

**The Chairperson and Members
 South Central Area Committee**

Halloween 2020 Report South Central Area

The South Central Area launched our Halloween 2020 campaign in early October. Meetings with all relevant stakeholders were conducted from September 2020, both at area and at corporate level. The multidisciplinary approach taken was to deliver a co-ordinated plan to (a) reduce the harm caused by bonfires to the environment and (b) facilitate alternative online activities for young and old to participate in.

Intelligence based operations and drone technology proved invaluable in monitoring vacant sites, open public spaces and green margins. Tracking the movement of hoarded bonfire materials yielded excellent results. Persistent removal of identified stockpiles from Dublin City Council housing complexes, namely Oliver Bond and Basin Street Flats, Dolphin House and nearby vacant /private sites had a major impact on reducing the movement of pallets and tyres into public open spaces.

Public Domain planned and organised operations across the South Central Area in co-operation with South East Area Housing, Waste Management and Parks Department. The Gardaí played a pivotal role in halting the movement of hoarded stockpiles. A Breffni cage truck was made available to the Gardaí in Kevin Street to this end, resulting in 22 Tonnes of bonfire materials, mainly pallets and tyres, being removed from the public domain. There was great cooperation and resource sharing between South East and South Central in Dublin 8 and Dublin 12, with a noticeable reduction in bonfire damage across both areas.

The main tranche of the 2020 Halloween Campaign began on 19th October with three significant finds on the 19th 21st and 22nd at Walkinstown Green, the NCAD Garden and Oliver Bond Street and ended on 31st October at 3.00 pm. A team of 19 people worked over the preceding Bank Holiday weekend to identify and track bonfire material movement. The locations included The Liberties, Pimlico, Kilmainham, Inchicore, Ballyfermot, Bluebell, Drimnagh, Crumlin, Kimmage and Walkinstown. **Two hundred and fifty nine bonfire material service requests** were raised and responded to. A huge volume of work that resulted in the **removal of approximately 165 ton of mixed bonfire materials** from the public domain.

There were a number of **key stockpiles** as listed below:-

SWIC	Quantity	Quantity	Ballyfermot /Drimnagh	Quantity
Oliver Bond Flats 4 visits	200 Pallets removed-	Truck load junk	Kylemore Pk. /JFK Ind. Est.)	4 Truckloads Pallets & Tyres
NCAD Garden	2 Truck loads Pallets & Tyres	Truck Load	Longmile/Naas Rd. Bus. Park/Industrial estates	4 Truck Loads pallets

Goldenbridge Ind. Est. canal lands	2 Truck load Pallets		Park West	6 Truck Loads Pallets
Basin St Flats vacant flat	200 pallets		Bluebell Ind Est	Truck load Pallets
St James Hospital	3 truck loads Pallets		Cherry Orchard Ind. Est. - 4 visits	2 truck loads Pallets Tyres and Household Junk
Dolphin House vacant flat	2 Truckload Pallets and Tyres		Killeen Rd Bridge/ Le Fanu Drive	2 Truck loads pallets

The Bonfires were fewer and decidedly smaller than previous years due to a number of factors:

- Team effort in spotting and retrieving pallets and tyres
- Garda Liaison

Cost Halloween Campaign 2020

Halloween 2020	Costs
Truck Hire & Labour	€ 25,370.00 ex VAT13.5%
Drone Surveillance	€ 605.00
Protective Fencing	€2,720.69
Thornton's Disposal of Bonfire Materials	€8700.00
Overtime	€28,160.21
Total	€65,555.90

The Clean-up operation began on November 2nd Waste Management and Parks have responded very quickly to remove bonfire residues from green spaces and adjacent roads and footpaths. The clean-up operation is now complete.

Positive outcomes

Bonfires greatly reduced in number and burn time. No out of control /large bonfires. There were three incidents where the Public Order Unit was called to Bridgefoot Street, St. Michael's Estate and Cherry Orchard Gardens. However, this was quelled quickly and there was very positive feedback from members of the community and An Garda Síochana regarding the overall success of the Halloween Campaign.

Bonfire Sites reported 1st November at following locations:

Ballyfermot /Bluebell/ /Drimnagh/Walkinstown		SWIC
Spiddal Green	Cherry Orchard Green	Basin St Flats
Croftwood Park	Cherry Orchard pk	St Michaels Est.
Cherry Orchard Ave	Oranmore Rd	Dolphin House
Cherry Orchard Cres	Le Fanu Pk	Devoy Rd
Carrow Road	Bluebell Rd	
Croftwood Grove	California Hills	
Barnville Pk		
Cleggan Rd		

Croftwood Gardens
Clifden Green
Benmadigan
Cherry Orchard new Park
Walkinstown Green

410 Ton Bonfire Material disposed of across the entire city, a reduction of almost 200 Ton across the city.

HALLOWEEN COMMUNITY REPORT – SOUTH WEST INNER CITY

THE LIBERTIES HAUNT FESTIVAL 2020 was a huge departure from the regular large-scale festival event which took place in several locations across the Liberties last year. The process throughout was particularly challenging as the city entered several different lockdown phases over the past 7 months, However we did our best under difficult circumstances for everyone concerned. The proposed plans shifted from virtual to physical and then back to virtual again. However, it was felt amongst the organising group and community that some form of festival entertainment should be provided to support those within the community who made the decision to Stay Home and Stay Safe this Halloween.

The members of the Halloween Organising Group led by the South West Inner City Community Development Team and Joined Up & Happenings Events, in collaboration with local youth services, local schools, residents and community organisations, were on hand once again (virtually from their homes and cars while working remotely) to plan and manage workshops, distribute materials and link in with the local community and schools in the area. Residents, schools and youth services across the Liberties area were given the opportunity to submit their entries for

- the best dressed balcony / window competition,
- their fancy dress and
- local schools were delighted to embrace the Mask Challenge which involved more than 400 young people to decorate their own mask and have their photos uploaded www.thelibertieshaunt

The **Liberties Haunt website** is a brand new addition this year and will be of great service to the festival in future years.

THE LIBERTIES HAUNT online show is now an asset for Dublin City Council and the community and stands as a great example of how a quality show can be produced featuring mostly young local talent.

Whilst we were aware that we were never going to be able to have the social impact of the previous year, we have received very positive feedback so far regarding the activities and entertainment which we were able to provide.

We hope this project inspired others to follow a path in the arts and to promote positive expression during a time that is particularly isolating for young people.

As Halloween was the first major celebratory occasion since lockdown in March, it was felt that an attempt to provide them with some form of entertainment and activity was of particular importance at this time.

Whilst a physical event was the preferred option by all, we had to prepare for the worst case scenario and not have to cancel a planned physical event that a lot of work and resources would have already been committed towards.

We are happy with what we managed to achieve under the circumstances and time constraints upon us. We hope that in an immediate future, which is quite uncertain, it can

stand as a model of the quality output and engagement that can be produced on a local community level.

Although our capacity and the possibility of physical interaction was greatly reduced, we still managed to meet with residents, (while adhering to Covid 19 safety measures) in some of the target areas with whom we wanted to engage with and were able to get their support in spreading the overarching message of **Stay Home and Stay Safe** for Halloween 2020, Whilst encouraging them to partake in the online activities provided some of which are detailed below.

- Activity packs (for download and a small number of hardcopies)
- Monster mash dance
- Best dressed balcony / window
- The liberties haunt virtual festival
- Creative and performance workshops
- The mask challenge

Promotion

- A social media campaign was launched with regular daily updates on both Facebook and Instagram.
- A press release was prepared and distributed to a number of media outlets and online platforms.
- The event was featured on a number of Dublin City Council platforms including Dublin City Radio.
- Posters and flyers were distributed in various locations around the Liberties area.
- The website was regularly updated.
- A trailer video was widely shared
- Promotional videos from a number of the main acts were shot and shared on multiple platforms
- The event was featured by the libertiesdublin.ie, Dublin.ie, exploreindublin.com, dublinpeople.com, dublincityfm.ie, dublincity.ie, dublineventguide.com amongst others....
- We adopted 2 streaming services for the live-streaming. One private streaming service which was featured on the website and also YouTube. This was recommended in case the stream went down on YouTube for any reason.

This technology allowed for the live stream to be broadcast to YouTube and the website concurrently. Between the two services we clocked up approximately 1,000 individual viewings.

HALLOWEEN COMMUNITY REPORT BALLYFERMOT / DRIMNAGH AREA

There were 3 elements to the Halloween activities in Ballyfermot and Drimnagh this year.

Virtual initiatives

Outdoor Events

Publicity / Safety Campaign

Virtual Events

Saint John Bosco Youth Centre organized a virtual family Bingo on Halloween night that 60 participants took part in.

Familibase organised a virtual Live Mic Music Night on Halloween night that 100 watched live and 300 viewed over the weekend.

“Sing Act Dance” Drama group created a flash dance performance in Brickfield Park to share a happy Halloween message from the Drimnagh community which was shared through

social media over the Halloween Weekend (about 600 Hits) see attached link <https://vimeo.com/470909551/be245119f0>

Spooky House competitions were held in Ballyfermot and Drimnagh. With the entrants uploaded on Facebook, prizes were awarded for the best spooky house and for the best use of recycled materials.

Outdoor Events

The Youth Organisations wanted to hold outdoor events in Brickfield Park and Le Fanu Park to have a visible presence in the area on the day. Youth Leaders had a strong presence on the streets throughout the day and early evening in both areas, which discouraged young people from congregating.

The Ballyfermot Youth Service organised 3 Fancy Dress cycle trips throughout the day involving over 45 young people

Coaching events that included skateboard and BMX for beginners were held in the skateboard Skate Park on the day that catered for 50 young people. An outdoor Barbeque took place in the Skateboard Park. Youth Service staff monitored the park on Halloween evening too.

2 Street Murals and an outdoor photography project were worked on throughout the week and completed on Saturday 31st.

Publicity / Poster Campaign

The 8ft x 3ft Halloween "Think and be aware" Boards that were displayed prominently throughout the area were very successful and received a lot of positive comments.

Summary

This year our activities targeted young people and small outdoor events rather than big family friendly activities.

While numbers attending the outdoor events were restricted, they were a distraction and deterrent for young people from more dangerous activities.

Street Youth work engagement this year was very important in deterring young people from anti-social behaviour. Great credit is due to the Youth Workers that were out and about most of the Saturday evening.

Mary Taylor
Director of Services