

12th June 2017

Report to Central Area Joint Policing Committee 19th June 2017

Community Impact Assessment

As indicated in last report our first presentation was made to Fingal J.P.C. 26th May 2017. The presentation was received favourably. The next scheduled presentation is to Central Area J.P.C. today 19th June 2017 followed by South Central J.P.C. 25th September 2017. In the meantime we are meeting regularly in order to finalise questionnaire which will be used to gather relevant information on impacts of criminal/anti-social behaviour on communities in specific areas.

NEIC Halloween Festival 2017

Under the auspices of Dublin Inner City Community Co-Op a Festival Steering Committee has been established with representation from various groups including CPF, and representation from DCC and Gardaí. Recognising the need to engage young people, particularly those who engage with anti-social behaviour, we have established a sub-group of young people lead by youth workers tasked with identification of events that will engage young people and providing inputs into all aspects of festival. Thanks to funding from DCC we have appointed a festival co-ordinator who will have overall responsibility for co-ordinating events leading up to Halloween and Halloween itself. This will be achieved through consultation with all groups involved.

Beacon Fire

There was a proposal from the Halloween Festival Teenage Youth Forum to have two beacon fires, which are environmentally safe bonfires, late July/mid-August and on Halloween night. DCC, Gardaí and fire service have discussed the feasibility of such event and have agreed in principle to consider the proposal at the Halloween Festival only, strictly on a trial basis. However they have indicated they further consideration and discussion is required on a number of issues particularly with youth groups, before final approval will be granted. This request will be facilitated in due course through the Steering Committee Structure.

N.I.C. Community Coalition

At the recent meeting of coalition participants those attending expressed a degree of disappointment at the lack of progress in appointing independent executive chair. We understand from convenors that an interim arrangement will be put in place shortly to progress Mulvey report.

Gardaí Initiative

Gardaí have made available a patrol car for the area. Part of its remit is to respond in real time to issues that occur and are reported to Gardaí and is available most days. The community see this as a positive development and it is having some success in reducing and disrupting the open dealing of tablets and other illegal substances in the area. That being said the levels of prescription drugs being sold openly remains high. Community are hopeful that the commencement of legislation governing the sale of prescription drugs will strengthen the capacity of Gardaí to effect prosecutions and this in turn will act as a deterrent to those contemplating engaging in this activity and remove from the street those already involved.

Peter O'Connor,
North East Inner City Community Policing Forum