

**Housing, Community & Emergency Services Department  
South East Area Office**

**To the Chairperson and Members of the  
South East Area Committee**

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**Report of the Director of Services, South City**

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**Grand Canal Sub Group**

A meeting was held on 16<sup>th</sup> January with Waterways Ireland representatives and Councillors to discuss ongoing management and maintenance of the canals in the city and to agree a new structure for interaction between Waterways Ireland and DCC. A further meeting was held on 20<sup>th</sup> February 2020 with Waterways Ireland Management to agree the structure of meetings going forward. The first quarterly meeting was held on 14<sup>th</sup> October 2020 via Microsoft Teams. Minutes have now been issued and next meeting is due to be held in January 2021.

**Portobello Harbour Square**

An initial meeting was held with City Architects Department on 17<sup>th</sup> October 2019 to examine an outline brief for the proposed redesign of Portobello Harbour Square, bearing in mind the proposed hotel development on the site. A meeting was held on site with hotel developer's architects, John Fleming and Associates, on 12<sup>th</sup> March 2020 and a further meeting took place with the developer in July 2020 to discuss site area and future plans for the redesign of the public square. The developer has notified us of delays to the project with commencement of works likely to be delayed until early 2021 at least. In the meantime we are engaging with City Architects Department to make a plan for public engagement in relation to the redesign of the square. Consultation is planned to commence in January 2021. A mural has been created along the square with the cost borne by Jurys Hotel and a series of art images have been installed on the canal side of the hoarding by Waterways Ireland working with NCAD.

**Portobello Plaza**

A meeting will be arranged with Councillors in January to discuss the proposed consultation for Portobello Plaza.

**Rathgar Village Improvement Plan (VIP)**

Herzog Park, Rathgar – Final Phase

The Rathgar Village Improvement Plan (VIP) was approved by the South East Area Committee in January 2015. One of the main objectives that emerged during the formation of the plan was the redevelopment of Herzog Park. The South East Area Office undertook local consultation and worked with Redscape and Park Services to create a plan which was brought to Part 8 and approved at the January 2017 meeting of the City Council. The final phase of the works planned for 2021 include the re-alignment of the front boundary of the park and the revised car park layout, as set out in the Part 8 permission. It is proposed that the tender for the car park works will issue in early 2021. Boundary treatment and further landscaping inside the park will be required as part of the works to finish the project in 2021.

**Ranelagh Gardens Park**

Works to light / enhance the main entrance archway will be carried out in 2020. A contractor has been appointed and the specification has now been agreed with Public Lighting Section and works will be carried out in December 2021. Renewal of display boards at entrances to the park may be considered for 2021, subject to finance.

### **Ringsend Irishtown Local Environment Improvement Plan (LEIP)**

The Ringsend Irishtown Local Environment Improvement Plan (LEIP) was adopted at the June 2017 South East Area Committee meeting. Following that it was proposed to prepare planning applications under Part 8 of the Planning and Development Regulations, 2001, for the redesign of (1) Library Square and (2) Cambridge Road.

**Library Square:** (Mitchell & Associates) Meetings with internal stakeholders were held during September and October 2018. A meeting was held with local businesses to discuss parking / loading arrangements on 5th December 2018. A presentation was made to area councillors on 13th February 2019 and a preliminary draft design was brought to a public meeting for all stakeholders on Thursday 21st March 2019 in the Ringsend Irishtown Community Centre (RICC). Following a period of consultation up to 19th April 2019, submissions were received and were reviewed by the project team. A revised design was brought before the Public Realm Working Group on 22<sup>nd</sup> October 2019. A meeting of all internal stakeholders was held on 28<sup>th</sup> November 2019 and further meetings were required with key departments. We are currently engaging with Roads Design and Construction Section to establish if they will oversee completion of project to Part 8 stage. In the meantime we are engaging with other internal stakeholders to identify any outstanding issues. When all issues have been resolved satisfactorily, Councillors will be briefed before commencing formal Part 8 process.

**Cambridge Road:** An initial public workshop in relation to Cambridge Road was held on Thursday 30th August 2018 in the RICC. Meetings with Redscape Architects and internal stakeholders took place in September and October and designs were drafted based on consultations which were brought to a second public workshop/meeting on 28<sup>th</sup> November 2018. Pre Part 8 report and drawings issued in December 2018 did not meet the requirements of E & T Department, however. Further information was required in relation to road design and drainage requirements for the proposal in particular. In 2019 Road Design & Construction Section, E & T Department, agreed to take on the completion of the project to Part 8 stage. Detailed meetings are ongoing with between Roads Design & Construction and internal departments with a view to agreeing an overall design before commencing Part 8 planning process. Parks Services Department has requested that a Ground Penetrating Radar (GPR) survey be carried out prior to Part 8 to identify location of underground services and any impact on tree planting. Drainage Department welcomes the provision of additional greening providing a SuDS benefit and a proposed new surface water main is being considered in conjunction with Irish Water. Agreement of the final design for the road has been delayed as we wait for the NTA to finalise the route for the East Coast Trail (ECT) which will either traverse Cambridge Road or run along part of Cambridge Road from Canon Mooney Gardens to Thorncastle Street. Work on GPR survey and preliminary design of new surface water main will continue as we await final decision on ECT route from NTA. This will inevitably delay lodgement of Part 8 planning application. It will be necessary also to bring new design back to local consultation prior to lodgement of Part 8 application which is expected to happen during 2021.

### **Cabbage Patch**

Plans are in place to refurbish the football pitch in the Cabbage Patch in the spring. The work is expected to take 4/6 weeks to complete and will be weather dependent. We will also be having discussions with Debby Clarke, Play Officer in Parks to consider what play possibilities/opportunities there may be for the Cabbage Patch given the history of this site. The football pitch refurbishment and introduction of a play element were key items highlighted in our public consultation held in 2019.

We are also in discussions with the Social Inclusion Section in Housing and the Iveagh Trust on a proposed mural for the wall in Cathedral Lane. We have also recently pruned the trees in New Street Gardens and carried out repairs to the pavement in this area.

### **Rosary Hall**

It is necessary to carry out remedial works for the acquired premises at Rosary Hall. Consultant Architects and Quantity Surveyors have been engaged to determine and

coordinate the full extent of works required on site. A drone & topographical survey have been concluded.

Onsite meetings have taken place between the Consultant Architects, DCC's Architect and Area Manager and an itinerary of potential costs has been prepared by Consultant architect with the assistance of a Consultant QS.

It is now anticipated that works could cost in the region of €300,000 including mechanical & electrical works, fire safety works, some remedial works and lift replacement. Therefore, a priority list of works has been prepared. No definitive funding had been identified for this project as yet. Due to the fact that the Covid-19 pandemic is financially impacting on the income base of the City Council, a review of all projects is underway. The financial impact will primarily be determined by the length of time the current restrictions are in place which ultimately could impact on the scope of this project.

A brief meeting took place on site with the main lessors in mid-June whilst practicing social distancing to bring the committee up to speed.

Legionella Testing took place on June 18th and the results were negative.

An initiative with our Age Friendly Committee involved the utilisation of some of the land at Rosary Hall for a Community Grow Hub. A revised proposal was forwarded to the football club in August for consideration. The football club has indicated that after 'comprehensive and careful consideration that this proposal is not compatible with the present use of the site' and the members of the Grow Hub have been informed accordingly.

As outlined to the members previously, an approach was made by the adjoining developer to rebuild the Community facilities and upgrade the pitch to an all-weather facility if they could add to their co living scheme on the Kenilworth site. However, due to Procurement legislation Dublin City Council is not in a position to deal exclusively with this developer.

The Area Manager has written a detailed report to the Executive Manager, Planning and Property Development Department requesting that development levies accrued from the Harold's Cross area, which are considerable, be utilised to assist in the refurbishment of Rosary Hall.

### **Age Friendly Initiative Harold's Cross**

The inaugural meeting of the Age Friendly Committee took place on January 28th and was well attended. A draft report was submitted by the Harold's Cross Village Community Council (HCVCC) in conjunction with Rob Chester, Area Community Officer and it was agreed to progress a number of these proposals funding permitting. In tandem, it is proposed to hold a workshop to further engage with the residents and ensure particularly any elderly resident who was not consulted has an opportunity to contribute to the process and be included. A further meeting took place March 10th and was well attended and the plan to date was reviewed. Key points from the meeting included that the Community Growing Hub initiative is accelerating at pace and will require assistance from DCC & the football club for use of Rosary Hall.

A new location will need to be sourced for the defibrillator, as it will not be possible to locate it in Harold's Cross Park per Les Moore. A proposed date of Thursday the 30th of April had been set for the facilitation and independent facilitator, Deirdre Massey had been contacted to assist with the consultation. Concerns about Covid – 19 meant the workshop was deferred.

A subgroup under the Housing SPC has been convened to look at the city-wide Age Friendly Strategy. Under this structure, submissions for funding may be advanced, including the Harold's Cross project.

Due to the current government guidelines and restrictions all physical meetings are currently postponed until further guidelines allow for larger meetings.

As stated, an initiative for consideration by the Age Friendly Committee was for the utilisation of some of the land at Rosary Hall for a Grow Hub and a revised proposal was forwarded to the board in August for consideration who are not in a position to facilitate.

Meetings took place on November 4<sup>th</sup> and December 10<sup>th</sup> and the next one is scheduled for February 4<sup>th</sup>.

A defibrillator has been installed in Harold's Cross as part of the Age Friendly Initiatives.

### **Pearse Memorial Park Crèche**

The crèche extension was to be financed by the Crumlin Childcare Crèche and with DCC agreeing to project manage the construction works in conjunction with consultant architects. The build element after tendering was to cost in the region of €305k. The crèche has reserve funding themselves, a €50,000 grant from Pobal and, €25000 from discretionary funding and had sought a loan from Clan Credo of €125,000. The works had been tendered by our Parks & Landscape Services Division and was to be project managed by this section. A separate hurling wall project has been tendered by Parks and will be paid for by DCC.

A further licence extension of another five years (10 in total) was agreed at the December Area Committee meeting and was agreed at the January council Meeting. The crèche management has indicated that due to the uncertainty around the reopening of the crèche which will impact significantly on their ability to repay a loan, they are not in a position to continue with the project at this juncture.

A €45,000 grant had also been issued by Pobal but unfortunately, the extension on the government grant ran out and they have been unsuccessful in getting this extended. The result of this is that the funding has been rescinded and they have been asked to return the €45,000 as 90% fulfilment of the Pobal capital.

The Area Manager has met with the crèche manager and architect to see how the project might be 'future proofed' in the event that the extension can proceed in the coming years. The Area Manager will continue to meet with the crèche management to see how the new licensed area can be best utilised to assist with social distancing as the children have returned.

Discretionary Funding of €25,000 was granted to the group in 2017 towards the cost of the crèche and as the 'future proofing work' and 'boundary works' have now been costed at €44.9k it is the board's intention to utilise these monies for these works which fall within the spirit of the funding. Works have been ongoing over the last few months but there was a short delay in the completion of the works due to issues regarding the access gate to the park but this matter was rectified last month and works were completed.

### **Rutland Grove**

Meeting took place on 30<sup>th</sup> January with traffic engineers, Les Moore from Parks, Area Manager and staff and Cllr. Pat Dunne. It was agreed at the meeting that Traffic Section would look again at the feasibility of putting dedicated parking as per Part 8. Should it be possible to implement, the design would need to be progressed and costed. Parks are also prepared to look at enhancements at the entrance with additional trees etc.

Traffic have indicated that staff are currently seconded to be involved in DCC's Covid Mobility Interventions and are working on very fast rapid interventions throughout the City. Therefore, they have very little spare resources at present to be involved with any possible Rutland Grove parking changes as other Covid Mobility projects are taking priority.

The Area Manager and Public Domain Officer met with the secretary of Rutland Grove Association on Monday 30<sup>th</sup> November to discuss ongoing levels of anti-social behaviour. As a result, signage is to be upgraded at entrance to the Bring Centre to assist with prosecutions. Extra security measures are also being considered at this entrance. Planters have been installed at the entrance to enhance the environment and assist with ongoing illegal parking at the entrance.

### **Armagh Road Senior Citizens' complex - FOLD Voluntary Housing Association (VHA)**

All blocks have now been handed over and the complex is fully tenanted.

### **Raleigh Square Senior Citizens' Complex - Tuath Voluntary Housing Association (VHA)**

All units have been allocated and all tenants signed up. It is expected that all units will be occupied by Christmas.

### **St. Pancras, Mount Tallant**

Inspections and snagging are still being completed. Units will not now be handed over until January. DCC have now agreed to purchase a further 4 one bed units.

### **Choice Based Lettings**

In recent months it has become difficult to allocate units in Grove Road and Rathmines Avenue flats, under the standard Housing Allocations Scheme. Accordingly we have now decided to allocate current and upcoming void units in these complexes under a Choice Based Letting Scheme. Vacancies will be advertised on the Dublin City Council Website and all area Councillors will be advised of vacancies as they arise.

As previously advised we are also giving consideration to allocating some of our lower demand Senior Citizens units under a Choice Based Letting Scheme. However, at this point we are experiencing sufficient demand for these units under the standard Housing Allocations Scheme and do not currently need to adopt a Choice Based Letting Scheme. We will keep this matter under review.

### **Community Development Section.**

Please find below a list of current initiatives taking place in the South East Area organised or supported by the Community Development Team of the South East Area Office (three LEAs combined).

### **Biodiversity Projects**

Biodiversity projects at Portobello and Rathmines Park are in the early planning stages which will encourage residents of all ages to become involved in activities such as wildflower planting in their garden, fruit bearing tree planting, "Spring Watch", photography exhibitions, a night-time watch project and children's competitions, all of which can take place from the confines of one's home. A very special project at Military Road in Rathmines is also about to get underway – see **Military Road Nature Haven** below

### **Community Art Projects**

The painting of suitable utility boxes by local artists continues where any local group identifies a suitable location/unit. We are currently reviewing a proposal to install a mural in Pearse Park in conjunction with the Parks Department, BRU Crumlin and other interested parties.

### **COVID Volunteer Response**

The South East Area Office continues to liaise closely with all local Community Response Teams in assisting those who are isolating or in need of assistance in the community. Some teams remain very active. For example, Ranelagh Community Response operating from the kitchen of our sheltered housing scheme, Woodstock Court, deliver 70 meals a day, 7 days a week.

### **Dublin City Council & ALONE Cold Weather Strategy**

Earlier this month, Dublin City Council's Community Development Section in association with ALONE, the Gardaí and Dublin Fire Brigade launched this initiative which encourages people to check in on older residents in their community this winter.

### **Holding It Together Apart**

Classes and tutorials ranging from children's crafts to creative writing to yoga remain online, targeting those who may be staying home during the winter months and lockdown periods.

[www.holdingittogetherapart.com](http://www.holdingittogetherapart.com)

### **Harold's Cross Writer in Residence**

We are supporting a *Writer in Residence* who will deliver a series of online lectures and talks and will be forming a group of interested participants from Harold's Cross and the wider area.

### **HXGrow Project**

We are continuing to support this project that grew out of the Harold's Cross Age Friendly Initiative. A Christmas plant exchange has taken place and they have initiated a series of online classes to produce Christmas gifts from locally grown items.

### **Men's Sheds Projects**

Support for these groups will be provided where the group activity is mainly outdoors. We have recently arranged for some Christmas Hampers for members who are isolated and living alone.

### **Military Road Nature Haven**

This partnership project between Dublin City Council, the local community, St. Louis Senior Primary School and St. Mary's Primary School will promote and reintroduce more biodiversity into this urban setting with biologist and radio/TV personality, Eanna Ní Lamhna, acting in an ambassadorial role. Custom made pollinator and wildflower planter boxes, bird boxes and bat boxes are to be in place in early January, with planting to take place thereafter.

### **Neighbourhood and Environmental Development**

Assistance is being given on an ongoing basis to Tidy Towns, Environmental and other groups with clean ups and some winter bedding planting taking place.

### **New-born Knitting**

New-born Knitting is a community initiative set up by members of Let's Walk & Talk to provide baby blankets, cardigans, hats and teddies for new-born babies and their older siblings in refugee camps on the Greek island of Samos. This initiative will be piloted in selected sheltered housing schemes including Verschoyle Court, Ranelagh Close, Woodstock Court and Charlemont Court by the end of 2020.

### **'Our Light into Dark' Children's Art Exhibition**

This project is organised by Dublin City Council in partnership with the Holy Trinity Church and Kildare Place National School in Rathmines and comprises over 200 art works from local children, highlighting goodwill and community spirit in response to what have been difficult times of late. These paintings and art pieces are currently being exhibited on the railings of the Holy Trinity Church on Belgrave Road.

### **Park/Sports Events**

Supports for various outdoor sporting and healthy activities in our local parks will continue right throughout the winter period in conjunction with our Sports Officers and local sports clubs. No indoor activity will be supported.

### **Planter Projects (Vibrant Villages Project)**

Ongoing upgrade of planter boxes and supply of new units continues as required across the villages. New planter boxes have recently been installed at Portobello, Cowper Road, Military Road, Belgrave Road, Woodstock Court, Ranelagh Village, Rutland Grove Estate (entrance to Eamon Ceannt Park), Kimmage Village and Dunville Avenue. Many new projects are at the planning stage for early 2021.

### **Pride of Place**

Pride of Place is an all-island competition recognising improvements made by local communities to create civic pride in their area. This year, the South East Area enjoyed unprecedented success with both Donnybrook Tidy Towns and St. Patrick's Cathedral

receiving awards; the only two winning entrants from Dublin. A special mention in St. Patrick's Cathedral's application was given to Halloween at the Cabbage Patch which is an inter-agency initiative led by the South East Area Office.

### **Ranelagh Arts Centre**

A new home has been found for Ranelagh Arts at 6a Ranelagh Close, close to the premises they had rented for almost 10 years. A licence agreement is currently being drafted, with our Development Department due to hand over keys to the group before Christmas.

### **Rathgar Village Square**

Support is being provided to this Covid-19 Community Response initiative in Rathgar village. Once restrictions are lifted the outdoor meeting place will be reopened for general use by members of the public.

### **'Reaching Out' Christmas Contributions**

Support has been given to groups towards seasonal gift packs for older people who are living alone or in need of assistance. These parcels will include toiletries, food items, word search books, hats/scarves and some Christmas goodies. This initiative has been run in conjunction with Ringsend & Irishtown Community Centre, St. Andrew's Resource Centre, Terenure Community Gardaí, Terenure Residents' Association, Men's Sheds Projects and Ranelagh Community Response. Packages of goodies have been distributed to local groups with a significant cohort of young people.

### **Ringsend & Irishtown Community Centre Community Programmes**

We have been providing support to some of the valuable activities run by Ringsend & Irishtown Community Centre including the Men's Shed, Christmas Quarantine Quiz, Older Persons' Movie and Bingo Clubs and their After Schools Programme.

### **Sustainable Gardening Course**

A free 5 week gardening course run through Zoom will be provided in January for those interested in sustainability. Topics covered will include sustainable living, growing your own food, wildflower areas, bio-scaping, cuttings, digging without damaging your back and planting for biodiversity. Our allotment holders, Tidy Towns groups and various community groups will all be availing of this. Registration will be via [www.holdingittogetherapart.com](http://www.holdingittogetherapart.com)

### **SEA City Neighbourhoods Awards**

In the absence of an Awards Ceremony this year, awards are now being distributed by community staff to community groups, schools and businesses in recognition of their valuable work in improving and enhancing their neighbourhoods.

### **Village Defibrillators**

The unit supplied under the Harold's Cross Age Friendly Initiative has been installed on the wall of the Credit Union in Harold's Cross. Development work and fundraising continues for the two units proposed for Terenure.

### **Whitefriar Street Strings Ensemble**

In 2020, ten students from the Strings Project were awarded scholarships to become members of the YOPS Junior Orchestra. One student was also awarded a music scholarship to Alexandra College in Milltown, whilst three students have progressed to St. Louis High School in Rathmines where they are able to take music as a core subject. YOPS Senior & Junior Orchestras (featuring many Whitefriar Street Strings members from over the years) were awarded 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> place respectively at the Arklow Music Festival 2020.

**In what has been a very difficult year for local community groups and volunteer organisations, we are very grateful to all those involved in the above for their commitment and efforts.**

**All Information correct as time of publication but are subject to change.**

### **Waste Management / Environmental Services**

- Leaflets re the feeding of birds delivered to Rathdrum Road / Kells Road.
- Anti-sticker paint on trial basis in Temple Bar & Portobello Harbour.
- Ongoing graffiti removal using contractor and DCC crews.

### **Community Clean up Support**

- 16 requests for the delivery of blue DCC bags
- 54 were for requests for the collection of blue DCC bags.

### **Abandoned Bike Removal**

406 bikes have been removed for 2020.



## **SOUTH EAST AREA COMMITTEE**

### **DUBLIN CITY SPORT & WELLBEING PARTNERSHIP REPORT**

**JANUARY 2021**



DCSWP Programmes for 2021 are currently in the planning process and include perennial flagship events Change For Life and the Lord Mayor's 5-Alive challenge.

Supporting communities in the South East area to continue to stay active and healthy regardless of age, ability or background also continues during the Christmas break and into the January period.

#### **Online/Social Media Supports:**

- Twitter: [@dccsportsrec](https://twitter.com/dccsportsrec)
- Facebook: [DublinCitySportandWellbeing](https://www.facebook.com/DublinCitySportandWellbeing)
- Instagram: [@dublincitysportandwellbeing](https://www.instagram.com/dublincitysportandwellbeing)

#### **Advisory Booklets:**

These booklets provide critical advice for Older Adults in our communities on how to maintain physical activity and exercise if at home (Stay Home, Stay Healthy, Stay Active) and/or advice on how to return safely to exercise outside the home (Let's Get Moving Again). The booklets are produced by DCSWP in partnership with Age Friendly Ireland, HSE, Irish Society for Chartered Physiotherapists and Local Sports Partnerships.

- Stay Home, Stay Healthy, Stay Active: <https://www.dublincity.ie/sites/default/files/content/Housing/Documents/OlderAdultsBooklet.pdf>
- Let's Get Moving Again: <https://www.iscp.ie/news/Lets-Get-Moving-Again-Booklet-Launch>

#### **Change For Life**

Change for Life is an 8 week programme that aims to improve the health of local communities through a partnership approach designed to support people to become more physically active on a regular basis and adopt a healthier diet. The programme runs in tandem with the RTE Operation Transformation TV show.

The programme was first developed in 2013 when a partnership was developed between Dublin City Sport & Wellbeing Partnership, Fatima Groups United, Health Promotion & Improvement, HSE Dublin Mid-Leinster and Dolphin Health Project. This partnership identified a need to tackle the issues of obesity and low physical activity levels in communities across the city in a new and innovative way

While weight loss has always been considered an important aspect of the programme Change For Life also aims to address other health indicators that could be improved through participation such as aerobic fitness, body fat percentage and blood pressure. Improving the

psychological well-being of participants was also considered an important outcome of the programme. This all-round approach includes fitness assessments, general exercise classes, a 5K timed walk at the start and end of the programme to establish progress and nutritional/dietary advice.

The programme expanded further in 2020 with the inclusion of a DCC staff Change For Life initiative run by DCSWP Citywide Sport Officers. The programme offered boxercise, circuit training and body pump classes. Physical assessments were provided at the start of the programme and were repeated in week 8.

### **Change For Life 2021**

DCSWP has secured funding from Healthy Ireland to deliver Change For Life in 2021. Given current challenges and potential further/evolving public safety restrictions the programme may commence at a later date and will be delivered in alternative formats to previous years. DCSWP has been informed it has until May 2021 to deliver the programme. .

Planning of these programmes for all areas is in the early stages with discussions ongoing on issues regarding planning and delivery. Details on 8-week Change For Life South East area programmes will be provided in the 2021 area committee reports on an ongoing basis. Programmes are being planned in conjunction with Home School Liaison Officers and local groups.

### **Lord Mayor's 5 Alive Challenge 2021**

The Lord Mayor's 5 Alive Challenge is back for 2021! Every year the challenge aims to inspire people to take up regular exercise and find the encouragement to stick to what may be a New Year's Resolution through to the end of March and beyond.

The challenge will be slightly different this year in view of Covid-19 Health and Safety considerations. We are going virtual this year but are delighted to join with regular races such as the Tom Brennan New Year's Day 5k, AXA Raheny 5 Mile and MSB St. Patrick's 5k who have also gone virtual.

The Lord Mayor's Challenge is to complete all 5 races within the timeframe allowed by the race rules. As 2021 participants will be taking part virtually they can complete them at any time within the timeframe allowed in whatever location suits. When all 5 races have been completed LM 5 Alivers will receive medals and the Lord Mayor's scroll.

### **Operation Transformation Walks – Get Dublin Walking**

Each year the core DCSWP Get Dublin Walking community programmes aimed at Underactive Adults link in with Operation Transformation national walk initiatives. There will be no national walks in 2021 for Covid related reasons, but multiple 5k walk /runs in local parks permitting 15 people to register per hour are in the planning stages. A provisional date has been set for Friday 19<sup>th</sup> February 2021. Details TBC.

### **Get All Girls Active – GAGA**

Get All Girls Active or 'GAGA' is DCSWP's core programme is dedicated to increasing opportunities for females to participate in sport and physical activity. Research has shown that teenage girls are at a higher risk of dropping out of sport and exercise than any other demographic. Our dedicated programme recognises that we have a pivotal role to play in ensuring opportunities like this are provided to keep teenage girls active and healthy.

In 2020, as part of the expansion of programme, DCSWP applied for and secured Healthy Ireland funding to roll out a Women in Sport Initiative which led to the development and delivery of a school physical activity and exercise programme aimed at teenage girls aged 12-15 years.

While the Covid-19 pandemic has proved to be a challenge in getting this programme up and running it has been successfully delivered in 5 schools in North Dublin this semester:

To date approximately 150 girls have taken part in this initiative which has included Zumba classes, aerobic and circuit training, athletics, volleyball, and tag rugby.

- Further GAGA programmes are in the planning stages for 2021 across areas in the city.

### **Orienteering**

DCSWP recently teamed up with Orienteering Ireland to support young people, families and adults of all abilities to take up something a little different. Orienteering provides great opportunities for everyone to develop important life skills, build self-esteem and learn the benefits of teamwork in the great outdoors. Training workshops delivered by Orienteering Ireland in October 2020 have provided DCSWP Sport Officers with the knowledge and practical understanding of teaching the basic skills of orienteering to get groups up and running.

DCSWP has also worked closely with Orienteering Ireland around the use of technology to map parks across the Dublin region that can potentially play host to orienteering programmes and maximise the delivery of this very positive outdoor initiative. Full details TBC.

### **Sport Inclusion & Integration**

- The online 'Sit Fit' programmes supports people with physical disabilities to remain active via its adapted sitting exercise programme. Full details on times and dates for January TBC.
- SIIO officers are currently planning 2021 Change For Life programmes. Programmes will be delivered both online and in person (pending restrictions). Activities will include walking, circuit classes, dance classes and Sit Fit classes.

### **Training**

- Safeguarding Training to commence once Officer training complete.
- In partnership with CARA, the online Disability & Inclusion Training programme was recently launched. This is part of a series of online Disability in Sport training programmes already in operation. The first online training programme of 2021 will be delivered on Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> January.

### **Co-Funded Programmes**

DCSWP 27 Co-funded officers will continue to work across communities and schools in Dublin city area in the delivery of Athletics, Boxing, Cricket, Football, Rowing and Rugby programmes from January 2021.

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