



To the Chairperson and the
Members of the Central Area Committee

October 2023

HALLOWEEN 2023 – Overview of Central Area Plans



Report Stockpiling of Bonfire Materials

in Central Area to

litter.central@dublincity.ie

Tel. 01 222 5302

DCC Self Service Portal <https://citizenhub.dublincity.ie/>

Introduction:

Central Area Offices (North Inner City and Cabra/Glasnevin) have had a Halloween Working Group in place for several weeks with representatives of Public Domain, Community Development and Housing Departments; and representatives of An Garda Síochána from Store St., Mountjoy and Bridewell Garda Stations.

The Working Group has three key objectives:

1. To co-ordinate efforts to minimise anti-social behaviour associated with Halloween; particularly in relation to prevention of bonfires
2. To programme a series of Halloween themed Community activities and events
3. To promote safety messaging and celebration of Halloween locally in a safe, family friendly environment.

There has been a marked reduction in levels of anti-social behaviour in recent years due to the model of combined efforts and it is hoped to build on this in 2023. There is some concern with the timing of the school mid-term break for a full week following Halloween and this will be borne in mind as planning progresses.

Responding to reports of Stockpiling of Bonfire Material

In addition to Dublin City Council's citywide Waste Management arrangements the Central Area Public Domain team will lead on co-ordination of local response to reports of bonfire materials. Reports of bonfire materials have been received by Central Area office since July and to date materials have been removed from approximately 32 locations. In line with



previous years it is anticipated that volume of reports will increase in the coming weeks and the following response measures have been put in place:

- All reports, regardless of the source or communication channel, will be logged centrally via the Dublin City Council Citizen Hub system to facilitate a planned and co-ordinated response. Reports may be received from housing complexes, open spaces, laneways, private properties etc. All reports can be made directly by e-mail to litter.central@dublincity.ie or Tel. 01 222 5302.
- Materials will be removed by public domain crew during normal working hours Mon. – Thursday 7:45 a.m. – 15.45 p.m. and Friday 7:45 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.
- Crews will be on weekend overtime duty 6 a.m. – 12 noon, Saturday 21st – Sunday 22nd October and Halloween weekend 28th – 29th October. (Subject to staff resources)
- Private Plant Hire/staff have been engaged to supplement local resources if necessary and / or to provide and on-call out of hours service where it is deemed necessary by An Garda Síochána. Saturday 21st – Sunday 22nd October 6am to 4pm and 26th – 30th 6am to 9pm and Tuesday 31st 6am – 2pm.
- Non-emergency reports will be risk assessed and assigned in order of priority.
- An Garda Síochána will provide back-up if required to facilitate confiscation of materials in potentially dangerous or conflict situations.
- In case of an Emergency relating to Halloween activity, i.e. where there is an immediate threat to life, reports should be made via Emergency Services 999 or 911.
- Community Gardaí are calling to various premises in the local area informing and reminding owners of their obligations regarding secure storage of pallets, tyres, and any other flammable material and to advise on elimination of any attraction or easy access to their premises. Shops and commercial premises are also being visited and reminded to keep their trolleys and pallet trucks secure.
- A schedule of drone flights have been authorised for the sole purpose of monitoring sites for stockpiling. This initiative has proved very effective in identifying some large scale storage spaces in recent years.
- Any anecdotal evidence of sources of bonfire materials will be investigated and liaison will be ongoing with alleged or known sources such as Dublin Port and the Markets area.



Community Engagement Activities and Events

North East Inner City - The Big Scream Halloween Community Festival

Funded under the **North East Inner City Initiative**, The Big Scream Festival has grown from a one-night event in 2016 to daily community engagement activities throughout the month of October. A six-week harm reduction programme for youth services is underway while schools and childcare organisations are enjoying creative workshops, trips and Dracula encounters. This year's five-day festival will launch on 25th October.

Highlights of this year's Big Scream Festival in Dublin's north east inner city include a haunted house in D-Light Studios, guided ghost walks with 'real' ghosts, a surprise movie matinee in the Seán O'Casey Theatre, themed parties for senior citizen, a Monster Children's Party in Mountjoy Square Park and a Family Fun Day in the newly renovated Diamond Park.

On 31 October, the week-long festival will culminate with a Halloween Carnival on Seán McDermott Street where there will be a sensory hour for children with additional needs. There will also be a funfair on Sheriff Street and a choo-choo road train will bring families along the Royal Canal Greenway where fire entertainers and spooky figures will perform.

The cultural programme will feature walking tours as well as illustrated talks, drama and music in Charleville Mall Library with a focus on Bram Stoker's Dracula.

Dracula the obvious choice for the theme of the festival.

The Big Scream is a massive community project which is run, managed, and delivered by the community. It was established to deter anti-social behaviour and over the past six years, there have been no reports of criminal damage on Halloween night. The emphasis of the festival is on making Halloween a safe celebration for every family in the area.

www.bigscream.ie

Halloween @ North West Inner City

Planning is underway within Central Area resources to programme a series of Halloween themed community activities and entertainment within City Council Housing complexes. These activities will aim to encourage community participation and engagement in a family friendly environment. Programming of these activities will mainly involve the Housing, Sport & Recreation and Community Development Teams supplemented with external service providers subject to availability of funding.

Further information and details on these local events will be shared with members as soon as they are finalised.

Halloween @ Eastwall:

A week long Halloween Festival will take place in Eastwall from 30th October to 3rd November. This festival has been organised by the local community and voluntary organisations supported by the Central Area Office Community Officers and Recreation Services. The feature event in this festival is a Halloween Night parade and 120m long haunted house located at the playground at Russell Avenue.

Halloween themed events for older adults are also planned as part of this festival.

Halloween @ Mud Island Community Garden:

The Mud Island Garden group are preparing their annual Haunted Halloween Garden event in conjunction with the 2nd Port Sea Scouts.



Halloween @ MACRO Centre:

The MACRO centre is hosting a Halloween event for older adults in the Bolton Street / Green Street Area.

Cabra/Glasnevin

Special events in Killala and Dunard, Cabra, Dublin 7

Killala - We have planned a family friendly event on the swale on Killala Road on the 31st October from 2.00pm to 6.00pm. The swale will be transformed into a mini Halloween fair filled with entertainment, family fun activities, themed décor and walkabout entertainers. A mobile cinema will set up also to show a surprise movie on the night.

Dunard - A similar event is planned for Dunard Green on 31st October from 2.00pm to 6.00pm.

Archetype Events Management Co. is working with our Community Development Team and the local residents to deliver both events. There has been very positive engagement by the local communities in the planning of these events.

Cabra Parkside Community Sports Centre

The Cabra Child & Family Support Network in conjunction with DCC staff in the Cabra Parkside Community Sports Centre have arranged a fancy dress disco at the Centre on Halloween night from 6.00pm – 7.30pm for younger children (aged 8-12), with music, DJ, sweets and treats, and lots of fun for all.

An event for older teens is also being planned and further information will issue when details have been finalised.

Halloween Sensory-Friendly Family Event

An Autism Family Friendly event will take place in Cabra Parkside Community Sports Centre on Friday, 27th October from 5.00pm to 7.00pm This event is for children with autism and their families. Sensory toys will be available, an arts and crafts station and Lego Brick Kidz will come and show the children how to use Lego.

Glasnevin

There will be a Halloween party at Clareville Senior Citizens Complex, with music, refreshments and fancy dress for all to enjoy.

Drumcondra

At Lemons Square the Drumcondra Triangle Resident's Association celebrate Halloween by organising a spooky scary walk from Lemons Square. A short route with dressed up locals telling scary stories at a couple of points around the route and of course, sweets and treats for the children.

Phibsboro

At St. Peter's National School and St. Mary's National School, Dorset Street, the young people will be in fancy dress and there will be spooky story telling.

All these events are supported by the Cabra/Glasnevin Community Development Team with some members of the team even getting involved in the activities!

Halloween events are diversionary projects getting local people involved, getting families out and interacting but most of all to be enjoyed, have fun and everyone to stay safe.

The Glens Resident's Association, off the Navan Road

This Resident's Association is having a Halloween Celebration on Sunday 29th September, 2023 from 4pm to 6pm. This is taking place at the bottom of Martin Savage Park. Sweets for the young people. Face painting for the children, games and music.

Halloween Safety Promotional Campaign

In parallel to promotion of Halloween festivals and community events there will be a campaign to promote Safety at Halloween. The core messages will be

- **REPORT** stockpiling of illegal Fireworks and Bonfire materials
- **RESPECT** Emergency Services and all frontline workers
- **PROTECT** Yourself, your neighbours, your pets and your environment

Safety Messaging will be rolled out via all communication channels and Councillors are requested to support this through your own channels. Physical banners will be installed at prominent locations throughout Central Area communities to ensure that every effort is made to appeal particularly to young people not to take part in anti-social behaviour. (See sample attached).

The campaign will be supported by An Garda Síochána. A series of school visits are being arranged for Community Gardaí to promote responsible behaviour by giving talks about safety, fireworks, bonfires and prevention of damage to property and the environment.



Comhairle Cathrach
Bhaile Átha Cliath
Dublin City Council

As in previous years, the Central area post event reports and statistics will be provided to DCC HQ for amalgamation into overall comprehensive reporting on Halloween 2023 in due course.

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