

**Dublin City Joint Policing Committee**  
**Minutes of Meeting held on Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> of July 2012**  
**at 3.30 p.m., Council Chamber, City Hall**

**Attendance: Committee Members**

Councillor Gerry Breen (Chairperson)  
Lord Mayor Naoise Ó Muirí  
Deputy Aengus Ó Snodaigh  
Deputy Michael Conaghan  
Councillor John Gallagher  
Councillor Mannix Flynn  
Councillor John Redmond

Councillor Larry O'Toole (Vice-chairperson)  
Deputy Maureen O'Sullivan  
Deputy Catherine Byrne  
Councillor Anna Quigley  
Councillor Bríd Smith  
Mr. Peter O'Connor

Assistant Commissioner John Twomey  
Mr. Philip Maguire, Deputy City Manager  
Mr. Hugh McKenna, Senior Executive Officer, Central Area  
Mr. Derek Dixon, Senior Engineer, North Central Area  
Mr. David Griffin, Acting Assistant Staff Officer, City Manager's Department

**Apologies:** Mr. Dick Brady, Mr. Tom Coffey, the Archdeacon of Dublin, the Venerable David Pierpoint

**1. Minutes of Previous Meeting held on 28<sup>th</sup> May 2012**

Agreed.

**2. Matter's arising**

None.

**3. Manager's report**

Noted. Meeting informed that a report concerning the addition of a representative of the migrant community to the JPC will go before the City Council on the 2<sup>nd</sup> July 2012. The appointment process will be administered by the Integration Unit of DCC. With regard to the underground bird market, it was noted that investigative work is currently in progress.

JPC endorsed proposal regarding Migrant rep. on JPC.

**4. Report of Assistant Garda Commissioner**

Noted. *Report to be circulated to membership.*

Cllr Mannix Flynn highlighted the issue of bicycle theft. In response to the Lord Mayor, Assistant Commissioner Twomey reported that high visibility patrols are assigned to locations on a supply/demand basis with regard to commuter routes and community input. Cllr John Redmond commended the impact of area-based policing and community-Gardaí interaction. Peter O'Connor highlighted the impact of new rostering arrangements and effect on community policing. Cllr. Gerry Breen raised the possibility of maximising the recording of property serial numbers. Assistant Commissioner Twomey noted that identification of ownership is an issue with property recovery and the possible role for the Dublin City JPC to assist through a process of public information and education. The flexibility given by new rostering arrangements was noted and the need for effective use of community policing resources. Cllr. Larry O'Toole noted the successful use of email as a tool for feedback and information gathering.

**5. Lord Mayor's Commission on Anti-Social Behaviour**

*Shortened version prepared by Councillor Breen to be issued to members.*

Cllr Mannix Flynn stressed the importance of implementation and the monitoring role of JPC. Cllr Anna Quigley noted the divergence of recommendations versus reality and the necessity of interagency involvement. Deputy Maureen O'Sullivan raised the issue of registering the

input of older citizens and community members. Deputy Conaghan emphasised the importance of the partnership process. **Action:** Assistant Commissioner Twomey stated intention to bring information on Garda contribution to the next meeting of JPC. Cllr Mannix Flynn emphasised the need for the opening of JPC meetings to the public. Deputy Catherine Byrne emphasised the importance of public lighting as an anti-social deterrent, the issue of gating private laneways, investigation of domestic waste placed in public litter bins and the need for integration of services. In response, Philip Maguire stated the investigation of dumping by DCC is standard practice and drew attention to the on-line availability of “Fix My Street” and service request facility on the DCC website for reporting broken public lighting and other service requests. With regard to the holding of a public meeting, it was noted that consideration would have to be given to a governing theme and target audience for the event. **Action:** Review of initiatives to be considered. Reference was made to events such as Finglas Safety Week as a setting for engagement with local community fora and the need for local engagement and implementation by elected representatives. Lord Mayor Ó Muirí noted need for prioritisation of recommendations.

**6. “A Better City for All”- Report**

Noted. For discussion, see item 5 above.

**Action:** Gerry Breen, John Redmond and Philip Maguire to bring 5 recommendations from the Lord Mayor’s Commission and “A Better City for All” reports, in conjunction with an action plan, to the October meeting of JPC.

**7. Busking –Draft Discussion Document**

To address issues of overcrowding, noise and obstruction, the report outlined a voluntary code and agreed terms of engagement. Cllr. Mannix Flynn expressed concern with the punitive aspect of code but commended document as a starting point. Cllr Bríd Smith raised concerns with over regulation and extent of consultation. In response, it was noted that consultation with performers had taken place and the issue of amplification was already under consideration. Noted that the document is a working draft to be forwarded to the Arts SPC. Deputy Aengus Ó Snódaigh and Lord Mayor Ó Muirí cautioned against rigidity and restrictiveness in code formulation. **Action:** Feedback of members welcomed & same to be forwarded to Ruth Treacy.

**8. Items for future meeting**

Cllr. Mannix Flynn raised issues of on-street charity collection (“chugging”), cycling on footpaths and requested a report on bicycle theft and recovery rates.

Peter O’Connor raised the issue of Gardaí-Landlord relationship with regard to noise emanating from private tenants. Deputy O Snódaigh made reference to Noise Nuisance Bill which, although delayed, would impact on busking and tenant noise issues.

Cllr. John Redmond raised issue of assessing the impact of JPC at a community level.

**Action:** Liaison with and rebrief from community representatives in the JPC city and area structure to be arranged.

Deputy Byrne raised possibility of residents active in local policing fora making a short presentation to the DCJPC.

**9. AOB**

Cllr. Mannix Flynn drew attention to acknowledging the death of Eugene Maloney, the impact of the Horse Fair on the city, the proliferation of beer gardens, the contribution of the police from the now closed Harcourt Terrace station and requested a report on after hours drinking and behaviour after the Pride Festival in Temple Bar and South Georges Street.

**10. Next meeting: 1<sup>st</sup> October 2012**

**Subsequent meetings:** 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2012  
4<sup>th</sup> February 2013  
1<sup>st</sup> April 2013  
24<sup>th</sup> June 2013

**All meetings are scheduled to take place at 3.30 p.m. in the Council Chamber, City Hall, Dame Street, Dublin 2.**

## **Manager's Report to Dublin City Joint Policing Committee (J.P.C.)**

**02/07/2012**

### **Bird Market**

The apparent sporadic operation of a Bird Market on the north side of the Ha'penny Bridge and near the old site of the Adelaide Hospital on Bride Street is being investigated. A report will be brought forward when more definite information has been established.

### **Migrant Community**

Consideration has been given to appointing a representative from the migrant community to the Dublin City Joint Policing Committee.

It is recommended that the JPC and Dublin City Council approve the suggestion so that arrangements can be made to select and appoint a representative.

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**Philip Maguire**  
**Deputy City Manager**

## **Joint Policing Committee**

**Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> July 2011**

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

At this fourth meeting of the Joint Policing Committee for 2012 I intend to concentrate on the crime and traffic statistics since the last meeting in May 2012, and the introduction of a High Visibility Policing strategy. I will also comment on recent Robbery / Theft from the Person and Theft of Pedal Cycle Operations in the Dublin City area which have recently been introduced.

#### **Crime**

Since my last report Property Crime has dropped to its lowest reported total since June 2011. This is mainly due to Drops in Burglary, Theft from MPV and Theft/UT Pedal Cycle. Crimes Against the Person also continue to trend downwards.

Public Order offences are also trending downwards and remain well below the 3 Year Average. Overall Drugs incidents are up this month, with the highest monthly total for Possession of Drugs for Sale/Supply since November 2010.

#### **Operation Acer**

The reduction in the number of burglaries continues arising from Operation Acer which commenced on the 15th of March 2012. The Operation is monitored on an ongoing basis and provides both a preventative and detection element focusing on geographical areas and specific targets.

#### **Operation Aughrim**

As highlighted in my report in May, Theft and Robbery from the Person are trending upwards. Arising from this trend I have established a policing operation (Operation Aughrim), which has a focused, targeted and integrated approach to criminals involved in this type of crime together with particular areas of concern. This operation is being closely monitored to counteract increasing trends. Similar to the Burglary Operation a key component of this operation involves the case management of recidivists / prolific offenders by appointing a member to correlate all prosecutions and court appearances against each offender.

#### **Operation Eitleán**

Taking account of predictive trends regarding the theft of pedal cycles in the Dublin City area I have established a Policing Operation (Operation Eitleán) to target areas and suspect offenders associated with the theft of pedal cycles. This operation is also a focused, targeted and integrated approach to tackling crimes of this nature.

#### **Organised Crime**

As outlined in previous reports initiatives are in place across the city to target organised and armed crime. These initiatives are intelligence driven with a focused and targeted approach. These initiatives will continue to be a priority for An Garda Síochána right across the city.

#### **Traffic**

At the time of writing this report the number of people killed on the roads of the Capital this year is six compared with six for the same period last year.

I am conscious that each of these deaths is a tragedy for families and the wider community. This is an area which I will continue to keep under review by my Regional Traffic Corp and local Traffic Units. It is also an area which is the subject of ongoing traffic operations throughout the city managed by the Regional Traffic Division.

**High Visibility Patrols**

On Monday 25<sup>th</sup> June 2012 I introduced a High Visibility Plan for the Dublin Region which includes the Dublin City catchment area. A specific plan has been put in place to cover the Dublin City area. This plan will result in dedicated high visibility patrols in key commercial / public thoroughfares at strategic times dictated by crime trends and footfall for the areas in question. These beats will continually be reviewed to ensure they target prevailing trends and the needs of the community.

**Thank you**