



**Public Meeting**  
**DUBLIN 12 LOCAL POLICING FORUM**  
**St. John Bosco Youth Club, Drimnagh**  
**Thu 7<sup>th</sup> February, 2019**

**Chair:** Cllr. Pat Dunne

**Attendance:** Inspector Paul Sargent, Jenny Flynn (Dublin City Council), Andy Lane (South Dublin County Council)

**Minutes:** Rea Lavelle

Councillor Pat Dunne introduced himself as the new Chair of the Dublin 12 Local Policing Forum, and also introduced Garda, DCC and public representatives in attendance. Condolences were expressed to Cllr. Ray McHugh, the previous Chair, who had recently suffered a bereavement. Members of public were encouraged to leave their email addresses on the sign-in sheet at the door, so they can receive minutes of the issues raised at the meetings, and notifications of upcoming meetings. He also advised that Garda and County Council personnel would be available for anyone to talk to on a one-to-one basis after the meeting.

**Garda Update**

Inspector Sargent gave a report of current crime statistics and their comparison to the same week in 2017. There were no alarming trends arising from these statistics, especially because so early in the year it is hard to draw any statistically significant conclusions. New Gardaí are due to arrive in the district and this is welcome.

**Questions/Issues Raised by the Public**

<b>Issue/Question</b>	<b>Response</b>	<b>Action</b>
A resident representative described recent incidents where <b>fires</b> were lit beside a playground in a park with materials stolen from resident green bins, and the lack of Garda response on the two nights this happened. The public representatives were called into action. Others also expressed concerns over the negative impact of <b>Anti-social /criminal behaviour</b> on people's lives, and <b>gangs</b> targeting vulnerable people, including children.	Cllr. Daithi Doolin called for more Garda numbers and informed the meeting of a Task Force that had been initiated to deal with ASB in this particular area of Dublin 12. This consists of decision makers and is action orientated. TUSLA also needs to be involved in the care of children caught up in gangs.	More community Gardaí are needed; this was promised a year ago. Gardaí do refer children to TUSLA from time to time.
<b>Gangs of youths on bikes</b> were a concern for many of those present. Sometimes there can be up to 30 individuals in these groups, and motorists were afraid accidents would be bound to happen with the dangerous cycling. Gardaí were asked if they stop these cyclists for	Gardaí do seize bikes from gangs, sometimes these are claimed back, often new bikes are acquired immediately elsewhere. If youths are spotted at ASB in parks etc.,	Chair told the meeting that an update would be sought at the next public

breaking red lights, lack of bicycle lights etc., and what is the follow-up from Gardai?	they can be arrested if sufficient grounds exist. Sometimes names of youths are passed onto DCC.	meeting from Gardai on bike gangs
<b>Collaboration needed</b> between different Garda districts to deal with the bike gangs, as they are known to consist of youths from different areas, and when moved from one area only move on to the next.		
Concern over <b>Destruction of parks</b> ; even trees burned in Brickfield Park. Lack of pride in the area; <b>litter</b> and <b>dog waste</b> abound. Illegal dumping also an issue in places. <b>Tidy Drimnagh</b> has had some success in improving the area lately, and street coordinators are currently sought by to assist with local streets. If interested, contact <a href="mailto:eoine@tidydrimnagh.ie">eoine@tidydrimnagh.ie</a>	DCC Public Domain department is active in trying to keep the area clean also, and DCC cleans up the litter hotspots every Monday, however in a few days they become dirty again.	Extra funding will be becoming available to target illegal dumping, but at the moment it is difficult to bring cases to court.
<b>Commuters</b> are <b>parking</b> on roads surrounding LUAS stops (including very close to junctions), making it difficult for bus traffic. On the other hand, <b>clampers</b> had recently been active in the area with residents parked outside their own homes. After <b>bollards</b> put up this has sometimes meant that cars have constantly parked on the road and obstructed traffic. <b>Quad bikes</b> were more of an issue last year it seems.	It is technically illegal to park on or even partially on a footpath, even in front of your own home, and <b>parking enforcement of commuters and residents alike will become stricter in the near future</b> . Discretion was called for regarding residents parking near their homes.	
<b>Garda body cameras</b> would protect Gardai and public alike; will these be rolled out? <b>CCTV</b> cameras in the area also seem to be broken or not fit-for-purpose a lot of the time.	Garda body cameras are currently under discussion and might be on the cards.	The damaged CCTV cameras are being repaired.
<b>Footpaths</b> around Dromard Green are in a bad state of repair according to residents.  It was also asked what the law is regarding adults cycling on footpaths, and pointed out that adults also cycle though red lights, not only aforementioned bike gangs.	DCC representative promised to meet with resident representative to examine the area around Dromard Green.	
Do Gardai have <b>statistics</b> on Anti-social behaviour?	All incidents are recorded on the PULSE system, which is the basis of Garda operations each day.	
What powers does <b>Dublin City Council</b> have in relation to <b>tenants involved in anti-social behaviour</b> or criminality?	A review of DCC Anti-social behaviour policy is currently under review; at the moment warnings can be issued to tenants.	Anyone wishing to report ASB to DCC can do so in complete confidence.
<b>Speeding</b> and lack of safe <b>pedestrian crossing</b> on Davitt Road was a concern.	If concerned, write to an Garda Siochana at the local station, and they will recommend to	Gardai available after the meeting to

	DCC to take measures regarding pedestrian crossing.	talk about speeding privately.
The severe <b>shortage of youth workers</b> , especially those doing <b>outreach</b> to marginalised young people, in the area, was pointed out several times. it was also pointed out that there are great sport clubs working with young people in the area already.	More youth outreach resources were allocated to the Gardai recently; a profile of youths currently being compiled.	