

From: Brendan McNicholas

Sent: 08 January 2019 15:18

To: Karen Munds <karen.munds@dublincity.ie>

Subject: RE: JPC - Incident on Halloween night on the green between Howth View Park and St Donagh's

Hi Karen,

In general, Dublin Fire Brigade has a very good relationship with An Garda Síochána.

Your question specifically refers to incidents that occur around Hallow'een. It is important to remember that, in the Dublin area, Hallow'een has some cultural significance typically manifested by groups of individuals holding bonfires. In the main, most of these will pass without incident. Where members of the public are worried and call 999/112, Dublin Fire Brigade will respond appropriately. This will include a District Officer who will travel to the incident location to assess the fire. If the fire is endangering life or property, the District Officer will instruct Dublin Fire Brigade crews to extinguish the fire and make the area safe. If there is no danger to life or property, the District Officer may decide not to take any action at that time.

Officers at various levels from Dublin Fire Brigade and An Garda Síochána meet on a regular basis throughout the year to discuss issues of mutual interest. In relation to Hallow'een, the local DFB District Officer, supported by the DFB Third Officer, would have arranged a meeting with the relevant Garda Inspector well beforehand. Where An Garda Síochána have intelligence to suggest anticipated antisocial activities in a particular area, they will notify the District Officer and discuss possible responses. These might include;

- Taking no action provided there is no danger to life or property
- Taking no action at the time but returning later after antisocial activity has ceased
- Taking action under the protection of An Garda Síochána

It is normal to find that Hallow'een revelry begins to quieten down around 01:30 or 02:00. At that time, Dublin Fire Brigade and An Garda Síochána will consult, identify ongoing fires and take appropriate action.

In all cases the Officer in Charge of the Dublin Fire Brigade response will prioritise the safety of his/her crew. In cases where large groups have congregated, such as that noted by Cllr Brabazon, the Officer in Charge might well decide to retreat to a safe location and await the arrival of members of An Garda Síochána before taking action.

We will ensure discussions with An Garda Síochána in relation to Hallow'een 2019 include assessments on activities near the green between Howth View Park and St Donagh's.

If you require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Brendan McNicholas

Tríú hOifigeach/Third Officer

Operations (North) | CISM | Development | Resource Management

Oibríochtaí (Thuaidh) | BSTC | Forbairt | Bainistíocht Acmhainní



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