present centre are small. Short term repairs and maintenance might be the most that can be expected.

The centre is not in an acceptable state and it behoves us to improve it to make it acceptable. After all the local population support the centre and they deserve better than that which the centre has become. I am hopeful that a redevelopment will take place which will make the centre a deserving focal point for a fine community. Until then I would hope that my fellow traders will see the need to keep the centre safe and secure and maintained properly.

With respect to litter, again I am frustrated, as my pharmacy, which contributes nothing to the litter problem, is being tarred with the same brush as other shops which produce volumes of litter. In the past I was fined by a litter warden for having take away papers at my shutter!

The rear of the shops needs to be walled off and gated and have limited goods access. The drains need to be cleared also and the road mended.

Generally I am disappointed at the tardiness that seems to be abroad with respect to fixing things when they so clearly need fixing. Potholes, poor lighting and litter are areas that you draw attention to, I could add loitering, dumping of waste and burned out cars, dangerous driving, shoplifting and general law and order problems. While I accept that your remit does not extend to these areas, they do combine to bring down the tone of the centre generally and cast it in a poor light. I am always anxious to be pro-active in regard to trying to fix things. It concerns me that others are not so anxious. I wish they were, as I feel that what is good for the centre is good for the businesses therein.

~~I will be in touch again hopefully with at least some remedial news.~~

Yours Sincerely

Robert Best BSc(PHARM) MPSI

17th November 2008.