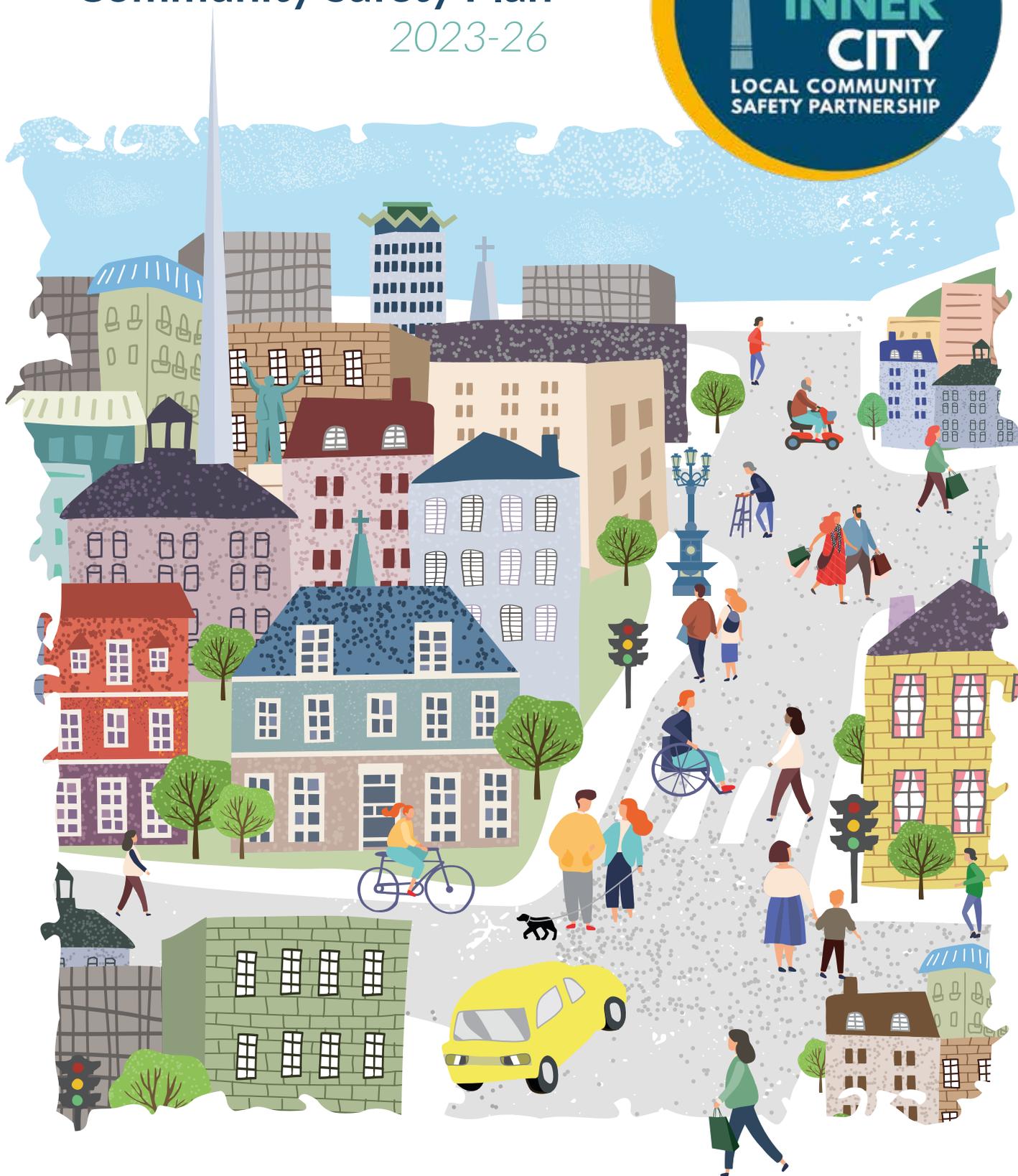


Local Community Safety Partnership  
Dublin North Inner City

# Community Safety Plan

2023-26



Comhairle Cathrach  
Bhaile Átha Cliath  
Dublin City Council



Building a  
Better Health  
Service

Seirbhís Stáinte  
Níos Fearr  
á Forbairt



An tSeirbhís Phrómhaidh  
The Probation Service



NORTH EAST  
INNER CITY

**TÚSLA**  
An Ghníomhaireacht um  
Leanaí agus an Teaghlach  
Child and Family Agency



An Roinn Dlí agus Cirt  
Department of Justice

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## Chairperson's Statement

On behalf of the Local Community Safety Partnership, I would like to present the Community Safety Plan for Dublin's North Inner City.

In May of this year, I was honoured to be asked by the Minister for Justice Simon Harris, to take up the position of Chair of Dublin's North Inner City, Local Community Safety Partnership. I want to thank Mr. Cormac O'Donnchú, the first Chair of the Partnership, for his commitment to building valued relationships across this community and has provided strong foundations for the Partnership to build on, we wish him luck with future endeavours.

I thank the community that have come on this journey with us, we have learned from their keen insight into their neighbourhoods and community networks. We acknowledge the special position of the democratically elected Dublin City Council public representatives and joined by the state and voluntary sectors, we are best placed to support the Gardaí in a collective response to community safety.

This Community Safety Plan addresses how issues of community safety and perception of safety are addressed by the Local Community Safety Partnership (LCSP) and an overview of our ongoing work.

It is intended to be read as an evolving document, capable of being flexible to emerging trends as they impact on safety.

I look forward to continued partnership and working together to enhance our City, our Community, and our Safety.

### **Eddie Mullins**

*Dublin North Inner City  
Local Community Safety Partnership  
August 2023*



# Background to the Local Community Safety Partnerships

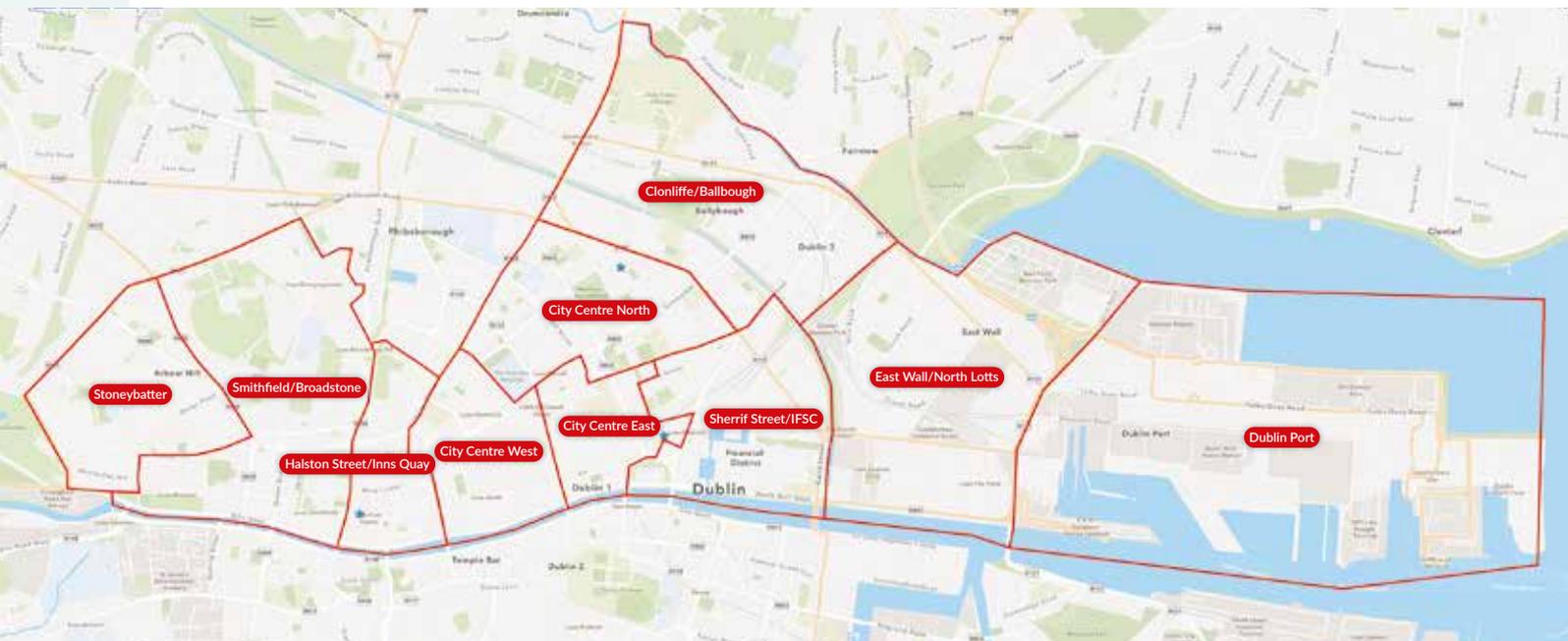
## What is Community Safety?

Community Safety is about people being safe and feeling safe in their own community. The term Community Safety is intended to unite all sections of the community, to work together to address issues of criminality and anti-social behaviour and other factors that affect people's perceptions of safety and their actual safety.

## The Development of Local Community Safety Partnerships

In December 2018 the Government approved A Policing Service for our Future<sup>1</sup> to implement the Commission for the Future of Policing in Ireland<sup>2</sup>. The key principle of this report is that Policing is not the sole responsibility of An Garda Síochána but also involves other key Government agencies working collaboratively in the areas of health, youth and social services.

A lot of work has been done and a lot achieved in the North Inner City. However, it was proposed that there is an opportunity to support the community in another way. A key intervention for communities in the draft Policing and Community Safety Bill is the proposed replacement of the existing Joint Policing Committees with Local Community Safety Partnerships. (Hereinafter LCSP(s))



<sup>1</sup> A policing Service for our Future – A four-year plan (2019 -2022)

<sup>2</sup> <https://policereform.ie/>

The LCSP is a new Government initiative which will bring together community members, the voluntary and community sector, statutory services, and local authority councillors to work together in identifying and tackling community safety issues locally.

Dublin's North Inner City, comprising of 10 electoral areas has been chosen along with Longford and Waterford to establish and run pilot LCSP's in each of their respective communities. Each pilot is the subject of an evaluation conducted by The Centre for Effective Services (CES)<sup>3</sup> the findings of which will inform the statutory framework for LCSP's in the national roll out.



Figure 1. The Local Community Safety Partnership Structure

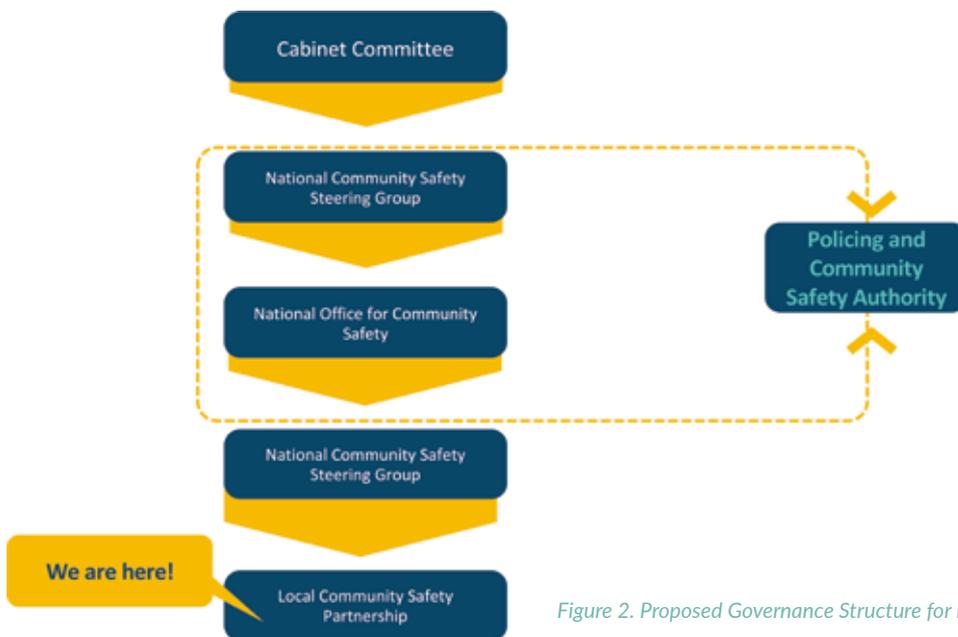


Figure 2. Proposed Governance Structure for National Roll Out



<sup>3</sup> Local Community Safety Partnership Pilot Baseline Evaluation Report June 2022

## The Dublin North Inner City, Local Community Safety Partnership

To lay the foundations for the establishment of the pilot in Dublin's North Inner City in 2020, Dublin City Council commissioned Connect the Dots and Innovate Communities to work with the Department of Justice and key stakeholders. These comprised of community groups, business representatives and Councillors who came together with the Department of Justice to design and implement a plan to support the whole community. A series of information gathering sessions and surveys on safety and perceptions of safety, were held with the broader community, voluntary organisations, businesses, residents, young people, education providers and other stakeholders; this information was subsequently used by the Partnership to inform this plan.



Despite Covid restrictions and a national lockdown, 738 contacts were made and 325 people registered for the sessions. 85% of participants lived in the NIC, 63% worked in the NIC and a large percentage, 45%, felt they had no say relating to safety issues in their area.

The Minister for Justice, Helen McEntee, senior representatives of the Department of Justice, Dublin City Council, and the Voluntary Chair of the LCSP made presentations and supported participation in the workshops. Discussion groups, breakout sessions, and online discussion groups, were held. The focus was on what could be achieved through partnership, identifying motivations and probing barriers to participation among community members.

A majority polled said they would like to engage with the partnership model. Barriers to participation included: time commitments, childcare, low confidence in the Partnerships impact, language barriers, a fear of intimidation or peer pressure for some people. Other themes included that the Partnership would be truly diverse and representative with an emphasis on engaging youth and connecting with people 'where they are at'.

Issues of main concern were the physical environment, crime, and perceptions of safety. Other suggested themes included restorative justice, addressing trauma, supporting the reintegration of those convicted of a crime and supports for positive mental health maintenance.

In February 2021 Dublin's North Inner City LCSP was set up, the inaugural meeting was held on the 29th July 2021 and one of the key objectives was to prepare a Community Safety Plan informed by the community.

In early 2021 Dublin City Council recruited staff and set up the Dublin's North Inner City Partnership office on James Joyce Street, Dublin 1.

## The Community We Serve

Dublin's LCSP prioritises all those living in the NIC but is also aware of the safety concerns of the communities that transit through the area daily, to work, shop, worship, visit and socialise.

This is the community of Dublin's North Inner City.

## Our Members, Our Structure, Our Support Team

Our Partnership is made up of public representatives, senior members of An Garda Síochána, Dublin City Council, Tusla, HSE, Probation Service, NEIC PIB, representatives from the Business, Education and Voluntary Sector and critically, residents from the community across the North Inner City.

### See Appendix A

Four working groups were established in 2021 to tackle short term issues of concern and before the Plan was formulated. It is priority for the LCSP to incorporate the original 4 working groups into revised working groups that will manage priority areas identified in this plan.



## Our Office Base

Visibility and engagement are key to the success of our Partnership. By establishing a physical presence in the North Inner City at Unit 3, James Joyce Street, reaching out to community members, welcoming locals and business owners as well as facilitating ongoing dialogue with the community groups, we in the LCSP are trying to achieve the priorities set out below.

The Partnership office is supported by a coordinator and administrator. The role of both is to support the work of the Partnership and the day to day management of the community office. The coordinator also works with all stakeholders across the North Inner City to gain a clear understanding of the issues and liaise with the Partnership members to support the exploration and facilitation of appropriate responses to the issues raised.



*Location: DNICP Office,  
James Joyce Street, Dublin 1*



## Our Vision, Mission, Values and Commitments

Soon after formation, the Partnership set to work to establish its vision, mission, values, and commitments as an organisation. These are as follows:

### The Vision:

Working Together to Enhance Our City, Our Communities, and Our Safety.

### Mission:

- To prioritise issues identified by the communities that are safety concerns.
- To improve multi-agency and community collaboration in the area.
- To increase community confidence in service providers.

### Values and Commitments:

The LCSP including members of the working groups are committed to the Principles for Collaboration and Partnership Working with Community and Voluntary Sector.<sup>4</sup>

The Values that underpin the work in the Community and Voluntary Sector are:

- Social Justice
- Empowering Communities
- Sustainable Development
- Active Participation
- Human Rights, Equality and Anti-Discrimination
- Social Inclusion

The Commitments that underpin the work in the Community and Voluntary Sector are:

- Respect
- Subsidiarity
- Harmonisation
- Value for Money
- Implementation
- Collaboration



Greening, St Laurence O'Toole Centre



<sup>4</sup> <https://www.gov.ie/en/publication/d4445-values-and-principles-for-collaboration-and-partnership-working>

## Principles for Collaboration and Partnership Working with Community and Voluntary Sector

The LCSP acknowledges and values the ongoing feedback from the community to inform its work and will support work already underway by partners and other agencies that support and contribute to community safety. Themes of safety and wellbeing intersect and overlap at regular intervals with other agencies. The LCSP will not duplicate work already underway and committed to by Partners in their strategic plans. These include the North East Inner City Task Force Programme Implementation Board (NEIC PIB), Dublin City Community Coop, Children & Young People Services Committees (CYPSC) and the Dublin City Council Development Plan 2022-2028.

Dublin's North Inner City has a community of committed people and services dedicated to ensuring that this is a safe place to live, work, socialise and thrive. Dublin's North Inner City Local Community Safety Partnership, recognises, values, and seeks to validate this existing work and the efforts that are having a profound positive impact in our community every day. Our remit is to prioritise issues identified by the community that are safety concerns, improve multi agency and community collaboration in the area and increase community confidence in service providers.

## Community Safety Challenges & Opportunities

To formulate an inaugural Community Safety Plan, the LCSP members, through a series of facilitated workshops<sup>5</sup> identified priority areas under which specific actions were then grouped.

The effectiveness of the actions under each priority area will be measured and the capacity to influence what did and didn't work in our community will be assessed. This knowledge will continue to inform action plans; hence this Plan will be subject to regular reviews and updates as priorities change.

### What Our Stakeholders Told Us

Through the initial consultation process respondents identified issues they felt would enhance their feelings of safety including public space maintenance, support for Pride of Place schemes, increased awareness of trauma within the community and support for trauma informed services. The community also highlighted support for restorative justice and opportunities to re-engage excluded or disengaged communities including those that are returning to the community having served a custodial sentence.

As a part of our ongoing work in the community other themes have become prevalent. Women and minority groups, LGBTQIA+ people, multi faith and some new communities have also spoken to us about issues that undermine their feelings of safety such as overt drug dealing, substance misuse, drug related intimidation, domestic and gender-based violence and motorised scooters being driven at speed.

<sup>5</sup> Workshops were facilitated by Invisio

## Other Findings

Information from the Central Statistics Office was reviewed and referenced throughout the Plan. However, it should be noted that at the time of writing there was only the partial release of Census 2022 results. The relevant available data sets have been incorporated within the Plan. However, where the data was not available 2016 results have been relied on instead. (See Appendix B.)

Statistics from An Garda Síochána, Dublin Metropolitan Region, North Central Division – Q1 2023 shared by the Gardai with the LCSP provides a comparison of crime trends in North Dublin Inner City with the State. This is based upon the Irish Crime Classification System (ICCS) developed by Central Statistics Office (CSO).

Accordingly, North Dublin Inner City stands higher than the national average levels in four crime classifications, including:

1. Total assaults,
2. Crimes against the person,
3. Violent property crime,
4. Total property crime.

Detailing these into sub-categories, the report suggests the crime rate in the area to be substantially higher than national average levels in the following sub-classifications:

1. Minor assault,
2. Robbery of an establishment or institution,
3. Non-residential burglary,
4. Theft from person,
5. Possession of drugs for sale or supply,
6. Possession of offensive weapon.

The trend of these classifications since 2019 reveals there was a drop in all categories except for “fraud, deception, and related offences” and “domestic violence” during 2019-2021; this trend is followed by a modest increase since then. This is suggested to be a result of the outbreak of COVID-19 pandemic and the lockdowns. Interestingly, with continuation of remote working style post-pandemic, this has effectively resulted in a declining growth rate of burglary and related offences. *(See Appendix C)*

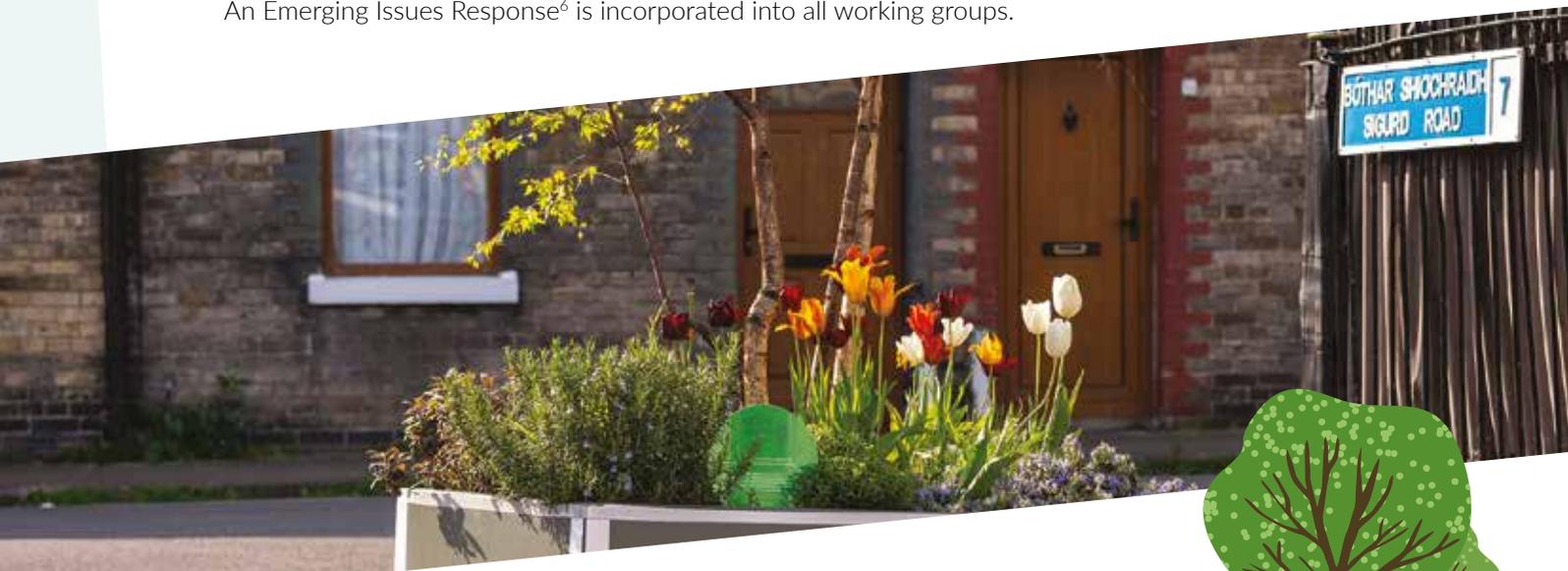


## Priorities Identified

Based on the various community engagements, a root cause analysis and statistical information above, the Partnership identified 5 priority areas that must be addressed. In addition, given the changing environment, and taking a proactive approach, the Partnership identified the need for an 'Emerging Issues Response'.

- Drugs Inclusion-Health, Anti-Social Behaviour,
- Family, Youth and Community
- Education, Life Long Learning
- Integration, Ethnic and Multi Faith Inclusion
- Physical Environment

An Emerging Issues Response<sup>6</sup> is incorporated into all working groups.



## Responding to the Challenges & Opportunities

### Working Groups

Each working group seek to address issues by identifying:

- Lead partners and attribute lead responsibilities.
- Other key stakeholders and encouraging their engagement.
- Initiatives that are considered best placed to address issues raised.
- Performance indicators for each agreed initiative.
- Specific timescales for actions.
- Identifying and consider risks associated with each action.

As described in the section above outlining the timeline of events, working groups were set up at an early stage to deal with known pressing issues facing the community. Having concluded our research and consultation, the Partnership will now re-form the working groups to align to the following priorities (as identified above).

<sup>6</sup> Emerging issues are issues that were not identified or forecast at the time an action plan was agreed.

## Drugs Inclusion Health and Anti-Social Behaviour

The overall high level objective under the heading Drugs Inclusion Health and Anti-Social Behaviour is to support a unified approach to break the cycles and root causes of inter-generational drug addiction and associated anti-social behaviour.

Details in how this will be achieved are given below and in the action plan.

### Drugs Inclusion Health

The misuse of substances and on street drug dealing were identified as a high priority topic by communities during public consultations. The North Inner City Community Coalition, among others identified the influence of the illegal drugs trade as a priority issue which negatively affect both the reality and the perception of safety for the community within the North Inner City.

There is a strong commitment to support those struggling with addiction and substance misuse, evident in the concentration of services available across the community. These range from specialised substance misuse services, community rehabilitation services and specialised medical services. The LCSP will support this ongoing commitment and work with existing services to bridge gaps where the community have sought additional responses in relation to safety and perception of safety. The LCSP supports their calls for additional services to be rolled out nationally to enable those that seek support with addiction to receive that support in their own community and remove the burden of travelling out of their immediate neighbourhoods to receive the care and treatment they require.

The LCSP benefits from its close alignment with Dublin's North East Inner City Task Force and its Programme Implementation Board, The NEIC PIB. Chaired by Jim Gavin the board is made up of representatives from key government agencies and stakeholders drawn from the North East Inner City community. The PIB is committed to addressing the areas prioritised in the Mulvey Report<sup>7</sup> supported by the Department of Community and Gaeltacht Affairs and Dublin City Council. The NEIC-PIB works to improve health outcomes for people who use and misuse drugs and alcohol and promotes inclusion health for socially excluded groups experiencing severe health inequalities because of substance misuse. The NEIC-PIB is a model of best practice and the LCSP supports its replication where appropriate. The initiatives that the LCSP have introduced since its formation are outlined in the action plan and seek to provide an additional framework for on street engagement with those in active addiction and further promote safety within the community.

Details of specific actions in relation to this priority area are given in the action plan.



<sup>7</sup> <https://www.drugsandalcohol.ie/26859/1/MulveyReport.pdf>



## Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB)

The issues related to active drug taking, on street drug dealing, petty and chaotic crime and street drinking were identified as a high priority topic by communities during public consultations. Some of the negative aspects of street life often categorised as anti-social behaviour have been identified as further contributory factors to negative perceptions of safety in our city.

Part 11 of the Criminal Justice Act 2006 defines Anti-Social Behaviour as:

Anti-social behaviour occurs where a person causes or, in the circumstances is likely to cause, to one or more persons who are not of the same household as the person:

- Harassment or
- Significant or persistent alarm, distress, fear, or intimidation or
- Significant or persistent impairment of their use or enjoyment of their property

The LCSP began to consider that there might be a difference between anti-social behaviour associated with on street drug taking/dealing and youth anti-community activities, more aligned with youths pushing boundaries, where the activity is more sporadic in nature and impacts on all sections of the community where it occurs. Sporadic incidents of youths engaging in anti-community behaviour often occur in areas designed for community enjoyment or need, for example outside shops, restaurants, transport links and beauty spots. The impact of sharing such incidents in real time across social media can have the ability to stigmatise an area and undermine our sense of safety, long after the incident complained of has been resolved.

Sometimes anti-social behaviour in an area can involve young people who have travelled into the community because they have an existing or historic link to that area.

Remedies available to the Gardaí for youths engaged in ASB include the option for the Superintendent of the district calling a meeting to discuss the offensive behaviour. This meeting would include the parents/guardians of the child, the child accused of the behaviour and the Juvenile Liaison Officer.<sup>8</sup>

Additionally, Dublin City Council Estate Management function can deal with tenants where anti-social behaviour is proven.

The LCSP is informed by the remedies already in existence and will explore new ways of working in partnership to explore innovative responses that have the capacity to achieve the best outcome for the community and the young people engaged in anti-community behaviour.

The LCSP can call on local and neighbouring Gardaí, youth diversion programmes, youth workers and community workers to support those engaging in this behaviour to explore appropriate responses.



<sup>8</sup> <https://www.irishstatutebook.ie/eli/2006/act/26/section/161/enacted/en/html>

## Family, Youth and Community

The overall high-level objective in terms of Family, Youth and Community is to ensure that Dublin's North Inner City is a location where people and communities are and feel safe. This will be achieved through greater collaboration between agencies both statutory and voluntary collaborating.

Details in how this will be achieved are given below and in the detailed action plan.

According to Census 2022 [published] results, an overall total of 72,023 people are living in the North Inner City of Dublin, which is an increase of 14% from 64,263 since 2016 (i.e., +7,754 people over the intercensal period).

In relation to household formation, as per the Census 2016 [latest available data], an overall of 23,964 households were residing in this area; two-person households and single-households were the majority, forming 37% and 30% of all households in the area respectively. It is important to note that 2,615 households were single-parent families, which is 11% of the total households in the area.

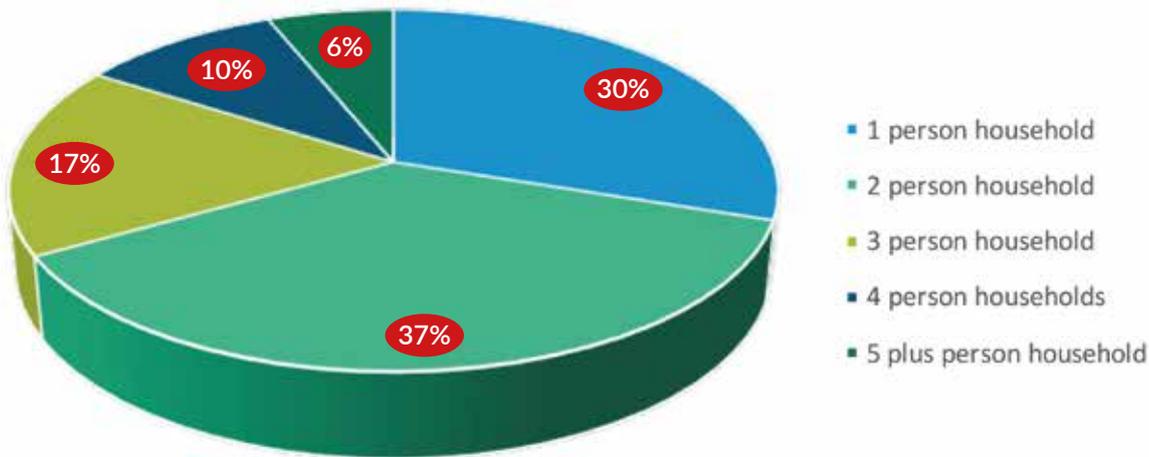


Figure 3. Households' Formation in North Dublin Inner City, Census 2016

Research into the age profile of the area reveals that more than half of the population in North Dublin Inner City fall within the 25-44 years age cohort, providing a young, economically productive population for this area. Going back to the Census results, however, it shows there was a notable drop in the younger age group of 19-24 years old, i.e., 14% decline (equivalent of -1,107 people). On the other hand, the greatest growth recorded was for the 45-64 age group with 20% increase (or 1,771 people).

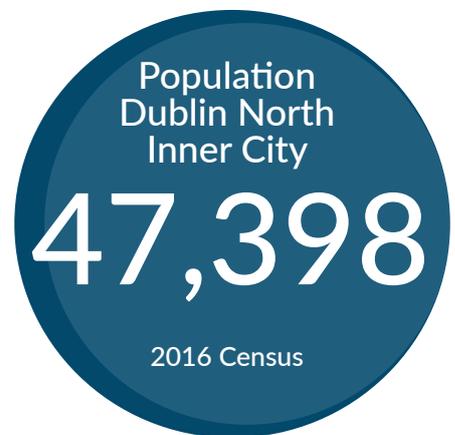


Table 1. Population Changes in Dublin North Inner City by Age Group during 2011-2016

| Age Group | 2011   | 2016   | Actual Change | % Change |
|-----------|--------|--------|---------------|----------|
| 0-4 y/o   | 2,767  | 2,945  | 178           | 6%       |
| 5-12 y/o  | 2,806  | 3,086  | 280           | 10%      |
| 13-18 y/o | 2,374  | 2,405  | 31            | 1%       |
| 19-24 y/o | 8,095  | 6,988  | -1,107        | -14%     |
| 25-44 y/o | 28,396 | 31,758 | 3,362         | 12%      |
| 45-64 y/o | 8,988  | 10,759 | 1,771         | 20%      |
| 65 plus   | 3,706  | 4,306  | 600           | 16%      |

In relation to age dependency in the area, as shown in the Table below, a consistent pattern can be seen. Where young age dependency was 10% and remained steady over the intercensal period, the old age dependency slightly increased to 7% over the same period by 1% growth.

Table 2. Age Dependency in Dublin North Inner City, Census 2011-2016

|                      | 2011 | 2016 |
|----------------------|------|------|
| Young Age Dependency | 10%  | 10%  |
| Old Age Dependency   | 6%   | 7%   |
| Total Age Dependency | 16%  | 17%  |



## Family

The LCSP works to ensure that the North Inner City is a location which is attractive and safe, supporting healthy family life and where people and communities are and feel safe.

Tusla, the Child and Family Agency, are there to support and protect the health and rights of children, young people, and families, with a particular emphasis on those that are vulnerable and the LCSP seek to support this work around the safety concerns that affect families.

Issues raised during our public consultation included additional access to safe spaces for families to congregate and enjoy family activities, access to information on primary health care, increased access to supports and information around domestic and relationship-based violence and coercive control. Other issues raised included opportunities for an increased understanding of rights and obligations in a range of civil matters particularly among migrant families new to the community.

Migrant and new communities spoke about concerns in relation to gaining a better understanding of civil and criminal procedures and asserted this would assist in an increased sense of safety by improving the understanding of how to navigate appropriately within the civil and criminal process.



## Domestic and Relationship Based Violence

There are several well-established agencies working across the NIC to support, educate and raise awareness among men and women in a concentrated effort to tackle and ultimately break the cycle of domestic and relationship-based violence. The LCSP is committed to supporting the work already underway and to promote education programmes that assist men and women gain a clear understanding of the signs of relationship violence and its harm.

Our consultations raised other issues concerning the additional complexity where relationship violence is further compounded by addiction. Parents struggling with addiction and in violent relationships may be reluctant to come forward for help due to possible consequences for their rights to have their children continue to remain in their care. The LCSP support the calls for additional services that can support with these complex issues.

The LCSP recognises the commitment given by Minister for Justice Helen McEntee and the European Council of Ministers when it adopted the Dublin Declaration to Prevent Domestic, Sexual and Gender Based Violence in September 2022. The Dublin Declaration will consolidate Ireland's commitment to the Zero Tolerance National Strategy.<sup>9</sup>

## Coercive Control

We also understand that older members of our community are not by definition vulnerable, but some may be more susceptible than others to coercive control.<sup>10</sup>

Coercive control is where a person knowingly and persistently engages in a behaviour that is controlling or coercive, has a serious effect on the person at the centre of the behaviour and that a reasonable person would consider likely to have a serious effect on a relevant person. The LCSP recognises vulnerable adults in our community.

The LCSP has linked with the HSE Safeguarding Vulnerable Adults Department and is committed to increasing awareness and opportunities for vulnerable adults and older members of our community to receive information and support with coercive control if they require it.



<sup>9</sup> <https://sdvs.ie/news/zero-tolerance-third-national-strategy-on-domestic-sexual-and-gender-based-violence-2022-2026/>

<sup>10</sup> #Section 39 of the New Domestic Violence Act 2018 <https://www.irishstatutebook.ie/eli/2018/act/6/section/39/enacted/en/html>

## Youth

Children and Young People's Services Committees (CYPSC) is tasked by Government to plan and co-ordinate services for children and young people in every county in Ireland. The overall purpose is to improve outcomes for children and young people through local and national interagency working. The LCSP falls within part of the remit of CYPSC's North City geographical area. CYPSC Dublin North City Strategic Plan 2023/2026 is currently in the final stages of development. Some of the provisional results from consultations with children, youth and parents have been shared to assist with guiding and planning around areas of safety and feelings of safety.

Preliminary findings from a recent survey and public consultation process conducted by CYPSC; parents, children and young people were asked several questions:

What young people and their parents said about their safety and their feelings of safety in the NIC.

**Parents:** What one thing would you change to make life better for children, young people, and families?

Preliminary findings indicated:

- 48% said they'd like to feel more 'connected' (More physical places to hangout.)
- 29% said they'd like to feel 'safe' (to feel safer.)





**Young people were asked:** 'If you had a magic wand, what one thing would you change to make life better for children and young people in the area?' Preliminary findings indicated:

- 66% of children and young people said they would like to feel safe in their own environment.
- 32% said they would like to be more connected. (More physical places to hangout.)
- 29% said to feel more secure.

Early years, primary school, young people, and older young people were asked **what they like**, **didn't like**, and **wanted**, children and young people said:

- In Dublin's NEIC the early years children identified 'not having a swimming pool' as something they **didn't like**. While young people identified 'not feeling safe; and drugs' as something they **didn't like**. Something they said they **wanted** was 'support for parents; and less drugs.'
- In Dublin's NWIC primary school children identified 'playing; and participating in activities' as something they **liked**. 'Not feeling safe' as something they **didn't like**.

While we await confirmation of the findings and look forward to CYPSC's strategic plan 2023/2026 the LCSP is committed to supporting CYPSC in achieving a safer and improved environment for families, children, and young people of the NIC.

## Community

There are several strategic plans across the NIC supporting improved outcomes for families, youth, and community. In addition, there are a number of committed individuals, charities, and NGOs, also committed to the betterment of the community.

Many of the issues brought to our attention during the public consultation that impact on our safety and perception of safety, has at its root where we live, go to school, work, and play. These are all topics that fall under the theme of wellbeing.

The promotion of wellbeing in our communities goes hand in hand with the promotion of safety and improved feelings of safety. Inequalities accessing these fundamentals are core to the root causes that negatively impact on our safety.

Our community in the North Inner City has made great advances and achieved much to improve the wellbeing in the Community of the NIC through a framework of statutory community and voluntary strategic plans all targeted at improving the wellbeing of the community of NIC. Dublin NEIC PIB, The Dublin City Community Coalition, Dublin City Community Coop, CYPsy and others.

The Partnership sees itself to be in a position of supporting existing and ongoing work, not to duplicate the work of others, but rather to work with these agencies to seek creative and innovative solutions at intersections where safety is at issue.

The Dublin NEIC PIB is committed to achieving the actions set out in The Mulvey Report – “Creating a Better Future” 2017.<sup>11</sup>



<sup>11</sup> [https://dklm7jhs8nu2s.cloudfront.net/general/NEIC\\_Strategic\\_Plan\\_2020-2022\\_V4.pdf?mtime=1576601715](https://dklm7jhs8nu2s.cloudfront.net/general/NEIC_Strategic_Plan_2020-2022_V4.pdf?mtime=1576601715)

Dublin Inner City Community Co-operative Society Limited (hereafter 'The Co-op') works to achieve improved wellbeing and contribute to the building of strong and flourishing communities across the City and has highlighted the potential for grassroots led community development to positively and sustainably impact on social exclusion, poverty and disadvantage.<sup>12</sup>

The Partnership is committed to these principles and supports the ongoing commitment of the Co-op.

The Partnership recognises the need for public participation as part of the answer to building and sustaining strong and inclusive communities. The Partnership prioritise the importance of keeping a flexible approach to listening to the community and public participation activities. We are committed to understanding and tapping into local communities, having a local office with ease of access to the community has helped in this respect. We recognise that there isn't a 'one size fits all' response to building a perception of safety within communities. To help build communities where people feel safe there is a need to get to know the nature and character of each community. To understand who lives there, who participates and who doesn't. Formal opportunities for public participation are a valued part of the work we have undertaken but it is only part of the story. The Partnership will also seek to build relationships in less formal networks such as parenting groups, sports clubs, faith groups and pride of place organisations. It's in these less formal settings that offer opportunities for people to get to know their neighbour and exchange views on topics that are of interest to the neighbourhood and offer solutions to community difficulties.

## Safety for Women, Girls and LGBTQIA+ in the Community

The NIC should be safe and feel safe for women, girls, the LGBTQIA+ and others who feel vulnerable living and moving through the area. The National debate following the tragic loss of life in several high-profile cases across the country brought into sharp focus the issues that are of concern to those that feel vulnerable in some public spaces. Those that spoke to us on this issue gave testimony of ensuring that they were not comfortable to walk alone, carried keys to use defensively if needed and make regular calls to update family and close friends on their whereabouts as they travel to their destination. Poorly lit streets, with a lack of clear exits were other issues that were raised with us.

Dublin City Council has a committed team of public domain officers who conduct regular audits of the city streets, seeking to maintain the public lighting and other environmental factors that impact on people's sense of safety, such as overhanging trees that cast shadows and/or obscure clear vision.

The LCSP were delighted to join the recent night-time safety audit and look forward to working with Dublin City Council to implement the resulting report. The LCSP will remain vigilant to the environmental changes that impact on people's feelings of safety.



<sup>12</sup> <https://dublincitycommunitycoop.ie/wp-content/uploads/2018/05/Strategic-Plan-DESIGN-FINAL-soft-copy-for-screen-viewing.pdf>

## Community Safety Wardens Schemes

In Dublin we rely on and have respect for the commitment of An Garda Síochána to 'keep us safe' 'Ag Coinneáil Daoine Sábháilte' (Garda Mission Statement). This is evident in several ways; through Garda presence on the street, planned Garda operations, spontaneous reactions to incidents and relationships formed in local communities.

Despite ongoing Garda initiatives and specifically the commitment of the Community Garda units in operations such as Operation Citizen and Operation Cribbage and their success, there remains a prevailing narrative that the North Inner City is unsafe.

As a direct result of the success of Garda operations in targeting organised crime, the Department of Justice established the Community Safety Initiative Fund. The LCSP made a successful application to the fund to establish a pilot Community Safety Warden Scheme. The scheme will operate in 2 pilot areas: Wolfe Tone Square and surrounding streets and O'Connell Street. The Community Safety Warden (CSW's) pilot scheme is now in place to provide an increasing feeling of safety and act as an additional opportunity to observe and report issues of concern for anti-social behaviour. DublinTown BID is the lead Partner and principal employer providing the pilots with their experience and knowledge of safety concerns in the inner city.

However, the remit of the Community Safety Wardens is wider than that and will encompass other critical issues such as waste management and public domain. The CSW's will promote feelings of safety through their high on-street visibility, ability to share up-to-date information on public transport, knowledge of services in the area and ability to signpost key visitor attractions.

The CSW's will also offer support to the most vulnerable members of our community, signposting support services and making referrals where appropriate. They will work closely with our partners, primarily An Garda Síochána, the Dublin Regional Homeless Executive, Ana Liffey Drug Project, and Dublin City Council.



The O'Connell Street CSW's will focus on the night-time economy, those accessing public transport, visitors and residents.

The Wolfe Tone Square CSW's will focus on supporting the local residential community, regular visitors and those that work in the area. They will assist promoting pro-social events targeted at children, older members of the community and those that consider themselves vulnerable within the community.

The LCSP will monitor the success of this initiative and remain agile to the demands of both schemes and the experience of both CSW teams. It is intended to develop an expertise in the provision of Community Safety Warden Schemes so that the pilots can be replicated to other areas of need, prioritising areas that are additionally vulnerable to anti-social and anti-community behaviour.



## Education & Life-Long Learning

The overall high-level objective under the theme of Education and Life-Long Learning is to support and encourage whole of life education with earliest possible access. The Partnership will work with partners to support a culture that supports career, education and life choices.

Details in how this will be achieved are given below and in the detailed action plan.

As per the Census 2016 below, 2% of the population residing in Dublin North Inner City do not have formal education, whereas 34% of the population have higher education qualifications in the likes of bachelor, post-graduate degrees, PhD's, etc. It is important to note that accordingly 19% of the population did not state their education status.

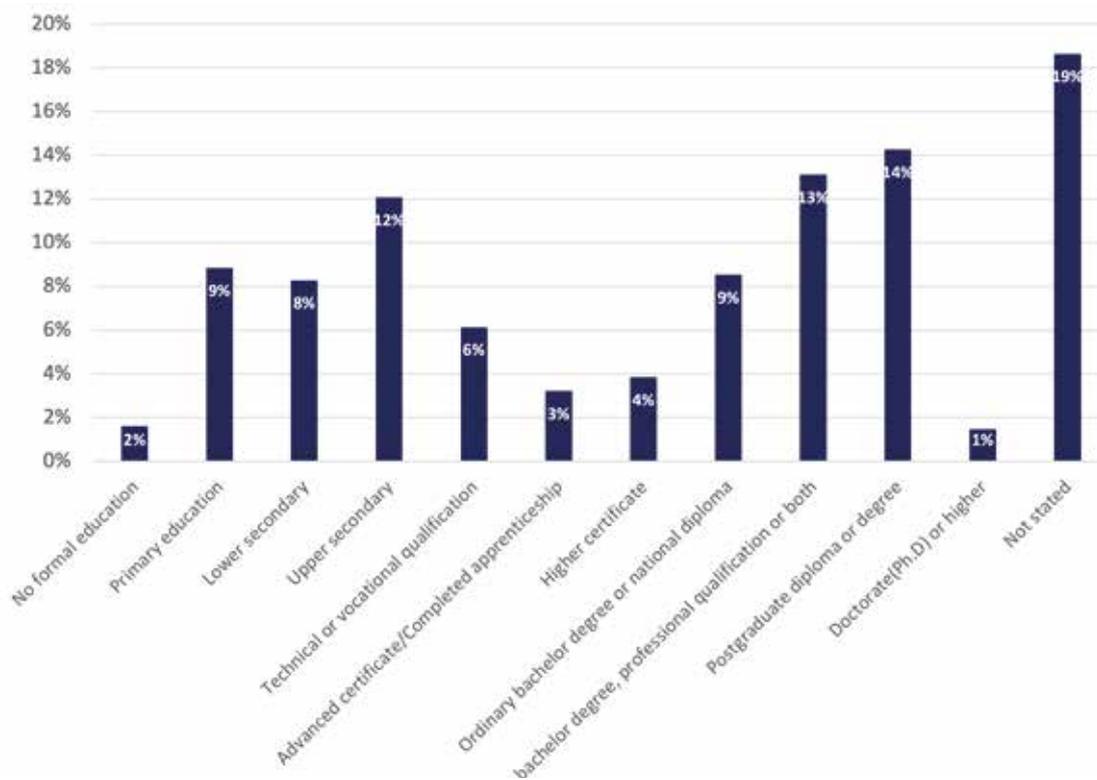


Figure 4. Population in Dublin North Inner City by Education, Census 2016

Resilient neighbourhoods and communities are underpinned by strong educational opportunities with skill enhancement programmes for all ages, embracing a whole of life education plan. The LCSP seeks to support and promote the NIC as a safe place to receive an education and participate in training.

The LCSP works with partners to support a culture that supports career, education, and life choices where safety and the perception of safety may be an issue.

The NEIC PIB provides significant investment in schools, further education, and other training opportunities to encourage progressive attitudes to learning and education. In his report Kieran Mulvey highlighted the

importance of education from early years through mainstream schools cannot be overstated. For example, the City Connects programme has had a significant impact on the educational attainment at primary level, setting strong foundations for continued school progression. The LCSP encourages its replication across the NIC where educational attainment is falling short.<sup>13</sup>

The NEIC is home to the National College of Ireland. Established in 1951 in Ranelagh and rooted in a tradition of social inclusion. The move to the Dublin Docklands enabled the College to engage more effectively with its objective to support opportunities for lifelong learning and challenge inequality where there is disadvantage. Located in the heart of the Docklands, the College has a student population of over 5,000. In 2008 the College launched the Early Learning Initiative<sup>14</sup> which seeks to improve the wellbeing of children and parents in the local community and raise their overall educational attainment potential from the very early years.

The development of Grangegorman aims to unify the current student body with that of Aungier Street and Bolton Street Institutes of Technology on one campus – TU Dublin, the first Technological University in Ireland. Currently with a student population of over 10,000, TU Dublin supports community resilience and wellbeing in several ways including offering local Engagement Outreach Teams, Active Retirement Groups and Community Engagement Research and Learning Teams.

Issues raised in relation to education and life-long learning during consultation ranged from a lack of Zebra and Pelican crossing (Pedestrian Light Controlled Crossings) and crossing guards at junctions adjacent to some primary and secondary schools particularly those where there is ongoing building works. Other incidents reported to the Partnership included low level incidents of petty crime. Coupled with the existing negative perception of safety in the NIC, this magnifies the impact on students as they move across the North City for education. Most students we spoke to about their perceptions of their safety when traveling through the NIC to attend training, socialise, or participate in sports, hobbies, most said they felt safe. They also considered the facilities they were traveling too to be centres of excellence. But they reported a perceived responsibility to defend the areas they were accessing to Peers heavily influenced by a negative perception of safety in the area.



<sup>13</sup> <https://www.neic.ie/city-connects-programme>

<sup>14</sup> <https://www.ncirl.ie/ELI>



## Integration, Ethnic Minority and Multi Faith Inclusion

The overall high-level objective in supporting integration, ethnic and multi faith inclusion is to encourage greater integration of communities, those from different backgrounds, races, ethnicities, cultures / religions and inclusion of gender / LGBTQIA+.

Details in how this will be achieved are given below and in the detailed action plan.

According to the Census 2016, the greatest nationality residing in the area is Irish by 59%, followed by non-European nationalities (19%), and Europeans (15%).

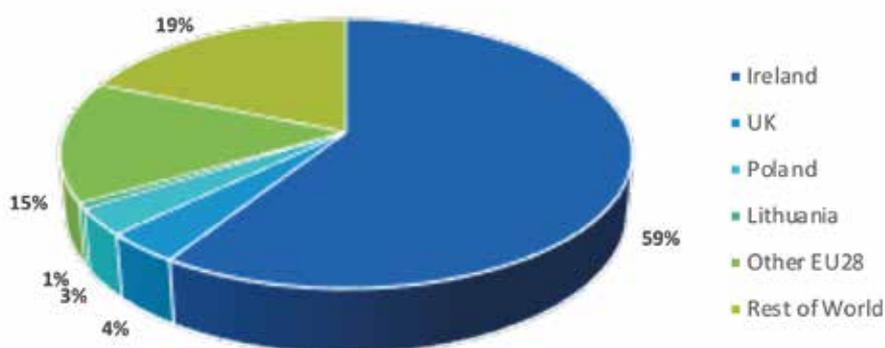


Figure 5. Population in North Dublin Inner City by Birthplace, Census 2016

This reveals that the North Inner City has a rich diversity of people from different cultures, ethnic minorities, languages, and faiths. Our public consultation informed us that the concept of neighbourhood is geographically broader than what might be traditionally recognised. New communities will travel further to access their culture, practice their faith, socialise, or go to work.

Several of our Partners' work to ensure and promote that all ethnic and multi faith communities living and traveling into the NIC feel included and are included, and that opportunities for diversity inclusion are promoted. This work includes reviewing policies and procedures through an intercultural lens and devising comprehensive intercultural strategies to ensure that diversity is welcomed as an advantage in thriving communities and flourishing neighbourhoods.

The LCSP seek to support this work and assist active citizenship and participation to ensure that no-one feels left aside. The LCSP will seek to engage with those that do not engage in formal meetings to discuss topics of concern. The LCSP will actively seek alternative ways to ensure that the voices of multi faith and ethnic minorities are heard.

The LCSP recognises the value of minority groups living in the NIC having the opportunity to practice their faith and culture in a safe and inclusive manner.

We recognise that community is measured in a broader sense by minority groups that are linked by a common culture or have a faith-based connection. This means that the NIC is welcoming to members of minority multi faith groups and cultures to practice, or they have other cultural touchpoints. The LCSP will continue to remain vigilant to issues of safety that may negatively impact on minority groups practicing their faith and sharing their culture.

The LCSP recognises the need to promote positive and progressive narratives based on intercultural principles and respect.

## Challenging the Rumour Culture

In a time of fake news, polarising debates, and dividing discourse, the LCSP will remain vigilant and challenge rumours or stories that might be true or false, which, if based on a racial stereotype may become harmful and undermine the safety and feelings of safety of those of an ethnic minority living and/or visiting the NIC.

New Communities, people applying for international protection IPAs, and those fleeing war in their home country of Ukraine are emerging issues for the LCSP.

Our government recently published up-to-date information on its International Protection guarantees for those that have fled their own country to escape harm. This gives clear insight into the policies that underpin the process and how it operates. For further information see below.<sup>15</sup>



<sup>15</sup> gov.ie - International Protection [www.gov.ie](http://www.gov.ie)

## Physical Environment

The overall high-level objective under this priority area is to enhance the environment with reference to Community Safety and enhancing a perception of safety in a clean, well presented, cared for and safe space.

With the objectives of:

- Creating a sense of pride in the locality.
- Engaging Communities to encourage a sense of ownership.

Details of specific actions in relation to this priority area are given in the action plan below.

Both Stoneybatter and the North East Inner City are the subject of an extensive urban greening renewal plan. The intervention is intended to achieve the policy objectives as outlined in the Dublin City Development Plan and the Climate Change Action Plan (2019–2024)<sup>16</sup> and The Dublin City Development Plan (2016–2022) (DCDP).

The DCDP states that Dublin City Council will actively promote a green infrastructure (GI) community cohesion and sustainable neighbourhoods.

In the North East Inner City Greening Strategy a report was prepared to identify opportunities to improve the streetscape for the benefit of the local community and those that visit the area. It is intended that in addition to other interventions this intervention and environment improvement scheme will also contribute to the improved quality of life of those that live in the local neighbourhoods.

However, despite the commitment of Dublin City Council to an improved greening strategy across the North Inner City there continues to be a persistent and substantial issue with illegal dumping. This has been a blight across the city and has drawn much comment on social media. In May 2023 the Public Domain Crew of Dublin City Council collected over 50 tonnes of illegally dumped waste in the area, a record since weights was introduced.

Notably, along with North Wall, both Stoneybatter and Ballybough have very active and motivated Pride of Place (PoP's) committees. The PoP's contribute to the planning of their communities, including clean-ups, family fun days and Christmas events. This strength in the community and the maintenance of the environment will make a large contribution to supporting resident's safety and perception of safety it. It is asserted that a well-maintained neighbourhood in addition to other supports has the capacity of holding ASB including drug dealing/taking from taking hold in an estate in the NIC.

However, most report feelings of being overwhelmed and ill-equipped to manage the repetitive levels of illegal dumping of domestic waste on their streets. All PoP participants acknowledge the high levels of support they receive from the local waste management team and area housing officers and value the relationships they have with the local community Gardaí. The LCSP recognise the independence and autonomy of the PoP's and are committed to lend support where invited.



<sup>16</sup> Also outlined in the Dublin City Parks Strategy, <https://www.dublincity.ie/residential/parks/strategies-and-policies/parks-Tree-Strategy>, <https://www.dublincity.ie/residential/parks/strategies-and-policies/tree-strategy> Biodiversity Action Plan, <https://www.dublincity.ie/residential/parks/strategies-and-policies/biodiversity-action-plan-2021-2025> and Play Plan <https://www.dublincity.ie/residential/parks/recreation-and-play/play-plan>

## The North Inner City Trading Centre

The Partnership also recognises and values that Dublin's Northside is also a destination for shopping, socialising, and culture with O'Connell Street at its centre. We can view O'Connell Street as the nation's main street, being the site of the proclamation of the Republic, a civic space for congregation, celebration, protest, and commerce. On an annual basis O'Connell Street can expect a footfall in excess of 25 million people, while almost 80% of Dublin Bus routes traverse its length. The area is a transport hub due to the number of bus routes as well as its close proximity to Busáras and Connolly Train Station and is also the intersection point of the red and green Luas lines. The annual footfall on nearby Henry & Mary Street, the main retail streets in this part of the city, is almost 28 million. The primary reasons for visiting the north city centre are for dining, meeting and socialising with friends, followed by shopping.

Where once there were distinct patterns of daytime shoppers and night-time socialising the emerging trend is for a blended use of the city where shopping, socialising and cultural participation often occur on the same visit.



The Dublin City Development Plan 2022-2028 outlines the aim for Dublin's City Centre is to achieve a high quality, sustainable urban environment, attractive to residents, workers, and visitors. The Plan envisages a city with an international reputation as a sustainable, dynamic and resourceful city with a distinct character, and a vibrant culture. The Development Plan also outlines the Governments Policy document on Culture 2025 and values its contribution to social cohesion, reduction in isolation and a capacity to enrich lives. The Partnership welcomes the Dublin City Plan and the Governments Policy document on Culture 2025

However, it is acknowledged that the district does suffer from negative perceptions in terms of public safety, in comparison to the south side of the city, something that the Partnership is committed to addressing. The Partnership is committed to supporting the community of the North Inner City to enjoy the full benefits of all that is intended in the City Plan. The Partnership will contribute to achieving this by committing itself to reducing the negative perception of safety that is currently prevalent on the North Side.

We believe that the deployment of the new Community Safety Warden Initiative (as described above) in two locations on the city's Northside of the city can help with this challenge.

The Partnership is committed to supporting Dublin's North Inner City trading centre returning to and maintaining a reputation for being a safe place to shop, socialise, work and trade. We see a commercial centre offering employment, training, and apprenticeships as making a substantial contribution to the welfare and wellness of a vibrant city.

The area is home to international fashion brands and flagship department stores, as well as a range of cafés, bars, and restaurants, especially growing around the vibrant and recently pedestrianised Capel Street area. New investment is being made with the impending opening of the Clery's Quarter project, featuring a new flagship store, new city centre stores, a spectacular rooftop restaurant and significant new office and hospitality uses. The area will continue to be a destination for Dubliners and visitors alike due to its historic and cultural attractions such as theatres, galleries and exhibitions, and many smaller cultural and artistic spaces. A visit to the city is enhanced by the area's hotel offering and new openings such as a prestigious development at the corner of Abbey and Liffey Street. This is added to by a programme of investment in the public realm by Dublin City Council in locations such as Liffey Street Upper and Lower with the creation of new pedestrian streets and plazas.

The Partnership was delighted to join DublinTown, Dublin City Council, An Garda Síochána, and other local businesses in their successful recent bid to secure the coveted 'Purple Flag' accreditation. An international award recognising excellence in the management of the evening and night-time economy, with particular emphasis on safety and perception of safety.

We are committed to continued participation in and support for ongoing initiatives that address safety issues across the north city centre. Initiatives like the Office of City Recovery, established by Dublin City Council in 2021 to address many of the issues that the COVID-19 lockdown brought into sharp focus, including anti-social behaviour, waste management, and issues of public realm. Other initiatives also included our

participation in the 'Carpe Noctern' or 'Seize the Night' also facilitated by Dublin City Council and joined by An Garda Síochána and DublinTown BID with other prominent stakeholders. This was a detailed examination of how creative forms of lighting and highlighting well known landmarks around the city can support an improved sense of safety and comfort while enjoying the city at night.

## Transport System

The NIC is considered a national transport hub, encompassing Connolly train station (main train route to Belfast and to other areas in the North and West), Bus Áras, the Luas red and green lines all located in the NIC.

Because the vascular system of the transport network spans both the north and south sides of the River Liffey which runs through the centre of Dublin it presents a challenge to plan in isolation of one side or the other. For this reason, The LCSP recognises the challenges that may present to the transport network as it travels across the inner city.

The Dublin Bus network has a majority of the 136 routes in operation, serving Dublin City Centre and key transport interchanges such as O'Connell Street, College Green, and the city quays. The Night Link Service (13 routes) also operates from Westmoreland Street while Dublin Bus have also begun running 24 routes such as the 39a, 41 and 15.



This means that the area is extremely well connected not only with the rest of the Greater Dublin Area but also nationally and internationally with the likes of the 41 and 16 bus routes providing a 24-hour service connecting to Dublin Airport. The area (especially O'Connell Street) is also the main area for tour bus and sightseeing bus services.

The LCSP values the capacity of the transport system in the NIC to support connectivity between people and places, safely delivering commuters in to and out of our city centre. The LCSP seeks to increase the volume of people that move across the city centre and neighbourhoods and see this as a way to promote safety on our streets. Reliance on a safe and reliable transport system underpins this concept.

In our forums some commuters referred to incidents of ASB that they had viewed on social media had negatively impacted on their perception of safety when using public transport.

Dublin Bus has a zero-tolerance policy in place re ASB when an incident reaches a threshold the route is restricted or suspended. In 2020 two routes were restricted until issues were resolved and normal service resumed. The transport networks have introduced additional safety measures including an exact fare system, CCTV cameras and radio facilities with immediate contact to the Central Control Centre. The figures available from Dublin Bus gathered in 2020 show that incidents of ASB across the routes is low and at time of the survey had decreased.

The LCSP seek to support the NTA in building relationships within communities. We seek to increase young people's understanding of the value of the public transport system to their families and in their neighbourhood, offering opportunities for training, employment, and tourism. The LCSP seek to challenge a negative perception of safety on public transport and see it as a safe, economic and efficient way to travel in to and out of the city.

## Action Already Taken

Since the LCSP opened its office on James Joyce Street in 2022, the Partnership coordinator has sought to become familiar and work with community members, stakeholders and residents. This included the support for 4 sub working groups meeting on monthly bases targeting themes initially identified by the community as requiring focused attention.

The following is a snapshot of the work that the Partnership has engaged in to date:

## Reducing Overt Drug Dealing

The Partnership office seeks to support communities where overt drug dealing in local neighbourhoods is complained of. In 2021 the Partnership office began to support work in a neighbourhood in the NEIC where overt drug dealing had impacted significantly on the residents ordinary daily life. Following a period of consultation with residents a plan was agreed and implemented by DCC local area office, An Garda Síochána with support from local residents and the LCSP. The plan included building a wall across a pedestrian walkway making it more difficult for those presumed to be participating in criminal activity or anti-social behaviour to avoid Garda

apprehension. This was followed by an upgrade of public domain, street cleaning and the enhancement of key features valued by residents, including a prominent sundial in the heart of the neighbourhood.

## Community Support

Following this initial intervention residents began to request additional support in organising street clean-ups and family fun days including a street party to mark the end of summer. 2022 closed with the lighting up of 20ft Christmas tree in the centre of the neighbourhood and a street party that the whole neighbourhood attended. The Gardai supported the work by conducting a number of successful operations in the area and increasing patrols and the LEAR project included the neighbourhood in its regular route. The interventions have had a significant impact on the community and the resident's ordinary enjoyment of their neighbourhood. The actions also displaced the overt drug dealing reducing the pressure on residents. However, this is an evolving situation and the Partnership is committed to continuing to support the residents of this neighbourhood.

## Supporting Recovery

The Partnership teamed with the Ana Liffey outreach team, LEAR, Legal Engagement and Assisted Recovery. The coordinator has joined the steering group overseeing the engagement of LEAR in the NEIC. The Partnership organised a number of presentations from the LEAR team leader to community Gardai across the NIC and DCC local area housing officers. The aim here was to promote the understanding of the LEAR programme and increase the opportunities for referral to LEAR for those living in addiction but outside the ordinary reach of the outreach team. This intervention has resulted in a significant increase in the referrals received by LEAR and a strong relationship with the Gardai across the NIC.

## Pride of Place

The Partnership has also built strong relationships with a number of Pride of Place groups, PoP's, across the NIC including Stoneybatter and Ballybough. There has also been support for other neighbourhoods set up PoP's. This engagement has allowed the Partnership get to know residents in local areas and here about residents' concerns. The ongoing connection with the PoP's has allowed for closer insight into concerns of older members of the community. As a result of this the Partnership is rolling out a number of initiatives to support safety including its collaboration with Dublin Fire Brigade which will see the installation of fire alarms in older residents homes in target areas.



## Enhancing Dialogue

The Partnership was invited to join a number of Policing Dialogue Events a project of The CAN, Community Action Network targeted at building strong relationships between youth workers and An Garda Síochána with strong engagement from young people attending the participating youth services. The Partnership coordinator has now joined the steering group for this initiatives allowing for greater understanding of the issues faced by both the youth workers, the community Gardai and young people themselves when they interact with each other in the community.

## Supporting Early Learning for Vulnerable, Minority Groups

The LCSP offered temporary support for the Early Learning Initiative, ELI, outreach team to manage a targeted Mother & Toddler group in the office community space. ELI's target group is vulnerable minority groups including members of new communities and those living in homeless accommodation. ELI have now secured permanent accommodation allowing for their numbers to increase.

## Building Roma Engagement

The Partnership hosted a coffee morning on International Woman's Day 2022 offering an opportunity for senior Gardai and women from the Roma Community gain an increased understanding of their experience of policing in the jurisdictions they have moved from and their experience of policing in the North Inner City. This introduction opened additional opportunities for Gardai and the Partnership coordinator to engage with Roma in the community and continue to build relationships. A fragile engagement, the Partnership hopes to build on these connections and gain an increased understanding of the Roma community and offer support where the community feel unsafe and vulnerable.

## Engaging Women in the Community

The Partnership engaged with women in six areas moving across the NIC in an exercise to take a snap shot of women's perceptions of safety and what influences their behaviour and root plans. The outcome of our engagement with women has further informed the partnerships engagement with other initiatives targeted at improving women's perception of their safety in the NIC.

## Gaining Insights on Best Practice

The Partnership visited The Derry City and Strabane - Policing and Community Safety Partnership and participated in the All-Ireland 'Beyond Borders' conference on community safety. Both events targeted at gaining an increased understanding and opportunities to share ideas on how to keep communities safer.

The above is just a snapshot of some of the activities the Partnership office has engaged in and is in addition to the activities already outlined in the body of this document.

*Working together to enhance our City,  
our Community and our Safety*



# Action Plan

## Priority Area: Drugs Inclusion Health and Anti-Social Behaviour

| Initiative: Drugs Inclusion Health  | Priority Objectives <sup>i</sup> | Performance Indicators   | Timescale                  | DNICP Lead            | Other Key Stakeholders          | Risk*  |
|---|----------------------------------|--|----------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------------|--|
| 1.1 Establishment and maintenance of active outreach programme focussed on assisting vulnerable drug users and dealers in NIC to encourage and actively support a practical drug free lifestyle. (LEAR)                   | 1, 2, 3                          | Outreach programme established and maintained                        | Commenced 2022 and Ongoing | HSE, NEIC, AGS        | DCC/<br>Ana Liffey              | Voluntary participation declines.<br>Referrals exceed resources available. |
| 1.2 LEAR programme as to be extended to include a dedicated under 18's worker, targeting the hard to reach* minors as identified by legislation.<br><br><i>* Persistent, prolific offenders engaged in serious crime.</i> | 1, 2, 3                          | Up-take and support from all relevant Government Departments         | To Commence 2023           | HSE, TUSLA, NEIC, AGS | DCC, Garda Diversion Programmes | Voluntary participation declines   |
| 1.3 Establish the LEAR Programme on a sustainable footing across the NIC  | 1, 2, 3                          | Long term funding secured  | 2023-2026                  | HSE, DoJ              |                                 | Lack of up-take or support for increased roll-out                          |
| 1.4 The appointment of a DRIVE Lead as part of the National DRIVE Programme to work in the LCSP   | 1, 2, 3                          | Appointed  | Appointment in 2023        | HSE, TUSLA, AGS, NEIC | DCC                             | Funding is not renewed   |
| 1.5 Resource of dedicated Drug Unit members to be maintained by AGS in DNC  | 1, 2, 3                          | Number of staff allocated<br>Number of seizures<br>Number of arrests | 2023-2026                  | AGS                   | Community Reps/ DOJ             | Recruitment/ Retention   |

<sup>i</sup>Priority Objectives are linked to the LCSP Mission outlined above.

| Initiative  | Priority Objectives | Performance Indicators  | Timescale       | DNICP Lead                       | Other Key Stakeholders                  | Risk*                   |
|---|---------------------|---|-----------------|----------------------------------|---|-------------------------|
| 1.6 Resource Community Policing to be maintained in NIC   | 1, 2, 3             | Number of Staff allocated<br>Number of meetings attended<br>Number of local proactive initiatives delivered                                     | 2022-2026       | AGS/DOJ                          | Community Reps/ DOJ                     | Recruitment/ Resources  |
| 1.7 Detail and names of Local Community Guards to be made available online to encourage personal local engagement   | 1, 2, 3             | Availability of online Map<br>Number of visits to webpage<br>Regularity of detail updates   | 2022-2026       | AGS/ LCSP office                 |   | Resources not available |
| 1.8 Improve and maintain public domain in areas identified as Hot Spots of on Street drug dealing and Anti-Social Behaviour   | 1, 2, 3             | Number of areas addressed<br>Local Safety Audit results<br>Garda Data of seizures/arrests<br>Displacement/ discouragement of overt drug dealing | 2023-2026       | DCC, AGS, Local Community Groups | DublinTown BID Co.<br>Probation Service | Resources not available |
| 1.9 Provision of Mobile Health unit into City Centre areas to address public health issues of vulnerable individuals and street inhabitants   | 1, 2, 3             | Number of visits.<br>Number of Referrals to other agencies  | 2023-2026       | HSE, AGS                         | DCC, Community Representatives          | Resource not available  |
| 1.10 Appointment of Community Safety Wardens in pilot areas to deliver prosocial services and citizen support services to discourage anti-social behaviour. Report incidents of anti-social behaviour to An Garda Síochána. | 1, 2, 3             | Number of hours on visible duty<br>Number of reports to AGS   | March 2023      | DublinTown BID, DCC, AGS         | Ana Liffey Project                      | Recruitment/ Retention  |
| 1.11 Extend CSW scheme beyond the pilot to other areas of need  | 1, 2, 3             | Requests from local communities for the scheme to be extended   | March 2024/2026 | DublinTown, DCC, AGS             | Ana Liffey Project                      | Funding not secured     |



# Action Plan

## Priority Area: Family, Youth and Community

| Initiative: Family   | Category | Performance Indicators  | Timescale      | DNICP Lead  | Other Key Stakeholders  | Risk*   |
|--|----------|---|----------------|---|---|---|
| <b>FAMILY</b>  |          |   |                |   |   |   |
| <b>2.1</b> Identify and Support appropriate venues across the NIC for Mother Toddler groups to meet and support young families                           | 1, 2, 3  | Increased access to Mother Toddler groups, improved outcomes for young families                                 | 2022 – 2023    | ELI, Department of Children and Tusla                                   | Community Representation, City Connects                                   | Lack of availability of appropriate venues, insurance, lack of willingness by landlords to engage |
| <b>2.2</b> Provision of HSE Community Health Bus on location across the NIC providing information and some targeted responses to Community Health Issues | 1, 2, 3  | Increased understanding of the targeted health issue and improved understanding to manage the issue if it arose | 2023-2026      | HSE   | DCC   | Lack of availability of Mobile Unit   |
| <b>2.3</b> Providing pro-social activities to reach older members of the community that may have become isolated and/or at risk.                         | 1, 2, 3  | Increased numbers of harder to reach senior citizens active in the community                                    | 2023 - ongoing | AGS, DCC, HSE   | Working with Voluntary, Community and Statutory Sector. To be identified. | Unable to access appropriate networks   |
| <b>2.4</b> Support access to safe afterschool spaces for clubs and youth activities  | 1, 2, 3  | Increased number of safe afterschool places for clubs and youth activities                                      | 2023-2026      | Education Rep, Dept. of Children, City Childcare Committee              |   | Lack of availability of safe spaces available. Poor engagement.                                   |
| <b>2.5</b> Annual family fun day. Opportunity for families to come together and share common experiences and enjoy a day of celebration.                 | 1, 2, 3  | 2 events celebrating the family   | 2024-2026      | ELI, Education Reps, NEIC, Dublin City Community Coop, Voluntary Sector | DCC, AGS  | Lack of up-take, lack of appropriate venue, insurance   |

| Initiative  | Priority Objectives | Performance Indicators  | Timescale      | DNICP Lead                          | Other Key Stakeholders  | Risk*  |
|---|---------------------|---|----------------|-------------------------------------|---|--|
| 2.6 Explore opportunities to promote awareness and educate in the area of relationship domestic violence and Coercive Control   | 1, 2, 3             | Increased understanding of relationship domestic violence and Coercive control and its related harm   | 2023 - ongoing | HSE, Tusla, AGS                     | SAOL/Brio   | Lack of up-take / Funding  |
| 2.7 DCC - Dublin Fire Brigade Provide a safety response to identified risk for older members of the community i.e. Fitting smoke alarms and increase understanding of other services available to offer support | 1, 2, 3             | Reduced impact of serious outcome from exposure to fire.<br>Reduced falls among the elderly, less admittance to hospital for fall related injuries. | 2023-2026      | DCC - Dublin Fire Brigade, AGS, HSE | Working with Voluntary, Community and Statutory Sector. To be identified. | Unable to access relevant community networks                       |
| 2.8 Establish links between the SAOL/Brio Project and Local Area Housing Officers, AGS and all Drug and Alcohol services  | 1, 2, 3             | Increased awareness of SAOL/Brio project among Local Area Housing Officers  | 2023-2026      | DCC, AGS, TUSLA, HSE                | Ana Liffey Project  | Lack of Funding  |
| <b>YOUTH</b>  |                     |   |                |                                     |   |  |
| 2.9 Support peer led youth clubs with under 12's in their immediate community   | 1, 2, 3             | Support for peer led youth clubs established  | 2023-2026      | Tusla, HSE, Dept. of Children       | AGS, DCC  | Funding  |
| 2.10 Increase youth representation on LCSP membership.  | 1, 2, 3             | Increased numbers of youth representation on LCSP   | 2023-2026      | LCSP, CDET / CDYS & Youth Services  | Working with Voluntary, Community and Statutory Sector. To be identified. | Lack of Interest and other barriers including issues of confidence |



| Initiative   | Category | Performance Indicators  | Timescale | DNICP Lead  | Other Key Stakeholders   | Risk*   |
|--|----------|---|-----------|---|--|---|
| <b>2.11</b> Continued support for and participation in Restorative Practice events to encourage and support minors exit or avoid entrance to the criminal justice system.  | 1, 2, 3  | Number of Restorative Practice events attended and support evidenced.<br>(Improved understanding of young person on the impact of their ASB activity on family, community and peers.<br><br>Disengagement from anti-community activities and/ or increased engagement in pro-social, pro community events.) | 2023-2026 | AGS, Garda Diversion Programme, ELL, Probation Service, Education Representatives | Working with Voluntary, Community and Statutory Sector. To be identified.  | Lack of funding or up-take in the initiative.             |
| <b>2.12</b> Ad campaign promoting youth pro-social activity  | 1, 2, 3  | Ad campaign mounted   | 2023-2026 | LCSP office, DCC, CDETB / CDYS & Youth Services                                   | Working with Voluntary, Community and Statutory Sector. To be identified.  | Resources/ Lack of engagement from youth representatives. |
| <b>2.13</b> Establish a sub working group to focus support on hard to reach youths<br><br>Operational interagency sub-working group to be developed, modelled on JARC/YOT for young prolific offenders engaged in or threatening violent criminal behaviour. | 1, 2, 3  | Focus group established   | 2023      | The Probation Service, AGS, Tusla, Education Representatives                      | Other youth community service providers.<br>National Education and Welfare Team.<br>Garda Diversion Programme.<br>DCC. | Lack of funding   |



| Initiative  | Category | Performance Indicators   | Timescale      | DNICP Lead  | Other Key Stakeholders   | Risk*   |
|---|----------|--|----------------|---|--|---|
| 2.14 Explore the opportunity for 2 venues that facilitate a 'Stress Café' in the NEIC and NWIC. Offering YP's 'drop in' facility to receive support from peers and available dedicated staff to manage mental health. | 1, 2, 3  | Identification of possible premises and a proposal to progress the opportunity, including staffing and budget    | 2023-2026      | HSE, Tusla, NEIC, CDET / CDYS & Youth Services                            | DCC, Working with Voluntary, Community and Statutory Sector. To be identified. | Lack of funding. Lack of availability of venue/ insurance/ funding. |
| 2.15 Long term funding secured to support opportunities for supported dialogue between YP, AGS and Youth Workers  | 1, 2, 3  | Funding secured  | Ongoing        | AGS, Community Action Network, TUSLA, other relevant Government Agencies. | Community Sector, Youth Workers  | Lack of funding. Volunteer participants decline the opportunity.    |
| <b>COMMUNITY</b>  |          |  |                |   |  |   |
| 2.16 Establish Community Safety Warden Scheme Wolfe Tone Sq. Trial for 12 months.   | 1, 2, 3  | Community Safety Warden Scheme established.<br>No. of referrals to AGS.<br>No. of referrals to support services. | 2023-2026      | DublinTown BID, DCC, AGS, Ana Liffey Project.                             | Working with Voluntary, Community and Statutory Sector. To be identified.      | Recruitment/ Retention  |
| 2.17 Establish Community Safety Warden Scheme on Dublin's O'Connell Street. Trial for 24 months.  | 1, 2, 3  | Community Safety Warden Scheme established.<br>No. of referrals to AGS<br>No. of referrals to support services.  | 2023 - Ongoing | DublinTown BID, DCC, AGS, Anna Liffey Drink and Drugs Project             | Working with Voluntary, Community and Statutory Sector. To be identified.      | Recruitment/ Retention  |
| 2.18 Provision of AGS mobile unit on a planned basis across the NIC. Addressing issues of small police matters.   | 1, 2, 3  | No. of visits to the NIC   | 2023-2026      | AGS, LCSP office  |  | Lack of Availability  |



| Initiative  | Category | Performance Indicators   | Timescale | DNICP Lead                                 | Other Key Stakeholders | Risk*  |
|---|----------|--|-----------|--|------------------------|--|
| <b>2.19</b> Establish/ link with an Independent Voluntary Community Mediation Service                                       | 1, 2, 3  | Link established.<br>No. of referrals processed for neighbourhood disputes to community mediation. | 2023-2026 | AGS, ELI, Community Sector.                | To be identified       | No Link established.<br>Lack of availability of voluntary community mediators. |
| <b>2.20</b> Explore opportunities to promote awareness and education in the area of relationship and gender based violence. | 1, 2, 3  | No. of promotional events held   | 2023-2026 | HSE, SAOL/Brio                             | AGS                    | Lack of participation.   |
| <b>2.21</b> Explore further opportunities to provide meaningful community engagement for offenders                          | 1, 2, 3  | Meaningful community engagement activities identified  | 2023-2026 | AGS, The Probation Service, Prison Service | DCC                    | No additional opportunity identified   |
| <b>2.22</b> Explore appropriate venues for a community based probation facility   | 1, 2, 3  | Venue identified   | 2023-2026 | The Probation Service                      | To be identified       | Lack of appropriate venues   |
| <b>2.23</b> Increase representation on LCSP board of residents from the NWIC x 2  | 1, 2, 3  | Increased representation on LCSP board of residents from the NWIC x 2                              | 2023      | LCSP                                       |                        | The opportunity is declined.   |
| <b>2.24</b> Appoint part-time community development worker  | 1, 2, 3  | Appointed  | 2023-2026 | To be identified                           |                        | Recruitment/<br>Retention<br>Funding not secured.                              |



## Action Plan

### Priority Area: Education and Life Long Learning

| Initiative: Education   | Category | Performance Indicators  | Timescale  | DNICP Lead   | Other Key Stakeholders | Risk*  |
|---|----------|---|------------|--|------------------------|--|
| 3.1 Promote an online directory of services that highlights education services available in the NIC   | 1, 2, 3  | Directory of services online.<br>Number of unique visitors to the site to view the directory.                                   | 2024-2026  | Dublin City Community Co-Op, NEIC  | YPAR                   | People may be unaware of its existence or not use it               |
| 3.2 Explore safe access and egress from all primary and second level schools through the provision of a zebra crossing at junctions servicing schools and or the provision of a School Traffic Wardens scheme where appropriate | 1, 2, 3  | Poll parents, teachers and students on their perceived levels of safety and actual safety before and after action completed     | 2024       | DCC, roads dept.<br>Principles Network, NEIC.  | AGS                    | No improvement perceived. Overlap with existing development plans. |
| 3.3 Ongoing up-keep of exterior street facing school building facades   | 1, 2, 3  | Students, teachers and parents indicate their increased sense of pride in their attendance at a well maintained school premises | 2023-2026  | Individual School's participation across the NIC. The Probation Service (Community Service.) |                        | Lack of up-take in the facility                                    |
| 3.4 Move Well Being Well  | 1, 2, 3  | Improved early participation in physical exercise and sports activities with improved confidence and sense of self-worth        | Start 2023 | Dr. Stephen Behan, Participating Schools   | City Connects          | Schools decline the opportunity to participate                     |
| 3.5 Link Volunteer Lead Youth Clubs with City Connects  | 1, 2, 3  | Connection established  | 2023- 2026 | LCSP office, City Connects   | Crosscare              |  |
| 3.6 Support access to early year's education services targeting under 1's   | 1, 2, 3  | Increased numbers accessing early year's education for primary target group. Under 1's  | 2023-2026  | ELI, Ozanam House  |                        |  |



## Action Plan

### Priority Area: Priority Area: Integration, Ethnic and Multi Faith Inclusion

| Initiative  | Category | Performance Indicators   | Timescale | DNICP Lead | Other Key Stakeholders | Risk*  |
|---|----------|--|-----------|------------|------------------------|--|
| 4.1 Provide and maintain healthcare visits on a regular basis to the Ukrainian Community and IPAS | 1, 2, 3  | Increased up-take in community health provision by new community members | 2023-2026 | LCSP       | YPAR                   | Lack of take-up  |
| 4.2 Increased access to information on civil rights and obligations                               | 1, 2, 3  | Increased understanding of civil rights and obligations                  | 2023-2026 | LCSP       | Community Sector       | Lack of availability of information. Lack of up-take.          |
| 4.3 Increase representation of Ethnic Minority and Multi Faith groups on LCSP                     | 1, 2, 3  | Additional representation of minority and new community groups in LCSP   | 2023-2026 | LCSP       |                        | No new engagement with Ethnic, Minority and Multi Faith Groups |

## Action Plan

### Priority Area: Environment

| Initiative  | Category | Performance Indicators  | Timescale | DNICP Lead                   | Other Key Stakeholders | Risk*            |
|---|----------|---|-----------|------------------------------|------------------------|------------------|
| 5.1 Establish a sub working group focused on environmental themes.                    | 1, 2, 3  | Sub working group established   | 2023      | LCSP office                  |                        |                  |
| 5.2 Support for the maintenance and growth of local Pride of Place initiatives in NIC | 1, 2, 3  | No. of active groups.<br>No. of new groups.<br>No. of activities with PoP groups. | 2023-2026 | DCC, Local Community members |                        | Lack of interest |

| Initiative: Education   | Category | Performance Indicators   | Timescale | DNICP Lead | Other Key Stakeholders | Risk*             |
|---|----------|--|-----------|------------|------------------------|-------------------|
| <p><b>5.3</b> Targeting illegal dumping across the NIC.<br/>Promote Waste collection Days. (Multi Lingual)<br/>Sales Staff training for waste bag sales.<br/>Promotion of Recycling Days.<br/>Shopfront management (By-laws) explained and enforced</p> | 1, 2, 3  | Reduced dumping and littering across the NIC.<br>Improved maintenance of Shopfront management by Traders.  | 2023-2026 | DCC        | DublinTown BID         | Lack of Resources |
| <p><b>5.4</b> Ad campaign targeting illegal dumping in 4 targeted areas</p>   | 1, 2, 3  | Reduction in illegal dumping across 4 targeted areas   | 2023-2026 | DCC        | DublinTown BID         | No reduction      |
| <p><b>5.5</b> Conduct Street Light Audit</p>  | 1, 2, 3  | No. of street lights fixed, replaced up-graded   | 2023-2026 | DCC        |                        | Lack of resources |
| <p><b>5.6</b> Regular audits of street domain to ensure good street lighting, maintenance, cleanliness</p>  | 1, 2, 3  | Increased feelings of safety in public spaces by those who traditionally feel vulnerable, LGBTQI, Women, and other minority groups   | 2023-2026 | DCC        | DublinTown BID         | Lack of resources |
| <p><b>5.7</b> Co-ordinate, review and refresh key streets within the core commercial district of the City. Priority areas to include O'Connell Street, Talbot Street, Moore Street and Capel Street within the LCSP boundaries</p>                      | 1, 2, 3  | Review of the public infrastructure, prioritising enhancement including road surfaces, energy efficient lighting and greening interventions conducted. Additional activities around pop up culture, arts and family friendly attractions and events included | 2023-2026 | DCC        |                        | Lack of resources |



## How We Will Monitor, Evaluate and Report on Our Progress

The Partnership will conduct quarterly reviews of ongoing work and progress of the NIC LCSP as a standing agenda item in Board meetings.

We will monitor and evaluate all initiatives and liaise closely with targeted community members and residents to gain a better understanding of what is working well and areas for improvement.

Using key performance indicators as well as qualitative feedback from targeted community members, this information will inform the ongoing work and future plans of the LCSP, and assist in our annual review of action plans.



## Appendix

### Appendix A

#### Local Community Safety Partnerships Members:

|   |   |
|---|---|
| Chief Superintendent Patrick McMenamin,<br><i>An Garda Síochána</i> | Mr Noel Wardick, <i>Community/Social Projects</i>       |
| Cllr Joe Costello, <i>Public Representative</i>                     | Mr Tom McKeon, <i>Business Representative</i>           |
| Cllr Janet Horner, <i>Public Representative</i>                     | Mr Gerard Farrell, <i>Business Representative</i>       |
| Cllr Christy Burke, <i>Public Representative</i>                    | Mr Thomas Usher, <i>Education Representative</i>        |
| Cllr Nial Ring, <i>Public Representative</i>                        | Ms Catriona Flood, <i>Education Representative</i>      |
| Mr Karl Mitchell, <i>Local Authority Representative</i>             | Mr Brian Jordan, <i>Youth Representative</i>            |
| Ms Teresa Nyland, <i>Tusla</i>                                      | Ms Laura Williams, <i>Local Representative</i>          |
| Mr Brian Kirwan, <i>HSE</i>   | Mr Shaneel Kumar, <i>Local Representative</i>           |
| Ms Tara Kane, <i>The Probation Service</i>                          | Ms Lilith Ferreyra-Carroll, <i>Local Representative</i> |
| Mr Michael O'Riordan, <i>NEIC</i>                                   | Ms Grainne Foy, <i>Local Representative</i>             |
|   | Mr Edward Mullins, <i>Chair</i>                         |

#### Others to be thanked for their support and participation in working groups 1-4:

|                                     |        |  |     |
|-------------------------------------|--------|--|-----|
| Paul White, <i>DCC</i>              | WG1    | Inspector Emer Curran, <i>AGS</i>          | WG3 |
| Inspector Ken Hoare, <i>AGS</i>     | WG1    | Mr Bruce McDevitt                          | WG3 |
| Ms Vicky Doyle, <i>HSE</i>          | WG1    | Ms Anne Byrne, <i>Local Representative</i> | WG3 |
| Inspector Alan McDevitt, <i>AGS</i> | WG1    | Ms Debbie Carroll, <i>HSE</i>              | WG4 |
| Ms Grainne O' Grady, <i>DCC</i>     | WG 3&4 | Inspector Michael McKenna, <i>AGS</i>      | WG2 |

#### LCSP Staff:

Sonya Keniry, *Coordinator*  
Stacey O Farrell, *Administrator*

#### Special thanks to:

Mr Tony Shone, *Invisio Communications*  
Ms. Elahe Saki for support with statistical analytics  
Mr Daniel Hernan (Jr) RIP who asked everyday "what are yis here for?"



## Glossary

|                       |  |
|-----------------------|--|
| <b>AGS</b>            | An Garda Síochána  |
| <b>ASB</b>            | Anti-Social Behaviour                                    |
| <b>ASBO</b>           | Anti-Social Behaviour Order                              |
| <b>CSO</b>            | Central Statistics Office                                |
| <b>CCTV</b>           | Closed Circuit Television                                |
| <b>COOP</b>           | Dublin's Inner City Cooperative Society LTD              |
| <b>CSW</b>            | Community Safety Wardens                                 |
| <b>CYPSC</b>          | Children and Young Persons Service Committees            |
| <b>DCC</b>            | Dublin City Council                                      |
| <b>DCDP</b>           | Dublin City Developmental Plan                           |
| <b>DNIC</b>           | Dublin North Inner City                                  |
| <b>DRHE</b>           | Dublin Regional Homeless Executive                       |
| <b>DublinTown BID</b> | DublinTown Business Implementation Board                 |
| <b>ELI</b>            | Early Learning Initiative                                |
| <b>GI</b>             | Greening Infrastructure                                  |
| <b>HSE</b>            | Health Service Executive                                 |
| <b>ICCS</b>           | Irish Crime Classification System                        |
| <b>IPAS</b>           | International Protection Accommodation Service           |
| <b>JPC</b>            | Joint Policing Committee                                 |
| <b>LGBTQIA+</b>       | Lesbian Gay Bisexual Transgender Queer Intersex + People |
| <b>NCI</b>            | National College of Ireland                              |
| <b>NEIC</b>           | North East Inner City                                    |
| <b>NEIC PIB</b>       | North East Inner City Programme Implementation Board     |
| <b>NIC</b>            | North Inner City   |
| <b>NGOs</b>           | Non-Governmental Organisations                           |
| <b>NTA</b>            | National Transport Authority                             |
| <b>NWIC</b>           | North West Inner City                                    |
| <b>PoP</b>            | Pride of Place   |
| <b>TU Dublin</b>      | Technological University Dublin                          |



## Disclaimer

Great care has been taken in the preparation of the Dublin North Inner City Community Safety Plan to ensure its contents are accurate and as up-to-date as the information available to us at the time of writing would allow. In addition, the Partnership relied on information gathered during formal and informal meetings, discussions and consultations with various community residents that engaged with the Partnership on safety issues of concern to them.

One of the challenges with qualitative data gathering in this nature (focus groups, informal meetings) is the subjectivity of the responses. Participants have shared their lived experience of safety in the North Inner City of Dublin, as a result the statements made by some and reflected in this Community Safety Plan may not be the perspective of others affected by the issues raised. It is therefore important that this Plan is read in its own context. If you would like to share your opinion either to support or offer a different perspective, the Partnership office would be delighted to hear from you.

Finally, it is intended that this Plan would be read as a living document, subject to change and updating influenced by emerging issues and our continued commitment to learning about best practice and the community we work for.

*Dublin North Inner City Local Community Safety Partnership is funded by the Government of Ireland, through the Department of Justice and is hosted by Dublin City Council.*



*Working together to enhance our City,  
our Community and our Safety*



Local Community Safety Partnership  
Dublin North Inner City

# Community Safety Plan

2023-26



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Dublin North Inner City

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Comhairle Cathrach  
Bhaile Átha Cliath  
Dublin City Council



Building a  
Better Health  
Service

Seirbhís Stáinte  
Níós Fearr  
á Forbairt



An tSeirbhís Phrómhaidh  
The Probation Service



NORTH EAST  
INNER CITY



An Ghníomhaireacht um  
Leanaí agus an Teaghlach  
Child and Family Agency



An Roinn Dlí agus Cirt  
Department of Justice