

The Community Liaison Committee

Introduction

In The Grangegorman Strategic Plan and subsequently in the Planning Scheme the Agency committed to assisting in the setting up of a Community Liaison Committee to help with the embedding of a new community of 22,000 TU Dublin students and staff with the existing community. The central aim of this committee was to ensure that the community had a voice and forum to discuss issues and to avert potential problems or to avoid them altogether once the new quarter and especially the new campus was up and running. This committee would deal with issues such as offsite student accommodation, late night events, campus safety and general community and student interaction.

While the first students and staff will not arrive in Grangegorman until 2014 and a very large cohort, 10,000 will not arrive until 2017, it is important that a structure is put in place now. With this in mind it appears that the most logical course of action is to re-activate the Community Working Group, which was originally set up in 2010 but which was suspended due to a lack of progress on the project.

The Community Working Group was set up following a request by the community elected representative on the Board, who felt that while there was a TU Dublin working Group and a HSE working group, there was no forum to formally discuss community issues on the project on a regular basis. This group began to meet once a month one week before the Board meeting. It was attended by the community member of the Board and Consultative Group, the elected officials on the Board (two DCC Councillors) and the CEO and Communications Officer of the Agency. Other public officials involved in the project were invited and attended occasionally. The group discussed aspects of the project which would have an effect on the community.

If this group gets up and running again it would provide a good structure and platform for what will eventually become The Community Liaison Committee (CLC). From here on the Group will be known as the Grangegorman Community Liaison Committee. Below are the terms of reference for the CLC, which are derived from those originally set out for the Community Working Group.

Terms of Reference

Vision

The Grangegorman development will see a new urban quarter constructed in Dublin's north inner city. The facilities to be built here will benefit the HSE, TU Dublin and the surrounding community. The Community Working Group will help optimise the community benefits of the project and ensure that the new community of staff and students embeds with the established community in a sustainable manner.

Objectives

The Community working group will concentrate on aspects of the project which will impact on them. These aspects can be broken down into;

- Communication on development proposals
- Community safety (in association with DCC and the Gardai)

- Community and student integration (in association with TU Dublin)
- Transport/ mobility/ traffic
- Education opportunities (in association with the Labour and Learning Forum)
- Local employment opportunities (in association with the Labour and Learning Forum)
- Health facilities for the local area (in association with Health Forum)
- The public library (In association with TU Dublin and DCC)
- Per Cent for Art Scheme
- Access for the local community to the sporting facilities (In association with TU Dublin)
- Encouraging greater co-operation with TU Dublin and HSE
- Any other community items that emerge during the project and need to be passed onto the Board.
- Ensure Dublin City Council requirements are met
- Community projects such as gardens etc.
- Achievement of Grangegorman Vision

The purpose of the meetings will be to anticipate these community issues at the earliest possible opportunity and to see if they can be advanced and dealt with by the Executive of the Agency working with the community representatives on a day to day basis.

Members

The members of the Community Liaison Committee are to be

- 2 community members of the Consultative Group
- 1 community member of the Board
- 2 DCC elected members on the Consultative Group
- 1 DCC elected member on the Board
- 2 GDA staff
- Rep from HSE
- Rep from TU Dublin

Other organisations will join the meetings as necessary by invitation on a month by month basis.

As the project moves on and the committee moves from dealing with construction matters towards more embedding of the new student population the group will need to bring in more of the representatives as set out in the Planning Scheme. In addition to the reps above it will be necessary to include the Gardai and student union representatives.

Roles and responsibilities

The overall role of the CWG is to ensure the community's needs are met within the overall Grangegorman project. The responsibilities of each member of the group will be to ensure they are representing their respective stakeholders, ensuring communication between their group and all others and ensuring the most productive approach to realising their goals is taken. More specific roles and responsibilities will be drawn out once the group is properly established.

It is important that this group does not take on the roles and responsibilities of other already established groups such as the Consultative Group. It is also important that there is not duplication of work in the area and therefore already established groups such as the one arising from the Employment study and the Local Health forum as well as work being carried out by TU Dublin, the HSE, FAS et, are utilised as part of this group.

The information and issues discussed in the meetings will be reported on by the CEO at the Board meeting. The community reps on the Board will also be able to elaborate on any issue.

Meeting Schedule

The group will meet at least a week before the GDA Board meeting so that it can report back to the Board or issues arising can be brought to the Board. This area will be developed more once the group is properly established.