

## Dublin City Council Local Traveller Accommodation Consultative Committee (LTACC)

**Date:** Friday 17<sup>th</sup> April 2020 / Meeting via Teleconferencing (Zoom)

### **Members in Attendance:**

Mr. Jack Keyes – Chairperson  
Ms. Claire Kelly – Secretary and Co-ordinator  
Mr. Pat Teehan – Manager TAU  
Mr. Shay L’Estrange – BTAP  
Ms. Collette Spears – CDTG Community Worker  
Ms. Sally Flynn-Labre Park Representative  
Cllr. Sophie Nicoullaud  
Cllr. Anthony Flynn  
Cllr. Alison Gilliland Ms.  
Anne Helferty – Chief Welfare Officer  
Ms. Winnie McDonagh – Travact  
M. Winnie McDonnell – PHC St Margaret’s  
Cllr. Anthony Connaghan  
Cllr. Neasa Hourigan  
Ms. Angela O’Neill - FTDG

### **Apologies:**

Ms. Mary McCann – Avila Representative  
Ms. Brigid McDonagh – Cara Representative  
MS. Mary Berry - Labre Park Representative  
Cllr. Hazel De Nortúin  
Cllr. John Lyons

1.	<b>Coronavirus (COVID-19) Traveller sites</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>➤ Concerns that social distancing is not been adhered to, reports of large gathering on site including a wedding. Support groups linking in with Gardaí, as Focus needs to be on social distancing.</li><li>➤ Concerns about young residents not taking the restrictions serious, resulting in conflict on sites. Suggested that Youth Services be involved locally.</li><li>➤ Staff of the TAU section were acknowledged for the great service they continue to provide on both official and unofficial sites. Noted with Thanks</li><li>➤ Concerns about residents needing to be re-tested for coronavirus, talks regarding a child that may have tested positive in Cara Park. DCC and local representative groups providing support where necessary.</li><li>➤ It is the opinion that a Garda presence is needed on sites to engage with those not adhering to social distancing to protect the vulnerable on Traveller sites.</li></ul>
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2.	<b>Questions arising from members</b>	<p>➤ What areas are being disinfected on Traveller sites? Will this be ongoing and what is being used to disinfect these areas? Biofogging disinfecting of sites will occur monthly. It is confined to external of houses and mobiles/caravans</p> <p><b>Reply:</b> All official and unofficial sites are being disinfected monthly to decrease the risk of infection. All places where residents would normally touch outside the home are being disinfected such as door handles (houses/mobiles), portals, mobile home.</p> <p>➤ What are the options for isolation of residents surrounding the Naas road area? Difficulties may arise due to family members wanting to visit, has this issue been thought out?</p> <p><b>Reply:</b> There will be no support for family visits regarding those who need to self-isolate, this option will be for those who cannot isolate in their own home or who ask to be moved off site due to infection.</p> <p>➤ Will skips be provided on sites due to the increase of domestic waste?</p> <p><b>Reply:</b> Waste removal from TAU caretakers continue on site and residents will be expected to continue paying their bin service. No agreement to provide skips on sites.</p> <p>➤ Will disinfected packs be provided for family's that have not yet received any?</p> <p><b>Reply:</b> Every family on all sites have received disinfection packs. If residents ask for more they will be provided them.</p> <p>➤ How many confirmed cases of coronavirus on Traveller sites?</p> <p><b>Reply:</b> There are four cases in unauthorized sites.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• One unconfirmed case in Bridgeview</li> <li>• One confirmed case in Avila</li> <li>• One confirmed case in Cara – Death occurred due to underlying conditions. Immediate family self-isolating.</li> <li>• Five confirmed cases in Belcamp Lane. Supports have been provided to all families.</li> </ul>
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#### **Manager's Report Friday 24<sup>th</sup> April 2020**

- 4 more cases have been confirmed on Becamp Lane. Continuing to work with families.
- Continuing to phone all contactable residents regarding their status and offer support where needed.
- Resources being gathered for Biofogging disinfectant and hand packs on all sites in early May.
- 2 mobiles supplied to families in crisis
- Water supply provided to over 30 families on unauthorised sites by DCC contractors.
- Application made to ESB networks to supply electricity to unauthorised sites.
- Attempts made to provide Sanitation Units to replace ones needing repair have been frustrated by families on site. We will attempt a final time to replace and if unsuccessful we will concentrate on other priorities.
- Repairs are continuing on all sites as are waste collections.
- Sites on Naas Road and Belcamp Lane are ready for isolation, if needed. However, current supports have proven to be more than adequate to the task and families continue to isolate at home with supports from HSE, representative organisations and DCC.
- We are continuing to work with HSE to be proactive in our approach to this crisis. We continue to provide reasonable and measured responses to all HSE recommendations and also to enhance where necessary those responses.
- Social isolating continues to be a major problem on all sites. The various parties have not abated and we have informed the Gardai where appropriate.
- Attendances at funerals also is a source of danger as are families from outside the county and country who visit across the city and those engaged in waste collections. Representative groups must take a more active role in convincing Travellers to keep to social distancing guidelines.