



Comhairle Cathrach
Bhaile Átha Cliath
Dublin City Council

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

Meeting: 20th April 2021

Item No: 10

Ballymun Area Office Report

- 1. Ballymun Covid-19 Community Response Forum**
- 2. Ballymun LAP Update**
- 3. Community Development Update**
- 4. Economic Development Update**
- 5. Housing Report**
- 6. Other News/Updates**

1. Ballymun Covid-19 Community Response Forum

The Covid-19 Community Response Forum is continuing and the Ballymun Response Team includes Liam Barry, Martina Kelly, and Ciaran Mahony with all three on a rota, responding to Covid-19 requests as required. A group of volunteers from the local Setanta Hurling Club continue to provide invaluable assistance with all requests. The service was provided over the Easter Bank Holiday weekend.

2. Ballymun LAP Update

Shopping Centre – Site 1

The ESB completed all works on the site on 12th March while Barnmore were permitted to return to the site on 15th March. They will now progress with demolishing the remaining sub-stations and clearing the site. The site will be returned to an open green space on completion of the demolition.

Lidl (North Quarter) - Site 3



The vacant units continue to be advertised by Smith Butler Estates on Daft: <https://www.daft.ie/53113341>. There are three interested parties in the units, two of which are at an advanced stage. We will be kept informed if and when either of these deals are finalised. The market has been slower due to Covid-19 restrictions.

Vacant DCC units

The HSE have been informed that it will not be possible to install internal access between the two units in Shangan. The HSE have not responded to this outcome and it is unknown at this time if they intend to proceed or not.

Balbutcher / Hampton Wood Junction

The junction officially opened on the 8th March. While there was some commentary in the days leading up to the opening, it has been operating successfully and DCC have received limited negative feedback. The new pedestrian crossing facilities, tree planting and improved lighting have been welcomed by all.

There have been some comments that the radius of the junctions is tight for larger vehicles but this is a deliberate design feature, as set out in the Design Manual for Urban Roads and Streets, and serves to force vehicles to slow right down when they are making a left hand turn. Further monitoring of the junction's performance is ongoing. There have been concerns raised by some residents regarding traffic speeds and uncontrolled parking on Hampton Wood Drive. Traffic speed surveys are ongoing at this location and a review will be carried out to assess if additional traffic calming measures are required.

The completion of the landscaping works remains on hold until the restrictions are lifted. Requests have been made for litter bins to be installed at the junction.

The Area Office and the Project Team are assessing the feasibility of constructing a new footpath at the western side of the junction to link Hampton Wood Drive with the entrance to the industrial estate and existing footpath on the north side of the road. Funding will need to be identified to progress the project if viable.

The Area Office are also reviewing parking arrangements at Poppintree Park on Poppintree Park Lane West following the introduction of the new advisory cycle lane between Balbutcher Lane junction and the Jamestown Road roundabout. A feasibility assessment will be required and funding has been sought if additional measures are to be introduced.

DCC have launched a new education campaign to raise awareness on the use of flashing amber arrows for left turning vehicles- which are currently in use at Balbutcher Lane. The video has been circulated on social media and a dedicated webpage has been set up: <https://www.dublincity.ie/residential/transportation/roads-and-traffic-projects/driver-awareness-cyclists-traffic-signal-junctions>

Silloogue Infrastructure Scheme

The scheme received approval to recommence on site on 12th April. The temporary site compound experienced damage and anti-social behaviour when the site was shutdown during level 5. The contractor will erect a full site hoarding around the compound. When the hoarding is erected the site will be secured and works will commence on the extension of Gateway Crescent to meet Silloogue Road, followed by utility upgrades within Silloogue Gardens before footpath and carriageway improvements through the scheme.

Information on the scheme, including contact details for the Contractor's Liaison Officer, is available on this website: <https://www.dublincity.ie/residential/transportation/roads-and-traffic-projects/silloogue-infrastructure-scheme>

3. Community and Social Development Update

General Community Development

The Community and Social Development Team members are continuing to keep in contact with all community group members through phone calls, e-mails and Facebook posts. In particular we have been sharing information on health and wellbeing workshops and webinars.

Community Grants Scheme 2021

The Community Grants Scheme for 2021 has recently been announced. It is proposed to roll out an online application process for same. The Area Team members are attending meetings with the Central Community Development Section with a view to making the grants process as accessible as possible to local community groups.

Social Inclusion

Ballymun Men's Sheds: We are continuing to provide support and advice to the Ballymun Men's Shed Committee members and are having regular zoom meetings with regards to progress on the new premises and moving onto the next stage. At this stage, the renovation works on the unit are almost complete and the community team are liaising with the Centre Manager and the Property Development Section of DCC regarding a licence for the group. This is a very exciting project for the local area and the team are really looking forward to developing the group and project further when restrictions ease.

Community Initiatives: Sports and Wellbeing: The Community team are continuing to play a major role in the development of Ballymun Health and Fitness initiatives, which includes supporting the next Ballymun Health and Fitness Festival. This is due to take place at the end of April and we are assisting the group to set up a robust committee structure. These events are being adapted for online forums according to public safety guidelines.

International Women's Day:

The Ballymun team ran a successful community initiative for International Women's Day whereby local residents nominated local women who they felt deserved to be honoured. The winning entries which included a range of amazing community representatives received pampering packs and the results were announced on Facebook on International Women's Day on the 8th March.

Dublin Learning City Festival:

We have rolled out a creative learning initiative and competition entitled 'Share Something You've Learned during Covid 19' as part of the Dublin learning City Festival from 22nd to 24th March. This was an interesting and successful initiative with entries received from all age groups. Winners included a wide array of excellent poems, short stories and pictures all of which were shared on Facebook during the learning festival.

Community Art Initiative:

The Community team and Public Domain team are collaborating with Decathlon, Ikea and local youth projects on a community art project in respect of a large wall on St Margaret's Road. An onsite meeting to gather ideas and progress the initiative will be arranged for later in April.

Environmental:

We are continuing with our scoping exercise of all environmental related community groups in the area to get a better picture of the status of each group with a view to developing the groups, combining some group structures and establishing an area wide supportive and sustainable network. We continue to collaborate with the Public Domain team and Ballymun Tidy Towns in this regard with the joint aim of enhancing and transforming local black spots. Initial plans have begun for the roll out of plant deliveries and Greening Neighbourhood workshops which will take place over the coming months.

4. Economic Development Update



B4b held its AGM on Monday 22nd March. There are two new members to the Steering Committee, Aspen Student Life and Barbara Leonard of Heartspace Mediation. The Steering Committee will meet in April to plan its events for the remainder of the year. Membership currently stands at 70 businesses from Ballymun and the surrounding areas. B4b is in the process of tendering for a new Digital Content Manager, the closing date was 31st March.

Shop Front Enhancement Scheme



To date we have received six applications in total, five from Finglas and one from Ballymun. Three of the applications are from businesses located within industrial estates, which are not eligible for this scheme. Applications are open until the end of May 2021 but this date may be extended. We will further promote the scheme as restrictions ease.

More information can be found on the DCC website: [North West](#)

[Area Shop-front Improvement scheme](#)

Ballymun and Finglas Business Advice Service



This service has now been launched and is available to small businesses who wish to meet with a mentor to get help with the challenges of running a business in the current climate. Applications can be made via the Dublin City Council website:

<https://bit.ly/2PO7Y2Z>

- Businesses must be in the North West Area
- Up to 6 hours business advice with a mentor
- It's free (to businesses financed by Area Office)
- Meetings will take place on a virtual platform
- All commercial sectors eligible
- Businesses must have a minimum trading history of 2 years
- Startups are not eligible

SMART Cities Wi-Fi4EU Project

The Ballymun Civic Centre has been approved for the Smart Cities WiFi4EU Project. The Centre will now have free Wi-Fi installed by Virgin Media in public spaces such as the atrium, Council Chamber and Members Room, which will be a great resource to have when running events and public meetings in the future.

5. Housing Report

Estate Management Statistics

March	
No of Anti- Social complaints per 1997 act Drug related	14
No of Anti-Social complaints per 1997 act (Not Drug Related)	18
No of other Complaints	13
Total Complaints	45
No of Anti-Social Interviews per 1997 act	13
No of Other Interviews	11
Total Interviews	24
No Requests for mediation	0
No of Complaints referred to central unit for Action	0
No of Section 20 Evictions	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 Tenancy Warnings sent to Central Unit	2
No of Court Orders Granted	0
No of Appeals / Judicial Reviews Challenges	0
No of Warrants executed (Evictions)	0

Rent Assessments

	March
Assessments	2738 1789 emails/ 438 updates/511 calls
Permissions To Reside	6
Refunds	8
Opening of Accounts	14 (including sole/ 0 successions)
Closing of Accounts	6 (including 0 sole / 0 successions)
Front Counter Calls	See Above
Window replacements	2

Ballymun Lettings January - March 2021

Allocation Category	Housing List 2021	Transfer List 2021	Older Persons 2021
Bands 2 & 3	3	2	0
Medical	0	1	1
Welfare	0	0	0
Homeless	0	0	1
Travellers	2	0	0
Transfer HAP	0	1	0
De-tenanting	0	0	0
Estate Management	0	1	0
Maintenance	0	0	0
Surrendering Larger	0	3	0
Unable to afford	0	0	0
Succession/Sole	5	1	0
Total	10	9	2

Older Persons Units

Address	Type	Date of Vacancy	Status
Burren Court	1 Bed	17/11/2020	Under Offer
Burren Court	1 Bed	21/07/2021	Under Repair
Sandyhill Gardens	1 Bed	21/07/2020	Under Offer
Sandyhill Gardens	1 Bed	21/07/2020	Under Offer
Sandyhill Gardens	1 Bed	27/12/2020	Under Repair

Sandyhill Gardens	1 Bed	25/02/2021	Under Repair
Sandyhill Gardens	1 Bed	02/03//2021	Under Repair
Sandyhill Gardens	1 Bed	23/03/2021	Under Repair

Ballymun Voids

Address	Type	Date of Vacancy	Status
Balcurris Gardens	3 Bed House	11/01/2021	Under Offer
Barnewall Drive	2 Bed Apt	09/11/2020	Under Offer
Barnewall Gardens	2 Bed Apt	09/11/2020	Choice Based Letting
Belclare Crescent	3 Bed House	10/11/2020	Under Offer
Belclare Grove	3 Bed House	19/012021	Under Offer
Belclare Way	3 Bed House	10/11/2020	Under Offer
Carrig Close	1 Bed Bungalow	03/11/2020	Under Repair
Carton Court	2 Bed House	14/03/2021	Under Repair
Coultry Close	2 Bed Apt	14/03/2021	Under Repair
Coultry Drive	3 Bed House	08/02/2021	Under Repair
Coultry Terrace	1 Bed Apt	06/12/2020	Under Repair
Coultry Way	3 Bed House	07/02/2021	Under Repair
Cranogue Road	3 Bed House	29/01/2021	Under Repair
Forestwood Avenue	2 Bed Apt	07/02/2021	Under Repair
Gateway View	2 Bed Apt	23/09/2020	Under Offer
Gateway View	1 Bed Apt	06/02/2021	Under Repair
Longdale Terrace	1 Bed Apt	07/02/2021	Under Repair
Owensilla	1 Bed Apt	05/03/2021	Under Repair

Poppintree Parade	2 Bed Apt	16/12/2020	Under Repair
Sandyhill Terrace	1 Bed Apt	22/11/2020	Under Repair
Sandyhill Way	3 Bed House	22/11/2020	Under Repair
Shangan Crescent	4 Bed Apt	25/11/2020	Under Repair
Shangan Gardens	3 Bed House	06/12/2020	Choice Based Letting
Shangan Park	3 Bed House	05/03/2021	Under Repair
Shangan Terrace	2 Bed Apt	24/01/2021	Under Repair
Shanliss Way	3 Bed House	29/01/2021	Under Offer
Shanliss Way	3 Bed House	29/01/2021	Under Offer
Shanliss Way	3 Bed House	29/01/2021	Under Offer
Shanliss Way	3 Bed House	29/01/2021	Under Offer
Silloge Green	3 Bed House	12/11/2020	Choice Based Letting
Silloge Green	1 Bed Apt	11/12/2020	Under Repair
The Plaza Apartment	2 Bed Apt	04/10/2020	Under Offer
Woodhazel Terrace	2 Bed Apt	31/01/2021	Under Repair

Other News

Following the approval of €315,000 additional funding allocated to Ballymun and €70,000 for fifteen projects our team have commenced feasibility assessments where required to progress these projects. The projects range from ongoing drainage issues, parking solutions, housing and environmental improvements in conjunction with residents, community arts project, laneway enhancements and edging of footpaths on primary routes. In the event that any of the proposed projects cannot proceed, the funding will be reallocated to other Ballymun projects/initiatives identified over the coming months.

Ballymun Library

Ballymun Library remains closed to the public under Level 5 restrictions. Services are being provided online. Ballymun Library staff continue to post blogs, arts & crafts events, videos, and historic photos of the Ballymun area on our Facebook page. If anyone would like to promote any Dublin City Council-related initiative then please email details to ballymunlibrary@dublincity.ie and we will share these on our Facebook page: www.facebook.com/BallymunLibrary

Ballymun Library Events

Event Category	Event Title	Suitable Audience	Date and Time
Online History Course	The Irish Revolution – 1916 to 1923 (12-week course)	Adults	Starting on Wednesday 14th April at 1pm and every subsequent Wednesday for 12 weeks **Event free. Booking required*
Story Time	'Spring into Story time – Right to Read – stories read by Maria and Amy	Children aged 5 to 10 yrs	Every Tuesday during April at 11am via www.facebook.com/BallymunLibrary (No booking required, just log on)
Junior Book Club (now moved online)	Ballymun Library Junior Book Club	Children 9-12 yrs	Wednesday 3.30pm
Adult Book Club (Online)	Thursday Thriller Book Club (in collaboration with Coolock Library)	Adults	Thursday 22nd April at 11am (via Zoom)

Jackie O'Reilly
Acting Area Manager