

## **DUBLIN CITY JOINT POLICING COMMITTEE**



Comhairle Cathrach  
Bhaile Átha Cliath  
Dublin City Council

### **AGENDA**

**Meeting of Dublin City Joint Policing Committee to be held on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> November 2013 at 2.00 p.m. in Mountjoy Prison.**

- 1. Minutes of previous meeting held on 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2013 (attached) and minutes of Special Meeting held on 7<sup>th</sup> October 2013 (attached).**
- 2. Matters arising.**
- 3. Presentation by Mr. Fergal Black, Director of Care and Rehabilitation in the Irish Prison Service.**
- 4. Report of Assistant City Manager (Brendan Kenny).**
- 5. Report of Assistant Garda Commissioner (John Twomey).**
- 6. Minutes of Joint Policing Subcommittee meetings and City Business Policing Forum (copies attached).**
- 7. Correspondence (Letter from Minister Phil Hogan).**
- 8. A.O.B**
- 9. Schedule of meetings:  
Monday, 27<sup>th</sup> January 2014 - 2.30pm  
Monday, 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2014 - 2.30pm  
Monday, 10<sup>th</sup> May 2014 – 2.30pm  
Monday, 7<sup>th</sup> July 2014 – 2.30pm**

**All meetings are scheduled to take place in the Council Chamber, City Hall, Dame Street, Dublin 2 at 2.30pm.**

## **Joint Policing Committee**

**Monday 4th November 2013**



### **Report of Assistant City Manager, Brendan Kenny**

#### **Review of JPC Structures and Procedures:**

The proposed actions from this review were approved at the October meeting of the City JPC and these actions have been notified to the five Area Policing Committees (sub-committees of the City JPC) for implementation. The proposed action on web-casting JPC meetings will be kept under review.

#### **Review of Anti-Social Behaviour Legislation:**

We have received a response from the Minister for Environment Community and Local Government (Phil Hogan) on our representations to the Department relating to proposed upcoming legislation on this issue. Copy of the response from the Minister has been circulated to the Committee.

#### **Halloween:**

As in recent years Dublin City Council has worked very closely with An Garda Síochána and Local Communities in countering the negative activities that can arise during this period.

The City Council will continue to promote the Halloween period as a positive time for events and festivals such as Bram Stoker etc.

#### **Busking Bye-Laws:**

There are proposed bye-laws currently out for public consultation (until 20<sup>th</sup> November 2013) and it is anticipated that they will be brought to the City Council for final approval and implementation early in the New Year.

#### **Anti-Social Problems on City Centre Streets:**

At the last meeting of the Dublin City Business Policing Forum it was agreed that the Assistant Commissioner (John Twomey) and the Assistant City Manager (Brendan Kenny) would seek to formulate a new co-ordinated initiative on this issue.

#### **Brendan Kenny**

**Assistant City Manager**

**4<sup>th</sup> November 2013**

## **Joint Policing Committee**

**Monday 4<sup>th</sup> November 2013**

### **Report of Assistant Commissioner John Twomey Dublin Metropolitan Region.**

At this fifth meeting of the Joint Policing Committee for 2013 I intend to concentrate on the following topics,

- developments in policing since our last meeting in September,
- crime and traffic statistics and
- Policing of Halloween
- Strategic Approach to Juvenile engagement and Public Safety

During the months of September and October, An Garda Síochána was responsible for the policing of a number of high profile events in the city namely; the All Ireland Hurling and Football Finals, Budget Day, Flightfest and the Dublin City Marathon. From a policing perspective it was considered a busy period with significant numbers travelling through the city in addition to the 328K footfall through the city centre each day. I am glad to report that there were no serious incidents and each of the events passed off peacefully.

#### **Crime**

Since my last report Property Crime is on par with 2012. Violent Property Crimes have reduced by 6%. The Crime Prevention Strategies alluded to in my previous reports to this committee continue to be in operation. On an ongoing basis I meet with my Regional Crime Management Team to monitor and put in place additional measures to counteract any increasing trends.

Public Order offences have reduced by 19% and are well below the 3 Year Average, which includes both Public Order and Drunkenness. Crimes Against the Person have decreased by 11% and are maintaining at a level which is well below the 3 year average.

#### **Traffic**

At the time of writing this report the number of people killed on the roads of the Capital is sixteen compared with ten for 2012 for the same period. As outlined previously this increase is of concern and an area which is the subject of ongoing discussion with my Senior Management Team. The Casualty Reduction Strategy for 2013 is ongoing and in addition, I have initiated Targeted High-Profile traffic operations to address the key lifesaver offences of Drink-Driving, Speeding the use of Mobile Phones while driving and seatbelts. The Christmas Enforcement campaign is also being prepared and will be launched on the 1<sup>st</sup> December 2013.

#### **Policing Halloween**

You will be aware that we are fast approaching the Halloween period. The main focus of Garda activity will be to engage with the local communities in an effort to ensure a peaceful Halloween period.

As with previous years An Garda Síochána has been engaging with all our partners to ensure a successful policing operation.

Dublin City Council is one of the key agencies with whom An Garda Síochána has traditionally worked closely with in dealing with issues around Halloween. That engagement has already

commenced through “**Operation Tombola**”, aimed at preventing and detecting the organised importation for sale of fireworks together with addressing anti-social behaviour, and I thank all in the Council for their on-going support and co-operation. At the meeting on the 4<sup>th</sup> November 2013 I will be in a position to report on the outcome of Operation Tombola.

### **Strategic Approach to Juvenile Engagement and Public Safety**

As alluded to previously, the Teenagers & Gardaí (TAG) programme developed to promote positive engagement among Gardaí and Young people continues. The programme engages with young people to create a space to facilitate dialogue between Students and Gardaí. On the 25<sup>th</sup> October 2013 I attended at O’ Connell Schools, Richmond Road where a presentation took place involving student participants.

In addition to the TAG programme there is ongoing liaison with all schools, members of An Garda Síochána are also involved with thirty Garda Youth Diversion Projects in the Dublin Region which are local community based activities working with children and young people. These projects aim to divert children from getting involved in criminal behaviour.

An Garda Síochána is actively involved in the current work being carried out by the Implementation Group under the Chairmanship of Mr. Charlie Lowe which derived from the Lord Mayor’s Commission Report on Anti-Social Behaviour and the report “A Better City for All”, submitted by the Strategic Response Group (SRG). The SRG Report made certain recommendations to build sustainable street-level drug services and address related public nuisance. This report outlines the partnership approach required to address public substance misuse and perceived anti-social behaviour in Dublin’s City Centre, and documents the key findings of the S.R.G. in relation to same. The objective of the S.R.G. Implementation Group is to develop ways to action the.

Work has also commenced with Mr. Brendan Kenny Dublin City Council to provide a solution to the increase in begging and homelessness in Dublin City Centre. In this regard it is proposed that a Regional Oversight Group will be set up to further develop a partnership approach to achieve public safety in Dublin City Centre.

In order to achieve this approach, the Group shall develop an interagency strategic plan. This project is at initial stages and is the subject of discussions between An Garda Síochána, Dublin City Council and relevant stakeholders.

### **Conclusion**

I have outlined above the current policing initiatives in place to respond to the present challenges. These initiatives are primarily focused on addressing policing issues in a collaborative manner involving our strategic partners and I look forward to developing these initiatives in the future.

**Thank You**

**Dublin City Joint Policing Committee**  
**Minutes of Meeting held on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> of November 2013**  
**at 2.00 p.m., Mountjoy Prison, North Circular Road, Dublin 7.**

**Attendance: Committee Members**

Councillor Gerry Breen (Chairperson)  
Councillor Tom Brabazon  
Deputy Maureen O'Sullivan T.D

Councillor Larry O'Toole  
Councillor Mannix Flynn  
Deputy Joe Costello T.D

Mr. Brendan Kenny, Assistant City Manager  
Mr. Michael O'Sullivan, Chief Superintendent, An Garda Síochána (for John Twomey, Assistant Commissioner)  
Mr. Gerry Murphy, Inspector, An Garda Síochána  
Mr. Zephyrin Ngaliema, The Integration Centre  
Mr. Peter O'Connor, Community Policing Forum (North East Inner City)

Also Present:

Mr. Ned Whelan, Governor, Mountjoy Prison  
Mr. Paul Burke, Chief Officer, Mountjoy Prison  
Mr. Fergal Black, Director of Care and Rehabilitation Services, Irish Prison Service  
Ms. Bernie Doherty, Senior Executive Officer, Dublin City Council  
Mr. Martin McDonagh, Administrative Officer, Dublin City Council

Apologies: Lord Mayor Oisín Quinn, Deputy Catherine Byrne, Deputy Aengus Ó Snodaigh, Councillor John Redmond, Councillor Cieran Perry, Councillor Edie Wynne, Mr. Tom Coffey, Mr. Dick Brady.

Minutes: Ms. Alana Dunne.

The Chairperson opened the meeting by welcoming members and thanking the Governor for hosting today's meeting.

1. Minutes of previous meeting held on 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2013 and minutes of Special Meeting held on 7<sup>th</sup> October 2013.  
Order: Agreed.
2. Matters arising.  
Order: Noted.
3. Presentation by Mr. Fergal Black, Director of Care and Rehabilitation in the Irish Prison Service (IPS).

Detailed presentation on care issues of the Irish Prison Service, areas covered included;

- Integrated Sentence Management
- Healthcare Services
- Education
- Work Training (including accredited training)

- Psychology Service
- Chaplaincy Service
- Sex Offenders Management

Ned Whelan spoke about the recently agreed changes to the release policy; individuals will now be released at lunchtime Monday – Friday.

Vulnerable individuals will have a release plan, seen by all relevant services and a meeting will take place with the family and care representatives prior to the release date.

Members thanked and congratulated the prison service on the successful refurbishment works at Mountjoy Prison and the achievements made to date and for today's meeting.

Members also raised the following issues;

- Prisoners voting in local elections.
  - Suicide rates
  - Internet use
  - Illiteracy
  - Gang Culture
  - Media Responsibility
  - Immigrant population
4. Report of Assistant City Manager (Brendan Kenny).  
Order: Noted.
  5. Report of Assistant Garda Commissioner (John Twomey).  
Order: Noted.
  6. Minutes of Joint Policing Subcommittee meetings and City Business Policing Forum.  
Order: Noted.
  7. Correspondence (Letter from Minister Phil Hogan).
  8. A.O.B
  9. Schedule of meetings.  
Order: Noted.

The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, **27<sup>th</sup> January 2014, at 2.30pm.**

Chairperson  
Councillor Gerry Breen