

North East Inner City Initiative Programme Implementation Board

<b>Location:</b> Ballybough Community Centre, Ballybough, Dublin 1.
<b>Time and date:</b> 8am, 30 <sup>th</sup> October 2019
<b>Attendance:</b> Chair – Michael Stone, Chief Superintendent Paddy McMenamin (An Garda Síochána), Superintendent Paul Costello (An Garda Síochána), Paddy Murdoff (NICCC), Mary Cregg (DES), Mary Keenan (DoT), Joy McGlynn (Tusla), Noel Wardick (NICCC), Karl Mitchell (DCC), Ursula Donnellan (DCC/Programme Office), Clare Butler (DoT/Programme Office), Michael O’Riordan (Programme Office).
<b>Apologies:</b> Feargal O’Rourke (PwC), Jim Walsh (DoH), Brendan Kenny (DCC), Conor Rowley (DCYA), Donal Cassidy (HSE), Noel Hand (DEASP)

**Minutes of previous meeting:**

**Proposed:** Paddy Murdoff (NICCC)

**Seconded:** Karl Mitchell (DCC)

1. **Community Update:**

- A query was raised in relation to a date for the publication of the Urban Land Institute (ULI) Report. It was noted that the report of the ULI’s visit to the North East Inner City was launched at its annual meeting on 24<sup>th</sup> October 2019. It was agreed a link to the report would be circulated to all.
- Reaction to the Community Showcase Event on 27<sup>th</sup> September in DLight Studios has been very positive.
- 2 replies have been received in response to the Liberty Park tender. The evaluation process has been completed and a preferred bidder has been identified. A meeting with the preferred bidder has been scheduled for 30<sup>th</sup> October.
- The efforts of all involved in the organising of the *Big Scream* events for Halloween were acknowledged. The community reps reported that these efforts are having a positive impact.
- Buckley Hall, Buckingham Street – a question was asked if there was any knowledge of the type development that was happening there. None of the Board members had any knowledge of the what was happening at this location.
- Garda Community Meeting – it was acknowledged that these meetings have merit. A call for the replacement of the Community Policing Forum (CPF) remains. It is felt the Joint Policing Committee (JPC) is not sufficient to meet needs of the community. The Chair advised that he has met with the Gardaí to discuss some of the issues raised at 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 the decision to be reversed. The Chair advised that he could not comment on the situation and would revert to the HSE rep on the matter.

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### 2. Principals Network:

Currently focussed on **City Connects**. The Principals were recently invited to participate in a number of sessions with representatives from Boston College in relation to **City Connects**. The delegation from Boston College spent a number of days talking and meeting with various groups and during this time, they visited 3 schools in the area.

**City Connects** is a model based on a programme called Boston Connects that has been running in the US for many years in 90 schools in 6 states.

**City Connects** will be a collaboration between schools, Department of Education and Science (DES), Department of Children and Youth Affairs (DCYA), TUSLA and Boston College. In the US A, **City Connects** pays attention to the relationships students encounter in their homes, schools, and community, tailoring any intervention to the particular risks and strengths of individual children and to the ways risks and strengths change and interact over time. City Connects will attempt to offset this through Individual Plans for children across the following areas – Academic, Health, Family and Social/Emotional. The needs of the child are at the centre of the plan. The model is being adapted to suit the Irish E=educational context since the system differs to the USA educational system.

The feedback from the Boston College group is that the NEIC is well catered for but that co-ordination of services and supports is the big issue.

Currently they are looking at devising a plan for the NEIC area; this will include a co-ordinator in each school who will link to the various services.

The Principals network meets once a term and will be involved in consultation workshops in the development of the **City Connects** model.

### 3. Budget Group :

The following funding proposal was approved by the Board:

<b>Sub Group</b>	<b>Project</b>	<b>Amount</b>	<b>Mulvey Action</b>
<b>3</b>	Research on reduced timetables in NEIC post Primary schools (SWAN)	€10,600	
	<b>Total (October )</b>	<b>€10,600</b>	

**Note:** €7,050 from the Childcare Bursary allocation is available for reallocation.

**Total funds approved by the PIB to date to €6,345,596**

The Board were advised that there were a small number of proposals being worked on at Sub Group level that will come to the next meeting of the Budget Group. At that point, the

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remaining 2019 funding (€154,404) will be allocated. No further requests for funding in 2019 should be considered in Sub Groups.

Social Employment Fund – A Paper on the SEF is progressing and will be circulated shortly for consideration by the other stakeholders.

A *Criteria Sheet* in relation to mainstreaming of funding is in preparation and will be circulated to sub group chairs.

The funding proposals noted in the table below, were approved in principal by the Board, pending formal confirmation of 2020 funding allocation for the NEIC Initiative

Sub Group	Project	Mulvey Action	Amount
3	Research on reduced timetables in NEIC post primary schools (SWAN)		€34,400
3	Detached Youth Outreach (SWAN)		€150,000
3	Service provision for 7 to 10 year olds (Belvedere Youth Centre)		€48,764

#### 4. Sub group reports

##### Group 1 – Crime and Drugs.

- Liberty Park – the Chief Superintendent advised that he has met with his senior management team to develop a specific plan to deal with displacement.
- A community-policing meeting was held on 17 October in Killarney Court, Buckingham Street. About 90 people attended. There was a lively discussion between the Gardaí and the attendees
  - The PIB Chair attended the meeting; he thanked the Gardaí for organising it and acknowledged that it was not an easy meeting, given some of the comments from the attendees. In his opinion, it sends a message out to the community that the Gardaí are available and willing to engage with them. He encouraged Garda management to consider having similar meetings every quarter. He re-emphasised PIB commitment to working to ensure the Gardaí have the necessary resources to enable them to carry out their role.
  - Feedback that he received from community members was positive and that people get comfort from seeing Gardaí on the street but they do not currently see enough of that.
- A revised proposal in relation to the establishment of a community-policing forum is awaited.
- The Chief Superintendent noted that more emphasis will be placed on visibility of Gardaí.

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- Additional probationer Gardaí are due in November 2019 and a business case is being prepared for further resources in 2020.
- 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)

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

- Collaboration Ireland presented an overview of the Social Economy/Social Enterprise plan that they are working on. The group discussed the importance of ensuring that actions of the plan are achievable. A further meeting will be arranged with Collaboration Ireland to ensure same.
- An update on the Work Placement programme was circulated to the group. All placements for the November dates have been secured (146 placement). 216 Placements have been secured for the spring 2020 dates – a further 168 placements required, but these are currently being worked on. It was agreed that the work experience co-ordinator should present his experiences to the Principal's Network to assist in streamlining the process for future years.
- A Jobs and Employment Support Fair, organised by DEASP was held on October 24<sup>th</sup> in Sheriff Youth Club. There were 15 employers and 15 services providers in attendance. 529 people attended the event.
- A Careers fair for second level schools in the NEIC is planned for January 2020 in collaboration with the National College of Ireland (NCI).
- Feedback from the Business in the Community Ireland (BITCI) Summer Work Programme is very positive – a report on the programme has been requested from BITCI.
- The Intercultural Development Coordinator position was advertised on 17<sup>th</sup> October. Closing date for applications is 7<sup>th</sup> November.
- PTECH – a presentation on progress to date has been requested for the next subgroup meeting.

### **Group 3 – Integrated System of Social Services.**

- The group received an update on the Boston College visit in relation to City Connects.
- The group discussed the Strategic Plan and felt there is a need to place leadership both community and youth into either subgroup 3 or 6. It was noted that the UL Executive Leadership programme is progressing community leadership through the Liberty Park project. The group also felt that youth mental health would be a better fit under subgroup 5.
- The group were advised that it is being reported through the YPOAR network that there is an increase of young migrants in local schools with little or no English language skills.
- CDYSB presented a paper on the resource/funding needs for youth services in the NEIC. It was noted that funding has not recovered since the recession. CDYSB are to review the paper and come back with some amendments to be discussed with the group
- Discussions on a number of proposals submitted to the group took place and a number of recommendations were forwarded to the budget group for consideration.
- The launch of the video “Voices of Young people in the City” will be held in Croke Park on 13<sup>th</sup> November at 4pm.

### **Group 4 – Physical Infrastructure**

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- Greening Strategy – work is scheduled to commence on a number of projects in November:
  - Dorset St median
  - Belvedere plaza
  - Store St plaza
  - James Joyce St tree planting.
- A number of small scale improvements have been completed
  - Gloucester Place planting
  - Buckingham Street tree pits
  - Diamond Park tree pits
- Public Realm Plan – research is completed and now in the process of putting together actions for 2020. A draft document of possible improvements for the Charleville Mall/Five Lamps area.
- Rutland Street School – the Part 8 planning process has been completed, with final approval by Dublin City Council at its meeting on 7<sup>th</sup> October. Work has commenced on the public procurement process with a view to public advertisement in Q1 2020.
- Following the outcome of recent structural investigations, plans are in train to demolish the “School on Stilts” in the coming weeks. An update was provided on the intensive efforts to secure alternate temporary accommodation for the user groups. The groups are currently considering a number of options.
- Essential roof repairs on D-Light studios have commenced.
- Ballybough u10’s – modular units are now in place under the arches beside Ballybough Community Centre. Pending fit out the units will be for use in the near future.
- Ballybough Boxing Club – it was confirmed that the boxing club is now operational in the former pigeon club.
- O’Connell’s School – feasibility study underway for new-shared sports facility based on the model currently operating in Fingal County Council.
- Iarnrod Eireann – Discussions underway regarding a further co-funded programme of visual improvement works for railway bridges.
- Newcomen Cottage – Design stage to be completed by mid-December 2019.
- North Inner City Folklore Project – there was a discussion on the recent announcement by local historian Terry Fagan that he had taken a unilateral decision to close the North Inner City Folklore Project at Unit 1A Railway Street. It was agreed to write formally to the project requesting an explanation and confirmation of the facts surrounding the decision.
- Following a recent meeting with a childcare provider re compliance , a discussion took place in relation to a review being undertaken with childcare providers in terms of regulation, compliance, quality, governance structures etc. and who might be best equipped to undertake such a review. The Tusla rep to discuss with relevant colleagues and revert.
- A query was raised in relation to Buckingham Village – DCC are currently in the process of contacting the owners to discuss a range of items.
- It was also noted that feedback from the community that local murals are positively received by the community.

### Group 5 – Substance use and misuse

- The subgroup meeting focussed on the draft strategic plan.

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- The group discussed the proposals and recommendations were agreed. These are to be submitted for consideration and inclusion in the next draft. **The group felt that youth mental health was not a good fit for this subgroup and would be better placed in subgroup 3 or 6.**
- Stabilisation unit - This unit is now open; with 7 residents currently in the unit.
- Homeless Case Management Team - To date the Homeless Case Management Team have a combined case load of 35 people, but have engaged with in excess of 60 residents of hostels in the NEIC area
- Addiction Case Management Team - This team is operational and are supporting staff in City Clinic, there are 2 full time case managers with a combined case load of 40 clients. It is estimated that 70 service users in City Clinic have been offered Case Management to date.
- Breast check mobile unit - The Breast check mobile unit was located on Sean McDermott Street for a 4-week period, the unit provided a targeted response to the low uptake of the breast-screening programme. Initial findings indicate there was a 150% increase in the uptake rate in the target group.

### 5. Tusla Update :

- Following the efforts of DCC, a premises has been identified as temporary accommodation for NYP1 – this is now with Tusla estate management to negotiate a lease.
- Due to difficulties with the contractor, the estimated occupancy date for the Family Support team to relocate to 69 Amiens Street has been put back. Currently out to tender for electrical work.
- A number of information events around child protection strategy to outline and explain mandatory reporting and what the obligations are have been held. Tusla reps are available to go to any organisation to present on this topic.
- National fostering week (14<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup> October) was an attempt to promote fostering. More foster families are required in this area to cater for the need.

### 6. Community Grants:

- Round 2 of the 2019 scheme opened for applications from 2<sup>nd</sup> to 30<sup>th</sup> of September 2019.
- Following allocations of €44,232 in round 1, a balance of €55,768 was available for allocation.
- The grants offered were in the range of €300 to €3,000
- This round focussed on two overarching themes:
  - “Brooms and Blooms” – clean up and enhance your street
  - Active Living, Recreation and wellbeing.
- A total of 63 valid applications were accepted seeking a total of €175,864
- The evaluation panel met on Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> October.
- 3 applications were referred to be dealt with directly by the NEIC Programme Office sports team.
- 4 applications were referred to DCC for the attention of Housing manager, Environmental Liaison or Community Development Officer as appropriate.
- 38 applications were awarded funding of €57,680 – the shortfall of €1,912 to be met from NEIC Programme Office costs
- 25 applications were either refused or referred elsewhere for further consideration and action as appropriate.

Proposed – Paddy Murdiff, NICCC

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Seconded - Mary Keenan, DoT

### 7. **2019 Progress Report:**

- Subgroup Chairs have been emailed seeking feedback of activities during the year with images for the progress report.
- The information is required by 5<sup>th</sup> November.
- 2019-Progress Report will take the same format as the 2018 report.

### 8. **AOB**

The Chair advised the Board that he sought clarification from the Department of the Taoiseach with regards to multi-annual budgeting, as it is an item that has been raised on a number of occasions. He has received clarification that there is no provision in Government Accounting to allow for multi-annual budgeting except for capital programme. Normally, excess Vote is surrendered. Pre-Payments can occur, on occasion, but is considered an exceptional measure and are only permissible if explicit sanction has been sought by the Accounting Officer, for specific stated purposes from the Department of Public Expenditure and Reform.

**Next meeting:      Friday 29<sup>th</sup> November 2019 @ 8.00am**

**Venue: Boardroom 1, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor, National College of Ireland, Mayor St., Dublin 1**

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

<b>What</b>	<b>Who</b>
Circulate Urban Land Institute report	Programme Office
Work Experience Co-ordinator to present to Principals' Network	Programme Office/DES
Write to North Inner City Folklore project	Programme Office
Follow up on Review of Childcare provision	Tusla
Material for Progress Report	Subgroup Chairs