

## North East Inner City Initiative Programme Implementation Board

<b>Location:</b> National College of Ireland, Mayor Square, IFSC, Dublin1.
<b>Time and date:</b> 8am, 29 <sup>th</sup> November 2019
<b>Attendance:</b> Chair – Michael Stone, Chief Superintendent Paddy McMenamin (An Garda Síochána), Superintendent Paul Costello (An Garda Síochána), Paddy Murdiff (NICCC), Mary Keenan (DoT), Joy McGlynn (Tusla), Noel Wardick (NICCC), Jim Walsh (DoH), Brendan Kenny (DCC), Donal Cassidy (HSE), Noel Hand (DEASP), Ursula Donnellan (DCC/Programme Office), Clare Butler (DoT/Programme Office), Stephen Nicholson (PWC), Michael O’Riordan (Programme Office).
<b>Apologies:</b> Feargal O’Rourke (PwC), Mary Cregg (DES), Karl Mitchell (DCC), Conor Rowley (DCYA)

### **Minutes of previous meeting:**

**Proposed:** Paddy Murdiff (NICCC)

**Seconded:** Mary Keenan (DoT)

#### 1. Strategic Plan

- Stephen Nicholson (PWC) gave an update on changes that had been incorporated into the Strategic Plan following recent feedback from the subgroups and engagement with community representatives.
- The plan was approved by the PIB with some agreed minor amendments to be incorporated. The plan will be forwarded to the Oversight Group for consideration at its meeting on 9<sup>th</sup> December 2019.
- The PIB Chair requested that all subgroup chairs ensure that time is dedicated in their groups to develop detailed action plans for their respective subgroup. He also advised that discussions are ongoing with the business sector re the provision of a project manager to assist the subgroups in this task.
- The Chair thanked Stephen Nicholson, PwC for the work he invested into developing the Strategic Plan and for the professional manner in which he undertook the task. He also wished him well in his future endeavours.
- The community reps also thanked Stephen for the positive manner in which he had engaged with them throughout the process.

#### 2. Progress Report 2019

- A report on progress during 2019 is currently being prepared by the Programme Office.
- Subgroup Chairs were asked to submit articles and photographs for inclusion as soon as possible.
- It is planned to launch the report after the next PIB meeting on 18<sup>th</sup> December 2019.
- Minister Donohoe has indicated that he is available to attend to launch the report.

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### 3. **Budget Group**

- A draft tool to assist in the assessing the suitability of projects for mainstreaming was circulated to the subgroup chairs for observations.
- The following funding proposal was approved by the Board:

Sub Group	Project	Amount	Mulvey Action
4	Five Lamps the Musical	€20,000	3.12
4	Ballybough U10's Project	€125,041	3.7
	<b>Total (November)</b>	<b>€145,041</b>	

- **Total funds approved by the NEIC PIB to date in 2019 to €6,500,000**
- The funding proposals noted in the table below, were approved in principle by the Board, pending formal confirmation of 2020 funding allocation for the NEIC Initiative

Sub Group	Project	Amount	Mulvey Action
2	Principals' Network – MA in education (Special Option Poverty and Social Inclusion in Education)	€42,900 in year 1 (2020)	3.4

Further information was requested in relation to a proposal for funding for a festival in Mountjoy Square Park - for consideration and discussion at December meeting.

- Social Employment Fund – A Departmental stakeholder meeting is scheduled for December 10<sup>th</sup>. Full drawdown of SEF funds has been made for 2019.

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

- It was noted that the Big Scream Festival was very successful and thanks were passed to all who volunteered and assisted with making the event a positive experience for all.
- The following issues of concern were raised:
  - Closure of the Community Policing Forum, the Chair advised that discussions are ongoing in relation to a partnership approach to community safety in the area.
  - The Larkin Unemployed Centre have been advised by the Department of Employment Affairs and Social Protection (DEASP) that funding will not be provided in 2020 to them to continue to run a Jobs Club service. This is seen as a loss to the community and in particularly to those requiring assistance with CV preparation/updating and job searching. The Chair advised that the DEASP rep would respond later in the meeting.
  - The community reps advised that the HSE's decision to discontinue financial support to ICON in relation to the Community Participation role is viewed as a retrograde step and asked for

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decision to be reversed. The Chair advised that the HSE rep would respond to this later in the meeting.

- It was noted that Garda patrols have increased in the area and that Gardaí are more visible on the ground. This is being positively received by residents.
- An enquiry was made in relation to the interdepartmental review on Community Employment and if there was a date for the publication of the report.

### 5. Sub group reports

#### Group 6 – Alignment of Services

- This group held its first meeting on 13<sup>th</sup> November
- The main focus of the meeting was a skype discussion with representatives from Boston College in relation to the work ongoing in relation to the planning for the City Connects programme in the NEIC. (An update on City Connects was circulated to the PIB members).
- CDYSB have completed an area profile of (of DCYA funded services) the NEIC on behalf of DCYA. This will be shared on 16<sup>th</sup> December.
- A contractor has been appointed, following a tender process to commence development of an action plan for the Liberty Park area.

#### Group 3 – Family Wellbeing

- The reconstituted group met on the 25<sup>th</sup> November and welcomed some new members to the group.
- A discussion took place in relation to the Strategic Plan and in particular the tasks assigned to the subgroup.
- The consensus amongst the group was that SG3 and SG6 should have some joint meetings as there are complimentary elements pertaining to both groups.
- Youth Mental Health was discussed. The DoH rep advised that he has had discussions within DoH to identify a person to sit on SG3 with regard to this topic. He further advised that he is seeking funding in DoH to support the fast track counselling provision).
- It was noted that practical support will be required to assist in the development of action plans to implement the objectives of the Strategic Plan.

#### Group 4 – Physical Infrastructure

- Greening Strategy – work has been completed at the following locations:
  - Dorset St median
  - Belvedere plaza
  - Store St plaza
  - James Joyce St tree planting.
- Diamond Park re-development: Draft design options to be considered in terms of cost with a view to progressing to Part 8 process in Q1 2020.
- Rutland Street School – Project is on track to proceed to procurement process for main contract in Q1 2020.
- Housing developments:
  - St Mary's Mansions – nearing completion, allocations will commence in Q1 2020.

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- Oaklee Development, Poplar Row – due for completion in Q1 2020.
- Ballybough Road – houses will be allocated by end of 2019.
- Cluid housing railway St – An Bord Pleanála decision due mid –December.
- George’s Dock – white-water rafting facility is due for discussion at December meeting of Dublin City Council.
- Public lighting upgrades on Sean McDermott St, James Joyce St and Cathal Brugha St have been completed.
- Playground improvements are completed or underway at the following locations:- James Larkin House, North William street (Blocks 1 + 2), Dunne street, North Great Clarence street, Courtney place, Poplar row, Ballybough House, Matt Talbot Court, Fitzgibbon Court, Alfie Byrne house, Avondale House, Gardiner Street and Liberty House.
- A number of Public Domain improvements are due to commence
  - Fencing and lighting at the Temple on Sean McDermott St
  - Façade at 55 Amiens Street.
- A lease has been taken on accommodation on Amiens St which will house the Drugs Related Intimidation project workers, Ana Liffey Active case management team and the Intercultural Development Co-ordinator (when appointed)
- Sheriff Youth Club have been successful in their application for funding and have been awarded €150,000 from the sports capital grant funding.
- Larkin Community College – Christmas tree lighting ceremony will take place on Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> December at 5pm.
- Chinese New Year festival – arrangements are currently being agreed – event will be held on Saturday January 25<sup>th</sup> 2020.
- A query in relation to footpath improvements which could be undertaken between Buckingham St and O’Connell St – DCC will look at what can be done to improve the quality of the footpath.
- The Chair noted the marked improvement he has witnessed in the area since the appointment of the new area manager in the DCC Central Area Office and asked that his comments be passed to him.

### Group 5 – Substance use and misuse

- The subgroup had a presentation on the work undertaken to date on Drugs Related Intimidation from the project staff.
- The group will continue to focus on substance misuse – opioid use, polydrug use, addiction – with a particular focus on linking with the Health Diversions strategy announced by Government earlier in 2019.
- The group will also consider the health needs of socially excluded groups, in terms of:
  - Addiction and mental health issues.
  - Health literacy
- Former prisoners – consideration as to what supports can be provided for this group
- Discussions to be undertaken with DoH and the HSE in relation to funding for the Inclusion health Hub and if support will be required from NEIC PIB in 2020.
- The positive work being undertaken and driven by the HSE was acknowledged – DoH will continue to work with the HSE in relation to the local drugs task force, service providers and community groups.

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- Officials from 7 administrations visited the inclusion hub on 14<sup>th</sup> November as part of the British Irish Council event.
- Minister Catherine Byrne, TD visited the inclusion health Hub in November to gauge if this approach could be used as a template for replicating elsewhere.
- ‘Know the Score’ is a programme developed by the HSE, working in partnership with teachers and students. The programme is aimed at 15-18 year olds, the content is based on research about effective approaches to the prevention of substance misuse. It was suggested that DES arrange for a presentation to the Principals’ Network on this programme.
- Concerns were again expressed in relation to the effectiveness of the local drugs task force – DoH rep to present a paper to the next PIB meeting.

### **Group 2 – Education, Training and Employment**

- The subgroup had a presentation on progress to date on the PTECH programme. The importance of the establishment of the P-Tech Steering Group was emphasised. The importance of evaluating the initiative was stressed and it was noted that baseline data had been requested by the Department of Education and Skills (DES). A number of challenges facing the initiative, such as CPD for teachers and finding substitute teachers to cover when teachers are away on P-Tech related duties, were noted.
- The Social Impact plan was circulated to the PIB members who were asked to read and identify their top 3 recommendations to progress (to be forwarded to [m.oriordan@dublincity.ie](mailto:m.oriordan@dublincity.ie))
- The NEIC Work Experience Programme has been very successful to date. In November 104 students participated in 142 placements – feedback has been positive from students, schools and employers. Commitments are in place for 241 of the 400 placements required for February and March 2020 – work is ongoing to secure the additional placements.
- It has proved difficult getting traction for the proposed Careers Fair for second level schools in the NEIC for January 2020 – proposed to leave this until a later date.
- A report on the Business in the Community Ireland (BITCI) Summer Work Programme has been received. BITCI have been requested to incorporate some case studies into the report prior to circulation.
- 86 applications were received for the Intercultural Development Coordinator position. Shortlisting has been completed and interviews will be held in early January 2020.

### **Group 1 – Crime and Drugs**

- The Chief Superintendent reported that the operation that was put in place for Halloween worked very effectively. He thanked everyone for their cooperation.
- The operation in Liberty Park continues.
- A new operation to deal with issues that were raised at the recent Garda Community meeting, in relation activity in the Rutland St, Ballybough and Sheriff St areas as a consequence of displacement due to the Liberty Park initiative has been put in place and is being received positively.
- The Dublin North Central Area Garda Youth Awards were launched in Croke Park on Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> November. An information event will be hosted in Croke Park from 12.30pm to 2.30pm on 4<sup>th</sup> December. The closing dates for nominations is Monday 6<sup>th</sup> January 2020. The Award winners will be announced at a ceremony in Croke Park on Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> February 2020.  
The purpose of the awards is to celebrate outstanding young people between 13 and 21 years of age and recognise the good work being done by young people in the community.

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- Due to change in date of the subgroup a planned input on Drug Related Intimidation was rescheduled until the next meeting.
  - The Gardaí asked that the community reps encourage residents, etc. to report by phone or email any incidents to the Garda Community Office. The email address is – [DMR.NorthCentral.Community@garda.ie](mailto:DMR.NorthCentral.Community@garda.ie)
6. **Tusla Update:**
- The new CEO of Tusla paid a visit to the NYP2 recently and was impressed with the work that is being undertaken with the young people in the project.
7. **HSE Update :**
- The HSE rep provided the following response to the query raised in relation to the discontinuance of funding for the community participation role:
    - In 2018 HSE undertook a funding review of services funded by the NICDATF.
    - The HSE’s role with NICDATF is to fund specific projects.
    - HSE needs to ensure there are measureable outcomes for services that are funded and also to ensure that NICDATF are working to a safe model of practice.
    - The funding in question will be maintained in the area.
    - The HSE met with NICDATF in January 2019, following the funding review and the matter of the community participation role was discussed at that point. It was agreed that funding would continue for 2019 to enable the NICDATF to develop KPI’s in terms of health outcomes for the role. These have not been received to date.
    - The HSE have not withdrawn funding but they have not received the information that was requested.
    - The point that funding is dependent on outcomes was emphasised – these need to be measureable and in line with the National Drugs Strategy.
    - NICDATF has agreed that there are Health related activity connected to the role but has not submitted the required information to date.
    - The HSE are scheduled to meet with the Chair of the NICDATF in the coming days to discuss the matter further.
  - Following the siting of the *Breastcheck* mobile unit on Sean McDermott Street in October take up rates have risen in the area from 8% to 30%. The Chair thanked the HSE rep for the initiative in getting the mobile unit into the area.
  - The Stabilisation Unit, with dedicated places for NEIC residents is fully operational and running to capacity.
  - There was a number of visits to the Inclusion Hub during November, including British Irish Council reps, Minister for Finance and Public Expenditure & Reform Paschal Donohoe T.D., Minister of State at Department of Health Catherine Byrne, T.D, and Laura Magahy, Head of Sláinte Care.
  - HSE are examining how they will implement the Connecting for Life strategy in the NEIC.
  - Concerns remain in relation to the suitability of the City Clinic building.
  - Soilse – lease is expiring on the premises in which they are located and a new location is being sought. Any suggestions would be appreciated by the HSE rep.

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### 8. Department of Employment Affairs and Social Protection (DEASP)

- Re the Larkin Unemployed Centre's Job Club:
  - DEASP contract them to deliver a Job Club service and provide services for Job Seekers.
  - The contract is dependent on usage – level of engagements with Job Seekers, placements
  - Currently there does not appear to be a demand for the service
  - Unable to continue to fund based on performance.
  - Service was maintained for 2019 but cannot be maintained for 2020.
  - Contract only for =services and engagements with clients in receipt of Job Seeker payments.
  - Demand for CV's from employers has diminished as most jobs applications are online.
  - The point has been reached where the service is unsustainable.

### 9. AOB

- The schedule of dates for the 2020 NEIC PIB meetings were circulated.

**Next meeting:      Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> December 2019 @ 8.00am**

**Venue: U10 facility, Ballybough Community Centre, Ballybough, Dublin 1.**

(Entrance via gate at side of Ballybough Community Centre building.)

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

<b>What</b>	<b>Who</b>
Present Strategic Plan to Oversight Group	Chair/Programme Office
Feedback on Social Impact Plan	All
Contact DEASP re Job Club Provision	Programme Office
Submit Material for 2019 Progress Report	Subgroup Chairs