

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

Meeting: 16th February 2021

Item No: 3

Finglas Area Office Report

Housing Report (Jan)

Estate Management

No of Anti social complaints per 1997 Act - Drug Related	8
No of Anti social complaints per 1997 Act - <u>Not</u> Drug Related	4
No of other Complaints	32
Total Complaints	44

No of Anti-Social Interviews per 1997 Act	1
No of Other Interviews	20
Total Interviews	21

No of Requests for mediation	0
No of Complaints referred to central unit for Action	3
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	0
No of possession application sent to Central Unit	1
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 Base Letting
Bands 2 & 3	0	3	2
Medical	0	0	
Welfare	0	1	1
Homeless	0	0	
Travellers	0	0	
Transfer HAP	0	1	1
De-tenanting	0	0	
Estate Management	0	2	
Maintenance Grounds	0	3	

Surrendering Larger	0	0	
Unable to afford	0	0	
Succession	0	0	
Total	0	10	4

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

Voids Report

Vacant Housing Units (19)			
Address	Type of unit	Date of vacancy	Remarks
Barnamore Park	3 bed house	20/10/2020	Works in progress
Barnamore Grove	3 bed house	26/08/2020	Works in progress/On offer
Barry Close	3 bed house	08/01/2021	Works in progress
Barry Close	3 bed house	03/12/2020	Works in progress
Berryfield Road	3 bed house	14/01/2021	Works in progress
Cloonlara Road	2 bed house	28/09/2020	Works in progress
Deanstown Avenue	2 bed house	09/11/2020	Works in progress/On offer
Fairlawn Road	3 bed house	24/09/2020	Works in progress/On offer
Finglaswood Road	2 bed maisonette	28/01/2021	Works in progress
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Glसानाon Road	2 bed house	23/12/2020	Works in progress
Griffith Road	2 bed house	12/11/2020	Works in progress
Hazelcroft Gardens	3 bed house	17/06/2019	Works in progress
McKee Avenue	3 bed house	30/09/2020	Works in progress
Premier Square	2 bed Apt	21/01/2021	Works in progress
St. Canice's Square	1 bed Apt	12/11/2020	Works in Progress
The Botanic	2 bed Apt	22/11/2019	Issue with the building
The Tolka	2 bed Apt	21/03/2019	Issue with the building
Wellmount Crescent	3 bed house	15/10/2020	Works in progress/On offer

Vacant Senior Citizens Units (12)			
Address	Type of Unit	Date of vacancy	Remarks
Glasnaaon Court	Bedsit	24/07/2020	Works in progress/On offer
Glasaree Court	1 bed	10/04/2020	Works in progress/On offer
Glasaree Court	1 bed	30/03/2020	Works in progress / On offer
Griffith Crescent	1 bed	13/11/2020	Works in progress/On offer
Griffith Crescent	1 bed	16/11/2020	Works in progress
Mellowes Court	Bedsit	13/05/2019	Works in progress/On offer
Mellowes Court	Bedsit	07/12/2020	Being used by Maintenance
Mellowes Court	Bedsit	25/06/2019	Works in progress
Mellowes Court	1 bed	27/01/2021	Works in progress
Mellowes Court	1 bed	07/05/2020	Works in progress/On offer
Merville Court	1 bed	15/01/2021	Works in progress
Merville Court	1 bed	15/01/2021	Works in progress

Choice Based Lettings

The following dwellings have been advertised under the Choice Based Letting scheme:

- 10 Barry Close
- 22 Barry Close
- 52 Deanstown Avenue

The closing date is the 18th February.

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- 31st Jan	
Assessments	55
Permission to Resides	2
Refunds	0

GENERAL MATTERS

National Transport Authority (NTA) funding for Finglas projects

The NTA 2021 Allocations includes the following projects for Finglas:

- Finglas Village Improvement Scheme (Bus and Cycle Priority) €250,000
- Finglas Area Roundabouts Pedestrian and Cyclist Improvements €1,000,000
- Finglas to Killester Cycle Scheme €500,000

Finglas Library

The current estimated timeline for the project is as follows:

Description	No of Months	Estimated start date	Estimated finish date
Statutory Requirements/ Approvals	6	Dec-2020	May-2021
Detailed Design	2	May-2021	Jul-2021
Procurement/Tendering	2	Aug-2021	Sep-2021
Implementation/Construction	3	Sep-2021	Dec-2021
Moving-in	2	Dec-2021	Feb-2022

Jamestown Z6 Lands Variation

Planning will host a briefing for Councillors in early March on Variation No. 32 of the current City Development Plan. An update will be provided at the briefing on the Finglas Planning Strategy 2020.

Finglas Cricket Club

Brian O'Rourke, Cricket Development Manager, Cricket Leinster has written to their members about the 'good news' story relating to Finglas Cricket Club. He highlights in particular that the crucial step was to harness the club into a ground they could call home which, with the support of Cricket Leinster and Dublin City Council, has seen Finglas CC move into Poppintree Park in Ballymun. Within 18 months, the collaboration helped turn the concept into a cricket club, strong enough to play a key part in the #ThisIsMyDublin campaign run by Dublin City Sport & Wellbeing Partnership (<https://www.cricketleinster.ie/news/finglas-cricket-club-featured-by-dublin-city-council>).

Finglas CC's own blog (<http://www.finglascricketclub.ie/blog6.php>) on their 2020 season provides a fantastic insight into how the foundations of cricket in the Finglas community are in safe hands.

Brian acknowledges that Finglas CC is a success story of what can be achieved when the community passion is harnessed by the local council along with the sport's governing body. Hopefully, subject to a relaxation of the Covid-19 restrictions, the club will be able to host their opening match before a large crowd in April.

Kildonan Park public art commission

The commissioning process for Kildonan Park in West Finglas is continuing. Three artists were shortlisted in November to work on a series of engagement workshops facilitated by the Dublin City Council Culture Company. The engagement work has been ongoing since then.

The shortlisted artists are now preparing their submission for the Stage 2 of the commission, which is due mid-March. Shortly afterwards, the selection panel will meet and award the commission to one of the three candidates. The selected artist will then work further with

local community groups and develop the sculpture based on their engagement with Finglas communities.

Sculpture Dublin are hoping to organise a series of workshops to develop creative projects with community groups in the area, which is part of the engagement programme in parallel with the artist's engagement. They are publicising an Expressions of Interest call out for artists to work with them on these creative projects.

Sculpture Dublin will submit a full update report on the commission and related public engagement activities for the March NWA meeting.

DCC Historians in Residence

The DCC Historians in Residence are continuing to work with Libraries for 2021. The NWA Historian is James Curry (curryj@tcd.ie).

DCC Decade of Commemorations Programme for 2021 is attached to this Agenda. The programme will be added to during the year. Delivery channels will be determined by the level of restrictions arising from Covid-19.

COMMUNITY & SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

Built Heritage Investment Scheme (BHIS) 2021 / Historic Structures Fund (HSF) 2021

Malcolm Noonan TD, Minister of State for Heritage and Electoral Reform at the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage, has announced the continued implementation of the Built Heritage Investment Scheme (BHIS) and Historic Structures Fund (HSF) in 2021. The Conservation Section of Dublin City Council will administer these schemes for buildings that are either on the Record of Protected Structures or within Architectural Conservation Areas (ACAs) within the Dublin City Council Area only.

Due to the current Covid-19 restrictions the deadline for submission of grants has been extended to Wednesday, **24th February 2021 at 4pm**.

There are a number of buildings in Finglas that are on the record of protected structures. The Community & Social Development Section (CSDS) has emailed the information link to our contacts for the buildings which fit the criteria within Finglas. CSDS has been contacted by a number of groups who have expressed an interest in applying and will offer support if requested. Link to the Scheme:

<https://www.dublincity.ie/residential/planning/archaeology-conservation-heritage/conservation-built-environment/conservation-grant-schemes>

Finglas Covid Community Call Support

CSDS work alongside the Administration & Housing Sections of Finglas Area Office to action local Covid-19 support requests that have been received from the Covid Community Call helpline. The service that the caller is referred onto depends on the request made.

DCC's Finglas Area Office links in with local and citywide organisations to assist with the requests e.g. Finglas Responders, St. Vincent De Paul, Meals on Wheels service, Vantastic, and Civil Defence.

Both our local and citywide services have been a vital support in running this programme since the start of the Covid-19 pandemic.

Covid-19 Emergency Fund Round 2 (February 2021)

The second round of the COVID-19 Emergency Fund provided by government via the Department of Rural and Community Development has allocated a total of €117,246 to Dublin City Council. Applications to this fund are now being welcomed by Dublin City Local

Community Development Committee (LCDC). Applications can be made online only from the following:

<https://www.dublincity.ie/residential/improving-my-community/local-community-development-committee-lcdc/dublin-city-covid-19-emergency-fund-2nd-round>

To assist groups when applying, detailed guidelines and terms and conditions are available online. This fund is for community and voluntary groups in Dublin City. Please note that 30% of the funding is ring-fenced for grants of €1,000 or less and that a maximum grant value of €5,000 will apply. This second round of funding will provide grants under the following categories:

Category One: adapt services and operations in response to the new COVID-19 reality in 2021.

- o Examples of measures supported include adapting premises to allow for social distancing; offering on-line activities; providing social supports and friendly calls by phone etc.
- o Grants may also be provided to support groups (including those involved in the community call) with day-to-day running costs if needed.

Category Two: become more involved with the Government's 'Keep Well' campaign.

- o Examples include grants aimed at supporting participation in the Keep Well campaign, in particular under the three themes of staying connected, switching off and being creative, and minding your mood.
- o Grants may also be provided to support groups for items that can include ICT annual licences, personal devices and tablets where it can be demonstrated that this will enable groups, services and facilities to stay connected with the wider community at this time.

Closing date for applications is Friday 26th February.

LCDC Community Enhancement Programme Round 2

Dublin City's Local Community Development Committee (LCDC) is currently undertaking an assessment of over 240 applications to its Community Enhancement Programme (CEP) Fund - Round 2. This second round of funding is valued at €478,005, and will be distributed according to the terms of the CEP scheme as advertised.

Grants will be made for sums of up to €1,000 for approximately 30% of the Round 2 Fund (equal to €143,401) with the balance remaining comprising of grants for sums above €1,000 and not higher than €50,000. The CEP Sub Committee of Dublin's LCDC will convene, as required, up to the end of March 2021 to review and assess all applications.

Successful applications require approval from a full meeting of the LCDC, which will take place on the 28th April.

Keeping in Touch Postcard Project

Following on from the Christmas Box of Cheer last December CSDS, in conjunction with Transition Year students and staff from St. Michaels Secondary school, have embarked on a project to keep in touch with older vulnerable adults in the Finglas area.

Students will design and make cards which they will send to vulnerable adults along with a small gift just to let them know that someone is thinking of them during this difficult time.

Zoom Healthy Eating Project

The CSDS Team are organising a virtual healthy cooking demonstration particularly for those living alone. This will be a basic cooking course. A nutritionist will give advice on foods, shopping lists and cooking demonstrations.

The course will last for 4 weeks and will be promoted in the coming weeks. It will be delivered via zoom.

International Women's Day 2021

International Women's Day falls on Monday 8th March. The occasion is marked annually in Finglas by an event to celebrate and highlight women's achievements and how they contributed to changes in the lives of women today.

To mark the day Dublin City Council has invited Ms Rita Sharkey a Kinesiology Coach and Facilitator to speak about her work and how she set up her business.

In addition, Historian James Curry will give a talk on the lives of Historical Women of Substance. The talks will be delivered via zoom. Dublin City Council will encourage the wearing of Purple Ribbons to mark International Women's Day.

Covid Helpline/ALONE

Staff from the Finglas Area Office continue to support requests for support from the public via Dublin City Council's Community Call Covid Helpline. In general, requests are for transport to and from hospital from people who have an underlying health conditions and are reluctant to use public transport.

A CSDS staff member continues to work with Alone, supporting them with their "Friendly Call Service". The staff member is in contact with approximately 20 older adults each day to check on their welfare.

Keeping in touch with local Community Groups

The CSDS team is keeping in touch with local community voluntary groups on a regular basis. Each staff member is contacting around 25 groups on a weekly basis.

Community Groups welcome the call, which gives them the opportunity to express concerns or raise issues which impact on them. More importantly, it gives both parties the opportunity to share ideas and information.

Community Grants 2020

Dublin City Councils 2020 Community Grants are currently being processed. Approximately 60% of grants allocated to groups in the Finglas area have been paid to community groups to date. It is anticipated that all grants will be paid out in the next month. Unfortunately, the processing of grants was delayed due to Covid-19.

Aidan Maher
Area Manager