

Item 5

A. Ballymun

Due to the COVID pandemic and public safety guidelines no Safer Ballymun meetings have taken place since February. Our Housing, Public Domain and Community Development teams are linking in with residents and vulnerable citizens to ensure that we continue to offer on-going support to all. We have distributed all relevant materials to our Safer Ballymun contacts via email. We've maintained regular contact with Gardaí. Our Housing Manager and Project Estate Team have continued to work closely with the local Gardaí to follow up on and investigate complaints received. We are available by appointment to meet any residents or Safer Ballymun attendees as required.

The main safety matters of concern raised over the past few months are

- Reports of drug dealing around the Courts
- Continuous begging on the Main Street mainly in the vicinity of SuperValu
- Damage to CCTV camera in Whiteacre
- Large gatherings of youths around Poppintree Parade shops

The draft Safer Ballymun Plan has been circulated to the Gardaí for their input. Further meetings will be arranged to progress same, we will endeavour to have a draft plan brought before North West Area and Joint Policing Sub Committee in quarter 1, 2021. Once the plan has been agreed it is proposed that we will commence implementing actions were possible in the current circumstances. It was previously suggested that the Safer Ballymun Steering Group is extended to include young people, we will explore how best to advance this over the coming weeks.

We are currently exploring options for future Safer Ballymun meetings if public health guidelines do not allow us to hold a meeting in the traditional way in 2021. We will contact residents who have regularly attended meetings to see if they have any suggestions. All other meetings have moved to on-line platforms such as Zoom, MS Teams and Webex however giving the sensitive nature and the requirement for confidentiality of some issues discussed at safety forums we do not think this is an appropriate way to proceed for such meetings.

It has been previously agreed that we would look at the option of engaging a Safer Ballymun Co-ordinator this process was stalled during the pandemic we will review when meetings resume. Funding will have to be identified in advance of a Safer Ballymun Co-ordinator role being advertised.

Jackie O Reilly
A/Area Manager

B. Finglas

Due to the COVID pandemic, no Finglas Safety Forum meetings have taken place since the beginning of the year. To ensure residents have ongoing support from the Finglas Safety Forum, the Coordinator continues to make contact with all residents on the Safety Forum email, address, and text confidential database with Safety Forum updates/local information as well as communicating and receiving correspondences from residents via

the Safety Forum social media platforms e.g. Facebook with safety related concerns/issues. The Finglas Safety Forum Coordinator will continue to liaise with the relevant stakeholders as per the normal Safety Forum process. Many of the issues raised have been following individual reports by residents and, in some cases, via site visits with residents on a one-to-one basis. The Finglas Safety Forum will also look at coordinating smaller meetings via zoom or other similar online platforms with representatives from respective Residents Associations groups within the area earlier next year should public Forum meetings remain prohibited in line with the restrictions in place at that time.

The following are the main policing issues raised by the community via telephone/email to the Finglas Safety Forum Coordinator over the last couple of months and more recently:

Drug paraphernalia found in Northway Park, Finglas West, and reports of drug use activity occurring at this location too.

Recently, the Finglas Safety Forum Coordinator coordinated a network site visit at Northway Park, Finglas West, with two employees from Dublin Simon Community. The site visit enabled an opportunity to geographically show Dublin Simon Community employees locations namely Northway Park where there have been a number of individuals sleeping in tents in the park and reports also received by local residents regarding drug use and drug litter/paraphernalia. The Finglas Safety Forum Coordinator, in agreement with Dublin Simon Community, is planning to assist in circulating contact details of Dublin Simon Community outreach team with the aim that residents can directly contact the outreach team who, in turn, can visit identified locations and offer/provide supports to meet the identified needs of the individual(s). The Finglas Safety Forum Coordinator continues to engage and liaise with the Outreach Case Management Worker based at Finglas Addiction Support Team about similar concerns raised from the local community. Furthermore, following a previous meeting with relevant stakeholders such as the Finglas Cabra Drug and Alcohol Task Force, Finglas Addiction Support Team, Gardaí and Dublin City Council, as per an agreed action, work undertaken by Dublin City Council involved the removal of the shrubbery along the inner wall of the park. Previously, this particular area was rather dense and, from reports by residents, had been attracting individuals as it was seen as a 'hide out' place to engage in drug use. A number of Northway residents were in contact recently via telephone to report a decrease in drug activity in the park.

Ongoing several calls received from residents in the Barry area, predominately residents residing in the Barry Close area regarding drug dealing and drug use.

Drug dealing occurring in the Barnamore Grove area, Gorbeg, Finglas South, Mellows Park and Casement Road.

Groups of teenagers engaging in anti-social behaviour activity in the Scribblestown, Finglas South area, Johnstown park and nearby estates such as Griffith Parade, Finglas East respectively e.g. intimidation, verbal abuse and vandalism. The Finglas Safety Forum Coordinator has engaged with Gardaí and the Finglas Youth Service (The Den) regarding these matters to look at a collective approach in trying to deal with the anti-social activity occurring at these locations.

Begging occurring at Cardiffsbridge Shops, Aidi and Lidl on St Margaret's Road and at Tesco's Express on Glasnevin Avenue. The Finglas Safety Forum Coordinator previously met with the Manager at Tesco's Express, Glasnevin Avenue and also spoke to a staff member on the floor to obtain further information on the level of occurrence and

possible pattern of times they were aware of individual(s) who were outside begging at the front entrance of the shop. Some residents reported some individuals were begging aggressively to customers going in and out of the shop. The Finglas Safety Forum Coordinator will continue to liaise with Gardaí and the Outreach Case Management Worker based at Finglas Addiction Support Team (FAST) with correspondences/reports received from the local community.