



Comhairle Cathrach
Bhaile Átha Cliath
Dublin City Council

**The Chairman and Members of
North West Area Committee.**

Meeting: 12th December 2023

Item No: 7

Ballymun Area Office Report

- 1. LAP Update**
- 2. Community and Social Development Update**
- 3. Economic Development Update**
- 4. Housing Report**
- 5. Area Wide Updates**

1. Local Area Plan Update

Vacant DCC units

Shangan Neighbourhood Centre

- The disposal of unit 3 to the STAR Project for their Easy Street team is progressing with their architect now preparing drawings for the unit

Turnpike, Santry Cross

We are continuing to advertise these units and facilitate site visits. It is listed on Daft and enquiries can be made to liam.barry@dublincity.ie there were 3 viewings during November. For further information: [Commercial property for rent in The Turnpike, Santry Cross, Ballymun, Dublin 9 \(daft.ie\)](#)

Shop-front Improvement Scheme

O’Riordan’s Pub, Finglas is the latest to avail of the shop-front improvement scheme with a fresh repaint of the façade, replacement of signage and installation of new external lighting



Site 21 Balbutcher Lane/Belclare View

Site works have commenced with reduce dig and the location of existing services for diversion. The excavation and concreting of foundations has also begun. The Contractor has advised that all works will finish on site, on Friday 22nd December 2023 and will return to site again on Monday 8th January 2024 following the Christmas period.

2. Community and Social Development Update

Upgrade of Balcurris Park Playground Launch

Following a successful Ballymun Area Office Sláintecare application, funding of €250,000 was allocated to enhance Balcurris Park under the Community Enhancement Fund. Since the Sláintecare launch in December 2022 in Ballymun our Sláintecare Officer, Community Development Team, Parks Department and local residents have continued to work hard to bring the project to fruition. Their aim was to work collectively to help improve health and wellbeing through delivering local initiatives and working in partnership to improve the conditions in which people are born, live, grow, work and age that affect our health.

Earlier this year the Community & Social Development team held several consultation sessions with the students of St. Josephs National Schools for their ideas on the new Balcurris Park playground. Following on from these consultations, the new equipment has been installed, along with gym equipment and new resurfaced footpaths. An official opening launching the space was held on Thursday 7th December and students from St. Josephs School, local residents and Councillors attended. This project was funded by Sláintecare – Healthy Communities and Dublin City Council.

Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony

The Ballymun Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony was held on Thursday 30th November on the Ballymun plaza. The Ceremony was opened by Councillor Mary Callaghan along with Dame Stuffy. Music was provided by the local music group Radhairc Ceilteach. Santa and his friends paid us visit providing selection boxes for all the children. Hot chocolate, cookies and goodies were served. This was a lovely very well attended festive family event that everyone enjoyed.



LECP Consultations

The Local Economic and Community Plan (LECP) is a six-year plan that sets out the objectives and actions needed to promote the community and economic development of Dublin City Council's neighbourhoods and communities.

Dublin City Council facilitated workshops around draft goals and objectives for the 6 year plan. Consultations for Community feedback and ideas were organised and these took place on the 27th November in the Morrison Hotel for local groups to give their views and input for this Local Economic and Community Plan (LECP).

The Community Team organised for a number of representatives from Ballymun to attend.



Coultry Way Christmas Party

The DCC Community Team are delighted to support and sponsor the Coultry Christmas Party which the residents of the Coultry Way Tidy Roads Committee are currently organising.

Marewood Christmas Party

The Ballymun Community & Social Development Team collaborated with the Sillogue Neighbourhood Centre to host a Community Christmas Party for local senior citizens, local groups and the Poppintree Walking Group. This will take place in Marewood Court Community Room on Thursday 14th December 2023. Music, entertainment and refreshments have all been organised.

Intergenerational Christmas Afternoon Tea

The Community Team organised an Intergenerational Christmas Party in the Ballymun Civic Offices on Wednesday 6th December. We linked in with Trinity Community Care to invite some of their clients to come along. Afternoon tea was served and there were lots of Christmas songs and dancing. Local groups, students from Trinity Comprehensive and children from BRYR attended.

Community Games/Ballymun Health & Fitness

The inaugural awards of the Ballymun Health & Fitness took place on November the 15th at the Ballymun Comprehensive School.

The athletes from the Ballymun Community Games Conor & Hayden Kenny achieved fantastic recognition & won the Young Athletes of Great Potential Awards.

The Ballymun area was represented in Athletics, Futsal & Camogie events this year, it is planned to increase the range of events & participation for next year.



Sensory Christmas Event

Following on from the success of our Halloween Sensory Sessions. The Community & Social Development in collaboration with Axis have organised a Christmas Sensory friendly Experience for children with additional needs and sensory sensitivities. This will take Place on Tuesday 19th December in the Axis theatre.

Booking is essential. Email reception@axisballymun.ie

3. Economic Development Update

Ballymun 4 business



B4b hosted its annual Christmas event in Musgrave Market Place on Thursday 7th December. The ['Jingle Mingle'](#) will welcome the OLV who will be providing festive songs and guest speaker is Ger Prendergast who recently launched his book 'Gotta Keep It Movin'

Further information about the event is available on the B4b website www.b4b.ie or contact Sabrina Morris info@b4b.ie.

Climate Action – Green Ballymun Community Conference



With over 100 people registering there was a great turnout for the Green Ballymun Community Conference. There were presentations from An Taisce who spoke about the change required in human behaviour, Trinity College and the DCC Active Travel Team spoke about infrastructure projects at home and abroad that reduce car use and promote walking, cycling and public transport. John Donoghue presented on the number of green initiatives already in place in Ballymun including Tidy Towns and the several community gardens that promote food, growing and nutrition. There

was a presentation from Sustainable Energy Ireland who spoke about grants for retro-fitting and upgrading heating systems and 'Connecting Cabra' shared insights into the work they do to introduce greening initiatives in the area. Those in attendance were then invited to discuss what their vision for Ballymun in the future would look like and how we get there. Dinner and mulled wine was served and there was some good networking at the end. The next Decarbonisation Transition Team meeting will take place on 6th December in Axis.

Climate Competition



Global Action Plan Ireland ran a ['Climate Competition'](#) that saw business and organisations competing against each other to see who can reduce their carbon emissions the most over a two week period. Using the 'Ducky App' data was recorded and tracked on a daily basis by each participant that then produced a carbon emission report at the end. Four participants from Ballymun took part with the support of our discretionary fund; Grian Café, Aspen Student Accommodation, CMS Ireland and Super Valu. The Ballymun winner was CMS Ireland who are based in Poppintree Industrial Estate and the overall winner was The Wheel. CMS will be presented with their award at the B4b Jingle Mingle event on 7th December.

4. Housing Report

Estate Management statistics for November 2023

No of Anti- Social complaints per 1997 act Drug related	3
No of Anti-Social complaints per 1997 act (Not Drug Related)	19
No of other Complaints	33
Total Complaints	55
No of Anti-Social Interviews per 1997 act	9
No of Other Interviews	12
Total Interviews	21
No Requests for mediation	0
No of Complaints referred to central unit for Action	0
No of Section 20 Evictions	0
No of excluding Orders applied for by Tenant	0
No of Excluding orders applied for by DCC	0
No of surrender of Tenancies due to Anti-Social Behaviour	0
No of Tenancy Warnings sent to Central Unit	0
No of Court Orders Granted	0
No of Appeals / Judicial Reviews Challenges	0
No of Warrants executed (Evictions)	0

Rent Assessment statistics for November 2023

Assessments/Calls/Emails	690 / 570 / 954
Permissions To Reside	10
Refunds	11
Opening of Accounts	11

Opening of Accounts	(including 2 sole/ 2 successions)
Closing of Accounts	11 (including 0 sole / 0 successions)
Front Counter Calls	127
Window Replacements	9

Ballymun Lettings January to November 2023

Allocation Category	Housing List	Transfer List	Older Persons
Bands 2 & 3	4	2	2
Medical	1	0	1
Welfare	0	0	0
Homeless	0	0	0
Travellers	0	0	0
Transfer HAP	0	4	0
De-tenanting	0	2	0
Estate Management	0	4	2
Maintenance	0	2	0
Surrendering Larger	0	3	1
Unable to afford	0	0	0
Succession/Sole	16	0	0
Transfer	0	0	3
RAS Exit	0	1	0
Inter-transfer	0	5	0
Total	21	23	9

Choice Based Lettings

Allocation Category	
Housing Bands 2 & 3	14
Transfer Bands 2 & 3	4
Transfer HAP	4
Medical	2
Welfare	5
Homeless	0
Travellers	1
Surrender larger	0
Total	30

Ballymun Voids November 2023

Vacant Housing Units				
Address	Type	Date of Vacancy	Status	Estimated Completion Date
Ard Na Meala	3 Bed House	21/11/2023	Vacant Possession/ Task Order to be prepared	
Baile Na Laochra	3 Bed House	12/07/2023	Issued to Contractor	07/12/2023
Balcurris Close	3 Bed House	07/09/2023	Issued to Contractor	14/12/2023 CBL
Balcurris Park East	1 Bed Apartment	24/08/2023	Issued to Contractor	20/12/2023
Belclare Drive	4 Bed House	25/08/2023	Issued to Contractor	07/12/2023
Belclare Green	4 Bed House	25/08/2023	Issued to Contractor	07/12/2023
Barnewall Gardens	2 Bed Apartment	14/11/2023	Vacant Possession/ Task Order to be prepared	
Coultry Drive	2 Bed Apartment	21/11/2023	Vacant Possession/ Task Order to be prepared	
Coultry Grove	3 Bed House	10/08/2023	Issued to Contractor	07/12/2023 CBL
Coultry Terrace	1 Bed Apartment	08/11/2023	Vacant Possession/ Task Order to be prepared	
Coultry Terrace	1 Bed Apartment	08/11/2023	Vacant Possession/ Task Order to be prepared	
Coultry Terrace	1 Bed Apartment	05/09/2023	Issued to Contractor	15/01/2024
Coultry Way	2 Bed Apartment	22/11/2023	Vacant Possession/ Task Order to be prepared	
Forestwood Avenue	2 Bed Apartment	24/11/2023	Vacant Possession/ Task Order to be prepared	
Forestwood Avenue	2 Bed Apartment	02/07/2023	Issued to Contractor	14/12/2023
Knowth Court	3 Bed House	26/07/2023	Issued to Contractor	15/12/2023
Knowth Court	3 Bed House	24/08/2023	Issued to Contractor	01/12/2023
Marewood Crescent	1 Bed Apartment	05/09/2023	Issued to Contractor	07/03/2024
Sandyhill Gardens	2 Bed House	22/10/2023	Issued to Contractor	15/01/2024
Shangan Avenue	3 Bed House	22/11/2023	Vacant Possession/ Task Order to be prepared	
Shangan Gardens	3 Bed House	29/09/2023	Issued to Contractor	06/01/2024
Silloogue Close	4 Bed House	28/07/2023	Issued to Contractor	22/12/2023
Silloogue Close	2 Bed Apartment	29/09/2023	Issued to Contractor	10/01/2024
Silloogue Way	1 Bed Apartment	29/09/2023	Issued to Contractor	10/01/2024
The Plaza	2 Bed Apartment	22/08/2023	Issued to Contractor	Under Offer
The Plaza	2 Bed Apartment	10/08/2023	Issued to Contractor	Under Offer
The Plaza	2 Bed Apartment	19/07/2023	Issued to Contractor	Under Offer
Woodhazel Terrace	2 Bed Apartment	21/11/2023	Vacant Possession/ Task Order to be prepared	

Vacant Housing Units (more than 4 months)				
Address	Type	Date of Vacancy	Status	Estimated Completion Date
Carton Court	1 Bed Apartment	19/06/2023	Issued to Contractor	Under Offer
Carton Road	4 Bed House	10/04/2022	Ongoing Estate Management Issues	
Carton Terrace	1 Bed Apartment	26/05/2023	Issued to Contractor	07/12/2023
Dane Road	3 Bed House	15/02/2023	Issued to Contractor	Under Offer
Doon Court	3 Bed House	25/06/2023	Issued to Contractor	Under Offer
Forestwood Avenue	2 Bed Apartment	21/04/2023	Issued to Contractor	Under Offer
Forestwood Avenue	2 Bed Apartment	21/04/2023	Issued to Contractor	Under Offer
Forestwood Avenue	2 Bed Apartment	21/04/2023	Issued to Contractor	Under Offer
Forestwood Avenue	2 Bed Apartment	21/04/2023	Issued to Contractor	Under Offer
Forestwood Avenue	2 Bed Apartment	21/04/2023	Issued to Contractor	Under Offer
Forestwood Avenue	2 Bed Apartment	21/04/2023	Issued to Contractor	Under Offer
Forestwood Avenue	3 Bed Apartment	08/05/2023	Issued to Contractor	Under Offer
Forestwood Avenue	3 Bed Apartment	08/05/2023	Issued to Contractor	Under Offer
Shangan Gardens	3 Bed House	25/08//2022	Property Vandalised	TBC
Shangan Road	2 Bed Apartment	19/06/2023	Issued to Contractor	07/12/2023 CBL
Whiteacre Close	2 Bed Apartment	03/08/2022	Issued to Contractor	30/11/2023
Woodhazel Terrace	2 Bed Apartment	31/05/2023	Issued to Contractor	04/12/2023
Woodhazel Terrace	2 Bed Apartment	19/04/2023	Issued to Contractor	Under Offer

Vacant Senior Citizen Units				
Address	Type	Date of Vacancy	Status	Estimated Completion Date
Ard Na Meala	1 Bed	21/11/2023	Direct Labour	TBC
Burren Court	1 Bed	01/08/2023	Direct Labour	30/11/2023
Sandyhill Gardens	1 Bed	12/07/2023	Direct Labour	Under Offer
Sandyhill Gardens	1 Bed	06/09/2023	Direct Labour	03/12/2023
Sandyhill Gardens	1 Bed	11/10/2023	Direct Labour	30/01/2024
Sandyhill Gardens	Bedsit	14/02/2023	Issued to Contractor	Under Offer
Sandyhill Gardens	Bedsit	21/06/2023	Direct Labour	Under Offer
Sandyhill Gardens	Bedsit	06/09/2023	Direct Labour	02/12/2023
Sandyhill Gardens	Bedsit	12/10/2023	Direct Labour	10/02/2024

5. Area Wide Updates

Ballymun Library

Ballymun Library continues to engage with the public with a diverse range of in-person activities and events to suit people of all ages.

Adult Library Makeover - We have made some improvements recently to ensure that the library is a more comfortable and welcoming space. As you may have noticed, we have had some painting done in the adult and junior libraries. Some of the shelving in the adult library has been replaced and we have added a new study area. We plan to replace the rest of the shelving in the adult library over the next couple of years. We have also created a new young adult “snug” for our younger readers. For your added comfort, there are new tables and chairs so that you can relax and read a book, magazine or newspaper at your leisure. We are delighted with how the library looks, hope you like it too. Let us know what you think about the changes on your next visit.



The final meeting of this year's **Irish Revolution Book Club** with Historian-in-Residence Dr. James Curry will take place on Wednesday 13th December at 6.30pm. The book to be discussed is **1919-21: A Global History: The Irish Revolution** (produced by History Ireland magazine).

James will give a short presentation followed by a discussion about the book.

Copies of the book are available to borrow from the library

To book a place, please ring 01 2228355 or email: ballymunlibrary@dublincity.ie

We are delighted to share the news that Louise Nealon's debut novel **Snowflake** is the **One Dublin One Book** choice for 2024. We are really looking forward to taking part in this annual initiative next April. Details of the programme will be announced in early 2024!

One Dublin One Book aims to encourage everyone in Dublin to read a designated book connected with the capital city during the month of April every year. This annual project is a Dublin City Council initiative, led by Dublin City Libraries and Dublin UNESCO City of Literature, which encourages reading for pleasure.

Family Time at Your Library takes place during December. To celebrate the start of the festive season, Ballymun Library staff will host a Christmas Story Time and Craft event on Friday 22nd December at 2.30pm. There will be lots of festive fun for children of all ages. We look forward to seeing you all there!

We are also running a **Design Your Own Christmas Tree** colouring competition for children aged 3-12. Entries are available at the junior library desk. Please note that the deadline for entries is Monday 18th December at 5pm. We will have lots of prizes for the lucky winners.

Have you collected your FREE story book and library card wallet yet.

As part of the **Little Library Book at Bedtime** initiative, free bedtime story books (in English and Irish) and library card wallets are available at the library for all children aged 0-4, to pick up and keep.

Every child can receive a copy of ***No Matter What*** by Debi Gliori or ***Eoinín ag Dul a Chodhladh*** by Muireann Ní Chíobháin.

This exciting initiative runs until the end of December and aims to engage all parents of young children to read stories with them at bedtime. Call into the library and collect your free Little Library Book at Bedtime today!

To celebrate the **Andy Warhol Three Times Out** exhibition in The Hugh Lane Gallery, Ballymun Library will host two Screen Printing workshops on Saturday 13th January at 12.00pm and 3.00pm as follows:

- (1) Explore screen printing techniques and print your own Andy Warhol inspired fine art print at this pop-up event for adults with Creative Spark from 12.00-2.00pm.
- (2) Embark on a screen printing adventure for 8-11 year olds from 3.00-4.45pm. Let artist Gráinne Murphy guide you as you create your very own Andy Warhol inspired artwork.

Places are limited at both workshops so booking is required. To book a place, please ring 01 2228355 or email: ballymunlibrary@dublincity.ie

Christmas Holiday Arrangements - Please note that the library will close at 5.00pm on Friday 22nd December and reopen at 10.00am on Tuesday 2nd January 2024.

Be sure to stock up on your Christmas to be read pile by Friday 22nd December. If you want to get wrapped up in a good book, we have lots of "Christmas Reads" for adults and children.

The good news is that our online resources including BorrowBox (eBooks and eAudiobooks) and Libby (digital magazines) will be available 24/7 while we are closed.

We would like to wish all our patrons a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. We look forward to welcoming you all back to the library in 2024.

Current Opening Hours for Ballymun Library are:

Monday to Thursday: 10.00am - 8.00pm

Friday and Saturday: 10.00am - 5.00pm

Ballymun Library staff continue to post blogs, historic photos of the Ballymun area and details of forthcoming events and programmes on our Facebook page. If anyone would like to promote any Dublin City Council-related initiative then please email details to ballymunlibrary@dublincity.ie and we will share these on our Facebook page: www.facebook.com/BallymunLibrary

Ballymun Library offers an online literacy course, Touch Type Read and Spell (TTRS) for both adults and children. TTRS is designed to benefit students of all ages who experience spelling, reading or writing difficulties. Students with dyslexia or literacy issues have found it helpful. A large number of schools in the area have already availed of the service. Patrons can contact the library by email and Ballymun Library staff will introduce them to the course and offer support.

Ballymun Library Events December 2023

Non Regular or Regular Events	Event Category	Event Title	Audience	Date and Time
Regular	Book Club	Irish Revolution Book Club with Dr. James Curry, DCC Historian-in-Residence. Book: 1921-23 The Split: From Treaty to Civil War (History Ireland Supplement)	Adults	Wednesday 13 th December at 6.30pm
Non-Regular	Quiz	Christmas Story Time and Crafts with Ballymun Library Staff	Children	Friday 22 nd December at 2.30pm (booking required)
Regular NEW	Gaming Club	Gaming Mondays, suitable for children aged 10-14 years. Must be a library member.		Mondays, 5.30pm-7.00pm (Limited to 12 places)
Regular NEW	Age Friendly Film Club	Age Friendly Film Club Film: Christmas film TBC (Last Wednesday of the Month)	Adults	Wednesday 20 th December, 2pm-4pm
Regular	Community	Ballymun Ladies Group (3 rd Tuesday of the Month)	Adults	Tuesday 19 th December, 2.30pm-5.00pm
Regular	Cultural	Ballymun Library Writers' Group	Adults	Wednesdays, 4pm-6pm (Last meeting 13/12/23)
Regular	Community	Ballymun Community Law Centre Outreach Clinic (Free 1:1 Legal Advice)	Adults	Tuesday 12 th December, 10.00am-12.00pm
Regular	Cultural	Ballymun Painting Group	Adults	Mondays, 10.30am- 12.00pm
Regular	Book Club	Ballygall Book Club (3 rd Monday of the Month)	Adults	Monday 18 th December at 6.30pm
Regular	Book Club	Evening Book Club Book: The Light of Amsterdam by David Park (Last Monday of the month)	Adults	Monday 18 th December at 6.30pm
Regular	Book Club	Science Fiction and Fantasy Book Club Book: Do Androids Dream of Electric Sheep? By Philip K. Dick (3 rd Wednesday of the Month)	Adults	Wednesday 20 th December at 6.30pm
Regular	Cultural	Scrabble Group	Adults	Tuesdays, 11am-1pm
Regular	Cultural	Digital Photography Group (Last Thursday of the Month)	Adults	Thursday 21 st December, 10.30am-12.30pm
Regular	Cultural	Ciorcal Comhrá (Irish Language Conversation Group)	Adults	Thursdays, 3pm-4pm
Regular	Cultural	Ballymun U3A Ukulele Group	Adults	Fridays, 12pm-1.30pm

Non Regular or Regular Events	Event Category	Event Title	Audience	Date and Time
Regular	Cultural	Latvian Art Group	Adults	Saturday 2 nd and 16 th December, 1.00pm-4.00pm
Regular	Children	Chess Club	Children	Tuesdays, 3.30pm to 4.30pm
Regular	Children	Baby Book Club & Storytime	Children (New Born to 2 year olds)	Mondays, 10.00am-10.45am (Term-time only)
Regular	Children	Toddler Book Club & Storytime	Children (2 year olds to pre-school)	Thursdays, 10.00am-10.45am (Term-time only)

Jackie O Reilly
Senior Executive Officer
Local Area Manager, Ballymun