



**Comhairle Contae
Fhine Gall**
Fingal County
Council



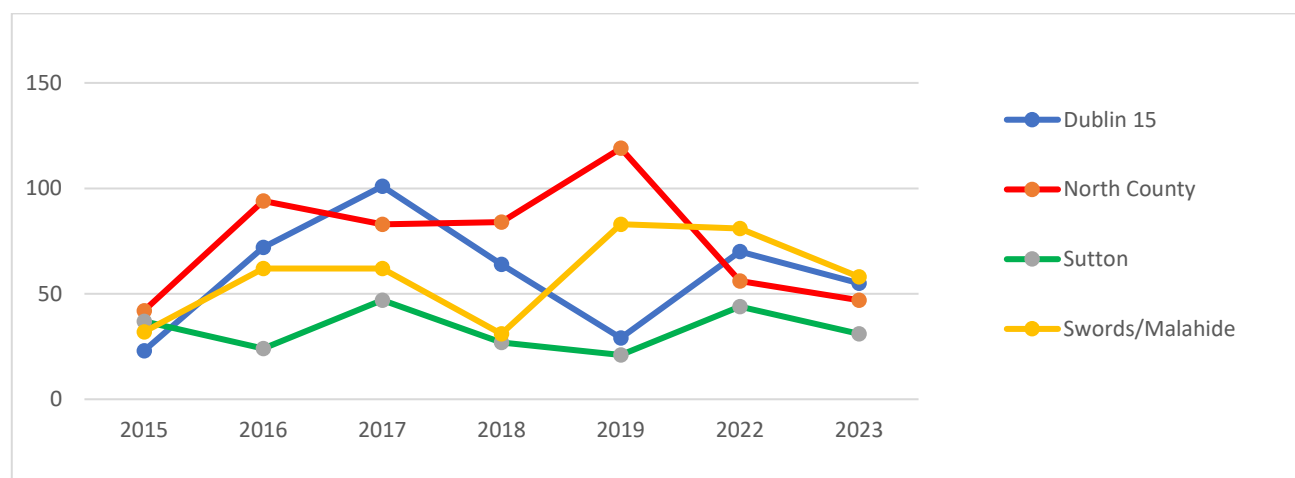
Fingal Joint Policing Committee Series of Public Meetings September / October 2023

The series of 2023 Joint Policing Committee Public Meetings took place over September and October 2023 and were very well attended by members of the public, An Garda Síochána, Local Authority staff and Elected Representatives (including Oireachtas members), and some agencies such as NDRDATF, Safer Blanchardstown, Foroige and members of the Fingal Public Participation Network.

The meetings had been widely advertised in local newspapers, and through libraries, Garda Stations and via community and residents' groups, while also being actively promoted on Fingal County Council social media in the lead up to each meeting.

Date	Venue	Area
Wednesday 19 th September 2023	Crowne Plaza Hotel Blanchardstown	Blanchardstown, Mulhuddart, Castleknock, Ongar, Tyrrelstown, Carpenterstown, Coolmine, Clonsilla, Meakstown and area.
Wednesday 28 th September 2022	Carnegie Court Hotel Swords	Malahide, Portmarnock, Swords, Santry, Portrane, Donabate, and area
Wednesday 11 th October 2022	Marine Hotel Sutton	Howth, Sutton, Baldoyle (parts of), and area.
Wednesday 18 th October 2022	Bracken Court Hotel Balbriggan	Balbriggan, Balbriggan Rural, Garristown, Naul, Balrothery, Skerries, Rush, Lusk, and

The table below shows the attendances year on year from 2015.



Year	Dublin 15		North County		Sutton		Swords/Malahide	
2023	13 th Sep	55	18 th Oct	47	11 th Oct	31	20 th Sep	58
2022	28 th Sep	70	27 th Sep	56	20 th Oct	44	5 th Oct	81
2021	<i>No public meeting Covid-19</i>		<i>No public meeting Covid-19</i>		<i>No public meeting Covid-19</i>		<i>No public meeting Covid-19</i>	
2020	<i>No public meeting Covid-19</i>		<i>No public meeting Covid-19</i>		<i>No public meeting Covid-19</i>		<i>No public meeting Covid-19</i>	
2019	14 th Mar	29	13 th Mar	119	20 th Mar	21	21 st Mar	83
2018	4 th Apr	64	18 th Apr	84	11 th Apr	27	25 th Apr	31
2017	5 th Apr	101	26 th Apr	83	12 th Apr	47	19 th Apr	62
2016	20 th Apr	72	6 th Apr	94	27 th Apr	24	13 th Apr	62
2015	25 th Mar	28	8 th Apr	42	1 st Apr	37	15 th Apr	32

The Council is represented at the meetings at Director of Services/Senior Executive Officer level and An Garda Síochána by the relevant Chief Superintendent and Superintendent. Each meeting commenced with a short introduction by the Chairman of the Fingal Joint Policing Committee, Councillor Ian Carey on how the JPC conducts its business. This was followed by a short presentation by a representative from the local Garda Superintendent in each of the 4 districts, giving an overview of Garda strategic objectives in the area, local crime statistics and details of specific operations targeting particular types of crime. In 2022 the key issues were related to community policing, youth issues, and Garda resources.

The next stage in the meetings is to invite questions from the floor for both the Council and the Gardaí on matters relating to public order and local community safety. Speakers are prohibited from mentioning specific names and individual cases will not be discussed. An opportunity is provided at the end of every meeting for members of the public to approach the Gardaí or the Council on a one-to-one basis on specific issues, and in general this can be very productive, specifically in relation to concerns regarding local drug dealing. The main issues which arose at each of the meetings are as set out below:

Dublin 15 Meeting

Crowne Plaza Hotel

Wednesday 13th
September 2023



An Garda Síochána and Fingal County Council responded to the following issues raised at the meeting:

- Additional Garda Clinics in Littlepace and Ongar and Request for another Garda Station in Ongar.
- Concerns raised over inappropriate use of Nitrous Oxide gas cannisters and query on legislation on Nitrous Oxide use.
- Cars / drivers on N3- driving offences (racing)
- Concerns raised over scramblers on open green space at locations in Dublin 15
- Query on legislation for immobilizers on scramblers as they are imported into country.
- AGS provided statistics on cars with no immobilizers more vulnerable to theft
- Query regarding possible local community meetings with residents' groups.
- Comment regarding pedestrian route to TU Dublin, lack of public transport.
- ASB in Verdemont – drug dealing
- ASB in Windmill, bonfires on open space at Stationcourt & unsecured gate to Royal Canal
- AGS outlined resources available to them
- Issue of drug dealing and car racing in Ongar area described.
- Outline of work of Safer Blanchardstown & Local Drug & Alcohol Task Force given by representatives of the organisations.
- Issue of scramblers and current position of Mulhuddart Motocross Club mentioned and Community Groups are having difficulty with Public Liability Insurance – affecting activities.
- Drug dealing in all schools – AGS have support from national units.
- Teacher noted lack of posters re. drugs in schools.
- Abandoned Cars issue discussed. FCC outlined process to report/remove; AGS clarified “abandoned” criteria.
- FCC updated attendees on Halloween arrangements including Recycling Centre initiative for combustible items.

Meeting concluded at 08.35pm

Swords / Malahide Meeting

Carnegie Court Hotel

Wednesday 20th
September 2023



An Garda Síochána and Fingal County Council responded to the following issues raised at the meeting:

- AGS addressed topical questions regarding resources and shift crews as part of presentation
- Crime Prevention information given to attendees
- Attendees advised to call 999/112 to report issues
- Query if AGS proactively monitor social media channels (i.e. videos on TikTok, Snapchat etc)
- Query if AGS use information gathered from camera-door bells
- Community Garda resource in Swords well received by residents
- Suggestion of Mountain Bikes for AGS Swords for purpose of patrolling Ward River Valley Park
- Traffic issues on Rathbeale Road area raised – Pedestrian Lights at JCs; road at back of JCs
- Query on how to manage scooters etc using foot paths
- Issue of domestic violence victims raised and query regarding any ground level supports available from FCC or AGS, particularly in relation to emergency accommodation
- AGS advised that an arrest in relation to DV is not permitted bail
- Local Community Safety Forums noted
- Query relating to Glasmore Park – ASB issues, and questions on FCC Housing policy
- Property Marking event in Donabate
- Complaints in relation to AGS members – to GSOC, information on website.

Meeting was extended and concluded at 8.45pm

Howth/Sutton/Baldoyle Meeting

Marine Hotel

Wednesday 11th
October 2023



An Garda Síochána and Fingal County Council responded to the following issues raised at the meeting:

- Query if route to Burrow Beach can be made one-way due to traffic volumes in summer.
- Request for additional Gardaí during busy and Summer periods.
- Request for additional bins for busy and Summer periods.
- Concerns raised over ASB on the Dart service, and young people travelling unaccompanied by adults.
- Request for AGS to enforce 3T weight restriction in housing estates in Baldoyle – difficulties in enforcement as hard to prove vehicles do not have genuine reason to be in areas.
- Concerns in relation to Garda Resources and possibly affecting numbers of Community Gardaí available.
- Issue of large vehicles parking in residential areas – FCC Traffic Wardens may be able to issue tickets.

Meeting concluded at 8.30pm

North County Meeting

Bracken Court Hotel

Wednesday 18th
October 2023



An Garda Síochána and Fingal County Council responded to the following issues raised at the meeting:

- Area at Castlemills - used as rat-run, query if some of the alleyways be closed off
- Safety concerns raised over of young girls in public realm and using public transport
- Concern raised over drug use/dealing in Lusk area
- Issue of people parking on double yellow lines (DYLs) – AGS and FCC Traffic Wardens can issue tickets.
- Query if AGS have any advance notice of Fentanyl use in Ireland.
- Concerns raised over rural crime – robberies in Man O' War and Oberstown areas
- Issue of inappropriate use of Nitrous Oxide gas – what is current legislation.
- Issue of scramblers / scooters on foot paths raised – pedestrian safety.
- Query relating to additional public lighting in dark areas.
- Concerns raised over Halloween bonfire stockpiling and bangers/fireworks
- Query regarding Council Tenants involved in anti-social behavior.
- Issues at multiple locations re parking outside schools and drop-off/pick-up times
- Query relating to planning applications and how members of the public can engage.

Meeting extended and concluded at 8.40pm