

Item No 3

Ballymun

The Safer Ballymun is a partnership between the Community, Dublin City Council, the Drugs Task Force and An Garda Síochána. The focus is to engage in collaborative discussions to explore solutions to local safety concerns.

In 2022 Safer Ballymun advertised on two occasions the position of an Independent Safety Coordinator to deliver the agreed Ballymun Safety Strategy, the role has not been filled to date and we intend to advertise again early in the new year.

Following the last JPC meeting in Sept, a number of short term actions were agreed and implemented to address anti-social behaviour and drug dealing in specific locations – including St. Josephs Hill, in conjunction with DCC, AGS, Easy Street, St. Josephs School and local residents and a specific operation by AGS in Poppintree.

The Safer Ballymun public forum took place on 4th October and was well attended. A presentation was delivered by Sergeant Peter Foley on Local Community Policing. The residents welcomed the presentation and specified that they would like to meet the local community policing team at a future meeting, Dublin City Council and An Garda Síochána discussed their combined plan for Halloween. Residents welcomed this and were delighted to hear of the return of the Halloween Festival.

The main safety matters of concern raised in recent months are:

Anti-social behaviour and open drug dealing at Poppintree Shops
Large gatherings of youths around Poppintree Parade shops / Community Centre
Continued escalation of local feud Whiteacre / Shangan area
Increased levels of anti-social behaviour at Hampton Woods
Lack of visible Garda presence on foot patrol in the community
Reports in the rise in break-ins and damage to vehicles in Ballymun

The next Safer Ballymun Community Forum will take place late January.

Finglas

The most recent round of Finglas Safety Forum meetings of this year took place on the following dates:

Finglas South – Monday 10th October 2022, Erin's Isle.

Finglas East –Tuesday 11th October 2022, St Canice's Boys National School.

Finglas West - Monday 17th October 2022, St Fergal's Boys National School.

The main policing issues reported directly to the Finglas Safety Forum Co-ordinator at the Finglas Safety Forum meetings and individually are as follows:

- Concern around the misuse of scramblers and quad bikes in the Finglas area, particularly on Plunkett Crescent, Plunkett Avenue and Cardiffsbridge Road.
- Numerous reports from residents regarding concern of the level of drug paraphernalia being found on the North Road under the footbridge.

- Concern of individuals openly dealing drugs in Dunsink Drive leading onto Berryfield, Mellows Park, Northway Park, Barry Avenue, on the grounds of Finglas Parochial National School as well as behind the cars that park up outside Finglas Motors on the North Road and outside Lidl and Aldi on St Margaret's Road.
- Concerns reported of anti-social behaviour occurring e.g., individuals breaking entrances and into cars on Willows Park Road, Clancy Road and on St George Road, off McKee Avenue.
- Reports of drug debt intimidation from family members.

The Finglas Safety Forum Coordinator continues to engage with relevant agencies in relation to the above matters, namely Finglas Community Policing Team, Feed Our Homeless and Finglas Addiction Support Outreach Team.

The next round of Finglas Safety Forum meetings in the respective areas of Finglas will be organised in the New Year.