

IDRA

DON'T JUST TALK ABOUT THE ISSUES. **GET INVOLVED** MAY 2026 NEWSLETTER

Website: www.ionaanddistrictresidentsassociation.com

Email: idra.email@gmail.com

Facebook: @ionadistrictresidents X: @iona_residents

Instagram: @iona_residents

CHAIRPERSON'S UPDATE

Hello Residents, this year's IDRA Annual General Meeting will take place on Wednesday 13th May in the function room of the Maples House Hotel, Iona Road. The meeting will start at 7.30pm sharp and I would ask attendees to arrive early as in the past we have had to delay the start. Committee members will be on site from 7pm to welcome attendees and take membership subscriptions. Tea and Coffee will be available on the evening.

Note: The option to pay your IDRA subscription is available on the IDRA website, simply click on the link below. The committee has maintained the annual subscription at €15 (+15c transaction fee when using our online facility).

<https://platform.payzone.ie/customer/11285/product-list/details/9930>



Or you can scan the QR code and go to the membership option on the home page.

The night will be an opportunity for residents to come together and reflect on the previous year's happenings and to discuss some ongoing and new challenges, that may impact or be of concern to our residents.

The agenda will cover IDRA finances, neighbourhood watch, planning and other matters. There will be time for Q&A on any of the headline items. There will also be time allotted to 'any other business' at the end of the AGM.

During 2025 IDRA engagement continued with community Gardaí, Joe and Sean and we would like to thank the community gardaí who attended meetings regularly and hosted regular meetings in Fitzgibbon Street station. Representatives will be attending the AGM and will give a short presentation and take some questions after.

I recently had the honour of representing IDRA at an Afternoon Tea, hosted by the Lord Mayor, Cllr Ray Mc Adam. On behalf of IDRA, I was presented with an award recognising IDRA's sustained commitment to local community life (see couple of photos!).

The committee and I look forward to seeing you at the AGM.

Noel Rigney
Chairperson

WILL YOU JOIN THE IDRA COMMITTEE?

For quite a while now, the IDRA committee has been staying afloat with the support and contribution of a small number of residents. However, to fully achieve the Residents Association's objectives and complete our annual agenda, the committee needs more residents to get involved. As a community we also need to be ready to engage with some of the significant infrastructural projects impacting our community and environment.

Whether your interest is to learn more about the neighbourhood that you are part of, or if you have a particular

interest in the property planning process, infrastructural developments, running community events, leading out on our green and sustainability agenda, heritage, helping with regular communications and much more, then we urge you to join the committee. We meet once a month and generally the time commitment is a couple of hours per month.

This is a wonderful neighbourhood and you all deserve the best Residents Association possible. Please reach out by sending



an email to idra.email@gmail.com and we can have a chat. Otherwise come along on the night of the AGM and put your hand up when we ask for volunteers from the floor.

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH (NHW) UPDATE

The NHW scheme has been running now for 4 years and continues to assist the Gardaí in reducing the crime in the IDRA area. The Crime statistics show a significant drop in reported crime rates. Let's keep this up and if your road does not participate in the scheme we really encourage you to join. Please speak to Andrew at the AGM or get in touch by email: idra.email@gmail.com

In the meantime, you can assist yourself by improving your home security with modern locks, intruder Alarm, CCTV/ Security Cameras/Ring Type Doorbell and Motion Lights. Most importantly Lock up and Light up. AND do not forget to lock your car. Most car crime in the area can be stopped, simply by ensuring that your car is locked.

Sincere thanks to our Community Gardaí and the Garda Síochána more widely, as well as our street coordinators, for their actions and support in making our NHW scheme so successful.

IDRA OFFICERS:

CHAIR:

Noel Rigney

SECRETARY/ CROKE PARK REP:

Carol Lynch

TREASURER/ ENVIRONMENT REP:

Declan O' Sullivan

PLANNING REPS:

Carmel Sherry

Ciaran Mullarkey

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH:

Andrew Quinn

TRAFFIC REP:

Zach Kelly

IDRA PLANNING UPDATE

PLANNING ISSUES ARISING IN 2025

The IDRA Planning Sub-Committee continues to monitor planning developments in the area. During 2025, Dublin City Council received 40 valid planning applications with just 3 refused or split decisions. 13 applications remained undecided at the end of 2025. Most of the planning applications received related to domestic applications for rear extensions, attic conversions and mews type houses in the rear garden. Commercial planning applications included The Bernard Shaw Pub, 6 Addison Place, Victoria Lane and the Former Holy Cross College (1,131 apartments). IDRA submitted observations on eight planning applications in 2025.

ENFORCEMENT ISSUES

Quinn's Pub 42-44 Drumcondra Road Lower and adjoining premises up to St. Alphonsus Lane. While work on the pub premises has advanced, there is no record of any current planning application on this site. IDRA has been engaging with Dublin City Council's Enforcement Section (Ref No. E0717/24). Responding to a query from IDRA, Dublin City Council confirmed that the site at 48, 48B, 50 and 50A Drumcondra Road Lower was added to the Derelict Sites Register in September 2025.

OTHER ISSUES

Daneswell Place (Former Smurfit site). Dublin City Council Housing Delivery Report for February 2026 shows all of the 160 apartments as permitted have been allocated for Social Housing. All are to be provided and rented out by Co-Operative Housing Ireland (CHI). A duplex housing block with eight units is being sold separately. Completion is estimated for quarter 4 of 2026.

IDRA PLANNING SUB-COMMITTEE IS IN URGENT NEED OF NEW MEMBERS TO JOIN IT. IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN JOINING PLEASE EMAIL CARMEL AT IDRA.EMAIL@GMAIL.COM

CURRENT LIST OF DCC COUNCILLORS:

Dublin City Councillors Cabra-Glasnevin: Central Area Committee

Feljin Jose	Green Party	feljin.jose@dublincity.ie
Séamas McGrattan	Sinn Féin	seamas.mcgrattan@dublincity.ie
Cat O'Driscoll	Social Democrats	cat.odriscoll@socialdemocrats.ie
Gayle Ralph	Fine Gael	gayle.ralph@dublincity.ie
Colm O'Rourke	Fine Gael	colm.orourke@dublincity.ie
Cieran Perry	Independent	cieran.perry@gmail.com
John Stephens	Fianna Fáil	john.stephens@dublincity.ie

MONTHLY CLEAN UP

The Iona Clean Up group has been going for over two years now, with the aim of making our area an even more pleasant environment to live in. This volunteer group meets on the last Saturday of every month outside Iona Church at 9.30am and cleaning equipment is provided. We look forward to seeing as many residents as possible join us. For further details please contact Paul Collins on 087 2591508.



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

THE ANNUAL FAMILY FUN DAY returns on **Sunday June 14th 2026** in the grounds of **St. Columba's Church, Iona Road**. It is always a very enjoyable day with lots of activities for the young and not so young. Volunteers to help out are always welcome!!

TRAFFIC GROUP REPORT

Our traffic group formed in 2022 with the aim of delivering better streets for Iona District residents. Our hope was that traffic management measures could address the worsening volume, speed and behaviour of through traffic. Quieter streets would also have amenity value and compensate for the lack of communal space in the area. As of April 2026, we have not achieved, and cannot see a path to achieving, these goals.

We have been active. We started by studying traffic in the area. We visited areas within Dublin which have better traffic experiences than ours and found features which could form part of a solution. Our traffic survey was a success. It achieved penetration and participation rates which industry professionals regarded as exceptional. That survey found a clear consensus; there was a growing problem with rat-run traffic and residents wanted change. We were able to get funding for Telram devices which allowed us to measure problem behaviours and it showed that 40% of motor vehicles exceed the legal speed limit.

Our research and the survey led us to proposals which have potential to deliver a better residential experience.

We then began the process of communicating with local elected representatives and Dublin City Council. Elected local representatives were approachable, informed, and supportive. National elected representatives were more ambivalent. Dublin City Council have not engaged and we don't know why? At this point we cannot see what further steps can be taken and are stepping back from the project.

There is some hope. Some neighbouring areas have seen rat run traffic become less of a problem following the build out of BusConnect corridors. That may turn out to be the case for Iona & District. There are also steps that residents can take which, while not formal traffic management, can be good for our neighbourhood. An example might be to run

neighbourhood quiet days or street parties. Gardai have been supportive of such one-day street closures. Temporary closures have been held in some areas and these have the potential to help the District to become more of the calm, safer place it can be.

Signing off: The Traffic Group

IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN GETTING INVOLVED IN THE IDRA COMMITTEE, NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH OR ONE OF THE SUB-GROUPS THEN SEND AN EMAIL TO IDRA.EMAIL@GMAIL.COM

SEE YOU AT THE AGM – WEDNESDAY 13TH MAY AT 7.30PM