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3<sup>rd</sup> March 2025

**Ref: Item 85766 January 2025 Lucan, Palmerstown and North Clondalkin ACM**

Dear Ms Sinclair,

I refer to your correspondence dated 6<sup>th</sup> February 2025 in relation to a motion passed at a recent meeting of the Lucan, Palmerstown and North Clondalkin Area Committee meeting.

By way of information in late 2021, the NTA commenced a project with our bus shelter contractor to install and enhance illumination at bus shelters in order to achieve a consistent and satisfactory lighting level in all bus shelters. The aim was to achieve as close as possible to 100% illumination across the entire shelter programme. However, this may not be entirely achievable. Many bus shelters were connected to the public lighting system on streets/roads in the past. Under regulations governing electricity distribution, this is no longer permitted. Local Authorities have been disconnecting bus shelters from their networks as they upgrade their general public lighting systems. The solar powered system utilises a solar panel on the roof of the bus shelter, linked to a battery pack which is also mounted on the roof, and a new, more efficient, and brighter courtesy light. This solar powered solution has now been installed at approximately half of the bus shelters without power, across the State.

The Bus Shelter located at stop no. 4627 is one of those shelters, having previously been connected to the network in the past, it was selected for a solar power solution.

In response to your recent correspondence of 6<sup>th</sup> February 2025, we requested our bus shelter contractor to tend to the matter. Our contractor's electrician visited the shelter on 17<sup>th</sup> February 2025, to assess if there was any issue with the lighting unit. The electrician confirmed that the courtesy light on this shelter was fully operational. When the electrician covered the photocell (to mimic dusk conditions), the courtesy light came on. While on site the electrician also checked the solar panel on the roof of the shelter and confirmed that it was clean, and everything was working with no issues.

Additionally, our bus shelter contractor cleaned the solar panel at this location last October. With solar installations, it's important that the solar panels are cleaned regularly to ensure efficient battery re-charging.

On a review of the service records, we note that issues with the lighting at the shelter were reported on 4th and 15th December 2023, and again on 20th February 2024. In response on each reported incident we requested our bus shelter contractor, to tend to the necessary repairs, to ensure that the lighting was repaired and fully operational. Our shelter contractor confirmed that they visited the shelter location on all three occasions and confirmed in response that the lighting unit was fully operational at the shelter location.

With regard to *“the potential reasons for these recurring issues”*, it maybe the case that that members of the public see the older courtesy light in the centre of the roof not lighting and arrive at the conclusion that it should be lighting, while shelter illumination is in fact provided from the new light fitting in the corner between the rear shelter wall and the shelter roof. Failing that rationale it has also been our experience in the past, in some instances, where shelters are routinely cleaned and/or repaired, and those specific shelters can subsequently suffer repeated graffiti attacks and/or acts of vandalism shortly after cleaning and/or repairs. Unfortunately, these events are outside of the control of the NTA. Regrettably it is not possible to police for acts of vandalism, technical failures, and road traffic accidents (RTAs). The NTA and our bus shelter contractor both endeavour to respond in a timely manner to complete the necessary repairs on each occasion once contact has been made with the NTA to report any ongoing issues with shelters.

I trust that the above is of assistance.

Yours sincerely,



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Hugh Creegan,  
Chief Executive (Interim)