

Louth PPN Representatives Meeting Record



Details of Meeting

Committee: Dundalk Policing Authority Annual Public Meeting

Date of Meeting: 03/10/2017

Agenda Items of interest to PPN:
Agenda as mailed to members of DPF

1. Welcome and intro' of Chairperson
2. Presentation on Background and Role of Joint Policing Committee
3. Short Brief on Crime generally in Dundalk District
4. Specialists Garda Presentation

The special Garda presentation was informative and delivered by the Central Drugs Unit and detailed not only lethal drugs being use but also the sinister way they are sourced through the Dark Web.

There was a question and answer session and the new head of the Garda Division Chief Super' C. Mangan committed to reviewing the call for a specific Drug Unit for Dundalk. The Chief Super' was also asked to consider the possibility of establishing a Garda Sub-Station in Dundalk Town Centre as many felt a dis-connect with the Local Garda Station sited where it is (The Crescent).

Sentencing for drug offences, Garda response times and concern around mis-behaviour at Halloween, especially in Blackrock.

The Public Health Alcohol Bill passing through the Oireachtas was brought to the attention of the meeting by the PPN rep and all present where asked to support this bill in its entirety, especially public reps'.

The absence of an action plan, after 2 years, for the D.P.F was also raised and critised by PPN rep'.

The meeting was reasonably well attended.

Other Comments:

For the best part of 2017 I have been calling for an action plan for implemanting of the Louth Community Safety Strategy. It was indicated by J. Mc Guinness through the Chair that a date for the workshop(s) would be arranged.

The Communiton Safety Strategy is nothing more than aspirational.

The workshops never happened and even though the National Drug and Alcohol Strategy was yet to be finalised it was possible and necessary to devise a draft community safety action plan as drugs and alcohol alone don't determine the Community Safety Action Plan.

The issue is not the problems in communities, it is the responses and possible solutions that make communities feel safe.

Responses need to be solution focused.

My last comment on this has to do with the lack of; progress, connection and potential in the D.P.F in 2017 which had been there in 2016.

Signed, Pat Mc Veigh _____ Date, 08/11/, 2017

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