



Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown Joint Policing Committee Annual Report 2022

Introduction

Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown Joint Policing Committee (JPC) was established in 2009 and is a partnership between Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council, An Garda Síochána and the Community. The membership comprises of senior Garda Officers and Council officials, elected Councillors and Oireachtas members and representatives of community & voluntary groups.

The DLR Joint Policing Committee is intended to be a forum for discussion and a means of building confidence, trust and safety in the County. In doing this, the DLR JPC seeks to prioritise key community policing policy issues and identify initiatives which will contribute to improved community policing and prevention or reduction of future crime in Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown.

Role of the JPC

The legislative framework for the establishment of Joint Policing Committees is set out in [Section 36 of An Garda Síochána Act 2005](#) and the amendments to this Act in 2014. Section 36(2) of the Act provides that a JPC's function is to serve as a forum for consultations, discussions and recommendations on matters affecting the policing of the local authority's administrative area. Section 36(2) is set out below:-

36.—

(2) The joint policing committee's function is to serve as a forum for consultations, discussions and recommendations on matters affecting the policing of the local authority's administrative area, and in particular to—

(a) keep under review—

(i) the levels and patterns of crime, disorder and antisocial behaviour in that area (including the patterns and levels of misuse of alcohol and drugs), and

(ii) the factors underlying and contributing to the levels of crime, disorder and anti-social behaviour in the area,

(b) advise the local authority concerned and the Garda Síochána on how they might best perform their functions having regard to the need to do everything feasible to improve the safety and quality of life and to prevent crime, disorder and anti-social behaviour within the area,

(c) arrange and host public meetings concerning matters affecting the policing of the local authority's administrative area,

(d) establish, in consultation with the local Garda superintendent, as the committee considers necessary within specific neighbourhoods of the area, local policing fora to discuss and make recommendations to the committee concerning matters that it is to keep under review under paragraph (a) or on which it is to advise under paragraph (b), in so far as those matters affect their neighbourhoods, and

(e) co-ordinate the activities of local policing fora established under paragraph (d) or otherwise.

Garda Division Covered by the Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown Joint Policing Committee

The majority of Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown is located within the Dublin Metropolitan East Division.

Within the DMR East Division, there are two districts, "F" covering Dún Laoghaire, Shankill & Cabinteely and "W" covering Blackrock, Dundrum & Stepside areas.



Joint Policing Committee Meetings in 2022

In 2022, the DLR Joint Policing Committee was chaired by Cllr Carrie Smyth, Dún Laoghaire Rathdown County Council. 4 committee meetings were held in 2022- on 15th February, 24th May, 14th September and 17th November. The February meeting was held online, the May meeting was held in person and the September and November meeting were hybrid meetings. A public meeting was held on the 24th May following the committee meeting, in person in the Talbot Hotel Stillorgan.

Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown Joint Policing Committee Membership 2022 (at 31st December 2022)

Dún Laoghaire - Rathdown County Council	
Cllr. Anna Grainger	Elected representative
Cllr. Carrie Smyth	Elected representative
Cllr. Deirdre Donnelly	Elected representative
Cllr. Denis O'Callaghan	Elected representative
Cllr. Elizabeth Eva Dowling	Elected representative
Cllr Frank McNamara	Elected representative
Cllr. John Kennedy	Elected representative
Cllr. Kate Ruddock	Elected representative
Cllr. Kazi Ahmed	Elected representative
Cllr. Lettie McCarthy	Elected representative
Cllr. Lorraine Hall	Elected representative
Cllr. Mary Hanafin	Elected representative
Cllr. Michael Clarke	Elected representative
Cllr. Oisín O' Connor	Elected representative
Cllr. Shay Brennan	Elected representative
Therese Langan	Director of Service, Community & Cultural Development
Mary Ruane	Senior Executive Officer, Community & Cultural Development
An Garda Síochána	
Matthew Nyland	Chief Superintendent
Fergal Harrington	Superintendent
Gordon Woulfe	Superintendent
Community Representatives	
Eimear McAuliffe	DLR Public Participation Network

Anne Harrington	DLR Public Participation Network
Bébhinn Murphy	DLR Public Participation Network
Tony McCarthy	DLR Public Participation Network
Georgina Potts	Ballybrack/Loughlinstown/Shankill LPF
Reverend Asa Bjork	Central Dún Laoghaire, LPF
Liz Roche	Sandyford / Stepside LPF
David Bradshaw	DLR Drugs & Alcohol Task Force
Members of the Oireachtas	
Deputy Cormac Devlin	Member of the Oireachtas
Deputy Jennifer Carroll MacNeill	Member of the Oireachtas
Minister Josepha Madigan	Member of the Oireachtas
Deputy Neale Richmond	Member of the Oireachtas
Senator Barry Ward	Member of the Oireachtas

Changes in Membership in 2022

Cllr Carrie Smyth took over as Chair of the JPC at the February meeting in place of Cllr Mary Hanafin whose term ended at the February meeting.

At the February meeting Cllr Deirdre Donnelly replaced Cllr Ann Colgan. Superintendent Fergal Harrington replaced Superintendent Brian O' Keeffe at the September JPC meeting. Cllr Kate Ruddock replaced Cllr Seafra O' Faoláin at the November meeting.

Joint Policing Committee Work Programme

A six year Strategic Plan was developed for the DLR JPC and adopted in June 2016.

The JPC Strategic Plan 2016-2021 contains 18 individual actions across three strategic Goals:

- 1. Supporting and promoting Crime Prevention in DLR*
- 2. Enhancing Community Safety & Security in DLR*
- 3. Facilitating Community Engagement and Collaboration on Safety Issues*

The 2022 Work Plan was based on the current guidelines and code of practice which apply to JPCs and on the Goals/Actions set out in the six-year Strategic Plan.



Monitoring of key safety/security issues in the County

The Chief Superintendent presented an overview of the key policing priorities for the DMR East Division at each of the DLR JPC meetings, noting some of the key crime statistics and approaches proposed to address identified priorities.

Progress reports on the extended JPC Strategic Plan 2016-2021 were provided at each JPC Meeting as well as updates from each of the Local Policing Fora. The JPC Strategic Plan 2016-2021 has been extended until the new JPC Strategic Plan is in place.

Update reports on the LA16 Collision Reporting were provided at each meeting.

The JPC meetings also included the following presentations:

1. Presentation on dlr's 2021 Pilot High Security Lock Scheme

A presentation was given by Ian Smalley, Community Department at the February meeting. The presentations included the following areas:

- Overview of the scheme that operated in 2021 with a budget of €25,000
- 581 applicants. 298 locks fitted to 184 homes.

2. Presentation on Garda Victim Support Service and Divisional Protective Services Unit

Chief Superintendent Matthew Nyland gave a presentation on the Garda Victim Support Service and the Divisional Protective Services Unit (DPSU) at the May meeting.

The presentation included the following areas:

- Role of the Garda Victim Support Service
- Resources within the DPSU
- Types of crime the DPSU unit deals with

3. Presentation/Consultation on dlr Road Safety Plan 2022-2030

Gerry Flaherty, Senior Executive Engineer, Traffic and Road Safety Section gave a presentation on the dlr new Road Safety Plan at the September meeting.

The presentation included the following areas:

- Its background in national road safety strategy and Vision Zero
- Aims and objectives
- Update on the public consultation on the dlr Road Safety Plan held over the summer
- Road safety targets

The key highlights and achievements under each Goal in 2022 are as follows:

1. Supporting and promoting Crime Prevention in DLR

Burglaries

Operation THOR Winter phase 2022/2023 was launched on 1st October 2022. Prior to this, case management training was held, and members were trained in the management and supervision of prolific offenders. Two THOR Days of Action were co-ordinated and carried out by Members of the Division, in November and December 2022 respectively, during which a significant number of offenders were arrested, interviewed and charged, as well as warrants executed and searches conducted. A THOR Retail Day of Action was held in Dundrum Town Centre in December, where crime prevention advice was distributed, and high visibility beats were conducted.

High Visibility Policing

High visibility patrolling is a key priority within policing of this Division. Throughout the year targeted high visibility patrols were conducted, both pro-actively and in response to repeated reports or crime trends.

Operation Irene took place from June to September 2022. It focused on tackling anti-social behaviour in public spaces during the busy summer months. A Divisional Mountain Bike Unit was established for the duration of the operation, which this year consisted of 1 Sergeant and 8 Gardaí. Feedback received from the community was overwhelmingly positive.

A series of crime prevention and property marking stands were held in the Division in Q4 of 2022. Members from Community Policing dispensed advice on theft prevention, personal safety, road & cycle safety and fraud/scams. Members also provided property marking for bicycles.

Road Safety

Education

Trained community policing members in the Division conducted schools visits. Road Safety is one of the topics included in the programme they deliver.

Members from the DMR East Roads Policing Unit also conducted a number of schools visits specifically in relation to Road Safety.

Dlr Road Safety Plan

The dlr Road Safety Plan 2022 was adopted by the Council in September 2022 following two rounds of public consultation. The aim of the plan is to reduce fatal and serious injury collisions in the County by 50% by 2030 in line with the national road safety strategy. There are 24 actions outlined in the plan.

Engineering

NTA Funded schemes

Pedestrian and Cycle schemes completed in 2022

- Drummartin Link Road/Kilgobbin Road cycle route
- Stillorgan Road Cycle Scheme (UCD Nova)
- Roebuck Road resurfacing and Cycle Protection Scheme (Fosters Avenue to Goatstown Road)
- Blackthorn Avenue Cycle Protection
- Johnstown Road Pedestrian Crossing
- Clarinda Park West pedestrian improvement
- Churchtown Road Lower Traffic Calming Scheme
- Cycle Protection on Blackthorn Avenue

- Two pedestrian crossings on Lower Kilmacud Road
- Zebra Crossings on Granville Road and Longmeadow Drive
- Upgrade of 8.3km footpath
- Pedestrian Improvements in the West of the County at Glencairn, Trees Road Lower & Village Road Stepside
- Sea to Mountains Active School Travel Route
- Drummartin Park Safe and Quiet Streets
- Eden Park Public Realm Improvements
- Myrtle Square

Cycle and Pedestrian Schemes currently under construction or due to commence in early 2023 (subject to NTA Funding)

- Blackglan Road/Harold's Grange Road Improvement Scheme
- Clonskeagh Road (UCD to Clonskeagh Bridge)
- Wyattville Road Cycle scheme Phase 2
- Cycle Protection on Avondale Road and Newtownpark Avenue
- Stillorgan Park Road cycle scheme
- Rock Road Cycle Route (Trimleston to Blackrock Park)
- Brewery Road / St Brigid's, Church Road Safety Improvement scheme
- Permeability links at Ballymoss Road and Arkle Road
- Glenageary Road Upper Cycle scheme

Traffic & Road Safety Cycle Schemes at Design Stage

Dún Laoghaire Area

- Cycle protection schemes on Kill Lane and Clonkeen Road

Dundrum area

- Sandyford Business District Cycle Routes
- Sandyford Cycle Route (Roebuck Road to UCD)
- Churchtown Road Upper Cycle scheme
- Stepside Village and Enniskerry Road cycle scheme
- Cycle protection schemes on Broadford Road, Sandyford Road, Murphystown Way, Nutgrove Avenue and Blackthorn Drive.
- Dundrum Area Based Transport Assessment.
- Stillorgan Village Movement Framework Plan Phases III & IV

ICC Cycle Schemes

- Dlr Connector scheme (Barton Road East to Mounttown Road)
- Deansgrange Cycle scheme

DLR Central

- Rochestown Avenue transport scheme
- Cherrywood to Shankill Greenway
- Cherrywood Greenways Network and Linear Park Design
- Taney Road - Luas Bridge to the N11
- Leopardstown Active Travel Routes

- Dodder Greenway
- Blackrock Village Scheme
- Pathfinder project Dun Laoghaire
- Safe Routes to Schools programme
- Love our Laneways
- Grange Road and Ballinteer Avenue
- Rapid Deployment – Abbey Road / Stradbroom Road

Bus Connects Schemes

- Bray to City Centre along Stillorgan Road
- Merrion Road to City Centre

Education

Public consultation reports are being prepared for the following “Safe Routes to School – School zones” schemes with detailed design to commence soon after.

- Carysfort National School, Blackrock
- The Harold School, Eden Road Lower, Glasthule, Co. Dublin.
- Holy Family National School, Dunedin Park, Monkstown Farm
- Holy Cross National School in Dundrum

Other sustainable travel initiatives

- 4 Cycle Forum meetings and 3 Road Safety Working Together Group meetings were held in 2022.
- 132 cycle parking stands (264 spaces) and 9 cargo bike stands (15 spaces) were installed
- Delivery of 33 cycle toaster stands and 26 scooter parking stands to schools
- A review of County wide speed limits has commenced
- Assisted the Department of Transport, Tourism and Sport with the delivery of ‘Cycle Right’ Training programme for 1084 pupils in 21 primary schools up to October 2022
- Four bike share schemes operate in the County; Bleeper, Moby, Zipp Mobility and ESB Ebikes

Enforcement

A key area of focus for the DMR East Roads Policing Unit is conducting operations and checkpoints to address key ‘Lifesaver’ offences:

- Speeding
- Driving while intoxicated (DWI)
- The use of seat belts – front and rear
- The use of mobile phones while driving

The number of Mandatory Intoxicant Testing (MIT) checkpoints conducted, and lifesaver offences detected increased in 2022 compared to 2021.

2. Enhancing Community Safety & Security in DLR

Dlr High Security Lock Scheme

The dlr High Security Lock Scheme was launched for the second year running in July 2022.

The scheme is aimed at homeowners aged 65 and over living in Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown and will offer these homeowners the opportunity to have the existing lock barrels / cylinders in external doors replaced with high security anti-snap locks



Domestic Violence

Domestic violence incidents in the Division are consistently reviewed and given high priority. The 7 Day Call Back policy continues to be implemented with respect to all victims. The Domestic Abuse Risk Assessment Tool is in use by all members in the Division when attending domestic incidents. The Domestic Abuse Coordination Team continues to operate in the Division to manage and support domestic violence victims.

The Department of Justice gave approval for the provision of a ten-unit domestic violence refuge in the County, with operational funding being provided by Túsla. Work to identify a suitable site to progress the project continued in 2022. A working group led by DLRCC is meeting on a regular basis to progress the delivery of the DV Refuge project. This ongoing work includes examining the feasibility of potential sites or buildings to accommodate the project.

Age Friendly

Community Policing members continue to engage with older victims of crime, conduct call backs and offer crime prevention advice. An Garda Síochána continued to liaise with and support DLRCC in the development of the new dlr Age Friendly Strategy. The Garda Older Persons Association held two meetings last year.

The Council continued the development of the new dlr Age Friendly Strategy throughout 2022 and the strategy was approved by the Council in November.



3. Community Engagement and Collaboration

The DMR East Divisional Drugs Unit is actively involved with the DLR Drug & Alcohol Task Force in the development of a new Strategic Plan, taking into account the emerging needs in the area.

Garda Youth Diversion Programmes

Three Youth Diversion Projects are currently delivered in the Division:

- Castle Project – Ballyogan
- LAB (Loughlinstown & Ballybrack)
- SAY – Sandyford Area Youth Project

These community-based youth development projects seek to divert young people from engaging or becoming further involved in anti-social or criminal behaviour.

Development of Local Policing Fora in the County

There are four Local Policing Fora established in the County under the auspices of the Joint Policing Committee. These are:

1. Loughlinstown/Shankill & Ballybrack (Chaired by Inspector Adrian Kelly until September 2022 and chaired by Inspector Francis Gormley from November 2022)
2. Sandyford/Stepaside (Chaired by Inspector Tara King)
3. Central Dún Laoghaire (Chaired by Inspector John Dowling)
4. Dundrum/Stillorgan (Chaired by Inspector Tara King)

The role of these Policing Fora is to enhance the collaboration and communication between An Garda Síochána, Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council, the main transport companies, and local Residents' Associations and organisations.

Meetings held in 2022

- Loughlinstown/Shankill and Ballybrack LPF met on 11th January, 8th March, 4th May, 6th July, 13th September and 15th November. A public meeting took place on the 30th November.
- Sandyford/Stepaside met on 1st February, 5th April, 31st May, 16th August, 18th October and 13th December. A public meeting took place on the 25th October.
- Central Dún Laoghaire LPF met on 1st February, 3rd May, 17th August and 8th November.
- Dundrum/Stillorgan LPF met on 8th February, 12th April, 7th June, 27th September and 29th November.

Submission of DLR JPC Annual Report 2022

In accordance with Section 36(5) of the Garda Síochána Act 2005 this report will be submitted to the Minister for Justice and Equality, the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage, also, the Commissioner of An Garda Síochána and the Policing Authority.

This report will also be submitted to the elected members of Dun Laoghaire Rathdown Council for noting.