

DUBLIN CITY JOINT POLICING COMMITTEE
Minutes of Meeting held on Monday, 24th January 2011
at 3.30 p.m., Council Chamber, City Hall

Attendance: Committee Members

Lord Mayor, Councillor Gerry Breen (Chairperson)
Councillor Mannix Flynn
Councillor John Gallagher
Deputy Maureen O'Sullivan
Asst. Commissioner Mick Feehan
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. Philip Maguire, Deputy City Manager
Ms. Ruth Treacy, Senior Staff Officer, City Manager's Department
Mr. Ciaran Fallon, Dublin City Council's Cycling Officer

Apologies: John Tierney (City Manager), Deputy Lord Mayor Councillor Edie Wynne, Deputy Catherine Byrne, Deputy Tommy Broughan, Councillor John Redmond

1. Minutes of Previous Meeting held on 22nd November 2010

Order: Minutes agreed.

2. Matters Arising

Order: Noted.

3. Presentation by Dublin City Council's Cycling Officer, Mr. Ciaran Fallon

Order: Presentation noted.

4. Manager's report

Order: Report noted.

The Deputy City Manager acknowledged the concerted effort made by An Garda Síochána to combat the anti-social/aggressive begging situations which have escalated in the City Centre/boardwalk and vicinity, via an operation which commenced on Monday January 17th.

5. Report of Assistant Garda Commissioner

Order: Report noted.

6. Update on the Dublin City Local Business Policing Forum (attached)

Order: Report noted.

Order: Lord Mayor to liaise with Councillor Flynn following the meeting regarding this issue.

7. Criminal Justice (Public Order) Bill 2010 (copy attached)

<http://www.oireachtas.ie/documents/bills28/bills/2010/0710/b7d10.pdf>

Order: Update to be emailed to Members on current status of the bill.

8. Copies of correspondence received from:

- (i) Department of the Environment, Heritage & Local Government: Availability of resources for Joint Policing Committees and Local Policing Fora
- (ii) Health & Safety Authority regarding results of an inspection of the Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland (RCSI)
- (iii) Department of Justice & Law Reform – “Options for Regulating Gambling”
- (iv) Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland (RCSI) – Inventory of Chemicals

Order: Correspondence noted.

9. A.O.B.

- (a) Annual Report to Council

Order: An Annual Report, summarising the activities of the Dublin City Joint Policing Committee and the 5 Joint Policing Subcommittees during 2010 will be brought to the March City Council meeting.

- (b) Items for future meetings

Order: Members advised to contact Lord Mayor / Deputy City Manager should they have any items they would like included on the agenda for future meetings of the Dublin City Joint Policing Committee (J.P.C.)

10. Next meeting

The next meeting is scheduled to take place on **Monday 7th March at 3.30 p.m. in the Council Chamber, City Hall.**

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

24/01/2011

Funding

At the behest of the City Joint Policing Committee (J.P.C.), the issue of additional funding for JPC's and local policing fora was raised with the Department of Environment, Heritage and Local Government (DEHLG). The Department has replied (copy attached – see Item No. 8 on today's Agenda) indicating that, due to National Finances, no additional funding can be made available in the foreseeable future.

Incident at Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland (RCSI)

In response to our request for additional information regarding this matter the H.S.A. has indicated that they are legally precluded from disclosing such information (copy of letter attached – see Item No. 8 on today's Agenda).

Philip Maquire
Deputy City Manager

Joint Policing Committee
Monday 24th January 2011

Report of Assistant Garda Commissioner Michael Feehan

As this is the first meeting of the Joint Policing Committee for 2011, I primarily intend to concentrate on the challenges facing Dublin for the year and beyond; first however I will briefly comment on the crime and traffic statistics for 2010.

Crime

The overall position at the end of 2010, as compared to 2009, is that crime incidents have reduced across the Dublin Region. The number of burglaries has been reduced by 7%, which is particularly worthy of note given that this crime category showed a significant rise in the early part of 2010. A number of both overt and covert operations have served to address this issue. Other offence types which have shown a reduction include Public Order, Criminal Damage and Controlled Drug offences. On the negative side, crimes of Robbery from Establishments and Robbery from Person have increased. A number of targeted initiatives have been put in place to tackle these crime categories across the city.

Traffic

The number of people killed on the roads of the Capital in 2010 showed a significant decrease on the previous year, with ten fewer fatalities. The number of people who died on the roads of the city in 2010 was 21 compared to 31 deaths for 2009. Significant resources will continue to be deployed on full time traffic duties in the Region to ensure the safety of all Road Users.

I should also mention the work that was done prior to the Christmas period by the emergency services during the bad weather. The significant inter-agency work between the Local Authority officials, the Gardaí and other emergency services served the community well in terms of service provision in difficult circumstances. Each of the agencies met for high level meetings on a regular basis during the period of bad weather, to co-ordinate activities.

Policing Plan 2011

As Assistant Commissioner for Dublin I have just formulated the Regional Policing Plan for 2011 taking account of ongoing challenges and submissions from this Committee and other interested parties. 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 Strategy Statement 2010 – 2012 is based upon four core values, namely:

- Honesty – Being honest and ethical and adhering to the principles of fairness and justice;
- Accountability – Accepting individual responsibility and ensuring public accountability;
- Respect – Having respect for people, their Human rights and their needs;
- Professionalism – Providing a professional policing service to all communities.

The work of An Garda Síochána throughout the Dublin Region in 2011 will be carried out 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 and Civilian personnel in the Region, these challenges will be met and overcome. It is vital that we go about our business in a manner which reflects the core values of Honesty, Accountability, Respect and Professionalism

The Mission Statement of An Garda Síochána is 'Working with Communities to Protect & Serve'. The commitment in this plan is that we will strive to action that Mission Statement by delivering a Garda service that reflects the needs and priorities of the people who live, work, visit and travel through the city. A core focus of An Garda Síochána in Dublin in 2011 will be in confronting those involved in armed and serious crime, through both overt and covert intelligence led operations. We will work in partnership with the communities we serve to provide a visible Garda presence, an effective response to crime and antisocial behaviour, and an improved sense of security for the people of Dublin. Our ultimate goal is to ensure that we provide an excellent policing service to all communities throughout the city and county of Dublin.

During 2011 we will expand on the work carried out to date in establishing, and supporting the work of Local Policing Fora in each Local Drugs Task Force Area in the Region. The training of Gardaí in Problem Orientated Policing techniques will be a key part of our approach to working with communities in developing shared solutions to the problems encountered in local neighbourhoods.

The 2011 plan details the ways in which we will maintain our focus, and commitment to, our core activity which is the prevention and detection of crime.

We will prioritise the deployment of our resources in a way which is designed to confront crime, make our roads safer and ensure more peaceful communities across the city.

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

Policing Challenges for 2011 and beyond

Some of the most critical challenges facing An Garda Síochána in Dublin City in 2011 will include tackling organised and armed crime. We will also focus on crimes which impact most on communities including burglaries and Public Disorder. I am convinced that with the ongoing support of the communities across the city we will succeed in overcoming these challenges and in providing excellence in the policing service.

THANK YOU