

**The Chairperson and Members of The
North Central Joint Policing Committee**

DARNDALE TOGETHER SAFETY FORUM

Darndale Together Safety Forum meets quarterly in the Conference room, Darndale Village Centre. There is a very good attendance at the Forum by local community, public representatives, Coolock Gardaí and Dublin City Council North Central area staff.

Outlined below are the main queries, which were raised at the meetings, held on 6th March 2024.

- **Housing Developments**
Local Housing Projects
- Glin Court Re-development: The project remains on track with no delays or problems reported.
- **Cromcastle Court / Woodville**

The proposal is for the demolition of three of the existing housing blocks on the Cromcastle Court site and for the construction of a new social housing scheme in its place and the development of the Coalyard site
- **Bunratty Road**
All units in the Bunratty Road development have been allocated.
- **Oscar Traynor Road Site**

The main contractor Glenveagh commenced on site in January 2024 and will continue works up until the end of 2027. Progress is good and there are no delays reported.
- **Cromcastle Underpass Site**

Planning has been secured for this scheme. The plan is for 146 units in a mix of (13) social and (133) Cost rental homes.
- **Spine Site and Belcamp B Site – Respond Housing, Approved Housing Body**

The design team are working on a revised proposal for the Spine site based on the engagement with Dublin City Council, Local Councillors, Estate Management and the Gardaí. A further meeting will be organised with the Local Area Office and the local Councillors to review. It will then go forward to local Community Consultation prior to going to planning.

- **Void properties**
32 void/vacant properties in total for the area under refurbishment, with a number of these in Moatview, Belcamp and Darndale.
10 void/vacant, Senior Citizen units, which are in the process of being refurbished.
- **CCTV**
New CCTV will be going into a few Senior Citizen complexes in the coming weeks. The CCTV for Darndale is also in the process of being upgraded.
- **Community Engagement**
Ongoing meetings with The Dales and community workers to try to tackle antisocial behaviour/drug use in the area. Drug debt intimidation is on the rise with a number of incidents reported to the housing office and Estate Management.

We are working on improving relationships between local residents and DCC. Members from The Darndale Together Community Representative Forum work closely with DCC to influence improvements in the safety, health, happiness and wellbeing of each member of the Darndale community. Monthly meetings take place.

- **Anti-social Behaviour**
There has been a reduction in the number of anti-social complaints received for Darndale, Belcamp and Moatview. The use of scramblers has reduced and there are fewer reports of incidents in the area. There has been a reduction in Joyriding and the burning of stolen vehicles in our green spaces and green areas.
- **Animal Welfare**
Regular meetings have been taking place with Gardaí, Animal Welfare and Estate Management, to develop a plan of action in relation to the seizure and safe removal of horses in the area. A number of horses have recently been removed but unfortunately, the problem persists, as we are unaware of the location where the horses are being stored at night time. The majority of the horses are moved on a daily basis to different locations, which makes it difficult for our Animal Welfare section to assess safety concerns.
- **DCC Community Section Update**
Older People's Council (OPC)
The Older People's Council for the North Central Area held their AGM in January '24. The OPC will begin to develop their work plan, which will include the Darndale Area.
- **Community and Informal Adult Education Grant**
A number of local groups in Darndale would have received funding through this grant stream.
- **Another Way 5K**

Dublin City Council including the Community & Social Development Section are supporting the 3rd year of Another Way 5k. This event will be held on Saturday 27th April.

- **Local Enhancement Programme 2024**

The Department of Rural and Community Development (DRCD), through the Dublin City Local Community Development Committee (LCDC) and Dublin City Council, is funding a **Local Enhancement Programme 2024 (LEP)**.

The aim of the LEP 2024 is to support non-profit, community-based and/or voluntary sector organisations or groups based in Ireland who are seeking support with their **capital costs**. Capital costs incurred only in calendar years 2023 and 2024 are eligible.

Closing date was 13.00 on the 8th of March 2024.

- **International Women's Day**

International Women's Day was held on Friday 8th March. This is a global day celebrating the social, economic, cultural, and political achievements of women. International Women's day has occurred for over a century, with the first gathering recorded in 1911.

- **Summer Projects**

CSDS Assistant Community Development Officer, Antoinette Hayden is currently linking in with voluntary youth groups to ensure that they link in with Crosscare to assist them with the relevant training in advance of their summer project. It is hoped to increase the number of voluntary summer projects this year. Should a group within the Artane-Whitehall LEA wish to enquire about setting up a local summer project they can contact Antoinette directly on (01) 2228856 or antoinette.hayden@dublincity.ie

- **Waste Management and Environment**

- **Special Clean-ups**

- A clean up of the Darndale Area was carried out in January 2024. Green spaces at **Buttercup, Snowdrop, Tulip & the Spine Site** were all part of this clean-up.
- Dublin Community Clean Up Day in April.

The Team Dublin Clean-up will take place on Saturday April 27th this year, from 11am to 1pm

Dublin City Council are asking all residents, volunteers and community groups around Dublin City to join forces to organise the biggest ever clean-up to date. April is also when the National Spring Clean takes place.

Groups who want to take part must register with An Taisce National Spring Clean in order to have insurance to do the Dublin Clean Up.

Register at www.nationalspringclean.org.

- **City Neighbourhoods Competition**

More information is available on the DCC website & if any groups need help or support to get their area ready for the competition please get in touch with the Public Domain Team.

- **Local Development Officer/Slaintecare**

- Community Health Needs Assessment commenced in 2023 with RCSI. RCSI, Sláintecare Healthy Communities are seeking community members 18 years, and over to discuss, deliberate, and rank what you view as your community's strengths and needs. The aim is to ensure your voice dictates how health services are delivered in your community. Meet 21/03/24 in the Bell Building, Darndale.
 - FMCD presented the Digital community map, which was launched on Darndale Together website in Dec 2023, groups/ projects not on it can be added by contacting Fiona.
 - Belcamp Community project –Turn the space at Belcamp Green/Avenue into something positive for the Community- Contact Fiona on 087-3998860 or Fiona.mcdonnell@dublincity.ie
- **Sphere 17**
 - **Target Group 1:** The key Issues affecting this target group includes but is not limited to; family members use/misuse and its impact on young people's sense of security and safety, personal use, removal of inhibitions which can result in risky behaviour, antisocial behaviour, drug debt, addiction and risk of drug dealing and crime low educational attainment due to a lack of access to appropriate developmental opportunities/activities.
 - **Target Group 2:** The key Issues affecting this target group may include but is not limited to low confidence and self-esteem, increased risk of intimidation and discrimination, issues related to concentration, anxiety, depression, intergenerational poverty and trauma, poor body image, lack of exposure to healthy lifestyles, lack of support.
 - **Target Group 3:** The key issues affecting this target group may include but are not limited to lack of suitable accommodation, become transient in communities and services relevant to their need's poverty, discrimination.
 - **Target Group 4:** Young people aged 14-24 who are not engaging in youth work and/or other services referred to as 'hard to reach' including but not limited to young people who are affected by or are at risk of becoming involved in gang related crime, violence, antisocial behaviour, affected by issues linked to substance misuse and issues related to formal education.

Focus on young males aged 17+ Issues affecting the target group include but are not limited to not engaging with services/spaces or programmes leading to social isolation and lack of support, poverty, issues associated with mental well-being, lack of exposure to healthy lifestyles, damaging life choices, low confidence and self-esteem, increased risk of intimidation and discrimination.

- **Empowering Communities introduction**
- **Community engagement/information event May 15th 12noon to 4pm**
Empowering Communities and Darndale Belcamp Village Centre are joining to host a large open day in the DBVC Campus inside and out in the square to inform the community on the extensive supports, services and educational opportunities available to them.
- **Placed Based Leadership Development network**
The group continue to meet every 2 months and has the following projects in action:
OLI School enhancement project in progress
PBL Darndale and Drogheda Young Leader podcast in progress
PBL Drogheda participants are scheduled to visit Darndale on 10th April to keep the connection and learn about our community. They will visit The Dales and Sphere 17 and finish their visit in the Bell Building with the Darndale PBL network.
Sub groups have been formed to try and encourage New people
- **Community work plans** – NSP are linked in with 12 groups from the area to support their needs... Types of supports provided include HR support, Access to training, skills building, health and wellbeing initiatives and more.
- **Storytelling Coolock Library** - 6-week course took place from January to mid-February in Coolock Library following the success of the initial pilot in September, to support and encourage and empower people to use their public library for social connection. This will be facilitated 3 times per year
- **Cancer awareness campaign:** On the 14th March 8.30am-1pm The ECP Team have organised for a Cancer awareness mobile unit to visit the DBVC Campus/Square in collaboration with Social prescribing day to raise awareness in the community on importance of screening.
- **Out 'N' About**
 - 2023-Engaged with just under 1800 young people in the Darndale,Moatview, Bonnybrook and Kilmore area
 - Higher level of younger people involved in Drugs
 - New Drug unit are very active
- **Community Garda Update**
 - AGS gave a comprehensive overview of Garda policing in the DBM area
 - Issue with Drugs in the area-Work in progress-Drug Intimidation treated confidentially
 - 11 Drug related incidents
 - 4 possession of Drugs
 - 6 sale and supply
 - 1 obstruction
 - 1 Fire arm(knife)
 - 1 Assault
 - 3 Burglaries(Motorbike stolen)
 - 18 Domestic cases
 - 5 Public Order matters
 - Sergeant Ronan Ormsby will replace Sergeant Chris O'Shaughnessy
 - Change in personnel in Drug Unit
 - AGS encouraged Community to report any crime-incidences to them

- CCTV will make the area safer

- **Local Highlights and Achievements**

- DF noted**

- Tender for Illegal dump went on e-tenders 22/02/24
- 2 stage Tender
- Ready to start on site end June/early July-
- Queries re terms of contract could delay process by a very short period
- Team working on access and egress route
- Involved in Another Way 5k
- Camera to go up in Moatview-
- Contractors have been threatened and ran of site---
- Garda assistance is ongoing
- Issue with horses in pocket parks-Animal welfare seized 3 horses at night but were threatened

Dympna McCann
Administrative Officer
North Central Area