

# The Chairman and Members of North West Area Committee.

Meeting: 17<sup>th</sup> October 2023

Item No: 10

# **PUBLIC DOMAIN REPORT**

### Waste Management and Illegal Dumping

Illegal Dumping incidents for September	246
Community Clean Ups for September	75

#### Graffiti removal September

In September 265 sq. meters of graffiti was removed in North West Area. To date 1178 sq. meters of graffiti has been removed during the period of January 2023 to September 2023.

We are expecting an increase for the month of October with Halloween approaching and we will deal with each issue as quickly as possible. Extra resources will be in place over the next few weeks to handle the extra volume of work.

#### Halloween

The Public Domain Team are working closely with the Garda and other DCC departments to arrange for the collection of bonfire material prior to and on the day of Halloween. Additional resources have been secured to assist with the clearing of bonfires in the NWA over the Halloween weekend. Social media posts from the North West Area will be delivered on a regular basis in the coming weeks, and we will be posting daily reminders to report stockpiling in the days leading up to Halloween.

The following channels for reporting can be used:

- DCC Self Service Portal <a href="https://citizenhub.dublincity.ie/WasteManagement">https://citizenhub.dublincity.ie/WasteManagement</a>
- Finglas Area please call: 01 2225457/01 2225412/01 2226754
- Ballymun Area please call: 01 2225715/01 2225742
- Email nwa.publicdomain@dublincity.ie/Customerservices@dublincity.ie
- Bonfire material can also be reported after hours to 01 6796186.

Teams will be on the ground from Saturday 22st to Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> to remove any stockpiling of bonfire materials.

## Anti-Dumping Initiative

The NWA was allocated € 12243.09 in funding year 2023. The Public Domain Team coordinated the Mattress and WEEE Amnesty Days as part of this project. Two separate events were held to promote the reduction of Electrical Waste and Mattresses. One in Finglas Civic Offices, Mellowes Road, Finglas, D. 11 and one in Ballymun (Trinity Comprehensive School), Main Street, Ballymun, D 9. The events were held over 4 hours each day on the 16<sup>th</sup> & 23<sup>rd</sup> September, 2023 and proved to be very successful. Recycle IT recorded over 1000 Items, 4.343 Tonnes of Electrical waste was removed. Over 200 Mattresses where collected. We are hopeful that this will reduce the number of mattresses dumped and discarded over the Halloween period. It also promotes the recycling message at a more local level.



# Weeding

The weeding contractor has completed their contract for 2023 in the North West Area. The use of acetic acid and its efficacy will be reviewed by the Public Domain Officers citywide and recommendations will be made to improve the service in 2024.

In the meantime additional weed control resources have been allocated to the areas. Particularly overgrown areas will be serviced by Contractors and in-house staff by manual removal.

## Leaf Collection Scheme



The Public Domain Team has recently received new biodegradable leaf collection bags. The obvious advantage of a biodegradable bag is its capacity to entirely decompose into natural components, which can reduce the breakdown time to as little as 90 days in some situations. Compostable bags have numerous other advantages such as lowering landfill contributions. In addition, there are fewer greenhouse gas emissions and lower water and energy usage during manufacturing. When composted properly, compostable bags are safer for humans, animals, nature and the environment and they provide excellent fertiliser. These new compostable bags have been distributed to groups and can be ordered through the following channels:

Finglas Area please call: 01 2225457/01 2225412/01 2226754 Ballymun Area please call: 01 2225715/01 2225742 or email <u>nwa.publicdomain@dublincity.ie</u>

#### Leaf composting course

The Public Domain Unit successfully ran two leaf composting courses in conjunction with doctor compost at the locations Willow Park Grove Finglas and Belclare Lawns Ballymun. Composting is a fantastic way of re-purposing waste and creating peat-free and nutrient-rich compost for growing. It's about re-connecting with the earth and going back to our roots. For a long time horticulture and growing has depended on peat-compost. We have seen the devastation this has had on our bogs and peatlands.

We need to transition away from peat-compost and embrace alternatives. Composting is a great start. Watch our event to hear how you can act to save peatlands.



<u>Robert Ingram</u> Public Domain Officer