



Minutes of JPC Subcommittee No. 2 – To Enhance Community Safety responses in Galway City with a view to Crime Prevention (via Zoom)

Date: Thursday 18th March 2021

In attendance: Cllr. Mike Cubbard, Cllr. Donal Lyons, Sergeant Michael Walsh, Mr Cameron Keighron, Mr Tommy Flaherty, Ms Caitriona Morgan, Ms Emma Johnston

Apologies: Inspector Peter Conlon

Cllr. Mike Cubbard, Chairperson welcomed all to the Zoom meeting.

1. Review of JPC Subcommittee No. 2 priorities within the context of COVID-19 & planning for Strategic responses to COVID-19

Objective No. 1 - Cybercrime and Fraud scam awareness during COVID-19, the following updates were noted from Sergeant Michael Walsh:

- Cybercrime / Fraud awareness is continuously ongoing using various social media platforms, radio interviews and local newspaper articles.
- The phishing issue with Eir as direct emails coming through to customers from an Eir email address to be further looked into.
- With the possibility of moving away from level 5 restrictions in summer months ahead, and more movement of people we need to keep in mind bogus callers knocking for jobs around the outside of homes.

Objective No. 2 - Domestic Violence, Sergeant Michael Walsh updated as follows:

- Opportunity of creating a working partnership with An Post to aid in the promotion and communication of bringing awareness to domestic abuse regarding the services and supports available to people suffering.
- Continue to promote the ongoing Bright Sky Ireland mobile phone app and see what the benefit is and what the opportunities are around this issue.

Objective No. 3 – Continue to support existing and new safety networks, Sergeant Michael Walsh updated as follows:

- Continue liaison with NUIG Students Union on student support for digital marketing campaigns and initiative, e.g. bike theft, money muling and other crime issues relating to their target age group.
- Further explore the possibility of Galway City participating in the Crime Prevention Ambassador Programme as it supports older people and vulnerable people in society.

Objective No. 4 – Community and Water Safety, Sergeant Michael Walsh updated as follows:

- Explore the possibility of creating an online Water Safety video campaign in partnership with Water Safety Ireland ahead of summer months to help promote and bring awareness to the matter.

2. Any Other Business

Ms Caitriona Morgan noted a number of funding programmes currently open that we should be actively looking into so we can share it out to the many groups we work with etc. It was also noted that Sergeant Michael Walsh made a submission in respect of the review of the current City Development Plan (2017 – 2023) and preparation of the new Development Plan (2023 – 2029) focussing on Crime Prevention and designing out crime.

It was agreed and noted that Cllr. Mike Cubbard would give a verbal update on the above to the JPC Committee at their next meeting being held on Monday 22nd March 2021.