

# South Dublin County Joint Policing Committee Annual Report 2014



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### Introduction

South Dublin County Joint Policing Committee was established on the 26<sup>th</sup> October 2007. The Committee continues to provide a forum for representatives from An Garda Síochána, South Dublin County Council, Oireachtas members and Community representatives, to make an important contribution to addressing issues relating to crime locally, to get together in a regular and structured way to consult with each other, discuss and make recommendations on matters affecting the policing of South Dublin County. The JPC is a partnership, co-operative in nature and operating with the minimum of formality to identify, raise awareness of and find solutions for issues impacting on, or causing concerns for the local community.

South Dublin Joint Policing Committee continues to be a partnership between an Garda Síochána, South Dublin County Council and the residents of South Dublin County. Members of the Joint Policing Committee work together to help prevent crime and solve neighborhood problems by:

- Encouraging active citizen involvement in policing efforts.
- Focusing on issues of ongoing public concern.
- Providing continuity of service to the community
- Ensuring active involvement by the relevant staff in problem-solving
- Initiate creative responses to neighborhood problems.
- Developing the capacity of residents and affording them the opportunity to speak and act effectively on their own behalf
- Strengthening and building groups and organizations so residents can advocate for their own interests.

The work and public meetings of the three Local Policing Fora and their role and reporting relationship to the JPC fully increases community involvement and trust in the work of the committee. The Joint Policing Committee in 2014 worked with the newly established Public Participation Network (PPN) to select four representatives from the PPN to represent the Community on the Joint Policing Committee. The Committee increased participation with the Local Drug and Alcohol Task Forces by inviting the Chairs of both Tallaght and Clondalkin Drug Task Forces to join. The Committee also invited representation from the Garda Diversion Projects onto the committee

South Dublin County Council selected new members for the Joint Policing Committee following the local elections held in May of 2014.

## Section 1 – South Dublin County Joint Policing Committee Work Plan

	Priority Issue	Actions taken in relation to each priority issue	Persons Responsible (JCP or JPC Committee)	Timescale for Action	Summarise Progress Achieved
1	<b>To promote positive crime prevention and community safety initiatives through the media and the web page of South Dublin County JPC</b>	To increase the activity by including information on community safety initiatives/projects	JPC Executive (Supplied by SDCC)	Ongoing	Available at <a href="http://www.sdcc.ie/services/community/joint-policing-committee/">http://www.sdcc.ie/services/community/joint-policing-committee/</a>
2	<b>Deter crime and anti-social behaviour in public parks</b> Implementation of the recommendations included in “Reclaiming our Parks	Subgroup in place to implement the findings in the report ‘Reclaiming our Parks’	JPC Committee with support from Parks Department SDCC.	Ongoing	The Subgroup reported to each of the JPC meetings in 2014. Following the reconstitution of the JPC following the Local Elections new members were selected. Crime prevention officers presented to the JPC
3	<b>To support Community CCTV Programs in South Dublin County</b>	To provide ongoing support for the following Community CCTV schemes in South Dublin County North Clondalkin Jobstown Fettercairn and Brookfield Killinarden	Gardai and Local Authority	Ongoing	CCTV continues to be monitored 24/7 in the Jobstown, Brookfield, Killinarden and Fettercairn areas of Tallaght at Tallaght Garda Station and complements the Garda Scheme for the Town Centre area. CCTV in North Clondalkin Community areas is monitored in the North Clondalkin Garda Station.
4	<b>To provide continued support for Pro-social initiatives in the County</b> To support inter agency projects such as the Drugs Task Forces, Football night leagues, Tallaght West Childhood Development Initiative, Social Integration projects etc.	To develop a close liaison between the JPC and its members and inter agency projects in the County. Regular reporting to the JPC on initiatives throughout the County. Provide support for pro-social projects by improved coordination between Gardai, SDCC and Community Representatives	JPC members CSC Committee CDI Local Partnerships Community/Voluntary Sector Local Drugs Task Forces FAI	Ongoing	South Dublin County continues to have a large number of pro-social initiatives which are managed and directed by inter-agency working groups. This has resulted in the continued partnerships on Night-Time Leagues, new Halloween events, social integration projects, and community safety initiatives.

5	<p><b>To plan for events attracting large crowds</b></p> <p>To build on the good working relationship between the Gardai, South Dublin County Council, the Community and other stakeholders co-ordinating events</p>	<p>To ensure that events attracting large crowds are a safe and enjoyable experience for all those who live, work and visit South Dublin County</p>	<p>SDCC Gardai Public Transport providers Local Communities Local Businesses</p>	Ongoing	<p>A number of other events have been held throughout the County which attracted large crowds. The cooperation between the community, Gardai and LA has resulted in a safe and enjoyable experience for those attending. The experiences have resulted in improved cooperation. Festivals were held in more villages in 2014 and these were organised in cooperation with an Garda Síochána, SDCC and the local community.</p>
6	<p><b>To improve the process of engagement and interaction between local community reps. An Garda Síochána, Elected Representatives, South Dublin County Council, Local Drugs Task Forces on matters concerns concerning community safety.</b></p>	<p>Support the work of the three pilot local policing fora in the County Each local policing fora will report to the JPC meeting</p> <p>Consider recommendations of the Local Policing Fora</p> <p>Support for public and other meetings organised by the Local Policing Fora</p>	<p>Joint Policing Committee</p>	Ongoing	<p>The Three Local Policing Forum continue to meet. The LA, the Gardai and Local Communities are committed to these groups and have provided representation at the highest level. This has allowed decisions to be made quickly and where necessary allowed resources be channelled to address problems. Public meetings were held during 2014.</p>
7	<p><b>Support the recommendations contained in the National Commission on Restorative Justice by increasing relations with the Restorative Justice Service in Tallaght</b></p>	<p>Establish relationship between JCP Committee and Restorative Justice Services as outlined in the National Commission on Restorative Justice</p>	<p>Gardai SDCC Restorative Justice Service CDI West Tallaght Community Mediation Local Community</p>	Ongoing	<p>Contact remains with restorative justice and community mediation services. The Garda Síochána SARA continues to be available as a problem solving tool for local communities..</p>
8	<p><b>Consultation with Young People</b></p> <p>Consult with Young People in the County</p>	<p>Contact is ongoing with South Dublin Comhairle na nÓg</p>	<p>Gardai SDCC Comhairle na nÓg Youth Services</p>	Ongoing	<p>Contact is ongoing with South Dublin Comhairle na nÓg and the JPC agreed to partner with the Comhairle on an anti-bully charter which will begin in 2014. Arrangements are in place for regular</p>

	regarding community safety		Local Community		reporting and contact between the JPC and the Comhairle. Contact was also made with the Tallaght Youth Forum and they presented findings of a survey to the JPC in 2014.
9	<b>Support South Dublin County becoming an Age Friendly County which is a safe place for older persons</b>	Continue to support the Age Friendly Network in work on any safety issues identified	SDCC, Gardai, Age Friendly Network	Ongoing	An Garda Síochána is represented on the Steering Committee. Arrangements are in place for reporting to the JPC when necessary. Crime Prevention advice is available to older persons groups throughout the County.
10	<b>Support the implementation of the South Dublin County Integration Strategy</b>	Work on any actions identified that can improve the quality of life and safety of residents in the County	SDCC, Gardai, local community	Ongoing	Work is ongoing with organisations to encourage reporting of incidents. Local organisations are also aware of officials in various organisations who have special responsibility for integration. SDCC/Garda clinics are available in a number of community centres.
11	<b>Support the work of the Intimidation Sub-group of the JPC</b>	Continue to provide support to the Group	SDCC, Gardai, JPC, Local Drugs Task Forces	Ongoing	The JPC agreed to reconstitute the group following the Local Elections.

## **Section 2**

### **Advice/Recommendations provided by the Joint Policing Committee to the local authority and the Gardai during the year**

The JPC has discussed many different problems at the meetings, agreement was given in many cases to target problems areas and look at initiatives which would benefit the area. In South Dublin County, the Gardai and the Local Authority have a good working relationship. Contact is made both at Senior Level, through the JPC and other inter-agency committees and also at operational level with the Community and Housing Departments and the Community and Juvenile Liaison Sections of the Gardai. Crime Prevention and Traffic problems/blackspots were examples of issues discussed at JPC meetings.

### **Intimidation**

Following repeated reports from members of the JPC and recommendations from the South Dublin County Community Platform, the JPC set up a small working group to consider with this topic. Both the Gardai and Local Authority officials are very involved together with members of the Drugs Task Forces. This group continues to meet and the JPC agreed to support the Health Education Bureau and the Family Support Network in research to gain evidence on the extent of this problem. The poster campaign started in 2013 continued into 2014.

### **Age Friendly County**

There are currently a wide range of projects and initiatives in place which help to improve community safety and reduce levels of fear. These include attendance by Gardai at post offices on Friday and visibility at places of worship and community meetings. The Gardai are also committed to raising awareness with young people of the impacts of antisocial behaviour on older neighbours.

Crime Prevention Officers from an Garda Síochána continue to meet regularly with older persons groups throughout the County.

### **Integration Strategy**

An integration strategy was prepared for South Dublin County. The JPC continues to support the implementation of the community safety actions contained in the strategy.

### **Safety in Parks**

The Joint Policing Committee set up a subgroup in 2010 to look at safety in public parks. This group provided a comprehensive report to the Joint Policing Committee which listed 52 recommendations. Following consideration of the report, the JPC set up a small working group to monitor progress on the implementation of the recommendations; this involves both the Gardai and the Local Authority. This group continue to report to each meeting of the JPC and have advised the committee that work is progressing on over 40 of the actions.

### **CCTV**

The Joint Policing Committee considers that CCTV is an important tool in combating crime and anti-social behaviour. The Community CCTV schemes in Tallaght and Clondalkin are now monitored 24/7 in Tallaght and Ronanstown Garda Stations. Both the County Council and the Gardai are working closely together to ensure that the CCTV schemes in this County are successful in terms of safety, prevention and intervention.

### **Halloween 2014**

An interagency approach which included the Council, Gardai, Fire Brigade and Dublin Bus was put in place to promote a Safe Halloween through radio, school visits, and the early collection of bonfire material and co-operation from local communities. A new 'film night' initiative was introduced in North Clondalkin.

### Late Night Leagues

The late night leagues continue to be successful throughout the County with new venues and age groups added in 2014. The initiative is based around the concept of using football as a tool for social inclusion and learning, divert youths from Crime and anti-social behaviour and encouraging at risk young people to participate in meaningful activities, thus reducing anti-social behaviour. These leagues were run twice in 2014 in the following venues

Date	Venue	Date	Venue
22 <sup>nd</sup> February 1 <sup>st</sup> March 8 <sup>th</sup> March 15 <sup>th</sup> March	<b>Collinstown – North Clondalkin</b>	8 <sup>th</sup> November 15 <sup>th</sup> November 22 <sup>nd</sup> November 28 <sup>th</sup> November	Collinstown – Sports Complex
14 <sup>th</sup> February 21 <sup>st</sup> February 28 <sup>th</sup> February 7 <sup>th</sup> March	<b>Lucan – Weston Hockey Pitch</b>	7 <sup>th</sup> November 17 <sup>th</sup> November 21 <sup>st</sup> November 28 <sup>th</sup> November	Lucan – Weston Hockey Club
28 <sup>th</sup> February 7 <sup>th</sup> March 14 <sup>th</sup> March 21 <sup>st</sup> March	<b>Tallaght – Astro Park</b>	7 <sup>th</sup> November 17 <sup>th</sup> November 21 <sup>st</sup> November 28 <sup>th</sup> November	Tallaght – Astropark, Greenhills
1 <sup>st</sup> March 8 <sup>th</sup> March 15 <sup>th</sup> March 22 <sup>nd</sup> March	<b>Clondalkin – Clondalkin Leisure Centre</b>	8 <sup>th</sup> November, 15 <sup>th</sup> November, 22 <sup>nd</sup> November 28 <sup>th</sup> November	Clondalkin Village – Clondalkin Leisure Centre
<b>Finals 28<sup>th</sup> March</b>	<b>Finals Irishtown</b>	Finals 5 <sup>th</sup> of December	Finals Irishtown

Attendance at each venue ranged from 60 players to 100 players weekly with some venues have up to 80 spectators

## Section 3

### Local Policing Fora and Public Meetings

South Dublin County Joint Policing Committee set up three Local Policing Fora which are located in Tallaght, Clondalkin and North Clondalkin. The public meetings are organised by the Local Policing Fora and supported by the Joint Policing Committee. Each Local Policing Fora is made up of representatives of the Local Authority, Garda Síochána, Elected Representatives, Local Drugs Task Force and local residents. As part of the JPC Workplan, Action 10, each Local Policing Fora has a space for a representative of the migrant communities. The relevant Superintendents/Chief Superintendents with Inspectors and Community Garda attend these meetings together with senior managers from the Housing and Community Department. This commitment by the most senior Gardai and Local Authority officials has been recognised by the Local Policing Fora members and the local community. This also allows the most senior staff in both organisations to hear the difficulties, fears and concerns first hand from residents. The Local Policing Fora also allow for input and discussion with other local safety initiatives such as the Dublin Bus/LUAS Fora.

The management committees met regularly throughout 2014 and public meetings were held. Reports from public and management meetings have been presented to all meetings of the JPC in 2014.

The following issues have been raised again in 2014 at public meetings and again at Local Policing Fora management meetings in the three areas:

- Intimidation
- Anti social behaviour by tenants in private rented accommodation and social housing
- Drug related crime
- CCTV
- Parking and traffic difficulties
- Littering and Dumping
- Scramblers
- Halloween

The Local Policing Fora provide a report to each meeting of the Joint Policing Committee and the agenda allows for consideration and discussion on the items raised.

Public meetings were held on the following dates in 2014

Area	Date
Tallaght - Killinarden	5 <sup>th</sup> February
Clondalkin	27 <sup>th</sup> February 2014
Tallaght –Killinarden	20 <sup>th</sup> May, 2014
Clondalkin	18 <sup>th</sup> September 2014
Tallaght – Kiltalawn	28 October 2014



**Section 4 – Record of Meetings held in 2013 and list of members**

**Meetings 2014 - Only two meetings were held in 2014 due to the Local Election.**

**21 March 2014**

**24 October 2014**

**Membership of the South Dublin County Joint Policing Committee (Number of meetings attended in RED)**

Pre Election		Post Election	
Councillor Guss O' Connell (Chair) (1)	South Dublin County Council	Cllr. Deirdre O'Donovan (CHAIR) (1)	South Dublin County Council
Councillor Breeda Bonner	South Dublin County Council	Mayor Cllr. Fintan Warfield (1)	South Dublin County Council
Mayor Cllr. Dermot Looney (1)	South Dublin County Council	Cllr. Paula Donovan (1)	South Dublin County Council
Councillor Paddy Cosgrave (1)	South Dublin County Council	Cllr. Colm Brophy (1)	South Dublin County Council
Councillor Máire Devine (1)	South Dublin County Council	Cllr. Cathal King (1)	South Dublin County Council
Councillor Gino Kenny (1)	South Dublin County Council	Cllr. Maire Devine (1)	South Dublin County Council
Councillor Eoin O'Broin	South Dublin County Council	Cllr. Sarah Holland (1)	South Dublin County Council
Councillor John Hannon	South Dublin County Council	Cllr. Ed. O'Brien (1)	South Dublin County Council
Councillor Pamela Kearns	South Dublin County Council	Cllr. Paul Foley	South Dublin County Council
Councillor William Lavelle (1)	South Dublin County Council	Cllr. Pamela Kearns (1)	South Dublin County Council
Councillor Brian Lawlor	South Dublin County Council	Cllr. Kieran Mahon	South Dublin County Council
Councillor Colm Brophy	South Dublin County Council	Cllr. Nicky Coules (1)	South Dublin County Council
Councillor Emma Coburn	South Dublin County Council	Cllr. Liona O'Toole (1)	South Dublin County Council
Councillor John Lahart	South Dublin County Council	Cllr. Kenneth Egan (1)	South Dublin County Council
Councillor Eamonn Walsh	South Dublin County Council	Cllr. Paul Gogarty replaced Cllr. Timmons	South Dublin County Council
Robert Dowds TD (1)		Sean Crowe T.D.	
Derek Keating TD		Eamon Maloney T.D.	
Alex White TD		Senator Cait Keane (1)	
Sean Crowe TD		Joanna Tuffy T.D.	
Eamon Maloney TD		Danny McLoughlin (1)	South Dublin County Council
Chief Superintendent Orla McPartlin replaced Chief Superintendent Brendan Mangan	Garda Siochana	Billy Coman (1)	South Dublin County Council
Chief Superintendent Declan Coburn (1)	Garda Siochana	Chief Superintendent Orla McPartlin	Garda Siochana DMRS
County Manager – Danny McLoughlin (1)	SDCC	Chief Superintendent Declan Coburn (1)	Garda Siochana DMRW
Billy Coman (1)	SDCC	Public Participation Members x 4	Selected 2014
Jim Lawlor - (1)	Community Forum	Youth Garda Diversion Project x 1	Invited to join late 2014
Michael Noonan (1)	Community Forum	Local Drug Task Force x 2	Invited to join late 2014
Michelle Kearns	Community Platform		