

## Ballymun Safety Report

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.

Safer Ballymun will advertised the position of an Independent Safety Coordinator to deliver the agreed Ballymun Safety Strategy, in July. The role will be co-funded by Dublin City Council and the Drugs Task Force.

The Safer Ballymun Steering Committee met on 14<sup>th</sup> March and the 1<sup>st</sup> June to discuss current safety concerns in the community. The re-election of a steering committee was discussed and nominations forms are currently available from [Ballymun.areoffice@dublincity.ie](mailto:Ballymun.areoffice@dublincity.ie) Dublin City Council have established a Youth Advocacy Group in Ballymun which has engaged with the Safer Ballymun Network and we anticipate that some of these youths may wish to be nominated for the Safer Ballymun Steering Committee.

The most recent Safer Ballymun public meeting took place on 13<sup>th</sup> June, in the Ballymun Child and Family Resource Centre. Unfortunately there was some verbal abuse aimed at public representatives as they left the meeting this matter was addressed by An Garda Síochána.

### **The main safety matters of concern raised at the meeting:**

- Residents from the Ballymun Plaza Apartments raised concern in relation to anti-social behaviour and illegal dumping at the adjoining derelict site
- The Coultury Park pitch has been damaged by scramblers accessing the pitch
- Speed related issues at Shangan Green, cul de sac sign requested
- Discussion on the increase use of Nitrous Oxide canisters in the area & the dangers associated with them, request made for an awareness campaign
- Alleged incidents in Coultury Park, An Garda Síochána to follow up
- Access issue in relation to wheelchair users in Poppintree Park

The next Safer Ballymun Community Forum will take place in September.

- **Finglas**

### Finglas Safety Report

The first round of safety forum meetings for Finglas took place on the following dates in March:

- Finglas South, Erin's Isle - Monday 6<sup>th</sup> March 2023
- Finglas East, St Canice's BNS - Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> March 2023
- Finglas West, St Fergal's BNS - Monday 13<sup>th</sup> March 2023

**The main policing issues directed to the Finglas Safety Forum Co-ordinator at the Finglas Safety Forum recently have been:**

- The issue of dangerous use of scramblers and joy riding was raised as a concern in each of the three safety forum meetings in Finglas
- Tesco express (Cardiffsbridge road) was highlighted as an area with high levels of anti-social behaviour and gangs of young people hanging out around the shops
- The lack of visibility of gardai in Finglas west was raised as a concern from the local community and the have asked if levels can be increased
- Concerning level of open drug dealing and drug use was raised at each of the three Finglas safety meetings
- North Road and Mellows Park ere noted as reas of concern due to the high levels of drug dealing
- Level of open drug use and dealing in Wellmount area – the crescent, avenue and behind the Dunnes stores were highlighted as major problem areas
- Drug paraphernalia in the local parks and behind Dunnes stores and Tesco have been raised from the community at all three meetings
- Reports of anti-social behaviour from young people at St Helena's Drive and damage to the school property at St Malachys

In response to some of the queries and issues raised to the safety coordinator a leaflet drop to residents detailing the safety forum and contact details for residents to get in touch regarding these issues has begun.

Efforts will continue to target particular neighbourhoods in Finglas on an on-going basis to raise the profile of the safety forum and to introduce myself to residents and make them more aware of the safety forum.

One to one meetings have also taken place with a range of community leaders and stakeholders to try and tackle issues within the community.

Queries are being dealt with on a daily basis through phone, text, and email.

All above issues have been noted by the Gardai and DCC.

**The next round of meetings will take place in September, the venues will remain the same. The dates will be circulated shortly.**