

**The Chairman and Members of
North West Area Committee.**

Meeting: 19th May 2020

Item No: 2

Finglas Area Office Report

HOUSING (Jan-Apr)

Estate Management

No of Anti-social complaints per 1997 Act Drug Related	27
No of Anti-social complaints per 1997 Act <u>Not</u> Drug Related	12
No of other Complaints	112
Total Complaints	151

No of Anti-Social Interviews per 1997 Act	10
No of Other Interviews	88
Total Interviews	98

No of Requests for mediation	1
No of Complaints referred to central unit for Action	8
No of Section 20 referrals	0
No of excluding Orders applied for by Tenant	0
No of Excluding orders applied for by DCC	0
No of surrender of Tenancies due to Anti-Social Behaviour	1

No of possession application sent to Central Unit	3
No of Court Orders Granted	0
No of Appeals / Judicial Reviews Challenges	0
No of Warrants executed (Evictions)	0

Housing Allocations

Housing & Apartments			
Category	Housing	Transfers	Choice Based Letting
Bands 2 & 3	5	6	3
Medical	0	0	
Welfare	0	0	
Homeless	9	0	
Travellers	1	0	
Transfer HAP	0	1	1
De-tenanting	0	0	
Estate Management	0	0	
Maintenance Grounds	0	1	
Surrendering Larger	0	0	
Unable to afford	0	0	
Succession	2	0	
Total	17	8	4

Senior Citizens			
Category	Housing	Transfers	Choice Based Letting
Bands 2 & 3	0	0	
Medical	0	0	
Welfare	0	0	
Homeless	7	0	
Transfer HAP	0	0	
Travellers	0	0	
Estate Management	0	0	
De-tenanting	0	1	
Maintenance Grounds	0	0	
Surrendering Larger	0	0	
Unable to afford	0	0	
Financial Contribution	1	0	
Total	8	1	0

Voids Report

Vacant Housing Units (32)			
Address	Type of unit	Date of vacancy	Remarks
Abbotstown Road	3 bed house	29/02/2020	Works in progress
Ballygall Crescent	3 bed house	12/06/2019	Works in progress
Ballygall Parade	2 bed Maisonette	23/01/2020	Works in progress
Ballygall Parade	2 bed Maisonette	02/02/2020	Works in Progress
Ballygall Parade	2 bed Maisonette	14/04/2020	Works in Progress
Ballygall Parade	2 bed Maisonette	17/07/2019	Works in progress/on offer
Ballygall Parade	2 bed Maisonette	19/12/2019	Works in progress
Ballygall Parade	2 bed Maisonette	17/03/2019	Works in progress
Ballygall Parade	3 bed house	29/01/2020	Works in progress
Barnamore Park	3 bed House	30/11/2019	Works in progress/on offer
Berryfield Drive	3 bed house	18/12/2019	Works in progress
Berryfield Drive	3 bed house	16/12/2019	Works in progress
Berryfield Road	3 bed House	18/03/2020	Works in progress
Carrigallen Park	5 bed house	22/07/2019	Works in progress / On offer
Casement Grove	2 bed house	05/02/2020	Works in progress
Cloonlara Cres	4 bed house	17/12/2019	Works in progress
Cloonlara Drive	3 bed house	04/10/2019	Works in progress
Cloonlara Road	3 bed house	13/03/2020	Works in progress
Glasanaon Road	2 bed house	20/03/2020	Works in progress
Glasanaon Road	3 bed house	16/12/2019	Works in progress
Grove Park Road	3 bed house	25/06/2019	Works in progress / On offer

Hazelcroft Gardens	3 bed house	17/06/2019	Works in progress
Hazelcroft Road	3 bed house	17/12/2019	Works in progress
Kippure Park	4 bed house	10/03/2020	Works in progress
Mellowes Road	3 bed house	23/12/2019	Works in progress / On offer
Plunkett Crescent	3 bed house	30/01/2020	Works in progress
Ratoath Drive	3 bed house	06/09/2019	Works in progress / On offer
The Botanic	2 bed Apt	22/11/2019	Works in progress
The Tolka	2 bed Apt	21/03/2019	Works in progress
Valeview Drive	3 bed house	23/12/2019	Works in progress
Wellmount Crescent	3 bed house	20/02/2020	Works in progress
Westwood Avenue	2 bed house	22/08/2019	Works in progress / On offer

Vacant Senior Citizens Units (4)			
Address	Type of Unit	Date of vacancy	Remarks
Glasanaon Court	Bedsit	01/10/2018	Works in progress
Glasanaon Court	Bedsit	27/06/2019	Works in progress
Glasaree Court	1 bed	30/03/2020	Works in progress
Mellowes Court	Bedsit	13/05/2019	Works in progress

Choice Based Lettings:

19 Cloonlara Drive and 21 Hazelcroft Road have been advertised under the Choice Based Letting scheme with a closing date of 22nd May.

Rents Update

The Finglas Area Office continues to provide a rent assessment service for tenants living in the Finglas area.

Finglas Rent Assessment Update 1st Jan- 30th April	
Assessments	423
Permission to Resides	15
Refunds	9

GENERAL MATTERS

Area office response to Covid-19

Although the office is closed to the public services continue to be professionally delivered by staff, some working from the office and others working from home. The senior Area Office team meets weekly and respond to the evolving situation. Plans and actions are regularly adjusted to provide the most appropriate response to the community needs and government direction.

Bus Connects

The current round of non-statutory public consultation on Bus Connects was due to have a number of community meetings and briefing session. Unfortunately, due to the Covid-19 pandemic, they have all had to be suspended. Therefore, the NTA closed off the current consultation process on the 17th of April. The NTA has provisionally scheduled a further round of non-statutory public consultations for September but these may be pushed back further.

Finglas Area Office Estate Enhancement Scheme 2020

Community & Social Development (CSDS) and Public Domain Sections have contacted a number of Community Environmental Groups and Resident Associations with regard to our annual estate planting project.

Groups that express an interest in the project will receive an invitation to collect plants from Finglas Civic Centre on 3rd June. In line with current guidelines groups will be given a time slot to collect plants.

The enhancement project is always well received by the local community.

COMMUNITY & SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

Finglas featured in Poetry Day Ireland 2020

The Area Office initiative to support community arts this year reached a great conclusion with the publication last month of a fabulous book of poetry entitled "Making Sense of Finglas". The planned launch in the Mansion House had to be postponed due to the pandemic. However, readings from the book by the editor Dr. Rachael Hegarty, featured in Poetry Irelands virtual National Poetry Day on Thursday 30th April. Reaction to the readings has been very positive on Facebook and on Poetry Ireland's website. The readings are

available on Poetry Irelands YouTube page for all to see -
<https://www.youtube.com/user/poetryireland>



Postponement/Cancellation of Community Events

Due to the Covid-19 pandemic a number of community events planned for March-May had to be cancelled or postponed. Events included the Safe Event highlighting the work of Finglas Suicide & Support Network, Finglas Poetry Project 2020, Carnation Theatre Production, Flag for Finglas Project and Finglas Volunteer Night.

Other programmes and activities planned for the summer months could also face postponement or cancellation. These include Finglas Family Fun Day, Opera Night, Summer Projects and the Reclaim the Space Project.

While this is deeply disappointing we will, where possible, try to run the events later in the year or look at alternative way of running programmes once government restrictions ease.

Contact with Community Groups

The Finglas Office through CSDS has remained in contact with Community Groups in the area to assist and advise them during the current crisis. We are asking that groups, particularly those working with older adults, to support their members through phone calls or through practical measures such as shopping and collection of prescriptions etc.

Community Groups received direction not to meet or to run projects at this time as per Government instructions.

A number of Community Groups and individuals have offered assistance during the current crisis, CSDS has tried to link groups/volunteers into the appropriate service.

Community Support during the Covid 19 Pandemic

The Finglas Office through the CSDS is working to assist older people who are cocooning during the pandemic. In conjunction with Supervalu, Erin's Isle and Na Fianna GAA Clubs a number of older people are receiving assistance with their shopping and collection of prescriptions.

Volunteers from both clubs are assigned to work with 2/3 older adults. In many cases volunteers are not only collecting shopping/prescriptions but also contacting their clients on a regular basis to ensure that they have all they need or just to have a chat.

The response from local groups has been fantastic.

Raising Voices Choir

The Raising Voices Choir is not meeting at the moment. Members of the Choir are missing their regular singalong. Marion McEvoy has carried out a fantastic job by putting together a fireside singalong for members of the choir, families and friends at the following link:

https://youtu.be/IVHiGyLEd_8

Summer Projects 2020

Summer Projects usually take place in early July. The Finglas area generally holds seven projects each year. Unfortunately, due to Covid-19 it looks unlikely that Summer Projects will take place during the summer months.

Summer Projects provide a programme of events for children between 6 and 12 years old. Central to any Summer Project programme is day trips to the zoo, adventure centres, Tayto Park, leisure centres - many of which will remain closed.

Restrictions on the numbers of people who can travelling by bus will also impact greatly on the ability of groups to run programmes

All Summer Project activities face difficulties around social distancing.

Merville Court Sing-a-long

CSDS held a lunchtime sing-a-long in Merville Court on Tuesday 5th May. The sing-a-long, which lasted 45 minutes, was greatly appreciated by the residents (photographs below).

Weather permitting, CSDS will run similar events in other Sheltered Housing Complexes.

Social distancing is a key element in running this programme.



Aidan Maher
Area Manager – Finglas