

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

Meeting: 16th April 2024

Item No: 6

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 change of use planning has been approved.

<https://planning.agileapplications.ie/dublincity/application-details/159495>

Coultrey Neighbourhood Centre

Dublin City Council are currently in the process of finalising terms for Grant of License to the Aisling Project, Ballymun on Coultrey Neighbourhood Centre, 22 Santry Way.

Turnpike, Santry Cross

We are continuing to advertise these units and facilitate site visits. It is listed on Daft and one formal expression of interest has been received. Our Valuer's have been instructed to commence negotiations with the interested party.

For further information: [Commercial property for rent in The Turnpike, Santry Cross, Ballymun, Dublin 9 \(daft.ie\)](#)

Private Units Lidl North Quarter Second Floor

A newly-established Legal Aid Board Centre has opened in Ballymun. They comprise of a Law Centre, Family Mediation Service and Traveller Unit. They welcome client drop-in enquiries (at the address below) and contact by email: ballymunlc@legalaidboard.ie
ballymunfamilymediation@legalaidboard.ie

Services include:

- eligibility-tested legal advice and representation <https://www.legalaidboard.ie/en/>
- free family mediation <https://www.legalaidboard.ie/en/our-services/family-mediation/>

Shop-front Improvement Scheme

We are now accepting applications from businesses in Ballymun & Finglas for the Shop-front Improvement Grant. Business can apply for up to €3k to upgrade the front of their shop. The deadline for applications is Friday 28th June. For more information visit the [Dublin City Council website](#)



Housing Sites Update

Site 14

Dublin City Council were required to address issues with the original design (previously presented to NWAC Councillors) to ensure alignment to the New City Development plan requirements. A design review took place and the Design Team are currently finalising the design plan. It is our intention to present the plan to the North West Area Committee members by end of May.

Site 21 Balbutcher Lane

Construction of 12 houses underway all foundations and floor slabs are in place and the timber frame construction is almost complete on 6 houses. Work is being carried out by O Hanlon & Farrell Ltd engaged by O Cualann.

Site 25 - Parkview

Planning was approved for construction of senior living apartments. O Cualann plan to commence construction on site in the coming month or so once contracts are agreed with Tuath Housing and subject to land transfer with DCC.

The 2nd phase of the Parkview site for 34 units and a crèche is still subject to an An Bord Pleanála appeal process, a decision was due on 21st March 2024, but has again been delayed due to backlog of cases.

2. Community and Social Development Update

Dublin City Crowdfunding

The 2nd phase of the Dublin City Crowdfunding opened on Monday 8th April and will close on **Friday 17th of May**. Dublin City Crowdfunding is an exciting opportunity for local residents to fundraise and deliver projects that matter to them.

This community crowdfunding programme will give residents in the Dublin City Council administrative area, the unique opportunity to crowdfund innovative locally-led projects that will bring together funding and support from neighbours, community networks, businesses and the City Council.

Projects can have a broad range from enhancement of local spaces, community gardens and allotments; sustainability and environmental projects, to energising spaces with art projects and murals, we can't wait to hear the ambitious ideas that Project Creators want to share and progress.

Dublin City Council has a fund of over €250,000 and is looking to invest in projects that will enhance green spaces, create colourful, vibrant and inclusive public spaces, or support sustainable communities and environmental initiatives. Groups must have their proposed project fully costed, any relevant permissions in place and your project page created on Spacehive by 17th May.

To find out more or attend an upcoming workshops (online) Tuesday **the 23rd of April 12pm- 1pm - [Register for free here](#)** and in person work shop will also be advertised in the coming days Thursday 25th April.

NWA Collaborative Tea Dance

As part of a Ballymun and Finglas Community collaboration four tea dances are planned for 2024, bringing the North West Area communities together. The first tea dance of the year was organised by the Finglas Community & Social Development Team and took place in the FYRC on the 14th February. The Ballymun Community and Social Development Team are organising the second tea dance which will take place on the 17th April in the Council Chamber, Ballymun Civic Centre for groups from Glasnevin, Ballymun and Finglas. It is planned for the 3rd tea dance to take place in Finglas in September.

Better Ballymun Day

The Better Ballymun Day is organised by Trinity Comprehensive secondary School it's about giving students, young people & residents a platform to become active citizens in their community and take ownership of their environment. This day gives students and volunteers the opportunity to lead by example. Getting out into the community & making a positive difference, adding too and creating a bright and beautiful place to live, giving them pride in their neighbourhoods. Public Domain Team were proud to support and take part in the Better Ballymun Day that took place on Friday 15th March.

The students, staff & volunteers took part in over 40 different projects around the Ballymun Area – this included litter picks, clean ups, painting in different locations, planting of green spaces, environmental workshops, shop front competitions, artwork creations, events with primary schools, recycling demo and lots more. We are delighted to announce over 1,500 people took part in this year's Better Ballymun Day.

The Ballymun Community & Social Development Team, Public and Dublin City Council are proud to be part of this amazing initiative which really focuses on making Ballymun a better place, empowering communities to come together & promote pride in their area.





St. Patricks Day Knitting Project

The Ladies from 3 knitting / crochet groups in the Sillogue Neighbourhood Centre took on the challenge from Dublin City Council to brighten up the Ballymun Main Street and the Plaza for St. Patricks Day and Easter. This was a very successful and positive project with great feedback received from the community and on social media. It is planned to work with the groups on future similar programmes.



Intergenerational Line Dancing programme

The Ballymun Community Team organised a programme of intergenerational line dancing classes between older adults and students from Trinity Comprehensive. This was well attended and a great success. As a result a new 6 week programme of classes will recommence in Axis Ballymun on Wednesday, 10th April @11am. It is planned to hold a Final Show in Axis at the end of this programme. If you are interested in taking part, please email Ballymuncommunity@dublincity.ie



Golden Age Community Group

The Ballymun Community Team were happy to support the Golden Age Community Group in Burren Court with funding for their Spring Crafts programme. This programme is ongoing and will run for 10 weeks. There are approximately 15/20 participants taking part in this arts and crafts course each week which includes wreath making, flower arranging, Easter crafts and making picture frames.



National Alzheimer's Tea Day Event

The Ballymun Community and Social Development Team are hosting a fundraising event to support Alzheimer's Tea Day in the Axis Café on 2nd May from 2.30 pm to 4.30pm. There will be a speaker to give a talk on Alzheimer's, music and refreshments on the day.

North West Area Older Person's Council

The Ballymun Community Team hosted the meeting of the Older Persons Council in the Ballymun Civic Centre on the 25th March 2024. This was well attended with representatives from Ballymun, Glasnevin and Finglas Communities. Projects and items of interest were discussed and updates given on age friendly activities available. This council plays an active and important role in their communities. If you are interested in attending or would like more information on the Older Persons Council, please contact:

Ballymuncommunity@dublincity.ie

World Autism Awareness Day

The Ballymun Community and Social Development Team were delighted to mark world Autism Awareness Day on April 2nd with not 1 but 3 Sensory play sessions in the Axis Theatre. These sessions were enjoyed by over 60 children with neuro diverse and additional needs and their families. The month of April also marks Autism Acceptance Month, if anyone would like to attend these sessions in the future please mail

ballymuncommunity@dublincity.ie





Ballymun Plant Donation Day

Plans are ongoing to organise the plant donation day in Ballymun. The proposed date for the donation of plants to approximately 55 Environmental groups is Saturday, 25th May. This yearly event is funded and organised by the Ballymun Community and Social Development Team. The plant donation day enables local environmental groups to enhance their local areas and neighbourhoods.

Greening Neighbourhood Initiatives

Initial meetings have taken place between the Community and Social Development Team and the horticulturist from GAP Ballymun to discuss possible locations and planting options for the greening neighbourhood initiatives which encourages residents and groups to come together to enhance local public areas.

Bike Week

The Ballymun Community Team are currently working with the Dublin City Council, Active Cities Officer, Carmel O'Callaghan, on creating a programme with the local schools to celebrate Bike Week. Bike week is a celebration and promotion of the benefits of cycling, bike week will take place from Saturday 11th of May to Sunday 19th of May.

3. Economic Development Update

Ballymun 4 business

Due to unforeseen circumstances the planned networking event for 4th April in Buddies Market had to be moved to the Rediscovery Centre and took place on the 11th April. Further information about the event is available here: For more information about B4b visit www.b4b.ie or contact Sabrina Morris info@b4b.ie.



StartUp Ballymun

The next Startup Ballymun event, Rise Up: Innovators Unleashed will take place in the Council Chamber on Wednesday 24th April. The event will showcase a number of young business owners from Ballymun and beyond who will join our speaker panel to share their stories of setting up and running a business. We will also be joined by the business support agencies who will be on hand to provide mentoring and information on how to access their business supports. For more information and to book your place click here:



Further information to follow and will be available at www.startupballymun.com

CoderDojo

On 23rd March Ballymun CoderDojo took part in the [Zero Days Cyber-Schools 2024](#) in Croke Park. This was our 3rd year to be invited to this event and along with 130 other Teams took part in a number of cyber challenges on the day with a team from Ballymun coming in 5th place!



4. Housing Report

Estate Management statistics for March 2024

March 2024	
No of Anti- Social complaints per 1997 act Drug related	6
No of Anti-Social complaints per 1997 act (Not Drug Related)	9
No of other Complaints	21
Total Complaints	36
No of Anti-Social Interviews per 1997 act	5
No of Other Interviews	5
Total Interviews	10
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 March 2024

	March 2024
	820 / 570 / 1421
Assessments/Calls/Emails	7
Permissions To Reside	9
Refunds	7
Opening of Accounts	(including 0 sole/ 2 successions)

Closing of Accounts	4 (including 4 sole / 0 successions)
Front Counter Calls	153
Window Replacements	2

Ballymun Lettings January to March 2024

Allocation Category	Housing List	Transfer list	Older persons
Bands 2 & 3	3	0	0
Medical	1	0	0
Welfare	0	0	0
Homeless	0	0	0
Travellers	0	0	0
Transfer Hap	0	0	0
De-tenanting	0	0	0
Estate Management	0	0	0
Maintenance	0	1	0
Surrendering larger	0	0	0
Unable to afford	0	0	0
Succession/sole	3	0	0
Financial Contribution	0	0	0
RAS Exit	0	0	0
Inter Transfer	0	0	0
Transfer	0	0	0
Total	7	1	0

Choice Based Lettings

Allocation Category	
Housing bands 2 & 3	2
Transfer bands 2 & 3	2
Transfer Hap	1
Medical	0
Welfare	0
Homeless	0
Travellers	0
Surrender larger	0
Total	5

Ballymun Voids March 2024

Vacant Housing Units				
Address	Type	Date of Vacancy	Status	Estimated Completion Date
Ard Na Meala	3 Bed House	21/11/2023	Issued to Contractor	CBL
Belclare Park	1 Bed Apartment	23/01/2023	Issued to Contractor	14/05/24
Coultry Drive	2 Bed Apartment	21/11/2023	Issued to Contractor	08/05/2024
Coultry Drive	3 Bed House	19/03/2024	Task Order to be prepared	TBC
Coultry Terrace	1 Bed Apartment	08/11/2023	Issued to Contractor	Under Offer
Coultry Terrace	1 Bed Apartment	08/11/2023	Issued to Contractor	Under Offer
Coultry Way	2 Bed Apartment	22/11/2023	Issued to Contractor	23/05/2024
Dolmen Way	1 Bed Apartment	07/03/2024	Task Order to be prepared	TBC
Longdale Way	2 Bed Apartment	17/02/2024	Issued to Contractor	29/05/2024
Forestwood Avenue	2 Bed Apartment	01/03/2024	Issued to Contractor	01/07/2024
Forestwood Avenue	2 Bed Apartment	23/01/2024	Issued to Contractor	06/06/2024
Gateway Crescent	2 Bed Apartment	06/02/2024	Issued to Contractor	04/07/2024
Marewood Crescent	1 Bed Apartment	28/11/2023	Issued to Contractor	26/05/2024
Shangan Avenue	1 Bed Apartment	17/02/2024	Issued to Contractor	17/05/2024
Shangan Avenue	1 Bed Bungalow	14/02/2024	Issued to Contractor	14/05/2024
Shangan Avenue	3 Bed House	22/11/2023	Issued to Contractor	CBL
Shangan Avenue	1 Bed Apartment	26/03/2024	Task Order to be prepared	TBC
Shangan Drive	1 Bed Apartment	20/03/2024	Task Order to be prepared	TBC
Shangan Park	3 Bed House	14/02/2024	Issued to Contractor	28/05/2024
Silloge Gardens	3 Bed House	11/12/2023	Issued to Contractor	23/05/2024
The Hamptons	2 Bed Apartment	02/12/2023	Issued to Contractor	CBL

Vacant Housing Units (more than 4 months)

Address	Type	Date of Vacancy	Status	Estimated Completion Date
Balcurris Park East	1 Bed Apartment	24/08/2023	Issued to Contractor	Under Offer
Belclare Drive	4 Bed House	25/08/2023	Issued to Contractor	Under Offer
Carton Road	4 Bed House	10/04/2022	Ongoing Estate Management Issues	TBC
Carton Terrace	1 Bed Apartment	26/05/2023	Issued to Contractor	Under Offer
Knowth Court	3 Bed House	26/07/2023	Issued to Contractor	CBL
Knowth Court	3 Bed House	24/08/2023	Issued to Contractor	29/04/2024
Marewood Crescent	1 Bed Apartment	05/09/2023	Issued to Contractor	Under Offer
Sandyhill Gardens	3 Bed House	22/10/2023	Issued to Contractor	CBL
Shangan Gardens	3 Bed House	29/09/2023	Issued to Contractor	CBL
Shangan Road	2 Bed Apartment	19/06/2023	Issued to Contractor	CBL
Sillogue Close	2 Bed Apartment	29/09/2023	Issued to Contractor	CBL
Sillogue Way	2 Bed Apartment	29/09/2023	Issued to Contractor	CBL
The Plaza	2 Bed Apartment	22/08/2023	Issued to Contractor	CBL
Whiteacre Close	2 Bed Apartment	03/08/2022	Issued to Contractor	CBL

Vacant Senior Citizen Units

Address	Type	Date of Vacancy	Status	Estimated Completion Date
Ard Na Meala	1 Bed	21/11/2023	Direct Labour	28/05/2024
Ard Na Meala	1 Bed	09/01/2024	Direct Labour	30/05/2024
Burren Court	1 Bed	01/08/2023	Direct Labour	Under Offer
Sandyhill Gardens	Bedsit	06/09/2023	Direct Labour	Under Offer
Sandyhill Gardens	Bedsit	12/10/2023	Direct Labour	Under Offer
Sandyhill Gardens	Bedsit	11/01/2024	Direct Labour	30/05/2024
Sandyhill Gardens	Bedsit	25/01/2024	Direct Labour	30/05/2024
Sandyhill Gardens	1 Bed	12/07/2023	Direct Labour	Under Offer
Sandyhill Gardens	1 Bed	26/11/2023	Direct Labour	Under Offer
Sandyhill Gardens	1 Bed	03/09/2023	Direct Labour	Under Offer

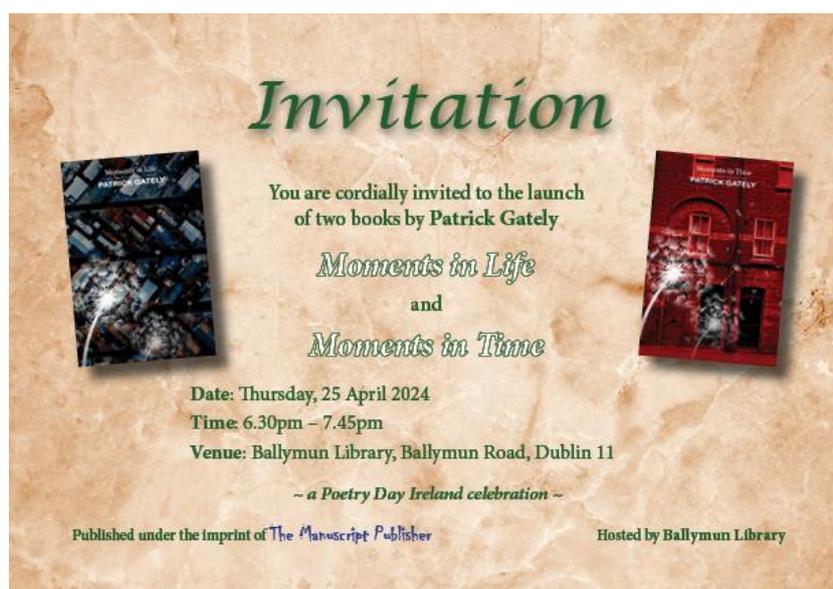
5. Area Wide Updates

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

As part of the **Healthy Ireland at Your Library** initiative, Ballymun Library will host the free talk **Challenging Cholesterol - Nutrition for a Healthy Heart** on Tuesday 23rd April at 2.00pm. Guest speaker Isabelle Fagan, Dietitian from Orla Walsh Nutrition, will outline the foods and nutrients needed to reduce cholesterol levels. Participants will leave with 5 tips on how best to lower cholesterol.

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

Celebrating Poetry Day Ireland - Ballymun Library, in association with The Manuscript Publisher, is delighted to announce the launch of two poetry collections by local poet Patrick Gately on Thursday 25th April at 6.30pm. ***Moments in Life*** and ***Moments in Time*** offer observations and reflections on life, on themes ranging from the passage of time, the changes in the seasons, the joys of youth or the process of ageing and growing wiser. The reader is taken on a journey that, at its conclusion, will make you feel glad that you took the time to stop and stare. Patrick Gately is a retired electrician who lives in Dublin. Although he originally hails from Dún Laoghaire, he has found a home in Santry, on the north side of the city. He has been writing poetry and verse for a number of years - enough to fill several volumes. Recently he has turned his attention to fiction writing. This is a free event and all are welcome to attend.



Reminiscence Session with Mary Muldowney - In the course of our day to day jobs in the library, we love the opportunity to chat to our members about their lives. Fascinating topics can crop up when we discuss books. Inspired by these informal conversations, we are thrilled to announce that we are organising a Reminiscence Session on the topic of School Days.

If you went to school in Dublin's Northwest Area or know someone who did such as your parent, grandparent, aunt, uncle, great-aunt, great-uncle, friend or neighbour, we would love to hear from you. Please spread the word and join us on Monday 29th April at 2.00pm to share stories of your school days with Historian-in-Residence Mary Muldowney. If you happen to have any objects from back in the day, be it textbooks, copybooks, diaries,

photos, postcards, report cards, or anything else relating to those days such as sporting or drama memorabilia, bring the object with you as we're sure others would be delighted to see your mementoes and hear your stories. It will be a friendly and informal opportunity to reminisce about times gone by. To book a place, please ring 01 2228355 or email: ballymunlibrary@dublincity.ie

Let's get Dublin reading **Snowflake!** The 2024 **One Dublin One Book** choice is **Snowflake** by Louise Nealon. Dive into the story of Debbie, an 18-year-old who leaves her quirky family farm for college in Dublin. Copies of **Snowflake** are available to borrow from the library and on BorrowBox.

Six novels have been shortlisted for the 2024 **Dublin Literary Award**, sponsored by Dublin City Council, which celebrates excellence in world literature. The shortlist features American, Canadian, Australian, Romanian and Irish authors. There are two novels by Irish authors in the final six: **Haven** by Emma Donoghue and **Old God's Time** by Sebastian Barry. Copies of the six shortlisted titles are available to borrow from the library and on BorrowBox. The winner of the €100,000 award will be announced by the Lord Mayor of Dublin, Daithí de Róiste, on Thursday 23rd May, as part of International Literature Festival Dublin.

Ballymun Library Gaming Mondays take place every Monday (during term time) from 5.00pm to 6.15pm. The gaming club is suitable for children aged 10-14 years. Under 12's must be accompanied by an adult. All members must have a library card and bring it with them on the night. PS4, Xbox One, Nintendo Switch and Pac-Man Arcade1Up games machine. Selection of board games also available. Places are limited so booking is essential. To book a place, please ring 01 2228355 or email: ballymunlibrary@dublincity.ie

Current Opening Hours for Ballymun Library are:

Monday to Thursday: 10.00am - 8.00pm

Friday and Saturday: 10.00am - 5.00pm

Closed Saturday and Monday of bank holiday weekends

Ballymun Library Events April 2024

Non Regular or Regular Events	Event Category	Event Title	Audience	Date and Time
Non-Regular	Healthy Ireland at Your Library	Challenging Cholesterol - Nutrition for a Healthy Heart, presented by Isabelle Fagan from Orla Walsh Nutrition.	Adults	Tuesday 23 rd April at 2.00pm
Non-Regular	Poetry Day Ireland	Launch of poetry collections, Moments in Life and Moments in Time , by local poet Patrick Gately	Adults	Thursday 25 th April, 6.30pm-7.45pm
Non-Regular	Historian in Residence	Reminiscence Session (Topic: School Days) with DCC Historian in Residence Mary Muldowney	Adults	Monday 29 th April at 2.00pm
Regular	Community	Ballymun U3A Meeting (2 nd and 4 th Monday of the month)	Adults	22 nd April, 2pm-4pm

Non Regular or Regular Events	Event Category	Event Title	Audience	Date and Time
Regular	Gaming Club	Gaming Mondays, suitable for children aged 10-14 years Must be a library member		Mondays, 5.00pm-6.15pm (Limited to 12 places)
Regular	Age Friendly Film Club	Age Friendly Film Club Film: TBC (Last Wednesday of the Month)	Adults	Wednesday 24 th April, 2pm-4pm Tea/Coffee from 1.30pm
Regular	Cultural	Japanese Culture Club (3 rd Wednesday of the Month)	Adults and Children	Wednesday 17 th April, 10am-12pm
Regular	Cultural	Ballymun Library Writers' Group	Adults	Wednesdays, 4pm-6pm
Regular	Cultural	Ballymun Painting Group	Adults	Mondays, 10.30am- 12.00pm
Regular	Book Club	Evening Book Club Book: Close to Home by Michael Magee (Last Monday of the month)	Adults	Monday 29 th April at 6.30pm
Regular	Book Club	Science Fiction and Fantasy Book Club Book: The Dead Zone by Stephen King (3 rd Wednesday of the Month)	Adults	Wednesday 17 th April at 6.30pm
Regular	Cultural	Scrabble Group	Adults	Tuesdays, 11am-1pm
Regular	Cultural	Digital Photography Group (Last Thursday of the Month)	Adults	Thursday 25 th April, 10.30am-12.30pm
Regular	Gaeilge	Ciorcal Comhrá (Irish Language Conversation Group)	Adults	Thursdays, 3pm-4pm
Regular	Cultural	Ballymun U3A Ukulele Group	Adults	Fridays, 12pm-1.30pm
Regular NEW		Ballymun U3A Crochet Group	Adults	Fridays, 11pm-12pm
Regular	Cultural	Latvian Art Group	Adults	Saturday 20 th April, 1.00pm-4.00pm
Regular	Children	Chess Club	Children	Tuesdays, 3.30pm to 4.30pm (term-time only)
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