

# Local Policing Forum Induction Booklet



# Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown Local Policing Fora



Community and Cultural Development Department, Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council 01 205 4893

# **Local Policing Fora**

Local Policing Fora were established under the Garda Síochána Act 2005 to provide a platform for the Community, An Garda Síochána and your Local Authority to come together in a structured way to identify issues relating to:

- Policing in your area
- Anti-social behaviour
- Estate Management

The work of the Local Policing Fora is informed by a community development approach engaging with community representatives from the local area. The Local Policing Forum asks that you, as a stakeholder, work with the other Forum members to find solutions to issues raised at the Forum meetings.

There are four Local Policing Fora operating in Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown:

- · Central Dún Laoghaire
- Loughlinstown Ballybrack Shankill
- Sandyford Stepaside
- Dundrum Stillorgan

Each Local Policing Forum holds up to 6 committee meetings and 1 public meeting each year. Public meetings are widely advertised and notice is circulated through a variety of social media platforms.

Further information available at http://www.dlrcoco.ie/en/community/joint-policing-committeelocal-policing-forums

# **Joint Policing Committee**

Each Local Policing Forum is required to produce an Annual Work Plan identifying local issues for the year related to goals of Safety & Security. The Joint Policing Committee ensures that the work done locally by your Local Policing Forum is directly linked to their strategic aims.



The Joint Policing Committee is the key forum where the Local Policing Fora can bring issues that cannot be addressed effectively at local level.

For more information on Joint Policing Committees: http://www.justice.ie/en/JELR/Pages/Joint Policing Committees

# **Subject Matter of Meetings**

Section 36(4) of the Garda Síochána Act 2005 states that: 'neither the Joint Policing Committee or any of its committees may consider matters relating to a specific criminal investigation or prosecution or matters relating to the security of the state'. Your Local Policing Forum should not consider a matter if it would endanger the security of one or more individuals, prejudice the prevention or detection of crime or involves material of a sensitive nature. Individuals shall not be named or discussed. An individual's right to privacy and the European Convention of Human Rights Act 2003 must be adhered to.

http://www.irishstatutebook.ie/eli/2005/act/20/section/36/enacted/en/html

# **Internal Procedures for LPF meetings**

A Local Policing Forum meeting will be chaired by a member of An Garda Síochána of no less rank than Inspector. The Chair will approve nominations to the Committee and authorise minutes for circulation. An agenda is circulated in advance along with approved minutes of the last meeting. Additional reports are prepared and delivered by An Garda Síochána and Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council. Other individuals affected by, or involved with, the issues being addressed may be invited to attend a meeting and speak to a particular agenda item. It is envisaged that LPF's will meet up to 6 times per year although smaller more focused meetings can also occur as part of the overall process.

A record is kept of attendance, all issues raised and actions agreed. All agreed actions are re-stated at the end of the meeting and followed up at the beginning of the next. Local Policing Fora issues are also raised at each meeting of DLR Joint Policing Committee.

#### **Getting Involved**

The Local Policing Fora invites input from community groups such as

- Tenants and residents associations
- Community representatives
- Ethnic and minority groups
- Youth groups
- Drugs and Alcohol Task Force

# Raising issues

If you would like to sit on a Local Policing Fora you should be nominated by your Community group to represent them and your group should be registered with the Public Participation Network. https://dlrppn.ie/

Local input is a very important consideration of the LPF. Members of the public can raise an issue by contacting their elected County Councillor on the relevant LPF. Alternatively, please contact the Community and Cultural Development Department of Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council at 01 205 4893.

#### **Operation Irene**

Annually Operation Irene is launched ahead of the busy summer season in conjunction with An Garda Síochána, major Dublin transport providers and Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council. Operation Irene tackles the consumption of alcohol in public spaces and amenity areas:



https://www.dlrcoco.ie/en/news/general-news-public-notices-press-releases/launch-operation-irene

#### **Operation Tombola**

Operation Tombola is an annual operation An Garda Síochána implements during the Halloween period in conjunction with several sections of DLRCC including Parks, Environmental Enforcement and Tenancy Management. In the run up to Halloween, Gardaí/DLRCC receive reports regarding material being stockpiled in the Division for Halloween bonfires. All such material is removed.



### Neighbourhood Watch

Neighbourhood Watch is a crime prevention and community safety programme for urban areas. It operates as a partnership between An Garda Síochána and the public. It works on the basis that every member of a community can help to improve the quality of life in the area by keeping a look out for neighbours and reporting suspicious activities to the Gardaí. Every community or neighbourhood, no matter how large or small, can set up a scheme. A scheme can cover a single street, an apartment complex, a part or the whole of a housing estate. The heart of every scheme is the commitment of each household taking part in it. Further information available at https://www.garda.ie/en/crime-prevention/community-engagement/neighbourhood-watch.html

The Local Policing Forum works closely with the Crime Prevention Officer to circulate important safety information to enhance local security initiatives.

Crime Prevention Officer: Sergeant James Malone.

Email: james.b.malone@garda.ie



#### Garda Older Persons Association Senior Alert Scheme

The Senior Alert Scheme is funded by the Department of Rural and Community Development and provides pendant alarms. It aims to keep over 65's safe in their homes and gardens. Pendant alarms which can be worn around the neck or as a watch are provided and installed for free. The first year's monitoring fee is also free and costs €66 per annum after that.



Further details available at https://www.pobal.ie/programmes/seniors-alert-scheme-sas/

