

New Forum to Prepare Coherent Plan for Community Facilities in Ballymun

A new forum has been established in Ballymun to develop an overall plan to meet the accommodation needs of community and voluntary activity in Ballymun and in doing so contribute to the overall development and sustainability of community and voluntary activity in the area.

The *Ballymun Community Facilities Forum* has members from Dublin City Council, Ballymun Regeneration Ltd and the voluntary and community sectors in Ballymun - including Ballymun Partnership, Ballymun Community Organisations Network and Ballymun Neighbourhood Council and an independent chair.

In developing the plan, the Forum will draw on the experience to date in Ballymun and on best practice in other places. Specific objectives of the Forum are:

- To get a complete picture of existing and planned community facilities in Ballymun
- To complete an agreed framework for the relocation of groups accommodated in flats including standard procedures in relation to how this relocation will happen.
- To complete a database of voluntary and community groups in Ballymun
- To identify the most useful and workable models of management for community facilities in Ballymun
- To ensure that the work of the forum is widely and clearly communicated in Ballymun and in particular to local voluntary and community groups.

The Forum is committed to being transparent and accountable in its work. It will issue regular updates on its work, which will be circulated in Ballymun. The Forum work plan, meeting minutes and other documents are available on the following websites:

- Ballymun Partnership - www.ballymun.org
- Ballymun Regeneration Ltd. – www.brl.ie
- Ballymun Neighbourhood Council – www.ballymun-nc.ie
- Community Action Programme – www.cap.ie

In identifying the membership of the Forum, the idea was to involve the voice of as many groups and interested parties as possible, through using the representative structures that are

available within Ballymun. Reports, feedback and updates will also be made through these representative structures.

The Members of the Forum are:

Ballymun Community Organisations Network

Ballymun Neighbourhood Council

Ballymun Partnership

Ballymun Regeneration Limited

Dublin City Council

Independent Chair

It is planned to hold a half day seminar in May 2008, with speakers presenting on good practice models from other areas. This seminar will be an open event, and it is hoped that such events will form an important part of the Forum's way of working.

18th April 2008