

Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown Joint Policing Committee

Thursday 4th April 2019 @ 6.00pm
Old Council Chamber, County Hall

In Attendance	
Cllr. Barry Ward	DLRCC
Cllr. Chris Curran	DLRCC
Cllr. Cormac Devlin	DLRCC
Cllr. Deirdre Donnelly	DLRCC
Cllr. Deirdre Kingston	DLRCC
Cllr. John Kennedy	DLRCC
Cllr. Mary Hanafin <i>Chairperson</i>	DLRCC
Cllr. Michael Merrigan	DLRCC
Cllr. Patricia Stewart <i>Vice Chair</i>	DLRCC
Cllr. Peter O' Brien	DLRCC
Cllr. Shay Brennan	DLRCC
Dearbhla Lawson	DLRCC
Ian Smalley	DLRCC
Chief Superintendent Anne Marie Cagney	An Garda Síochána
Superintendent Martin McGonnell	An Garda Síochána
Superintendent Martin Fitzgerald	An Garda Síochána
Gay Wright	DLR Public Participation Network
Anne Harrington	DLR Public Participation Network
Richard Phillips	DLR Public Participation Network
Tony McCarthy	DLR Public Participation Network
Cllr Carrie Smyth	Loughlinstown, Shankill LPF
Frank Cruise	Sandyford / Stepside LPF
Sergeant Georgina Reilly	An Garda Síochána
Garda JP Durkan	An Garda Síochána
Inspector John Burke	An Garda Síochána
Bernie King	DLRCC
Apologies	
Deputy Catherine Martin	Member of the Oireachtas
Reverend Asa Bjork	Dún Laoghaire, LPF
Barry Cullen	DLR Drugs & Alcohol Task Force
Mary Ruane	DLRCC

1. Welcome and Introductions

The Chair welcomed the members to the meeting including Cllr Carrie Smyth. Apologies were noted.

2. Minutes from the JPC meeting on 20th November 2018

There was one amendment to the minutes of the committee meeting held on November 20th - remove the word 'some' in the sentence 'The Community Café provides a valuable service, but some concerns were raised regarding the anti-social behaviour in the area' The notes of the public meeting held the same evening were agreed. The minutes were proposed, seconded and approved.

3. Nominations to Joint Policing Committee

None

4. Initiative by An Garda Siochana re registering to vote

Cllr Barry Ward queried if An Garda Siochana could support be made available for facilitating the signing of supplementary register of electors forms for new applicants in schools. Chief Superintendent Cagney advised that she would look into this. Ian Smalley confirmed that Dun Laoghaire Rathdown County Council had been working with DLR Integration Forum to provide information and produced a leaflet to advise people about the voting system.

5. Presentation by the Garda Diversity Committee

Garda JP Durkan (Community Garda, Dun Laoghaire) gave a presentation on the dlr Garda Diversity Committee.

Which included the following areas:

- Who they are and the work they do
- Benefits of a Diversity Committee
- Plans for 2019
- Events they are involved in
- Current Challenges

Following the presentation, members noted the great work done by the committee. Tony McCarthy mentioned that the PPN have a guest speaker at each plenary meeting and suggested that the Garda Diversity Committee be invited to give a presentation at a future PPN plenary meeting.

6. Local Police Forum Reports

Ian Smalley presented the headlines from the combined LPF report. The Chair invited members to consider the LPF reports circulated.

Dún Laoghaire LPF

A query was raised whether the Dun Laoghaire LPF report adequately reflected the issues being faced within Dun Laoghaire. The Chair advised that these are the reports of the LPF and approved by An Garda Siochana as a record for presenting to the JPC and cannot be amended by the JPC.

Shankill Ballybrack Loughlinstown LPF

Following a brief discussion, Cllr Carrie Smyth noted that there was no reference to the Shankill Ballybrack Loughlinstown LPF report in the minutes from the November JPC meeting.

Dearbhla Lawson advised that the LPF report to the November 2018 meeting of the JPC had included a report from Shankill Ballybrack Loughlinstown LPF, notwithstanding the fact that there had been no issues or comments on that portion of the report from the Committee.

Cllr Carrie Smyth reported that there had been reports of incidents of burglaries in the area and requested an update from An Garda Síochána.

Sandyford Stepside LPF

The report was noted and in the course of a brief discussion Frank Cruise noted that there was a great turn out at the Sandyford Stepside LPF Public Meeting on the 2nd April.

7. DLR JPC Annual Workplan Priorities 2019

Dearbhla Lawson presented a report on the Annual Workplan priorities for 2019. Discussions were noted under the three Goals set out in the JPC Strategic Plan 2016 – 2021 and queries were raised relating to the following items including the issue of illegal parking on footpaths and cyclepaths. Cllr Deirdre Kingston stated the need for victims of domestic violence to be given full support. An Garda Síochána assured the committee that all such supports are in place. Tony McCarthy expressed support for the continued revitalisation of Neighbourhood Watch in the County. In relation to pendants alarms, Mr McCarthy advised that 463 were issued in 2018. Tribute was paid to the Garda Older Persons Association Committee (GOPA) in relation to the work they do. During a discussion about the GOPA tea dances, support was expressed for the work of the Garda Band and the community service that it provides. The Committee agreed that the Chair should write to the Garda Commissioner to express the Committee's support for the work of the Garda Band.

8. DLR JPC 2018 Annual Report

Dearbhla Lawson presented the Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown Joint Policing Committee Annual Report for 2018. Discussions were noted under the three Goals set out in the JPC Strategic Plan 2016 – 2021 relating to the following items:

One member noted it would be beneficial to have comparison figures in relation to the number of burglaries in each of the areas. Cllr Michael Merrigan asked when the report would be available. Dearbhla Lawson advised that the report would be available once amendments are finalised and that the report would be included in the Councils Annual report.

It was noted that the date of the public meeting was omitted from the annual report. The report would be edited accordingly.

The chair advised that this report is required to be sent to the Minister for Justice, the Minister for Local Government, the Policing Authority and the Garda Commissioner.

9. Update by Gardai on current Policing issues

Chief Superintendent Cagney gave a detailed report on current policing issues and crime statistics to date in the DMR East Division.

This included the following:

Statistics from burglaries, theft from vehicles, bike theft, criminal damage, public order offences. In relation to traffic there were no fatal collisions reported for this year to date.

Chief Superintendent Cagney advised that they have approval for 1 Sergeant and 5 Gardai to join the Divisional Roads Policing Unit.

Some queries were raised including the issue of people parking on footpaths and concerns for residents in particular areas. Cllr Michael Merrigan asked whether an Garda Síochána would meet with a Residents group to discuss illegal parking.

Another query was raised in relation to Stepside Garda Station. The Chief Superintendent advised that she has applied for more staff for the station

Following a discussion during which Chief Superintendent Cagney responded to Members queries, the committee thanked the Chief Superintendent for the detailed report and for the work being done.

10. Questions Submitted

The answers to the questions submitted were noted.

11. Proposed date of next meeting

Cllr Mary Hanafin advised that the next meeting will not be in June as scheduled due to the forthcoming elections and that the date would be notified in due course.

12. AOB

Superintendent Martin Fitzgerald noted the acknowledgement by DLR of the anti-social issues in Dun Laoghaire/Monkstown and said the Council has put a lot of resources seeking a resolution. He also noted that the subcommittee will be in a position to provide a report at the next meeting on the progress.

Cllr. Mary Hanafin noted that it was the last meeting of the current committee and thanked the Committee and wished Cllr Patricia Stewart well as she is the only Councillor on the committee not seeking reelection in May. She acknowledged the Chief Superintendent's commitment to the work carried out in the DMR East Division.