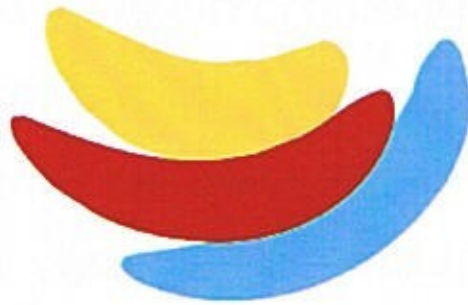




NORTH WEST INNER CITY

network



ANNUAL REPORT

2004



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CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT



The last year has been a busy time for the Network and once again has seen many changes in the North West Inner City. For us at the Network the challenge has been to keep abreast of those changes and to respond in a manner that ensures that the local community is central to, and involved in these responses.

The year 2004 has seen a number of highlights for the Network. Last year the Network helped coordinate a successful campaign to highlight the benefits of the JI and CE schemes to the local community, thereby stopping threatened cutbacks. The Organisational Committee has worked on the development of Employment Policies and Procedure and successfully recruited two new members of staff; Michael McCarthy as the Network Coordinator and Amanda Smyth as the Network's Resource & Administration Worker. They join Noeleen Jennings, the Community Participation Worker. The Network Team is our most valuable resource and we are sure that the knowledge, expertise and skills that they share will result in a stronger, more coordinated and strategic Network in the future.

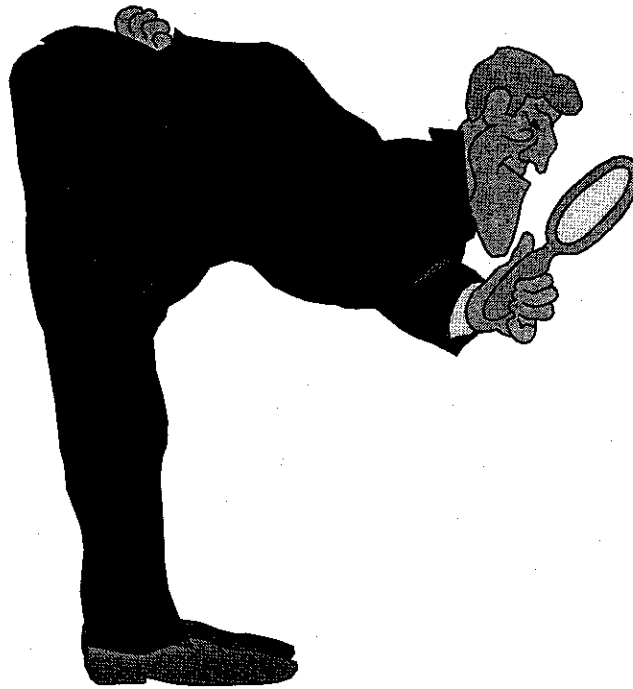
A number of Working Groups continued to meet and develop interesting and innovative initiatives. The Intercultural Working Group produced a 'Best Practice Guide' and 'Community Maps'—specifically targeted at new communities living in the NWICN area. The LAF (Luas Arts Forum) continued with their work of bringing children and young people together to work on a community sculpture, which will be placed along the new Luas line. The Network has been central in developing links with DIT and beginning the process of community consultation in relation to the new Grangegorman development, so as to ensure the maximum gain for the community in this process. The Drugs Working Group continues to try to address the drugs issue in the community and ensure that the NWICN area is represented on the Drugs Task Force and other relevant Foras. This year has also seen the establishment of a Disability Working Group for the Network. This is a new and much needed development for the North West Inner City.

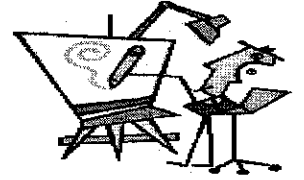
We have also continued to develop our links with the Dublin Inner City Partnership (DICP) and to participate in a range of activities, foras meetings involving the Networks from other areas in the Inner City. In particular the Participation & Rights Pilot Project has been a key development for the Network.

We have also continued to maintain a presence on the RAPID Area Implementation Team. This has proved to be an exasperating process for all involved, particularly so for community reps. The expectations and vision that the community held for the potential of the RAPID Initiative have not been realised. However we will continue to maintain our presence so as to highlight the situation for residents and also to lobby for enhanced resources and improved living conditions for local residents.

The last 12 months has been a challenging time for the Network. A lot of time has been spent at meetings, workshops, and seminars- debating and discussing the best way forward. Whilst many changes have taken place in the NWICN area they have not always been to the advantage of the local community and in particular those people who are most marginalised and excluded.

We hope that 2005 will offer new enthusiasm and vision for the Network that can provide back-up, support and information to groups, projects and individuals in the area. This will help to ensure that we continue to work collectively and lobby for changes that will ensure that the rights of local residents in the NWICN area are realised.





COORDINATOR'S REPORT

In many ways I feel a bit of a fraud giving this report as I am still settling in to the Coordinator's position. Most of the recognition for all the hard work that has been done by the Network over the last year belongs to the rest of the staff and membership of the Network.

Organisational Development

The Network has recently completed a comprehensive staff handbook covering areas such as bullying policies, salary scales and staff development. It may be a good template for any organisation thinking of developing a similar handbook. In my role as Coordinator I am putting in place a comprehensive staff development programme including supervision, training and team meetings. I hope it can build on the current talent we have employed at the Network. Moreover the Network has recently appointed Noeleen Jennings to the post of Development Worker. Her primary role will be to support the development of the Network's Working Groups and if her current work is anything to go by, I believe she'll be a wonderful resource to these groups.

In relation to funding, there has been a lot of difficulties of the last few months in relation to our grant from the Drugs Task Force (this funds the Community Participation Worker Post), but we are slowly getting this issue clarified. The fact that we will hopefully becoming a company soon will help to ease the matter as it means we can become the 'Project Promoter' for this project, simplifying the bureaucratic maze we have to navigate. Finally I would like to thank Lily Douglas who has recently finished providing administrative support for the Network. I believe she has kept the Network afloat on many occasions.

Local Area Development

I have spent a lot of the time since my appointment in August meeting as many people as possible and getting a feel for the area. The main pieces of work I am working on at the moment are as follows-

- **RAPID-** Representing the Network on the AIT (Area Implementation Team) and ensuring that information reaches all members. I also aim to support the new community representatives in securing meaningful participation on RAPID.
- **Grangegorman Working Group-** (See working Group Report)
- **Participation & Rights-** Member of the Steering Group that is looking at securing funds to develop this project (see Community Participation Workers's report.)
- **Coordination of Social Inclusion Activities-** I am working with DICP (Dublin Inner City Partnership) and the three other Inner City Networks to develop a 'Synergy' document aimed at emphasising the effectiveness and co-ordination of the local development sector.
- **ICT (Information Communication Technology) Project-** I have been asked to join the management committee of a proposed new Information Technology Project to be housed in the Macro Community Resource centre, but that will target the whole Network area.

Employment - les

Member

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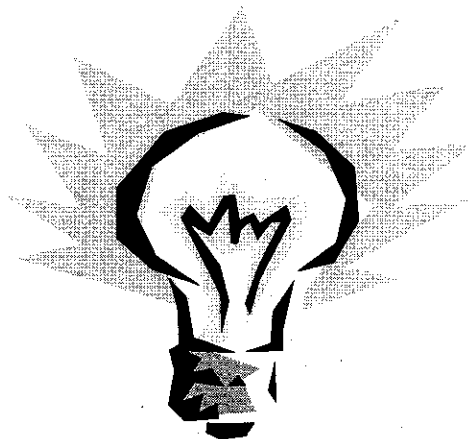
Angela

- **Dominick St./Hardwick St. Integrated Services Group-** This group's remit is to follow-up the research published in 2002. It is currently looking at developing appropriate Youth Services for the area. It is also supported by ICON.

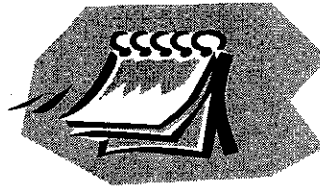
Future Priorities

- **Planning for the future-** As the current Strategic Plan runs up till the end of this year, some time will need to be spent reassessing the Network's strategic role and developing a clear work-plan. This will also include looking at how all sections of the Network can be supported to work as effectively as possible.
- **Publicising the Network-** The Network staff are currently developing a clear communication strategy for the Network.
- **Regeneration in NWICN area-** There are currently 3 large development projects planned for this area-O'Devaney Gardens, the Markets area and Grangegorman. I hope to support, where appropriate, the Communities who are involved in such developments and facilitate shared learning among all concerned.
- **Community Gain-** I have been asked to sit on the group that will be dispersing the Community Gain derived from the development in the Westside of Smithfield.
- **Community Seminars and Workshops-** I plan to hold a number of locally based seminars over the next year on issues of concern to community to facilitate shared learning and co-ordination.
- **Participation in the Network-** The Network's success depends on the participation of local people, whether they are from a flat complex or the immigrant community. The Network has developed an infrastructure for such participation. I hope that it can be developed next year.

Finally I would like to thank all those who have welcomed and supported me over the last few weeks. I hope I can build on the foundations that have been laid for me.



COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION WORKER'S REPORT



The role of Community Participation Worker is to encourage and support more local Groups and individuals to be active in their community, through involvement in NWICN, Drugs Working Group, Drugs Task Force, Community Fora and in all other relevant areas that impact on their community.

Community/ Network Rep on:

- Drugs Task Force
- Drugs Working Group (DWG)
- HARP
- Community Gain
- Smithfield Working Group
- NWIC Community Forum
- Blackhall Forum
- Grangegormon Working Group
- Mardag

Areas of work

- In the last year I have continued linking with Community reps from the ICON area, O'Devaney Gardens, Resident Groups, Individuals and other Projects in the area.
- Drugs Working Group: As a community rep I along with the 2 other reps bring all relevant issues from the DWG to the Drugs Task Force and I have been working closely with 6 local people who have shown an interest in, and come along to DWG meetings.
- NWIC Community Forum: This is the third year of Smithfield on Ice and the Forum will again organise the distribution of free tickets to all Schools, Projects and individuals in the community and oversee all aspects of this community event.
- HARP: My role is to try and insure that all community gain levies paid by developers in the HARP area to DCC is of real benefit to the local residents.
- Blackhall Forum: With a grant from Combat Poverty (Building Healthy Communities Project) the Blackhall Forum carried out a health survey of the Blackhall area. Unique Perspective were employed to carry out the research and 4 local women (supported and trained by Community Technical Aid) were employed to help the researchers by doing the door to door questioner. This report will be available in the near future.
- My involvement with the group negotiating with Fusano Property Developers on behalf of the community has so far led to a significant amount of community gain.
- Anti social behaviour has increased in the Linenhall Street, North King Street, Lurgan Street and Kevin Barry House Macro (CDP) have been facilitating meetings between local residents and statutory agencies to address these issues. I attend these meetings on behalf of the Network.

Participation and Practice of Rights

6 Month Pilot Project

About the Project

This Project is collaboration between NWICN, ICON and the Dublin Inner City Partnership. The Project brought together a team from a variety of organisations representing Dublin North Inner City communities, Human-Rights Groups and Anti-poverty agencies including: Irish Council for Civil Liberties, Combat Poverty Agency, Sunflower Project, O'Devaney Gardens Community Development Forum, An Sfol Community Development Project and Macro Community Development Project.

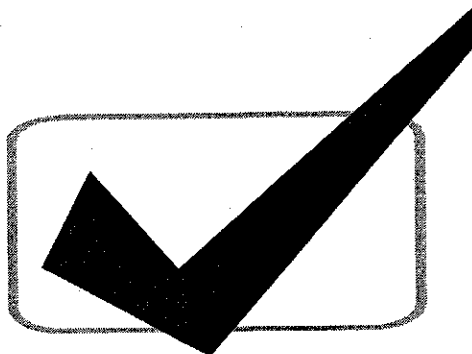
Mission Statement

The central objective of this Project is to encourage the communities in deprived areas to use a Rights-based approach to redress many of the social and economic problems, which effect them. What is meant by a Rights-based approach? It is undertaking Community Development work based on people's rights rather than just their needs- not a 'cap in hand' approach, but based on people's entitlement.

Community consultation on choosing the issues.

In the initial stage the Project consulted with community organisations to identify the most urgent social problems effecting them, which could be addressed using a Rights-based approach. The two areas chosen by in the NWICN area were Blackhall Street/ Marmion Court and O'Devaney Gardens. The two issues were access to Health Services (Blackhall St/ Marmion Court) and Housing Maintenance (O'Devaney Gardens). Listed below are some of the steps involved in this project:

- Researching the various Rights people are entitled to.
- Door to door leaflet drop,
- Meetings with local residents of both flat complexes
- Case Studies
- Report Cards
- Supporting local people to engage with this project by using Rights-based approach in tackling poverty and disadvantage.
- Training: A tools of rights education and awareness training package designed by Tina Mc Veigh
- Recording Outcomes



NORTH WEST INNER CITY NETWORK



North West Inner City Area Network is a forum of community and voluntary groups in the North West Inner City area of Dublin, which seeks to enhance the quality of life for all in the community.

AIMS

- To address issues of social exclusion and marginalisation within the North West Inner City area.
- To develop strategies to address the issues that are identified in the Strategic Plan of the Network.
- To ensure that the North West Inner City community receive a fair share of available resources at Local, Regional, National and European levels.
- To influence policy on issues that affects the community.
- The Network will seek to represent and work for the community of the North West Inner City.

OBJECTIVES

- The Network will seek to enhance the work of existing projects/groups through providing support and the sharing and dissemination of information.
- The Network will support, assist and resource Working Groups that are established around issues identified in the Strategic Plan.
- In line with the Strategic Plan, the Network will campaign and lobby around issues identified in the community.
- The Network will promote partnership approaches between the community, voluntary, statutory and business sectors.
- The Network will, through its activities, seek to ensure that the community voice is strengthened.
- Where feasible the Network will act as a support and resource local groups and initiatives.
- The Network supports Equal opportunities for all, and does not except discrimination of any kind.
- The Network does not align itself nor affiliate itself to any political party.

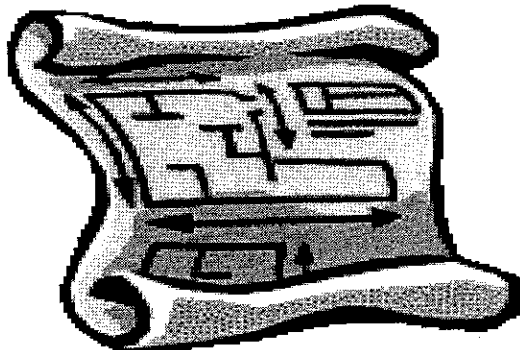
MEMBERSHIP

- Full Membership of the Network shall be open to all local community and voluntary groups based in the North West Inner City. Only full members will be entitled to one vote at general and annual general meetings.
- Affiliate Membership is open to all regional/national community and voluntary groups working in the North West Inner City area.
- The last type of membership is 'Friend of the Network' which is open to all Statuary agencies, businesses and individuals that support the aims and objectives of the Network.
- All member organisations must agree to support the aims and objectives of the Network.
- Organisations can become a member by being proposed and seconded at a Steering Committee meeting.

REPRESENTATION

The Network is represented on the following forums- many thanks to all who gave up their time on behalf of the area over the last year:

- Dublin Inner City Partnership (DICP)- Carmel Brien and Danny Pender.
DICP was set up in 1991 and works with community, statutory and business organisations to ensure local people benefit from any changes in the Inner City.
- HARP Monitoring Committee- Danny Pender.
The HARP (Historical Area Rejuvenation Project) is an Integrated Area Plan (IAP) which originated in 1995 and looks at the physical and socio-economic regeneration of the HARP area. It also administers a 'Community Gain Fund' which any local community group in the HARP area to apply for.
- RAPID- Michael McCarthy.
This government programme was launched in early 2001 and is currently trying to secure resources for a number of initiatives identified in its Area Implementation Plan.



NWICN STRUCTURE

Membership

(Ratifies nominations to Steering Committee)

42 Full- voting rights

19 Affiliate- no vote

10 Friends- no vote

Steering Committee

(Responsible for overseeing Network on behalf of Membership)

Nominated from:

Network Working Groups, An Síol CDP, Macro CDP, NWIC Women's Network,
Community Forum & Council for Services to Older People.

Working Groups

Education WG Intercultural WG Drugs WG

Employment WG Grangegorman WG

Organisational Committee

(Oversees Staff and Financial Issues)

Staff

Co-ordinator (FT)

Participation Worker, Development Worker
& Resource/Admin. Worker
(all Part-time)

NETWORK STAFF

COORDINATOR (Full-time)

Michael McCarthy

- Coordination of social inclusion activity
- Resource for local community groups and activities
- Development of communication strategy
- Provide staff support & supervision
- Oversee administration & organisation development

COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION WORKER (Part-time)

Noeleen Jennings

- Support participation by local people in local development activities, especially related to drugs
- Develop training for the above
- Develop models of good practice for organisations encouraging participation

DEVELOPMENT WORKER (Part-time)

Noeleen Jennings

- Promote, facilitate and support the development of the Network's Working Groups
- Support and facilitate the consolidation and strengthening of the NWIC Community Forum.
- Promote an understanding of the Network in the local area and to encourage participation in the activities of the Network and broader community activities

RESOURCE & ADMINISTRATION WORKER (Part-time)

Amanda Smyth

- General Administration duties
- Management of Database system
- Information provision for Network members



NWICN WORKING GROUPS

Most of the work of the Network is undertaken by its various Working Groups, who have developed the following good practice guidelines over the years:

- The work of the North West Inner City Network shall be developed through Working Groups established as appropriate by the Network's Steering Committee.
- The Steering Committee shall set up a Working Group it considers necessary, with the brief and membership that it deems appropriate, and for the length of time it considers appropriate. Such Working Groups shall always remain accountable to the Steering Committee.
- Working Groups should use the Network's Strategic Plan as the foundation to identify key issues and develop appropriate area-based responses.
- Working Groups shall have responsibility for the development of actions and projects within their area of concern, and where necessary target resources. Where possible clear terms of reference and work-plans should be developed.
- Each member organisation of the Network has the right to take part in any working group established.
- Each Working Group shall have 1 representative on the Steering Committee of the Network.
- Officer roles of Working Groups shall be elected by the working group.
- Each Working Group shall report back to meetings of the Steering Committee on their work.
- Any Working Group handling financial/funded projects shall adhere to the Funding guidelines, as set out by the Network.
- No Working Group should act on behalf, or represent, the Network without the prior approval of the Steering Committee.
- Working Groups should strive to include, to the greatest extent possible, local individuals who are interested in the group's area of concern.
- Working Groups shall strive to develop good working relationships with relevant statutory bodies
- Working Groups should notify the Network (through the Co-ordinator) of any funding applications being made to avoid duplication and encourage collaboration.
- A copy of all documents relating to the application should be presented to the Network.
- Applications to DICP have particular relevance, as they are the Network's main funder; and the Network has 2 reps. on the Board of DICP.
- When engaging consultants or contractors always ask for written tenders. The Network is happy to recommend any businesses it has found useful.
- When Working Groups secure funds, the Network would encourage that one member of the Working group be designated to manage such funds- keep financial records, deal with issues relating to the lodgements and present regular financial reports to the Network.

The Network also works with two area-based forums; the Community Forum and the Council for Services for Older People. A short report from all these bodies now follows.

Drugs Working Group

Mission Statement

The Drugs Working Group (DWG) aims to bring people together from the local area and from Community, Statutory and Service organisations, to work collectively on drug and alcohol related issues in the North West Inner City.

Aims

- Ongoing support for existing projects in the area.
- Development of local treatment centres where the drug crisis is most prevalent.
- Continuation and expansion of education and prevention work.
- Raising awareness around drug abuse within the local community.
- Community participation and training.

About the group

The DWG is at present undergoing a review process to explore how best they can maximise their effectiveness in tackling the ongoing drugs crisis in the NWICN area. The feedback from these meetings has been very positive, with a great increase in participation from local residents.

In 2002 the DWG helped obtain funding for the Training and Development Project (T&D). Currently the T&D Project is at full capacity (14), with a fairly even Male/Female ratio. Funding and the lack of adequate premises are of concern, but the staff is doing as much as they can with what we have. The project could do more if more resources were forthcoming. Below are a list of subjects the project offers:

- Addiction Studies
- Personal Development Skills
- Groups Skills
- Health and Safety
- First Aid
- Art and Music
- Computer Skills
- Work Experience

North Inner City Drugs Task Force (NICDTF)

The DWG have promoted increased input into the NICDTF in the following ways:

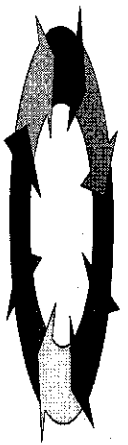
- It operates as a support and mandating structure for the Network representatives.
- The NWICN have 3 representatives on the NICDTF.
- Task Force meetings alternate between ICON and NWICN areas
- The community reps from NWICN and ICON meet prior to Task Force meetings to facilitate a cohesive response to drug related issues.

Dates of next meetings

Meetings of the DWG take place on the 3rd Tuesday of every month at 2.30 in various venues.

Contact

Noeleen Jennings, Tel: 01 6174847



NWIC Area Community Forum

Mission Statement

The Community Forum is a forum for local people to exchange information and develop responses to issues that effect the local area.

Aims

- To enable and empower residents to have their voice heard.
- To inform residents of issues of relevance in their local area.
- To support more effective networking between the resident groups in the area.
- To be a forum where residents can be heard and listened to on area-based concerns.
- To include all the residents in local Authority housing within the NWICN area and where areas cannot be / are not yet represented, to endeavour to include their concerns within the forum.

Who areas does the Forum cover?

- Blackhall Parade
- Beresford Street
- Church Street
- Chancery House
- Drumalee
- Constitution Hill
- Greek Street
- Henrietta House
- Kevin Barry
- O'Devaney Gardens,
- Ormond Square
- Marmion Court
- North King Street
- Smithfield
- Queen Street
- Nabco Housing Association-Queen Street

The forum aims to work on getting representation from all the housing areas listed above. At present it has 11 of the potential 15 represented. The forum is continually striving to get full participation.

About the Group

The Community Forum held its AGM on 11th February 2004 in Coleraine House. The Forum also organised a training weekend for its members from the 27th-29th Feb in the Neptune Beach Hotel, Bettystown (sponsored by Rapid and DICP) to review the work done to date and to prioritise for the future. The decision was made that no election of officers would take place until after the completion of the review.

The Community Forum once again have made great progress in the last year, here are some of the achievements:

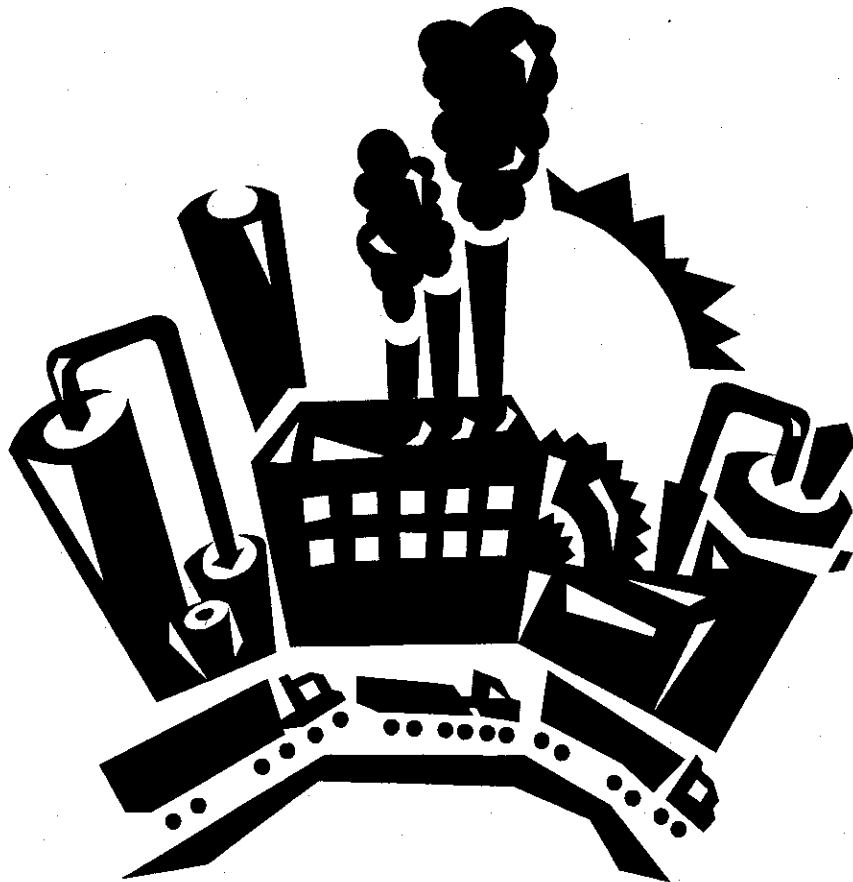
- Community Gain- Major development on the west side of Smithfield, refurbishing of Community flat at Friary Court Smithfield, funding towards refurbishing of Blackhall Crèche.
- Dublin City Council: The consultation process in relation to Smithfield on Ice, through the Community Forum, has once again been very successful this year.

The Forum has secured 7600 tickets (this is double the original number of tickets 3 years ago). The tickets will be distributed to Local Schools, Projects and residents in the area by the Forum members and volunteers, who will also oversee the smooth running of the community event. A contribution was also made to the Senior Citizens Christmas party.

- Rapid: There are two Forum reps on the AIT. At present due to lack of delivery under the Rapid programme the community reps have suspended their participation.
- The Forum has reps on the following bodies: H.A.R.P. Rapid, AIT, Urban Regeneration Group, Smithfield Working Group and the Community Gain Working Group.

Contact Person

Noeleen Jennings, NWICN – Tel: 6174847
Celine Graham, Macro CDP- Tel: 8737027
Marie Harding, An Síol CDP-Tel: 6775741



Education Working Group

Membership

Membership is open to all with an interest in Education within the North West Inner City Area.

History of the Working Group

Over the last year and a half the Education Working Group has dedicated itself to developing a directory of educational services in the area, which it brought out in the format of a small map of the area with different educational sites marked on it. There was also a seminar/getting to know you session in St. Vincent's Trust which was very successful.

In the recent past the group has changed its venue to St. Vincent's Trust, which has greatly increased participation in the Group. The Group is currently concentrating on information sharing among the various education providers in the area and looking at how DIT'S proposal to develop Grangegorman can be best used for the local community.

Future activities

- Inputs from Dr. Noel O' Connor of the DIT on Grangegorman proposal, and from Julie Bernard of DIT on the direct entry programme.
- Inputs from refugee groups and disability groups about what they are doing.
- Fieldtrip to Dundalk IT and other sites to witness how good practice operates in terms of access of marginalised groups to third level.

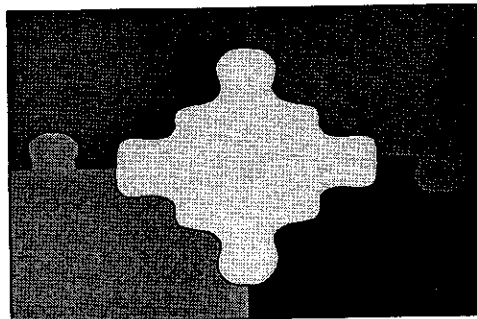
Dates of next meetings

Wed. 27 October at 2 p.m. in St. Vincent's Trust (tbc).

Wed. 24 November at 2 p.m. in St. Vincent's Trust (tbc).

Contact person

Molly O' Duffy, DICP, Tel: 8721321.



Intercultural Working Group

Mission Statement / Aims

- Raising awareness and actively promoting intercultural issues in the NWICN area.
- Creating an appropriate environment in which to work on intercultural, refugee and immigrant issues in Ireland and supporting this with training when necessary.
- Developing strategies that actively improve the awareness and inclusiveness of intercultural issues in service provision in the NWICN area.
- Advocating and lobbying for culturally inclusive and representative policy formulation and development that affects people living in the NWICN area

History of the working group

The Intercultural Working Group of the North West Inner City Area Network comprises representatives of local organisations from the Dublin 7 Inner City area and others with an interest in anti-racism work and supporting the integration of New Communities into the locality.

Since it was established in 2000, the group has undertaken activities aimed at supporting the development of a harmonious and positive interaction between the various ethnic cultures that make up the community.

Between 2001 and 2003, the group completed a programme of activities that was funded by Know Racism, Combat Poverty and Dublin Inner City Partnership. These included consultation sessions with representatives of ethnic minority communities and local statutory and community service providers; an information fair; a debate on multiculturalism; anti racism training; a celebratory intercultural event; production of translated maps of local services for ethnic minority communities and an appendix to this map with additional information; and publication of good practice guidelines for intercultural work in the community sector. The group won a MAMA Award (Media and Multicultural Award) from Metro Eireann for the good practice guide.

Current activities

In 2003 the Working Group was awarded a further grant from Know Racism. This money was allocated to enable the group to deliver on three key elements:

- 1) Organisational training based on the good practice guidelines for the Steering Committee of NWICN and boards of management of community services.
- 2) Anti-racism/valuing cultural diversity training for local residents and community projects.
- 3) A series of cultural-awareness visits designed to promote understanding of different cultures and traditions.

Anti-Racism Training

Anti-racism training for community groups in the NWICN area was delivered by the National Consultative Committee on Racism and Interculturalism. This took place on Monday 28th June 2004. There were sixteen participants representing a range of community and voluntary organisations in the NWICN area.

Cultural Awareness Visits

The purpose of the cultural awareness visits was to help create an understanding of the cultural backgrounds of minority ethnic groups. The visits targeted members of the local community, both Irish and ethnic minority, and workers in community projects. They aimed to give people an introduction to different cultures, traditions and practices.

A number of locations were selected as appropriate sites to visit. For each trip, a poster/flyer was designed and distributed to local community based groups and residents associations. Members of the Intercultural Working Group also advertised the trips by word of mouth. Participation was free to individuals as costs were covered by the Know Racism grant.

It was decided early on that while we would primarily target the North West Inner City, we would open participation to other areas of the inner city.

Site	Date	Number of Participants	Activity
Irish Jewish Museum	26 Nov 2003	18	Tour of museum. Presentation on Judaism, Jewish diaspora and Irish Jewish community.
Islamic Cultural Centre and Mosque	4 Mar 2004	14	Tour of the cultural centre and Mosque. Presentation on the religious beliefs of Islam and social customs. Discussion and lunch.
Chester Beatty Library	24 Mar 2004	7	Guided tour of the Islamic, Asian and Western artefacts.
The Baha'i Centre	16 Jun 2004	10	Tour of the centre. Presentation on the Bahai faith, spiritual and social components Question and Answer session.
St. Michan's Church in Dublin	10 Aug 2004	19	Guided tour of historic Church of Ireland church and vaults. Historical information of relevance to the area.

Trip for Young Asylum Seekers and Unaccompanied Minors

A further cultural trip was organised for young asylum seekers and unaccompanied minors who were identified through the CDVEC Separated Children Education Service.

A poster was designed and translated from English into French, Russian and Portuguese. It was displayed in Inner City hostels that house young asylum seekers. The trip was also advertised through the CDVEC.

The excursion to Carlingford Adventure Centre took place on Thursday 26 August 2004. It promoted teamwork and confidence building. Thirty-five asylum seekers and four adults participated

Future events and plans

- The organisational training for NWICN Steering Committee and board members of community projects has still to take place.
- The group will also look at expanding membership and changing roles within the group. A full report on activities is being prepared for funders-Know Racism.
- Further links to be developed with other network areas (South West Inner City, South East Inner City).
- The Chinese New Year Festival is taking place in the National Museum Collins Barracks from 9th to 15th February 2005 inclusive. The community will have a room or a stall free of charge. For further information contact the Intercultural Working Group or Ken McCue at 087 288 9921.

Links to other forums

- ICON Multicultural Group in the North East Inner City.
- All of the organisations involved in the working group.
- Organisations represented on the NWICN steering committee; e.g. St. Vincent's Trust provided the venue for the anti-racism course that ran in June 04.

Dates of next meeting

Mon 8th of November at 11 a.m. in No. 42 Manor Street.

Contact person

Emer Coveney in Dublin Inner City Partnership, Tel 872 1321.



Employment and Enterprise Working Group.

Mission Statement

The North West Inner City Enterprise and Employment Working Group seeks to develop a co-ordinated and practical approach to enterprise and employment issues in the North West Inner City area.

Aims

- To contribute to Network Policy in relation to enterprise and employment.
- To promote the NWICN Action Plan as it relates to this issue.
- To work in partnership with the private and statutory sector in addressing the provision of quality training and employment opportunities for local people.

About the Group

Employment and enterprise is an important element of the NWICN Action Plan and is of course very important for the area as a whole. This Working Group has technically been in existence for two years now. However, due to a number of varying circumstances and in common with some other Working Groups, this group needs to be reconstituted or reinvigorated with a task-orientated focus.

This Working Group could be a conduit for all issues and initiatives around employment, employment programmes and enterprise in the catchment area.

The Group has comprised of the Local Employment Service, Parishes Employment Network and Harp. However some very meaningful and positive actions resulted from the collaboration between the LES and Crampton's Construction in Smithfield in relation to apprenticeship opportunities for the youth of the area.

Achievements/Actions of the Group.

- In co-operation with MACRO CDP and other represented organisations on the Network, an employment agreement (apprenticeships) was negotiated with the developers and construction company (Crampton's) at Smithfield. The operational process in relation to this was handed over to the LES.
- The roll out of apprenticeships to which suitable locals can apply. To date six local youth have secured apprenticeships with more to follow, as opportunities become available.
- The monitoring of the above process. To date Crampton's have been very accommodating.
- Monitoring of the CE, JI and Social Economy situation in the area.

Contact Person

Ger Moore, tel: 01-8686333 Email: nwic@iol.ie



Council for Services to Older People (CSOP)



Aims of the Council

- Operate as a representative body for older people in the Northwest Inner City.
- Support and strengthen the existing community services to older people in the Northwest Inner City.
- Address jointly agreed recommendations from research into older people's needs.
- Influence policy and planning to improve services to older people in NWICN area.

Activities of the Council

The CSOP provides a forum for Community and Voluntary groups, Statutory agencies that work with the elderly, and elderly people themselves, to come together to identify and address gaps in services to the elderly in Dublin 7. FAS and the Department of Community Rural and Gaeltacht Affairs unfortunately no longer attend the Council. We regret this lack of engagement by key statutory services providers with this useful forum.

The Council meets quarterly, and subcommittees are set up to implement decisions agreed at meetings.

- The **Isolation and Loneliness subgroup** devised and implemented a very successful Reminiscence Group, that ran over 16 weeks.
- The closure of the Post Office at Stoneybatter- A letter-writing campaign aimed at local politicians is currently underway to try to stop this closure. As there is no bank in Stoneybatter, the loss of the Post Office is a further blow to the high proportion of elderly people in the area, many of whom have difficulty travelling to access these basic services.
- A subcommittee comprising the Dublin City Council and local voluntary service providers has been set up to ensure there is continuity of services over the Christmas period in the Community Centre at St. Bricins. Currently it closes for 2 weeks over Christmas, which can be one of the loneliest times of the year for older people.
- Security pendants- These are essential for the safety of many elderly, but as they are subsidised only for the first year, many elderly people return them in the second year. DCC is currently investigating ways to alleviate this financial burden for the elderly.
- Sr. Mairead from MACRO is the CSOP rep. on the Grangegorman Working Group, representing the concerns of elderly in the area.

Links to other Forums

- productive liaison between the different service providers in the area, with increased referrals of elderly to appropriate services.
- Expand the membership of the Council to include, for instance, the Vincent De Paul, Crosscare and the Community Gardaí.

Contact Person

Meave Halpen, Carelocal, 8782358.

LAF PROJECT

History of the Project

In early 2002, in partnership and with the financial support of LUAS, young people in the North West Inner City came together to begin a process over 3 years which will culminate in a piece of public sculpture being erected in their area.

The aim of what became known as the LUAS Arts Forum (LAF) was to include young people in the sweeping changes taking place in their area through creative arts and by doing so to enhance their sense of identification with their area which is undergoing rapid development.

Membership

Formed in 2002 LAF was originally comprised of four local youth organisations: Aosog, Markets Area Youth Service, Stoneybatter Youth Service and Step By Step. In November 2002 the group was joined by professional artist Kieran McNulty, selected through an interview process with the young people. The five stakeholders, in consultation with LUAS, have planned and designed this project. It is anticipated that the piece will be launched in early 2005.

Current activities

At present the group is in the final stage of the process. The skills and concept development stages and models, maquettes and planning phases are completed; we have now reached the construction and installation stage. The piece has been designed and the site has been located and in November 2004 we will be regrouping with the young people to complete this stage.

Future events and plans

In late 2004 we hope to start the construction of the piece with a launch organised and promoted by the young people taking place early 2005. This sculpture is the first of its kind in the North West Inner City, it embodies principles of partnership, meaningful consultation with and participation of young people and its erection will be a huge achievement for all involved.

Contact Person

Sinead Leydon, Step by Step- Tel: 8737052



Grangorman Working Group

Aims

- To review the current proposals in relation to Dublin Institute of Technology 's proposed development in Grangegorman.
- To be the body that determines the most appropriate 'community gains' to be sought for the area as part of the proposed development of Grangegorman.
- To negotiate the delivery of the above agreed 'community gains' with DIT and other relevant bodies.
- To ensure that all-relevant stakeholders are consulted as part of this process.
- To ensure all relevant stakeholders are informed of developments and decisions.
- To review models of good practice in relation to all of the above.

Membership

Macro CDP, An Sol CDP, 2 Reps from Education Working Group, 2 Rep. from Community Forum, Rep. from Council for Services to Older People, Rep. from other Working Groups, Coordinator and Development Worker of the Network.

Activities of the Group

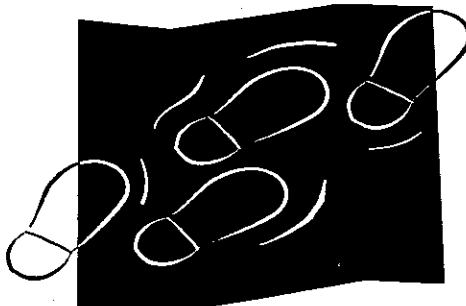
The Group has been only recently formed, in September 2004, and has only had the opportunity to meet once. It is currently:

- Clarifying the exact development proposals for Grangegorman.
- Exploring models of good practice in other education institutes- Dublin City University (DCU), Dundalk IT, National College of Ireland (NCI).
- Sourcing appropriate technical support for the group.
- Agreeing an appropriate process by which to engage with DIT.

The group hopes to have all the above issues agreed by early next year so it can begin engaging with the wider community in this issue.

Contact Person

Michael McCarthy, NWICN- Tel: 6174847.



Disability Working Group

Aim

To raise awareness among Community and Voluntary groups in the NWICN area about the issue of Disability and to support them develop appropriate responses to this issue.

Membership

Membership is open to anyone working or living in the NWICN with an interest or expertise around the issue of Disability. It strongly encourages people with a disability to participate. Current membership includes MACRO CDP, DESSA, MACRO Senior Citizens, Schizophrenia Ireland, Catholic Youth Care and Dublin Inner City Partnership.

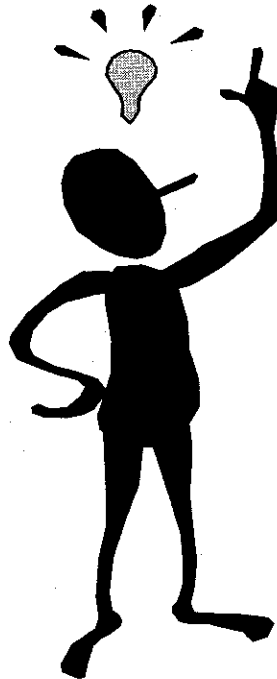
Activities

This Working Group has only recently been formed in October 2004. It originated from a series of meetings instigated by MACRO CDP and DESSA (the specialist support agency for disability) over the last couple of months. A number of issues were brought up at these meetings and it was decided that the best approach was to set-up a Working Group of the Network co-ordinate an area-based response.

Over the next year the Working Group hopes to consolidate itself by encouraging as wide participation as possible, especially from local people with a disability. It also hopes to develop and implement a workplan based on its above aim.

Contact person

Larry Byrne, MACRO CDP- 8737027.



NWICN MEMBERSHIP

Organisation		Organisation	
Gateway	Full	PEN	Full
Macro CDP	Full	Refugee Information Service	Full
O'Devaney/Montpelier Resident's Group	Full	The Sanctuary	Full
Local Employment Service	Full	Smithfield Women's Group	Full
An Síol CDP	Full	The Snug Counselling Service	Full
Access Ireland	Full	Special Education Project	Full
Aosog	Full	Post Polio Support Group	Affiliate
NWIC Training & Development Project	Full	A.R.T.S Ltd	Affiliate
Aughrim St Scouts	Full	Drama League Of Ireland	Affiliate
MOST Project	Full	African Refugee Network	Affiliate
Carmichael Centre for voluntary groups	Full	The Churches Ministry of healing in Ireland	Affiliate
Chrysalis	Full	Migraine Association of Ireland	Affiliate
George's Hill School Community Project Ltd.	Full	Catholic Youth Care	Affiliate
Focus Ireland	Full	Arts Resource & Training Services Ltd	Affiliate
Macro Senior Citizen's Project	Full	Schizophrenia Ireland	Affiliate
Developing Alternative Values	Full	The Wheel	Affiliate
Stoneybatter CTW	Full	Macro Building Management	Affiliate
NWIC Women's Network	Full	Women Leaving Prison Project	Affiliate
Care Local	Full	Muppet Playgroup	Affiliate
Older People's Council	Full	Dublin Community Games	Affiliate
O'Devaney Gdns Development Centre	Full	St Mary's Place Boys School	Affiliate
Dublin 7 Centre for Independent Living	Full	Smashing Times Theatre Co.	Affiliate
Aughrim St Parish Senior Citizens	Full	Pathways Project	Affiliate
Blackhall Residents Group	Full	Introart	Affiliate
George's Hill Women's Group	Full	Probation & Welfare Service	Friend
Halston St Women's Group	Full	NORDUBCO	Friend
North King St Resident's Group	Full	Dublin Inner City Partnership	Friend
Stanhope St. Parents Vikings N.S.	Full	Soilse	Friend
Stoneybatter Youth Service	Full	Vocational Education Committee	Friend
Step by Step	Full	Davis Gallery	Friend
Community Forum	Full	Margaret Murphy	Friend
Aughrim St Parish Centre	Full	National Museum of Ireland	Friend
Aughrim St District Residents Ass.	Full	Garda Siochana	Friend
Markets Area Youth Service	Full	Vermillion Design	Friend
Holy Family Parish	Full	HARP IAP	Friend



THE NORTH WEST INNER CITY NETWORK
WOULD LIKE TO PASS ON OUR GRATITUDE TO
ALL THOSE WHO HAVE HELPED THE WORK OF
THE NETWORK OVER THE LAST YEAR.

THANK YOU!

North West Inner City Network

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