

# **Joint Policing Committee**

**Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> December 2014**

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

I am delighted to be here today at the first full meeting of the new Dublin City Joint Policing Committee meeting. I look forward to working with each and every one of you into the future. Partnerships form a very important part of our policing strategy, through a variety of community initiatives I propose to build on the good work already carried out by the Joint Policing Committee and view this meeting as a means to foster strategic partnerships between key agencies tasked with improving the quality of life of those who live, work and visit this great city.

I intend to concentrate on the following topics,

- 1. Crime**
- 2. Traffic**
- 3. Assertive Case Management**
- 4. Late Night League Finals**
- 5. Policing Plan 2015**

### **Crime**

Overall property crime has increased by 2% which is primarily being driven by an increase in burglaries and vehicle crime. These increases are somewhat off-set by a reduction in the number of Theft from Persons and Robbery from Person offences. While Assaults have shown a decrease the total number of Public Order Offences have shown a decrease. To counteract this increasing trend I have met with my Regional Crime Management Team to monitor and put in place additional measures to counteract this trend. Specific Operations will be in place over the coming weeks and months to address the increase in burglaries and vehicle crime.

### **Traffic**

At the time of writing this report the number of people killed on the roads of the Capital is twenty four compared with eighteen for 2013 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 2014 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 in December 2014.

### **Assertive Case Management Project**

Arising from discussions with Dublin City Council and the Health Service Executive an initiative has been established to counteract the perceived antisocial behaviour, including drug use, in the City Centre area. This initiative involves the deployment of a street outreach team which is based in a city centre location.

Members of this team conduct assertive outreach in the city centre area to **identify, approach engage with, and assist** those individuals that are known as being members of the high risk cohort. The team take an assertive approach, actively supporting users of the service at locations and times that are suitable to them. The team will either supplement or take on the role of existing case management, where such is in place, or will take on the case management role where none exists. Each of the agencies have assigned personnel to this team.

When contact is made, a team member carries out a brief but Formal Street based assessment to identify key areas of need for the person, to include details of any case management / key working structures already in place. The person is offered a range of interventions tailored to their need, and which can be accessed with a minimum of delay, including brief interventions, housing and treatment options.

This team can be readily distinguished from current outreach offerings, in that it is:

- Truly interagency in nature
- Solution focused on the needs of a particular cohort – those with the most complex needs and who are most marginalised from mainstream services,
- Capable of providing *de facto* key working and case management services on the street to this cohort

### **Outcomes**

This initiative aims to specifically target an identified high risk cohort in the City Centre and to provide coordinated intensive inputs, focused on improving options and outcomes for the targeted users. It is also important to focus on addressing the perceived negative impact that this group has on the city centre in general. This project has two anticipated outcomes:

- Psychosocial benefits to the cohort in terms of self reported measured progression
- Actual benefits to the cohort in terms of access to, and retention in, housing, treatment and other necessary healthcare services, as measured by objective achievements related to individual care plans

I will keep you informed of developments on an ongoing basis.

### **Late Night Leagues**

The Late Night Leagues finals will take place in Irishtown Stadium Ringsend, Dublin on Friday 5<sup>th</sup> December 2014. Twenty three (23) teams will participate in the final with four (4) winning teams in the Champions Leagues and the Europa League (Under 16 and Over 16) category.

The Late Night Leagues is a combined partnership with An Garda Síochána, FAI, Department of Children and Youth Affairs, Dublin Bus, and each of the Local Authorities - Dublin City, South, Fingal and Dun Laoghaire Rathdown County Councils. The Leagues are designed to encourage at risk young people to participate in meaningful activities, thus reducing anti-social behaviour involving young people in disadvantages areas. The Leagues take place on Friday and Saturday Nights during prime anti-social hours.

All four winning teams will be presented with Trophies and Medals and each winning participant received goodie bags. The leagues are an important initiative which Gardaí engage with youths in our communities. Initiatives of this nature highlight the importance of working in partnership to achieve agreed goals.

### **Policing Plan 2015**

The Annual Policing Plan 2015 for the Dublin Metropolitan Region is being prepared. The goals will reflect specific requirements for the Dublin Region and those which are outlined in the National Policing Plan.

In 2015 we will strive to achieve our mission and vision by forging stronger links with the community through initiatives such as Partnership Approach to Community Engagement (PACE) and Partnership Approach to Public Safety (PAPS).

Through these initiatives, in collaboration with all our key stakeholders from the community, the business fora and local authorities, public disorder, anti social behaviour and other community issues will be addressed. Community Policing Units and Juvenile Liaison Officers throughout the Region will continue to engage with the young people of Dublin through various initiatives incorporating sport, schools, and Youth Diversion Programmes. These initiatives will continue to be delivered through the use of Problem Oriented Policing techniques.

If you have any suggestions which you would like to be considered for inclusion in the Policing Plan please submit your suggestions to [commissioner\\_dmr@garda.ie](mailto:commissioner_dmr@garda.ie).

### **Conclusion**

I firmly believe that forums, such as this, provide a means to collaboratively address ongoing issue and I look forward to working with and developing existing and future initiatives with this new committee during 2015 and beyond.

**Thank You**