



## Public meeting

### D12 Community Safety Forum

Scoil Naofa, Armagh Road

22<sup>nd</sup> March 2024

**Chair:** Pamela Kearns

**Attendance:** Superintendent Paul Maher, Inspector Rob Smithers, Sgt Ciaran Wynne, Chris Butler (DCC), Pat Smyth (DCC).

**Facilitated** by Ali Warner

**Minutes:** Valerie Scott

Ali opened the meeting by welcoming everyone and explained the format of the meeting which is held in Café Style. Each representative at the top table introduced themselves and gave a brief outline of their role and connection to the forum.

Groups of residents worked together with table facilitators on the questions below

#### **What is working well in terms of community safety in the area for you right now?**

- Gardaí Response Time, support and feedback.
- Relationship building between AGS DCC and local organisations and young people. Collaborative work with AGS, DCC and youth services re Halloween events made it hugely successful
- Work of local groups such as Crumlin Clean Up, Bloomin Crumlin, and Sports clubs, Youth Services, Women and Men's and Sheds.
- Walkinstown Greenhill's Resource Centre offers support to the community which include Family support.
- Iveagh grounds sport initiatives.
- Good Community Spirit.
- Park Maintenance, upgrades and planting.
- Exercise machines in Pearse Park.
- Canal area walk way at Drimnagh cleared feels safer to walk along.
- .New bus routes

## What is challenging or not working well in terms of community safety for you?

- Lack of Gardaí visibility on streets.
- Open Drug dealing in Pearse Park is ongoing. Dealers have aggressive looking dogs which is intimidating. Is happening when the kids are in playgrounds and when the sports activities are on.
- Evidence of increased Crack cocaine and nitrous oxide gas use.
- ASB Pearse Park, Eamon Ceannt Park, Rutland Avenue Rathdrum, Glenealy Road, Stanaway Park, Galtymore Road.
- Dangerous Dogs in Parks –lack of signage
- Dog fouling-lack of bins.
- Poor lighting in Parks – makes it harder for youth workers to engage in these spaces.
- Not enough sport pitches-clubs competing for space
- Street feuding gangs hanging around at Ashleaf in parks.
- Car break ins stolen scooters/bikes.
- Illegal parking Rutland Grove / Windmill Road
- Traffic/speeding on Crumlin Road.
- Road safety for pedestrians' and cyclists.
- E scooters - no lights
- Abandoned cars.
- New Bus routes affecting the elderly of the community
- Domestic Violence incident
- Noise/Pollution from building site at Brickfield Drive.

### DCC response

- Issues of poor lighting has been raised and discussed at the Friends Of Eamon Ceannt Park Group where DCC and SAGS attend. Increased lighting interferes with biodiversity in the parks.
- Extra dog wardens have been employed and are patrolling parks, dog owners can be fined if in breach of regulations.
- Cars are ticketed and clamped for illegal parking but it doesn't solve the issue. Residents can apply for permit parking.
- Ongoing meetings are happening re Traffic calming measures for the Crumlin Road.
- The process has started for approval for expanding of public CCTV in the D12 area, it's a long process. The funding has been granted to install CCTV on Benbulbin Road which has been a hotspot for ASB for some time.
- DCC will raise the issue of lack of bins with waste management section.

### **Gardaí Response**

- Operations are in place to target Drug Dealing.
- Community response Team are constantly monitoring warrants and bail conditions.
- Plan to introduce regular Crime prevention information points.
- Gardaí are monitoring and acting on the problem with illegal parking and speeding.
- Gardaí numbers will be increasing slightly but will still need more members.
- Collaborative pieces of work with DCC and other agencies such as Solas are very positive.
- The process has started for the application / permission for the installation of new CCTV to be installed. This involves a lot of steps to comply with GDPR.
- Will try to expand the night-time football leagues which have been successful.
- Encourage residents to report crime and talk to local Gardaí if any issues.
- ASB can be seasonal but the policing plan is fluid to upscale response if needed.
- Engagement and feedback to the community is vital.
- AGS acknowledge and thank local volunteers for the work, time and effort they give to the community.

### **Suggested solutions**

- Investment in Funding for projects.
- Invitation to youth projects to come to public meetings.
- More targeted outreach programmes.
- Funding for family support.
- Dublin Fire Brigade will take away abandoned cars.
- Coffee/Tea shop along canal.

**Q** Local sport club wrote to DCC April 23 got a response 6 months later with no update?

**A** Chris will speak to individual after meeting and get details to follow up.

**Q 2** Issue of abandoned cars

**A** Give DCC location of abandoned cars and they will get them removed.

**Q 3** Heavy goods vehicles, speeding cars on Crumlin Road, dangerous for residents, pedestrians and other road users. Practical and preventive measures are needed?

**A** Traffic engineers are looking at measures for traffic calming, a speed indicator will be in place before the end of April.

**Q 4** Slow turnover of properties and maintenance of DCC housing stock .What number of people are employed in maintenance?

**A** DCC rep would not have figures on hand but they are constantly advertising for staff

**Q 5** Can DCC employ Park rangers so there is a staff presence in local parks which may deter ASB?

**A** DCC have no plans to employ Park Rangers.

**Q 6** There is no visible presence of Gardaí in the Kimmage area, can community Gardaí introduce themselves and have more engagement with the businesses and residents?

**A** AGS agree community engagement and local knowledge is of huge importance, the impact of this gives huge reassurance to the community .They are actively engaging as much as they can ,unfortunately the resources might not always allow this.

**Q7** Constant Open drug dealing is very prevalent in Pearse Park. These dealers are there with intimidating dogs in their possession, while local football club are holding training sessions and matches and beside the playground where young children are .What reassurances can be given to parents that this will be addressed?

**A** AGS are aware of this and have been targeting specific individuals and buyers in a way to tackle this, there will be extra patrols in the park.

**Q8** What will Gardaí do about ASB on Stanaway Road?

**A** AGS have had very little reports of this but will keep it on their radar and encourage residents to report incidents no matter how small.

### **Chairs Closing Remarks**

The Chair thanked everyone for coming to the meeting and the forum will come back with responses /feedback at the next meeting.