

**Dublin City Joint Policing Committee**  
**Minutes of Meeting held on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> of March 2012**  
**at 3.30 p.m., Council Chamber, City Hall**

**Attendance: Committee Members**

Councillor Gerry Breen (Chairperson)	Councillor Larry O'Toole (Vice-chairperson)
Deputy Maureen O'Sullivan	Deputy Catherine Byrne
Deputy Kevin Humphreys	Deputy Aengus Ó Snódaigh
Councillor Edie Wynne	Councillor Mannix Flynn
Councillor John Redmond	Councillor Larry O'Toole
Councillor Anna Quigley	Councillor Bríd Smith
Councillor Cieran Perry	
Asst. Commissioner John Twomey	Inspector Gerry Murphy
Mr. Peter O'Connor, Community Policing Forum (North East Inner City)	
Mr. Tom Coffey, Dublin City Business Association (D.C.B.A.)	
The Archdeacon of Dublin, the Venerable David Pierpoint	
Mr. Dick Brady, Assistant City Manager, Housing & Residential Services Dept.	
Mr. Philip Maguire, Deputy City Manager	
Ms. Ruth Treacy, Senior Staff Officer, City Manager's Department	

**Apologies:** N/A

**1. Minutes of Previous Meeting held on 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2012**

Order: Agreed.

**2. Matters Arising**

Order: Update provided by Manager on *Occupy Dame Street Campaign*.

**3. Manager's report**

Order: Noted.

The Manager expressed his thanks and appreciation, on behalf of both the Committee and Dublin City Council to outgoing Assistant Commissioner Mick Feehan, who has recently retired. The Manager acknowledged the enormous contribution he made during his years on the JPC.

He welcomed his replacement, Assistant Commissioner John Twomey, Deputy Kevin Humphreys (who has replaced Deputy Finian McGrath, who resigned from the Committee) & Cllr. Anna Quigley (who replaces Cllr. Marie Metcalfe who resigned from Dublin City Council).

**4. Presentation on "Segways" by Mr. Tom Coffey, D.C.B.A.**

Order: Presentation noted and welcomed.

Assistant Commissioner welcomed the concept and thanks Tom for his offer to fund the purchase of 2 of them for use in Dublin City Centre. He would be delighted to take Tom up on the offer particularly on a trial basis as they would serve to increase mobility and visibility in the city; however there are firstly some issues to be clarified with An Garda Síochána's Legal Department.

**5. Presentation on Community Courts Conference attended by Chairperson, Cllr. Gerry Breen in Washington**

Order: Presentation noted.

Cllr. Breen is scheduled to meet with Mr. Michael Donnellan, CEO, Irish Prison Service and will report back to the Committee at the next meeting.

## **6. Report of Assistant Garda Commissioner**

Order: Report noted.

Incoming Assistant Commissioner John Twomey thanked the Manager for his comments regarding Mick Feehan, which he will pass on to his predecessor.

Garda Report for next meeting to include updates on the following:

- Update on "Operation Quest"
- Follow-up report on use of Segways
- Report on People Trafficking (following broadcasting of a recent report on "Primetime")
- CCTV – Sheriff Street

Separate presentations will be given on the Juvenile Diversionary Programme & by the Criminal Assets Bureau (C.A.B.)

## **7. Cash for Gold**

Order: Update from Department of Justice noted.

## **8. Correspondence from An Garda Síochána on "Operation BOA"**

Order: Noted.

Councillor O'Toole acknowledged the work this initiative has achieved in his area.

## **9. A.O.B.**

- a. Manager to issue a letter to the Director of RTE, expressing the concern of the Committee with the content of a documentary recently broadcast on the Travelling Community entitled "Knuckle" (broadcast on Sunday February 19<sup>th</sup>) as they felt it portrayed the community in an unfavourable light based on gratuitous violence and involvement in an illegal activity in which only a minority participate.
- b. *Integration Centre* to make a presentation to the next meeting.
- c. Documents on Garda Station closures & Citizenship to be forwarded to members (subsequently circulated 6<sup>th</sup> March)
- d. Update on Smithfield Horse to be provided for May Manager's Report.

## **10. Next meeting: 28<sup>th</sup> May 2012**

Meetings going forward for 2012/2013 are as follows:

**2<sup>nd</sup> July 2012**  
**1<sup>st</sup> October 2012**  
**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.)

05/03/2012

### Lord Mayor's Commission on Antisocial Behaviour

Eight meetings of the Lord Mayor's Commission on Anti-Social Behaviour have been held on the following themes:

- Early Intervention and Prevention
- Discrimination and Prejudice
- City Centre issues
- Alcohol & Other Drugs
- Alternatives to Prison
- Organisational Structures & Governance
- Education
- Design of a City

A conference dealing with the issues of the Lord Mayor's Commission on Anti-Social Behaviour is being held on Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> February in Croke Park Conference Centre. A Report of the Lord Mayor's Commission will be published in April/May which will outline the findings of the Commission, give examples of evidence-based research, highlight the experience of other cities and make recommendations for Dublin. Some of these recommendations may mean re-examining existing services and seeing how these can be improved. Some will be passed on to Dublin City Council, National Government and other agencies for their attention and action.

### Dublin City Local Business Policing Forum

The Dublin City Local Business Policing Forum was set up in September 2010. It is chaired by the Lord Mayor of Dublin and is attended by the Assistant Garda Commissioner for the Dublin Metropolitan Area and senior representatives of An Garda Síochána, Dublin City Council, Business and Tourism organisations in the City Centre.

The Forum examines issues which face Dublin from a business and a policing angle and was set up to provide a structured way of communication between all relevant stakeholders. Meetings are held monthly except for August.

To date a range of issues have been raised including:

- Begging in Dublin City
- Drug Treatment Centres in the City Centre which led to a strategic response group being set up who drafted up and implemented a *Good Neighbourhood Policy* for the City Centre Treatment Centres.
- Smithfield Horse Fair
- Homelessness in Dublin City
- Amplified busking in Dublin City leading to a draft Code of Practice being drawn up
- Laneways
- Casual Trading
- Dublin Bus parking in the city centre
- Illegal sale of prescription drugs in Dublin
- Presentations were given on various major events which take place in Dublin throughout the year including St. Patrick's Festival, Dublin Tall Ships and Europa League Final.

### Safer Internet Day

On 7<sup>th</sup> February Lord Mayor Andrew Montague launched a report and held a discussion on “Irish Kids Online: Youth and Parent Perspectives” in the Wood Quay Venue, Dublin Civic Offices. The event was part of Safer Internet Day. The theme was *Connecting generations and educating each other*. The report presented new findings drawn from the EU Kids Online survey of children’s use of the internet. Following the launch, a panel discussion, moderated by Senator Jillian van Turnhout with contributions from industry, parents and young people, debated how different generations experience the internet. The seminar was co-organised by Dublin City Council, the IRCHSS-funded Digital Childhoods project and the National Centre for Technology in Education.

### Annual Report to City Council

A report will be brought to the City Council meeting next Monday, 5<sup>th</sup> March summarising the activities of the Joint Policing Committees during 2011.

**Philip Maquire**  
**Deputy City Manager**

**Joint Policing Committee**  
**Monday 5th March 2012**

**Report of Assistant Garda Commissioner John Twomey**

I am delighted to be here today and look forward to working with each and every one of you into the future. At the outset I would like to acknowledge the work and the support of my predecessors Al McHugh and Michael Feehan who both were strong advocates of Joint Policing Committees and Community Policing Fora, and I propose to build on the good work already carried out by both of them. In this regard I view the Joint Policing Committee as a strategic partnership between key agencies tasked with improving the quality of life of those who live, work and visit this great city. As some of you may know I was the Chief Superintendent in Dublin (West) and Dublin (South Central) Divisions. I was deeply involved in the establishment of Community Policing Fora in the Finglas and Ronanstown area and also the establishment of an Ethnic Policing Fora in the South Inner City. I was also involved in a Youth Engagement project in the Rialto area entitled 'What's the Story Collective', a particularly innovative project which yielded considerable benefit to all involved.

On Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2012 I attended a half day community policing seminar at the Mosque, South Circular Road which discussed '2<sup>nd</sup> Generation Integration', a critical issue as we look to the future. A unique venue for a policing seminar and a particularly insightful topic, but more importantly an indication of the good work in integrating our newer communities. I have seen at first hand the benefits of such projects and it is my intention to extend such initiatives across the entire Dublin Region.

In summary, my aim as Assistant Commissioner, DMR, is to provide an efficient and effective policing service and working in collaboration with all agencies present here today, we can achieve that objective. Policing is a partnership and I am convinced that working together we will succeed in overcoming any challenges.

**Crime**

While Property Crime has stabilised during the month of January 2012 it shows an 8% increase compared with same period last year.

- Burglaries continue to increase and specific initiatives are in place to counteract this trend.
- Robbery from the establishment is an area which is also of concern and I have tasked my senior management team to review and put in place targeted initiatives to address this trend.

**Crimes Against the Person**

On a positive note the downward trend in Assaults continues. There were two murders in the Dublin City Council area since my last report, one of which has been detected. Significant resources are being deployed to each of these investigations in an effort to bring culprit(s) to Justice.

I will continue to implement initiatives across the city to target organised and armed crime. These initiatives will continue to be intelligence driven and will target the activities of persons involved in organised crime. The assistance of the community is critical to the detection of these most heinous crimes.

**Traffic**

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

While the number of deaths has decreased 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 Division and local Traffic Units.

**Policing St. Patrick's Festival**

At the time of writing this report plans are in place for the policing of St. Patrick's Day Festival.

Throughout the Region plans are in place to ensure that there are sufficient resources deployed in the city centre and the suburbs to ensure a peaceful and enjoyable festival.

As with previous years, I have requested local management in the city to communicate with each Off Licence within the City Centre requesting their support to keep their premises closed until 4pm. Meetings have also taken place with Dublin City Council in regard to their co-operation with the policing of the event. On the day liaison officers are in place between both organisations to coordinate the removal of bottles or any other potentially harmful objects

**Policing Plan 2012**

The Policing Plan for 2012 has been completed. The plan outlines our strategic goals for the second year of the Garda Síochána Corporate Strategy Statement 2010–2012 entitled "Serving Communities" and includes the priorities determined for An Garda Síochána by the Minister for Justice and Law Reform under Section 20 of the Garda Síochána Act 2005.

The objectives identified will be implemented against a backdrop of the challenging economic circumstances which face every public sector organisation. However I am of the belief that with strong leadership and prudent financial management, coupled with the commitment of all Garda personnel in the Region, these challenges will be met and overcome and our targets achieved.

The policing Plan will shortly be available on the Garda website.

**THANK YOU**