

5th December 2017

Report to Central Area Joint Policing Committee 11th December 2017

Halloween Period

The Beacon Fire, the first ever in the Republic, was held Friday 13th October on Railway Street. The event was well attended by local residents both young and old despite the inclement weather. There was positive interaction between Gardaí and local residents and the event went off without incident.

A number of Halloween events targeting young people were organised in consultation with young people and youth projects. These were very successful and fostered positive relationships with young people across the area.

Three lead in events, Sean Mc Dermott Street/Sheriff Street/Ballybough were very well attended and proved very popular.

The main event took place on Monday 31st October on Killarney Street. A large number of residents from new communities' attended. Garda presence was low key and they interacted positively with those attending. The event went off without incident.

Included in terms and conditions associated with funding it is agreed to conduct an evaluation on all aspect of events. This is currently in process and will be concluded shortly.

Over all Gardaí have indicated that this year's Halloween was very positive and levels of anti-social behaviour were reduced significantly in comparison to previous years.

On behalf of the organising Committee we wish to express our appreciation to DCC, Fire Service and Gardaí for their support and participation with all aspects covering these events.

Community Impact Assessment

The two measures relating to Community Impact Assessments and to Community Impact Statements are now action items in the Drug Strategy. The pilot is to be led by the Community and Voluntary representatives –i.e. Citywide. It is set to run for no more than 18 months. The statement action requires a legislative change and is with the inspectorate report implementation committee within A.G.S.

We have proposed a number of areas within the agreed pilot areas and a final decision is expected prior to Christmas. Once confirmed and agreed it is envisaged work will commence early in the New Year.

Community Activity

We continue to meet regularly with local groups and projects. Illegal sale of tablets remains a major concern. Anecdotally residents have indicated that heroin and crack cocaine are widely available. To that end Ana Liffey Drug Project are launching a new evidence based Crack campaign, supported by N.I.C.D.&A.T.F. Local residents and projects engaging with C.P.F. have acknowledged attempts by Gardaí and DCC and other housing associations in dealing with all aspects of criminal activity.

**Peter O'Connor,
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