



Date: 01/09/2022

To: **The chairperson and members of  
North Central Area Committee**

Meeting: 19<sup>TH</sup> September, 2022.

Item No. 4l

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**PUBLIC DOMAIN TEAM UPDATE FOR THE  
SEPTEMBER MEETING OF THE NORTH CENTRAL AREA COMMITTEE**

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### **Waste Management & Illegal Dumping**

During the months of July & August, the team responded to and completed 201 Community Litter Pick requests, 81 Sweep your Street and 71 Illegal dumping requests.

We arranged for illegal dumping to be removed once again from the Grange Park side of Kilbarrack train station and the Litter Warden continues to focus on this area. The Litter Wardens also continue to call to households in the Darndale Area seeking proof of bin providers in an effort to reduce the amount of illegal dumping in this area. They have called to over 900 homes in the Darndale area since the beginning of June.

The amount of green waste being placed in DCC blue bags and the number of illegally dumped bags of garden waste from private households has reached an all-time high in the North Central Area. All of this “garden” waste is being sent to landfill or incinerator. In order to combat this problem, we have been working closely with DCC’s Litter Management Office. The plan is to firstly change the name of the current scheme **from “Community Clean-up” to “Community Litter Pick”**. We also plan to change to green bags with the message “Community litter pick” on them with the DCC logo. While awaiting the new green bags, we will be running a pilot project in the North Central Area using the new Citizen Hub platform. All groups will be required to register online before they order any equipment and arrange collection of bags. There will be a cap on the amount of bags given to any group and a limit on the number of staff who will have authority to distribute bags. We are currently testing the new citizen hub system and are working closely with the design team to ensure that it is as user friendly as possible. When we are satisfied that it is ready for use, we will launch the pilot in NCA. If it is successful, the Litter Management Office then plan to roll it out to all of the other administrative areas in DCC. This system will enable us to track and trace the equipment given to each group and to see how and when they use the bags. The registration of groups and the limit on the number of bags given to groups, along with the change of colour, should greatly reduce/limit the amount of illegally dumped bags of garden waste in the North Central area.

### **Graffiti**

During the months of July & August, the Public Domain team responded to 16 incidents of graffiti across the North Central Area. They recently painted the walls of the Oratory Church of the Resurrection in the park beside Pinebrook Estate in Artane which were spray painted with graffiti by a group of youths. We responded without delay and had it cleaned and painted on the same day as the report was received. The Gardaí were notified and patrols of the area were put in place to prevent a reoccurrence. We also responded promptly to a bad incident of graffiti on the spine site in Darndale on 24<sup>th</sup> August. This was cleaned and repainted without delay (Images below). Unfortunately the shelters in Clontarf continue to

be targeted along with the benches and the newly installed recycling bins. Gardaí are aware and have been investigating the matter and are positive they will be able to identify the culprit.



### **Signage/Planters/Equipment**

#### **Signage:**

- To reward the hard work of residents in Albert College Estate in Whitehall - two new granite stone nameplates were ordered – these will be inserted onto the granite boulders at the entrances to their estate in the coming weeks. The name of the estate will be more visible and will be in both the Irish & English language.
- The new heritage signage for Briarfield Grove & Briarfield Villas in Kilbarrack has been manufactured and will be delivered for installation over the coming weeks.

#### **Planters:**

- We have been working closely with a group of residents in Redmond's Court, Kilbarrack and encouraged them to set up as a small environmental group. They have been doing great work to clean up their area (including painting the wooden surround of the astro pitch). To reward their hard work, we provided them with 2 new composite planters from PACE, which they have agreed to maintain into the future.
- A very active residents group on Belcamp Avenue have been enhancing and cleaning up their area. It was brought to the attention of the public domain team that a resident took it upon themselves to make a rectangular wooden planter to brighten up the area. To reward their efforts, we ordered a similar rectangular shape planter from PACE which was delivered on 1<sup>st</sup> September and was placed on the opposite corner to their other planter. We also ordered a teak square planter from PACE for another newly formed environmental group in Moatview Court who have also been doing great work to clean and enhance this location. Their planter was also delivered on 1<sup>st</sup> September.
- Clongriffin Tidy Towns Group sought some planters to brighten up Main Street and also asked if we would consider purchasing planters made of recycled material, as they plan on entering competitions in the future. Although the area is not yet in charge, it was decided that planters would be a great boost for the area. Permission was granted by Gannon Homes & funding provided by Local Area Manager Bernie Roe - 6 new planters have been ordered from Irish Recycled Plastics (based in Offaly) and we hope to have them by November. These will be planted up by our Parks team in St. Anne's Park before being placed on site.

The A/Environmental Liaison Officer will be carrying out an audit of planters across the entire area during the month of September. Broken planters will be removed and disposed of and planters that are no longer being maintained will be removed and given to areas that are on our planter waiting list. We plan to write to Resident Associations giving them notice of the audit and will ask them to submit details of planters in their areas, along with the name of the person who looks after them.

**Equipment**

- We continue to provide equipment to groups on an ongoing basis to support the valued work they are doing in their communities.



**Weeding**

Weeds continue to be an issue across the North Central Area with complaints coming in on a daily basis. Following the unsuccessful foam spraying, the Roads & Traffic Department provided each area with some weed strimming. The North Central Area was allocated a max of 10km. The following roads were on our waiting list and therefore were put forward for the strimming – this work is now complete and we have reached the 10km allocate to us.

Crestfield Drive 29/07/22	Glenshesk Road 04/08/22
Crestfield Avenue 29/7/22	Newtown Court 04/08/22
Crestfield Road 29/07/22	Belcamp Lane 04/08/22
Crestfield Close 29/07/22	Moatfield Road 04/08/22
Larkhill Road 01/08/22	McAuley Park 04/08/22
Glentow Road 02/08/22	McAuley Road 04/08/22
Glenaan Road 02/08/22	Ennel Avenue 04/08/22
Glencloy Road 02/08/22	Ennel Drive 04/08/22
Elm Mount Road Beaumont 04/08/22	St. Brendan's Park 04/08/22
Tranquillity Grove 04/08/22	



Waste Management Public Domain Team very kindly helped us to weed and scrape a couple of main thoroughfares in the North Central Area following complaints received from the public (**Note: weed removal does not fall under the remit of Waste Management**)

Images below show the work they did on the Grange Road & the Whitehall flyover. The Clontarf Road between Alfie Byrne Road & Vernon Avenue was also weeded by the team on 1<sup>st</sup> September and was very much appreciated by Clontarf Tidy Towns and Clontarf Residents Association.



### **City Neighbourhoods & Pride of Place**

The local City Neighbourhood awards night will take place on Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> September 2022 at 6.30pm in Grange Woodbine Club on Raheny Road. Doors will open at 6.00pm. We look forward to welcoming you all on the night. Members First Credit Union in Artane has once again agreed to support the event and made a very generous contribution. Councillor Dearbhail Butler will represent the Lord Mayor of Dublin Caroline Conroy to officiate at the event. Invitations have been issued to Public Representatives, DCC Officials and all of the entrants.

Raheny were nominated by DCC to compete in the Irish Pride of Place Competition 2022. They gave an amazing presentation to the judges on Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> August in Raheny GAA Club. Groups from right across the Raheny area showcased the dedication and hard work they put into their area. The Local Area Manager Bernie Roe & Acting Environmental Liaison Officer Joanne O'Sullivan were there to support them on the day.

## Utility Boxes

Painting of the utility boxes is ongoing and we are pleased to report that many are now complete and we are receiving great feedback. Here is a snapshot of some of the completed work across the area. We are also pleased to tell you that the artist has started work on one of the utility boxes in the



Darndale area- the yellow artwork below commenced on the box at corner of Malahide Road & Priorswood Road and is due to be completed by the first week of September.

## Bins

16 new triple capacity recycling bins were installed along the Clontarf promenade in July/August. They have been a very positive addition to the area. Waste Management agreed to trial a recycling initiative which to date has been going very well and we will continue to keep you updated. Most of the blue barrel bins have been removed, however, Waste Management left a few at busy commercial business locations i.e. near Vernon Avenue in order to accept high volumes of waste being generated over the summer months. It has been agreed that all blue barrel bins will be removed from the promenade by the end of September.



A new litterbin was installed at the entrance to Albert College Estate on Collins Avenue

The bins in Limewood Estate were cleaned and painted at end of August.

Waste Management are currently awaiting a new stock of regular bins and we will keep you updated when they are back in stock. There are a number of bin requests that received approval but we await installation.

### **Autumn - Leaf Fall**

We hope to distribute fully compostable large beige coloured bags for leaves this year. We would like there to be a clear distinction between our “Community Litter Pick” bags and our “Autumn Leaf Collection” bags. As soon as the stores receive the delivery of these bags, we will start to distribute them to *registered groups* across the North Central Area. There will also be a selection made available on Citizen Hub for groups to apply for compostable leaf bags and collection of bags.

We would appeal to everyone to promote the use of household brown bins and leaf composting as a sustainable way for individual households to dispose of leaves from their private gardens and driveways. The bags should only be used for collecting leaves in the public domain- from footpaths and roadways etc. We would like to significantly reduce the amount of leaves being transported to Thornton’s for disposal.

We will be working closely with the Resident Associations on Griffith Avenue again this year and have already been in discussions with one of them to put a plan in place for this season. We will work closely with Waste Management to ensure a successful autumn leaf clearance in this area.

We will continue to support Maywood/Bettyglen in Raheny with their Community Leaf Gathering weekends. Joanne has worked closely with the residents in this area for the last 2 years and they managed to successfully gather over 400 bags of leaves each year to send to the Belmayne allotments so that they could make high quality leaf compost on site.

Dublin City Council’s Waste Management Services recently supported the training of 25 volunteers from the 10 community organisations (Tidy Town Groups, Resident Associations, Community Gardens and Allotment Groups) to help them to start composting projects in their areas. They supported the training of the volunteers at St. Anne’s Park in July & August 2022 and visits from Benton Eco Solutions to each community group to assist them to create an action plan for their organisations. Some of the groups from the North Central Area who participated are as follows: Sphere 17 Kilbarrack, Marino Residents Association, Beaumont Community Garden, Raheny Tidy Village Group & St. Anne’s Allotments. Councillor Dearbhail Butler has agreed to allocate money from her discretionary budget to fund the identified needs of each group through their action plans in order for them to make their environmental projects a success. It is hoped that by teaching and training volunteers and groups like these, that we can encourage more leaf composting in the area, reduce carbon emissions from DCC trucks driving to and from Thornton’s in Ballyfermot (which is approx. 56 km return journey from the North Central Area) to dispose of bagged leaves and ultimately become more environmentally aware.

**Richard Cleary**  
Public Domain Officer

**Joanne O’Sullivan**  
Acting Environmental Liaison Officer