

JPC Sub Committee Cabra/Glasnevin

Sep 21st 9.30am – City Hall (hybrid)

Minutes

Attending Garda Stations:

- 1: Santry Garda Station: Superintendent Darren McCarthy z
- 2: Mountjoy Garda Station: Superintendent Martin Mooney
- 3: Bridewell Garda Station: Superintendent Jonathan O'Brien
- 4: Cabra Garda Station: Superintendent Peter Burke z Sgt Pat McGilloway

Special Report: Inspector Mary McCormack (Mountjoy) – Operation Tombola (Halloween)

Councillors:

- Cllr Cieran Perry
- Cllr Ray McAdams z
- Cllr Seamus McGratten z
- Cllr Eimear McCormack z
- Cllr Colm O'Rourke z
- Cllr Cat O'Driscoll z
- Cllr Declan Meenagh z
- Cllr Darcy Lonergan

Others in attendance:

- Senator Marie Sherlock
- Colm Dunleavy
- Sarah Middleton
- Broadstone Residents Association
- DCC: Sean Bay

C Perry: Requested a reversal of the format of the meeting from a strategic to a forensic on crime numbers due to ongoing issues. This was accepted by all.

Raised the issue of Garda numbers being depleted and

Presentation: Operation Tombola – Inspector McCormack

- 1: Identify Bonfire sites
 - Identify material collection sites
- 2: Pro-active patrols – showing a presence
- 3: Contractor contact details for pick ups
- 4: Confirmation of drone activity and reports
- 5: Leaflet drop regarding material

Ciaran Perry opened the meeting. Highlighted the issues of lack of coverage and resources in the Cabra area. Serious resourcing issues in the area and surrounding area. Issues raised by communities: Numbers in Cabra station - sufficient to police area? Cars patrol in the area how many cars allocated to each area? Community guards assigned to other areas? Average response time? Increase in population but no increase in garda personal. These were questions for the Superintendent. Two counsellors - Seamus McGrattan and Ray McAdam- agreed with all above.

Thanks and appreciation for many years of community service to Cabra by Sgt Pat McGilloway were offered by the Chair and supported by all Councillors and meeting attendees. Pat is retiring in November from the Gardai and this will be his last JPC.

Superintendent Peter Burke advised Cabra is in the middle of the area and is supported by both Finglas and Blanchardstown. A new Inspector and 2 new Sergeants will be starting this week in the Cabra station.

The Superintendent remains hopeful for additional gardai once the new management structure is in place. It was confirmed that Detective car is available in Cabra every day.

There are presently 4 gardai in the community policing unit in Cabra - 2 for each shift although holidays etc. affect these numbers. It was also confirmed that the drug unit is active in Cabra. The Public Order unit is not operational all the time, however the unit will be operating in Cabra for operation Tombola especially Halloween night.

There are no new gardai becoming available at this time and any extra gardai for Cabra will be from within resources available to the District.

Operation Tombola, the annual police Halloween operation, starts on 1st October and runs until 31st October. Key objectives will be the identification of potential bonfire sites, proactive patrols, School visits, visits to business premises along with Off Licences to be cautioned on sale of alcohol to under age. The contact numbers regarding any potential bonfire material that needs removing: DCC hotline 222 5302 out of hours 1800 248 348.

There will be additional resources on Halloween day and evening for the collection of potential bonfire material, Contractors will be requested to work later this year as bonfire material is stored to avoid confiscation. DCC would like them to work up until they are needed so as late as necessary but this has to be agreed.

DCC will be promoting positive events- looking at family events being organised on potential bonfire sites to disrupt anti-social behaviour. Killala swale is seen as a particularly relevant site.

Reports presented by Mountjoy, Bridewell, Santry, and Cabra Garda Districts. The Bridewell informed stolen vehicles are up because they now include E scooters in these statistics. Reports delivered by the relevant Superintendent.

Question was raised by Declan Meenagh re the Grangegorman plaza damage to Luas.

Gardai are patrolling the area and will continue to do so.

They are also carrying out operations on the LUAS from Broomebridge to city centre.

Drugs searches have not decreased they are concentrated in different areas so figures are up in one down in another. 3 sergeants and 30 guards in the drugs unit active across the area.

Ray McAdam raised the drug dealing under the bridge at Broadstone Luas, open activity taking place on Saturday mornings. Superintendent O'Brien from the Bridewell Garda District requested that any

criminality or such activity should be reported to the Gardai. He confirmed that patrols are and would continue to be covering the plaza.

Lots of information is available on the Garda website in respect of crime prevention.

A question was also raised on proposed education of E scooter riders and cyclists on how to be visible for the winter.

Meeting ended at 11.30 with Ciaran Perry thanking all.