

North East Inner City Initiative Programme Implementation Board

<b>Location: Dublin City Council Docklands Office + Videoconference</b>
<b>Time and date:</b> 8am, 29 <sup>th</sup> July 2020
<b>Attendance:</b> Chair – Michael Stone, Chief Superintendent Paddy McMenamin (An Garda Síochána), Superintendent Paul Costello (An Garda Síochána), Paddy Murdiffe (NICCC), Mary Keenan (DoT), Joy McGlynn (Tusla), Jim Walsh (DoH), Karl Mitchell (DCC), Mary Cregg (DES), Noel Hand (DEASP), Donal Cassidy (HSE), Noel Wardick (NICCC), Ursula Donnellan (DCC/Programme Office), David Leavey (DoT/Programme Office), Michael O’Riordan (Programme Office)
<b>Apologies:</b> Feargal O’Rourke (PwC), Brendan Kenny (DCC), Kate Levey (DCYA)

**Minutes of previous meeting:**

**Proposed:** Paddy Murdiffe (NICCC)

**Seconded:** Chief Superintendent Paddy McMenamin, (AGS)

**1. Budget Group**

- A number of funding proposals were presented for discussion and consideration by the Board. Below is a summary of the decisions reached on each proposal.

Subgroup	Project	Amount	Decision
<b>Subgroup 1</b>	Drug Related Intimidation (extension of project to end Dec. 2020)	€23,814.27	<b>Approved</b>
<b>Subgroup 2</b>	<i>Flash Mentoring</i>	€44,978	<b>Approved</b>
<b>Subgroup 2</b>	Childcare CPD Bursary (New Entrants)	€10,000	<b>Approved</b>
<b>Subgroup 2</b>	ICRG Training Bursary	€10,000	<b>Approved</b>
<b>Total</b>		<b>€88,792.27</b>	

- Budget Recommendations:**

Proposed – Chief Superintendent Paddy McMenamin, (AGS)

Seconded – Paddy Murdiffe, (NICCC)

**Total funds approved by the NEIC PIB to date for 2020 - €5,530,301.76**

- Emerging Needs Fund:**

Criteria for the Fund have been circulated to the Budget Group members for consideration.

It was agreed that a copy would be forwarded to the Community rep.

This is not a “Grant” scheme.

Focus will be on providing services to the community.

To enable groups to return to operation following the lockdown and implement necessary COVID-19 responses and recommended practices.

Applications will be considered via the normal funding processes i.e. via subgroups.

Rolling applications will be accepted and considered until the Fund is exhausted.

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### 2. HSE Update:

- Focus is on reopening of services and facilities.
- Most of the larger facilities are open but may have a different look to pre COVID-19 operations. This is to ensure the Government recommendations in relation to social distancing are maintained.
- More services are being delivered via telephone and video calls.
- A large immunisation programme for children is due to launch. This will be widely advertised with the aim to ensure that all child immunisations are up to date.
- Primary Care – both Summerhill and North Strand primary care centres are open.
  - Footfall has dropped in both locations.
  - Services are being delivered
  - Health screening in place for all callers.
- Inclusion Hub – range of services operating from the hub has increased.
  - There has been an increase in outreach services operating from the hub.
  - Health screening in place for all callers to the hub.
  - Home less case management team and Addiction case management team are both back in operation.
- HSE are actively seeking additional clinic space in the general area.
- Additional resources have been allocated to work with Family hubs.
- Healthy Community tenders has issued and closing date for submissions is 29<sup>th</sup> July 2020.
- Dual Diagnosis service has commenced.
- Capacity in the Stabilisation Unit has had to reduce from 10 to 6 to comply with the social distancing recommendations.

### 3. Subgroup Reports:

#### Subgroup 1:

- Representatives from the Garda National Community Engagement Bureau made a presentation to the subgroup on the work of the bureau and existing frameworks with AGS.
- The Divisional Community Policing office will present at the next subgroup meeting.
- The group discussed the progress to date of the Drugs Related Intimidation initiative being implemented by Ana Liffey. It was agreed to submit a proposal to extend the project until the end of 2020 to the Budget Group for consideration.
- Gardaí continue to provide a dedicated highly visible presence in Liberty Park and the surrounding area.
- Issues raised by the community reps included hose parties, Balloon Gas (Nitrous Oxide), various hotspots in the area and that the collecting of tyres for Halloween bonfires had already begun. These items will be followed up by AGS.
- Royal Canal Cycleway – Phase 2 (Sheriff St to Newcomen Bridge) – the official opening is scheduled for Friday 31<sup>st</sup> July 2020. A community event to mark the opening of the cycleway will follow when COVID-19 restrictions are eased.
- The contact details for reporting incidents:  
**Phone – 01 666 8000 Email – [dmr.northcentral.community@garda.ie](mailto:dmr.northcentral.community@garda.ie)**

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### **Subgroup 3:**

- The Tusla rep. noted that the houses on Seville Place that had been a cause of concern had been de-tenanted but that there are reports that some of tenants are now rough sleeping. The Dublin City Council (DCC) rep advised that he had been present during the process and that all the relevant services were present on the days in question and that all those living in the houses had been offered alternative accommodation.

The Chair thanked the DCC Rep for his support with this matter.

- Community Case management (CCM) - 3 proposals were received in response to the tender that was issued.

The subgroup raised some queries in relation to the proposal:

- Cost of the proposal
- Number of families that would be supported by the initiative
- If the initiative would deal with the most difficult cases

These issues will be given further consideration at the next subgroup meeting.

- Critical Incident Protocol – a paper has been developed following the recent incidents in the Ballybough area. Tusla to discuss with An Garda Síochána re approach to implementation.
- Fast Track Counselling – while the amount allocated for this initiative is relatively small. It is reported that it has a big impact. Initial discussions have taken place to consider the mainstreaming of this initiative but they are now stalled. The Chair requested a further intervention to reignite this process.

### **Subgroup 4:**

- An application has been submitted to the Department of Housing Planning and Local Government in response to the call for submissions on Urban Regeneration and Development Fund (URDF). The document produced in respect of the application will be circulated to the Board members. This submission is effectively SG4's roadmap.
- Greening Strategy:
  - Summerhill Central Median – Contact awarded to MCD Landscapes
  - Gloucester Place Plaza – works scheduled to commence w/e 24/07
  - Seville Place Plaza (Funded by NTA) – Contract awarded to Redlough Landscapes
  - Sean McDermott St Tree Planting – Landscape QS appointed to prepare construction drawings and tender package.
  - Belvedere Place and Seville Place – Repair/replacement works completed following vandalism.
  - O'Connell's School Greening Intervention – Drawings issued for pricing
  - Healthy Streets Project (Adopt a Tree) Plan and project team in place. Project will be trialled in SpringGarden St. with the support of The Green Ribbon and Dublin City Council's Housing Department.
  - Diamond Park redevelopment – Design proposal was presented to Dublin City Council Central Area Committee Councillors to initiate the statutory Part 8 process.
- Rutland St. School re-development – Stage 1 of the process (Suitability Assessment Questionnaire) has been advertised. Response deadline is 19<sup>th</sup> August 2020.
- Royal Canal Cycleway – the official opening of Phase 2 of the cycleway will take place on 31<sup>st</sup> July. A community cycle event to assist with positive engagement and promotion will be organised in the near future.

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- Sunflower Recycling are being supported to undertake a 3 month trial of plastic bottle and can recycling. Report on outcomes will issue in due course.
- Dumping continues to be a major issue in the area. The Dublin City Council rep advised that the waste crews will be returning to full capacity and there will be an increase in efforts at night time. There has been some success in terms of reduction of dumping in the Portland Place area with the assistance of residents. Some residents in the Sherrard Ave. area are energised to support the DCC efforts in that area.
  - The Chair advised that he is seeking an improvement in this area.
  - The community rep noted that the scale of dumping in the area is depressing.

### Subgroup 5:

- Community Health Initiative – The tender document for the *Community Health Initiative* has been publicised on Active Link. The closing date for the receipt of submissions in COB 29<sup>th</sup> July 2020. The governance of the project will be with HSE Health and Wellbeing, the Governance Group has been agreed. The tender evaluation group has been agreed based on the submissions received ensuring no potential conflict of interest.
- Addiction Assessment Hub – a steering group has been established and an implementation team identified. A communication plan for local GP's is being developed along with referral pathways. The aim is to have the first sessions at the beginning of September.
- In conjunction with the NICDATF and the HSE, a survey to ascertain the current status of drug and alcohol service provision in the NEIC and to identify issues and challenges for the future is underway.
- A proposal to secure long-term funding for the Inclusion Hub and its activities, as set out in Action 15 of the Strategic Plan, will be included in the Department of Health 2021 Budget Estimate.
- Due to social distancing recommendations the capacity of the stabilisation unit has decreased from 10 to 6, has resulted in a waiting list of people seeking access to the service. Consideration is currently being given to the possibility of “buying” places from a suitable provider as a “once off” measure to reduce the waiting list.
- The Chair of SG5 noted that further consideration required as to the provision of suitable services for recently released prisoners.

### Subgroup 2:

- SG2 are focussed on implementing the agreed actions as set out in the action Plan.
- A survey to ascertain the needs of employers in the area is being developed by the Dept. of Employment Affairs and social Protection (DEASP) and will be ready for circulation in the coming weeks.
- A need for a *face-to-face* service to support people in developing and preparing CV's has been identified by the community reps on the subgroup. There are services that currently provide some supports of this nature but all are working remotely and currently have a waiting time of a number of weeks for an appointment.
  - The Community Rep advised that there may be a group in the area that could provide such a service.
  - The Chair asked that the Programme Office to follow up on this matter and engage with the community rep.
- The Department of Education and Skills rep advised that the focus is currently on getting children back to school. DES are focussing on 3 areas:

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- Logistics
- Curriculum
- Wellbeing
- DES are conscious that some children may not return to schools and are planning a publicity campaign to advise of the reopening of schools.
- Following the formation of the new Government a number of changes have taken place in DES:
  - Education Welfare Service has moved into the DES
  - Further Education and Training (FET) has moved out of DES into the Dept. Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science.
- The DES rep has made the Building Section in the department aware of the situation with the O'Connell's schools PE Hall and will set up a meeting with the relevant players to discuss away forward.
- The Chair raised concern re young people from the area re-engaging with school. He noted that are more pronounced issues in the NEIC in many other areas. He noted that there is a need for a specific plan and action in the area to ensure re-engagement. He requested that DES contact the 2<sup>nd</sup> level principals to ascertain what plans they have in place.
- The DES advised that they will engage with Education Welfare Service to see what plan is in place for the area.
- **The Chair emphasised that this is a priority item for the Programme Implementation Board that require across the board support and mobilisation.**

### Subgroup 6:

- City Connects - An update was provided on progress to date was provided to the subgroup. They were advised that adverts for the positions of Programme Manager and Co-ordinators (x3) were advertised on Educationposts.ie.
  - The community rep expressed surprise that the positions had been advertised on Educationpost.ie therefore limiting them to teachers. It was though that other professionals may have the necessary skills to deliver effectively in the positions.
  - The DES rep noted that Boston College had advised that from their experience the best results were achieved when staff involved had educational backgrounds. This had informed the decision in advertising the positions.
- Integrated Service Delivery Framework (ISDF),
  - Template has been circulated to youth services for completion.
  - Action Plan has been updated.
  - Alignment of services is vital and ensuring benefits to young people on the ground.
  - CDYSB have completed the area based profile.
  - Not about funding but about alignment, coordination and integration to support children and young people in services
  - Policies impact the potential for services to integrate effectively e.g. different restrictions on age of children certain services can work with depending on which Department/Agency is providing funding.
- The Chair expressed concern re progress on a number of subgroup actions.

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### **4. Community Update:**

- Halloween “Big SCREAM” Festival
  - Contract has been signed
  - Scoping exercise has been completed on what is possible to deliver.
  - Festival director from 2019 has been reengaged.
  - The event management company has been appointed.
  - The Chair emphasised the importance of COVID-19 risk being covered in any contracts being agreed.
- Community Safety Pilot
  - Feedback is awaited following recent discussions between Community reps and officials from Department of Justice and Equality (DoJ) and Department of the Taoiseach (DoT). The meeting was positive.
  - The DoT rep noted that a proposal from DoJ should be forthcoming to SG1 in the near future for consideration.
- Liberty Park
  - Time extension has been agreed with the Programme Office – new completion date is end of October 2020.
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> Interim report due in August.
  - 59% of tenants in the area have responded to the survey.
  - There has been some reluctance voiced to meeting in groups as part of the agreed process. The researcher is currently discussing ways of mobilising the community with various groups.

### **5. Community Grants:**

- An evaluation panel, consisting of a DoT rep, DCC rep, NEIC Prog. Office rep. and an Independent rep met to discuss the applications on 16<sup>th</sup> July.
- 90 applications had been received seeking a total of €357,000.
- There was €100,000 available for distribution.
- 39 applications were recommended by the panel for funding for a total of €100,000.
- A number of projects that were not recommended for funding have been referred to the sports and community sections for consideration as their applications were deemed to be more suitable to these areas.

Proposed – Chief Superintendent Paddy McMenamin, (AGS)

Seconded – Paddy Murdiff, (NICCC)

### **6. DEASP Update:**

- The DEASP rep. noted that in his opinion the area had adequate provision in terms of services to produce CV's, including:
  - Intreo Centre.
  - SEETEC Jobpath service.
  - Jobcare.
  - The Chair requested that the programme office follow up on this.
- The Pandemic Unemployment Payments continue to be a challenge for the local office.

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- DEASP held an online event to advise 18 to 25year olds of the Youth Employment Support Service (YESS)
- A survey to ascertain the needs of employers in the area is being worked on and will be ready for circulation in the coming weeks.
- Work is ongoing on developing a skills audit for jobseekers.
- Community rep thanked the DEASP rep for his support and assistance a number of PPSN applications that had been experiencing difficulties.

### 7. Pilot Social Employment Fund:

- A meeting involving DoT, DCYA and the Programme Office was held to discuss the background to the Pilot Social Employment Fund.
- Following the meeting the DCYA rep undertook to attend the next meeting to discuss the future of the positions.
- Date for meeting to be arranged.

### 8. A.O.B

- The Chair acknowledged the good attendance at the Programme Implementation Board (PIB) meetings, in particular during the COVID-19 pandemic, and thanked everyone for that.
- The Chair noted that this was the 36<sup>th</sup> meeting of the PIB.
- He reminded everyone of the reason for the establishment of the PIB and that it had been established with the remit of **doing things differently** and trialling initiatives that were outside the national policies of departments and agencies to see what worked and tackle the difficulties that existed in the North East Inner City.
- He reminded the group that the role of the PIB was to **remove the roadblocks** for new approaches to be trialled and tested.
- He expressed his concern that we would be entering a difficult period and that he required the full commitment of PIB members to the Initiative in this context.
- The Chair advised all members of the Board that he would be in contact with them before the next PIB meeting to discuss their commitment and willingness to support the NEIC PIB in its work into the future.

Next meeting:

Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> August 2020 @ 8.00am

Venue:

TBC

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**Summary of agreed actions for next meeting:**

<b>What</b>	<b>Who</b>
Circulate the URDF submission document.	DCC/Programme Office
Follow-up on CCTV installation on Royal Canal Cycleway	DCC/Programme Office
Follow up with DES rep	Programme Office
Arrange meeting with HSE rep	Programme Office
Arrange meeting with DCYA rep	Programme Office