

Louth PPN Representatives Meeting Record



Details of Meeting Attended: Dundalk Joint Policing Forum

Committee: Cllr Antoin Watters, Cllr Edel Corrigan, Cllr Maria Doyle, Cllr Jennifer Green, Cllr Conor Keelan, Cllr John McGahon, Cllr Maeve Yore, Louth County Council, Frank Pentony, Louth County Council, Inspector Martin Beggy, An Garda Siochana, Sgt. Brendan Keane, An Garda Siochana, Matthew McGreehan PPN, Pat Mc Veigh PPN, John Temple PPN

Date of Meeting: 11th July, 2017

Key Issues Discussed:

A member of Louth County Council unknown to me and not introduced by the Chair of the meeting, opened the meeting with a report regarding updates on the Community Safety Strategy with County Louth. The salient facts from the report focused on funding for several schools in the municipal district, including €200k for safety improvements to signage. There is continued training for Age Action Ireland and Older Persons Forum regarding computer training. Some other key projects included an awareness campaign regarding nutrition for children.

Issues arising from the report were that members requested to know if there was a regular interval Garda vetting process for those who availed of social housing from the local authorities. The response given was that not at present. Once a person has been given possession of a property there was no provision to update local authority records with a Garda vetting request or any provision of communication to inform the local authority from An Garda Siochana that a resident, provided a property under such a scheme has been convicted of a criminal offence in the Courts.

Inspector Martin Beggy, gave a presentation regarding the quarterly crime figures and a comparison for the same figures the year previous. This is a general report with no specific operation or case discussed. There are currently on average 19 Garda Checkpoints in Dundalk per day. Members present then raised the following issues

- Private Vehicles parking on footpath at the square town centre and in disabled spots in town
- vehicles belonging to the state i.e. Prison Vans, Garda Cars parking on footpath at the square town centre during Court days.
- Garda Community Van needed for Dundalk immediately
- Garda numbers to increase in Carlingford district area within the coming weeks.

Cllr. Conor Keelan then briefed the members present that Dundalk BIDS wished to apply for CCTV for the town centre. This was passed by members of the meeting in support of same.

Upcoming Agenda Items of interest to PPN:

Other Comments:

The meeting provides an insight to the diverse work of both the Louth County Council and An Garda Siochana and the huge running costs placed on the public authorities.

Signed _____

Date _____

Reporting

All community Representatives elected by the PPN to Boards and Statutory bodies are required to complete a short report within 7 days of the meeting. This report is brief and aims to capture the essence of the meeting. Reps are not required to breach the confidentiality of any committee. Reports are to be emailed to PPN resource worker mary.capplis@louthcoco.ie.

These reports will be sent to Louth PPN Secretariat, filed and published on Louth PPN Website – www.louthppn.ie