



CCTV

Following an announcement by Minister for Justice, Equality and Law Reform, Brian Lenihan TD, funding of €1m has been awarded to Ballymun towards the implementation of a comprehensive CCTV system. 42 cameras will be placed at strategic public locations throughout Ballymun, in places like parks and shops. Locations of cameras are currently being decided and suggestions from Ballymun residents will be very welcome. Please forward any ideas to Darren Casey on 01 222 5628.

St Margaret's Road

As a result of priorities identified by local residents, further discussions have taken place with Fingal County Council engineers in relation to speeding on St Margaret's Road. Signage and road markings are to be put in place, warning motorists that they are entering a residential area. Future plans will see other traffic calming measures being introduced in the 2008 work programme.

Tidy Towns

Congratulations to all involved in the 2007 Tidy Towns competition. Ballymun was the top scoring Dublin City entry in categories G and H for this year and received two awards including one in the 'Notice Nature' Biodiversity Awards for a Native Hedgerow Project and an Anti-Gum Litter award. Ballymun Tidy Towns committee will also feature in a Tidy Towns television programme on RTE in late 2007. Watch this space for dates and times.

Arrival of new Garda Inspector

Attendees at a recent Safer Ballymun meeting extended a warm welcome to Garda Inspector Andrew Watters, who has recently been appointed Inspector in charge of the Ballymun policing sub district, replacing Garda Inspector Karl Heller on the Safer Ballymun Community Safety forum. Regular Safer Ballymun attendees will recognise him as the Sergeant with specific responsibility for Traffic until his promotion to the rank of Inspector. Andrew is no stranger to the Ballymun area: apart from a seven year stint in the Assistant Commissioner's office in Harcourt Square, he has worked in the Santry district for the remainder of his service.

At a recent Safer Ballymun meeting, Inspector Watters said that the future of community policing is dependent on the continued co-operation between An Garda Síochána, local agencies and members of the Community in order to enhance local people's lives. "While I am very heartened by the joint approaches taken to solve neighbourhood problems, An Garda Síochána can never hope to provide a service reflecting the needs and priorities of the community, unless the people of Ballymun continue to make their needs and priorities known to us. The Safer Ballymun Community Safety Forum enables this form of communication".



New 'feet on the beat'.

Inspector Watters informed the meeting that Ballymun's dedicated Community Police unit has recently been increased to a strength of two Sergeants and 12 Garda. In addition to fulfilling a number of mainstream policing functions, their principal core role is to work closely with dedicated communities. "All members of An Garda Síochána practice a Community Policing philosophy" he added. "As Inspector in charge of Ballymun, I intend to reaffirm the commitment of Garda attached to Ballymun station to provide the best policing service possible for the people who work and live there".

NEIGHBOURHOOD POLICE UNIT BALLYMUN	
Garda Keith Hughes	Shangan Road, Avenue, Gardens, Longdale Terrace, and Whiteacre
Garda Leon Manning Garda Fergal Finnegan	Coultry Road, Drive, Gardens, Lawns, Crescent and Park, Forestwood and Santry Avenue
Garda David Moore Garda Brian Smyth	Balcurris Road, Santry Cross, St Joseph's School, Poppintree area
Garda Olive Holden Garda Martin Houlihan	Balbutcher Lane, Ard-na-Meala, Balcurris Gardens, Belclare Park, Drive, Avenue and Terrace
Garda Barry O'Donnell	Silloogue Road, Avenue, Gardens, Sandyhill Gardens, Cuileann Park, and Marewood
Garda Lorraine Walsh	Glasnevin Avenue, Hillcrest Estate, Pinewood, Willow Park, Drapier Green, St Pappin's Road
Garda Lorraine Walsh	Albert College, Shanliss Road, Oldtown Road, Shanard Road and Avenue
Garda Maria Moran	Santry Demesne (Ballymun side) including Limewood Apartment Complex, Gym, Industrial Estate, Stores and Shops
Useful Garda contact numbers	Ballymun Garda Station 01 666 4400 Ballymun Detective Unit 01 666 4411 Confidential Phone Line 1800 666111

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Minister for Justice, Equality & Law Reform, Mr Brian Lenihan announcing POBAL grant of €1m for CCTV in Ballymun.

Minister launches Community Safety Strategy

Minister Noel Ahern TD formally launched the Safer Ballymun Community Safety Strategy in a packed council chamber in the Civic Offices in Ballymun on June 7th last. The strategy, which is the first of its kind in Dublin, sets out a series of goals, objectives and actions which will be undertaken by the agencies working in Ballymun in collaboration with local people to make Ballymun a cleaner, safer, greener place in which to live, work and visit.

Speaking at the launch the Minister remarked that "This strategy will tackle the greatest problem Ballymun faces, and the greatest threat to its building programme; that of anti-social behaviour."



L-R: Minister Noel Ahern TD, Aibhlín McCrann, Chief Superintendent Gerard Philips, Mary Couch, resident and Eamon Farrelly, BRL.

Seven core themes have emerged from the setting of local community safety priorities in Ballymun

- | | |
|-----------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1 TOWARDS A SAFER COMMUNITY | 5 SUPPORTING YOUNG PEOPLE |
| 2 TARGETING CRIME | 6 COMMUNICATING POSITIVELY |
| 3 PROMOTING PUBLIC ORDER | 7 FACILITATING TRANSITION |
| 4 TACKLING SUBSTANCE MISUSE | |

Assistant Commissioner Al McHugh, who was one of the conference speakers, reiterated the commitment of An Garda Síochána to building on the positive relationships they already have with the residents of Ballymun and reiterated their commitment to implementing the Community Safety Strategy.

Meetings of Safer Ballymun take place in the Ballymun Civic Centre every 6 weeks. Everybody is welcome. If you would like to attend, please phone 01 222 5605 for further information.

Dublin City Council Assistant City Manager, Brendan Kenny, is confident that the supports being implemented at an area level by the City Council are key to enhancing the community's quality of life. "There have been great improvements" he said. "Ballymun's new Community Wardens are maintaining a visible presence right throughout the area, and they are promoting a sense of community security which is greatly appreciated by local people".

He added that the Area Management Team would be to the forefront in promoting a cleaner, greener Ballymun.

Managing Director of BRL, Ciarán Murray, praised the efforts of all the participants in the Safer Ballymun initiative and said that the effects of the collaboration were being felt throughout the area.

He believes that this strategy can be used as a template for other communities in the future. "Preventing crime, solving crime and fostering an environment where crime and anti-social behaviour will not flourish are among the key challenges facing any community. The three year plan we are launching in Ballymun is a blueprint for other communities".

Copies of the Community Safety Strategy are available from Ballymun Regeneration Ltd, 3rd Floor, Civic Centre, Main Street, Ballymun, Dublin 9.



'Safer, Cleaner, Greener' Conference.

A new Assistant Area Manager for Ballymun

Mary Taylor, the new DCC North West Area Assistant Area Manager, welcomes the transformation that has taken place in Ballymun, during her 30 years service with the City Council. Acknowledging the ongoing collaboration between the partner agencies in the Safer Ballymun initiative, she points out that Dublin City Council has a key role to play in enhancing local people's quality of life in all the neighbourhood areas in Ballymun and particularly in its interaction with Ballymun residents on a daily basis.



Mary Taylor, Area Manager with Garda Inspector Andrew Watters.

She cites the recent launch of the Ballymun Community and Resident Information Pack; a joint initiative with Ballymun Neighbourhood Council. "The pack is a response to a survey carried out last year, where people said they did not feel their voices were being heard" she says. Along with information about the Ballymun Neighbourhood Council and Neighbourhood Forums, the pack contains information on local community and neighbourhood supports, social support services, accommodation options and estate management. Mary adds that working in Ballymun in the eighties and nineties has been a great help in re-familiarising her with the issues of concern to the community and she looks forward to working with everybody. On a more personal note, she adds "I am delighted to be back in Ballymun, and to renew old acquaintances: many made while my children were pupils in Scoil an tSeachtar Laoch, and swinging hurleys in Setanta!!"

Ballymun scores with the 'Big Sweep' project

Since its launch by the 'GAP Enviro-Crime Team' during An Taisce's National Spring Clean in April, the 'Big Sweep' project has created quite a stir in Ballymun. Tackling "Enviro-Crime" including issues like anti-social behaviour, graffiti, litter, fly tipping and property maintenance, is high on its agenda. There have been numerous activities taking place particularly around the Main Street central business area where the 'Big Sweep' project is being piloted. Schools have set about cleaning up their school grounds, surveying problem litter areas and sprucing up local parks. The residents of Gateway came out to clean up the Main Street, and replanted some communal areas. Businesses made a 'Green Pledge' committing to managing the area outside their premises, and community groups are being encouraged to run anti-litter campaigns with their participants.

Raising public awareness levels is one of the key challenges facing the 'Big Sweep' project and a number of initiatives have already been undertaken.

- Special cigarette butt holders were distributed to raise awareness of cigarette butt litter;
- New litter bins were put in place around the Main Street area;
- A graffiti removal kit was shown to businesses while special chewing gum recycling bins were introduced at SuperValu and the Shopping Centre to discourage people from throwing chewing gum on the ground.

Ray Ó Díomsaigh, Principal, Gael Scoil Bhailemunna, has been very heartened by the positive response to the campaign "It was a great chance to involve young children actively cleaning up their own locality and is a real investment in their futures" he said.

The 2006 Tidy Towns' adjudicators praised Ballymun for its commitment to improving the environment "Ballymun has the potential to do extremely well in the competition, providing you watch out for the large problem areas such as litter, weed control and tidiness" they noted. The 'Big Sweep' project will continue



Lending a hand to keep Ballymun cleaner.

throughout the year, setting the scene for the annual Tidy Towns competitions and meeting the targets set in Safer Ballymun's Community Safety Strategy.

'The Big Sweep' initiative is sponsored by BRL and DCC and is co-ordinated by Global Action Plan (GAP), and has links with the Ballymun Waste Working Group, who co-ordinate Ballymun's annual Tidy Towns campaign.

Appointment of additional Juvenile Liaison Officer

Welcome to Garda Brendan Twyford, a member of the Divisional Juvenile Liaison team with specific responsibility for the Ballymun sub-district. We look forward to welcoming Brendan at the next Safer Ballymun meeting.

New Park Opening

Coultry Green Park will be opening in November and Safer Ballymun urges all residents to enjoy this new open space and ensure that it is treated with respect.



Date for your diary

Join us for tea and mince pies at the next Safer Ballymun meeting - **Monday December 10th, 7pm in the Council Chamber, Civic Centre, Main Street.** If you would like to be put on the mailing list for the minutes of our meetings, please contact Darren Casey on 01 222 5628.

Useful DCC contact numbers

Coultry Estate Office	01 222 7867	Poppintree Estate Office	01 862 4146
Sillogue Estate Office	01 842 2495	Ballymun Civic Centre	01 222 5646