



Breviate of the Dublin South Central Joint Policing Committee held on the 28th September 2020

In accordance with Standing Orders of the Dublin City Council, the Breviate of the meeting of the Dublin South Central Joint Policing Committee held on the **28th September 2020** is set out hereunder:

1. Minutes of Meeting held on Monday 27th January 2020

Chair (Daithi Doolan) submitted minutes for approval. Proposed by Vincent Jackson, seconded by Daithi DeRoiste

2. South Central Matters:

a) Presentation by Peter Dorman – “Building Community Resilience”

- The following points of interest were discussed and comment given by the members present.
- It was proposed that there is a need for greater funding of resources for the Cherry Orchard/Ballyfermot area focused at a community level similar to that in the North Inner City Area.
- A proposal to increase training to facilitate the four community forums.
- The need to facilitate the LPF and forums linking into the JPC.
- That the LPF's propose a member to sit on the JPC.
- It was proposed that rather than focus on hot spots individually an approach that took in the entire Sth. Central area was needed to take into account the movement of individuals across area boundaries.
- It was requested that the JPC submit a letter to the Minister to seek the funding necessary for a dedicated team of outreach workers to meet the demand within the area.
- A list of problem hot spots across the South Central Area was established.

Issues raised were noted and a response was given by Peter Dorman and Mary Taylor.

b) Community representation on JPC

The following points of interest were discussed and comment given by the members present.

- A more direct working relationship between the community forums, the LPF and local Garda Stations was proposed.
- The chairs of each of the LPF be invited to join the next JPC meeting.
- Each LPF identify a community rep and one from the PPN to attend the next JPC meeting.

c) Halloween

The following points of interest were discussed and comment given by the members present.

- The Halloween programme for the Ballyfermot area would be circulated to councillors this week.
- The importance of community contacts to identify the location of bonfire material, along with the fencing off of vulnerable areas such as Weaver Park on Cork St. and using drones to locate the material hidden from view.
- Garda representatives present discussed operation Tombola and advised Gardaí would be on hand to protect DCC staff removing materials.
- Garda representatives present informed members that An Garda Síochána would be visiting licensed premises to ensure alcohol was not sold to underage customers. The Gardaí were also linking in with schools to launch the Halloween safety message.

d) The increased use of fireworks in the area

- Local Councillors stated that the preparation for Halloween was starting earlier and they were utilising zoom to communicate with schools.
- Garda representatives from the Ballyfermot district referred to Operation Tombola in Ballyfermot and advised that as information came in, in regards to where bonfire materials are stored, Gardaí will take action and seize fireworks.
- Community representatives brought it to member's attention that people were fearful of going into the parks and asked if the Superintendent would visit the area to restore the confidence of people on the ground.
- Garda representatives present informed the members of the following actions being taken by An Garda Síochána –
 - a) A remote school presentation was being prepared.
 - b) That tyre supplier companies were being asked to ensure tyres were disposed of securely.
 - c) Publicans were being advised to guard against underage sales.
 - d) All stations are seeking extra resources for the Halloween period.
 - e) Gardaí were engaging with school principals and undertaking outdoor meetings.
 - f) Gardaí were able to make smaller seizures but were dependant on intelligence to succeed in making larger seizures.
 - g) The incident of the child losing the top of their finger going out on social media was very effective in bringing home the message to the target group.
 - h) Gardaí would be deploying the maximum resources on the ground in the lead up to and on the day of Halloween night.
 - i) That Gardaí had very limited powers to intervene in house parties.

e) Update from Garda Canal Task Force

Garda representatives' present advised members that they had engaged in a covert and overt strategy across the D8 and D12 areas to tackle the problems on the canal thoroughfare, which had been effective and that the changing of the access gates had meant that users did not have to slow down where youths were waiting.

Senior management from Dublin City Council advised that the investment in improved lighting had made a difference but that there was an ongoing issue in terms of allowing access by bicycles whilst trying to restrict scramblers.

3. Garda Matters:

Garda reports from: -

DMR South Central Division for Kevin Street and Kilmainham Stations

DMR West Division for Ballyfermot Garda Station

DMR South Division, for Crumlin District & Terenure Sub-District

Statistical data was reviewed and discussed.

Order: Reports noted.

The following issues were raised and a response was given by members of An Garda Síochána present at the meeting: -

- It was requested that community Gardaí be present to protect inner-city areas such as weavers Sq. Park and Pimlico green.
- That Gardaí can identify areas of greatest collective concern but that they are dependent on councillors and members of the community to inform them with a view to redeploying staff across areas and that Garda contact emails would be included.
- Dublin City Council officials advised that any information brought to their attention by Gardaí would be dealt with through interviewing tenants that had been identified as taking part.

4. Anti-social Behaviour:

Dublin City Council Estate Management Reports from: -

Ballyfermot Area Office

South West Inner City Area Office

Order: Noted

The following points of interest were discussed and a response given by the members present.

- It was requested that undercover Gardaí could be assigned to parks that youths and adults were openly dealing drugs in parks.
- It was requested that Gardaí tackle the anti-social activity outside the takeaway at Benbulbin Rd. /Drimnagh.
- It was reported that there was an increase in incidences of domestic violence.
- An increase in drivers using drugs and a small decrease in drink driving was reported.
- Gardaí had more tester devices available to them and were increasingly using them.
- That the corner of Benbulbin Road, Drimnagh requires an ongoing Garda Presence.
- That motorists were blocking footpath access to parks; Cars were parked on Drimnagh and Crumlin roads.

5. Dublin South Central Joint Policing Work Plan

Order: Report noted.

Work Plan Review

It was proposed that a schedule of 10/12 hotspot areas be drawn up and that Gardaí resources would target those areas.

6. A. O. B.

Date of next meeting agreed: Monday 30th November 2:30 Pm

Cllr. Daithi Doolan

Chairperson

28th September 2020

Attendance

Deputies:

Deputy Aengus Ó Snodaigh

Deputy Patrick Costello

Councillors:

Councillor, Daithi Doolan (Chairperson)

Councillor Sophie Nicoullaud

Councillor Vincent Jackson

Councillor Tina McVeigh

Councillor Pat Dunne

Councillor Michael Pidgeon

Councillor Michael Watters

Councillor Daithi De Roiste

Councillor Darragh Moriarty

Gardaí:

Chief Superintendent Michael McElgun

Chief Superintendent Peter Duff

Superintendent Edward Carroll

Community Representative:

Joe Donohoe

Peter Dorman, Community Action Network

Officials:

Mary Taylor, Director of Services, South Central Area

Bruce Phillips, Area Manager, South Central Area

Kay Noonan-Cork, Acting Area Manager, Ballyfermot / Chapelizod

Tony Smithers, Acting Area Housing Manager, South Central Area Office

John Paul McCabe, Area Housing Manager, Ballyfermot Area Office

Apologies:

Deputy Joan Collins

Aoife Gallagher