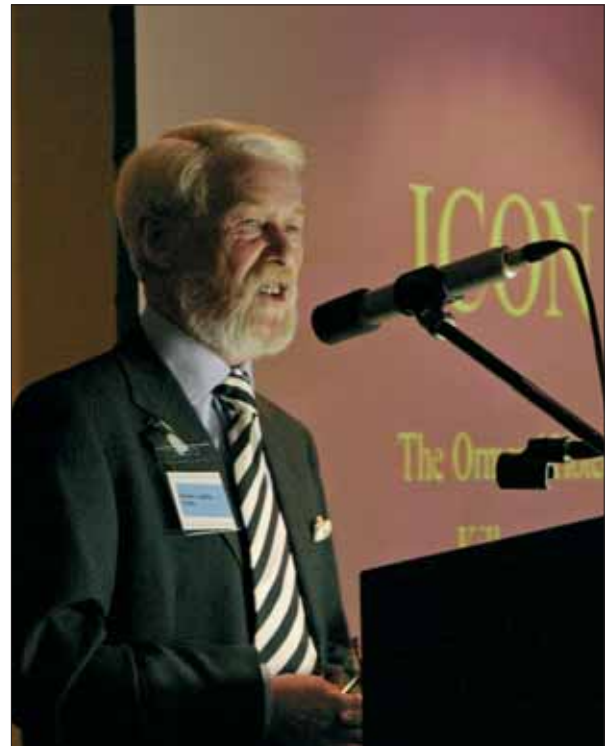


CHALLENGING TIMES

ICON Strategic Plan 2007–2010

Chairperson Foreword

The North East Inner City is going through a period of fundamental change. For the first time in many years the population is increasing with people from all over the world, attracted by the opportunities created by the hugely successful growth in the economy. New housing developments are springing up throughout the area, attracting people who want to live in a thriving and prosperous city, happy with apartment living, and the advantage of living in the heart of the capital. While this will obviously affect local area statistics, perhaps creating the impression that poverty in all its forms no longer is a problem, it is also an opportunity to tackle the very real problems of poverty and disadvantage that still blight the lives of many families in the area.



ICON readily acknowledges the huge progress made over recent years, in particular the massive reduction in unemployment. There is no doubt that those best equipped to take that opportunity when it arose, were those who had been in training and education projects, CE and other schemes, literacy courses and community initiatives, when there was no work and very little funding.

The term 'capacity building' while much abused, is an appropriate term for a process that was going on, with little hope for many years.

The results of all that effort are now being realised, however, not everybody has benefited. There are many families who have continued to struggle. Skills deficits, low levels of education, social exclusion and deprivation, addiction related issues and a combination of circumstance, and official indifference have combined to keep many people in poverty. It is for this reason that the ICON Strategic Plan is so important. It seeks to identify and address the many barriers to progress and is drawn up in a spirit of consultation, commitment and partnership.

If the new National Development Plan is delivered in the same spirit, we will have a real chance to make substantial progress.


SEANIE LAMBE CHAIRPERSON

ICON Strategic Plan 2007–2010

The Inner City Organisations Network is a voluntary organisation operating in the North East Inner City of Dublin. It is made up of community projects, local tenants' groups, as well as individuals working and living in the area. A key focus of the network is to create forums for debate and local policy making and to explore issues affecting the local community in areas such as drugs, education, housing, intercultural issues and the impact of urban developments in the area.

Inherent in the aims of the organisation is a commitment to pursuing a partnership approach between statutory and non-statutory sectors as well as actively encouraging the participation of local tenants and residents in initiatives such as the North Inner Drugs Task Force and the Dublin Inner City Partnership. This extends to developments that have significant impact on the area such as the Dublin Docklands Development and the Dublin City Council Area Plan for the North Inner City.



ICON

ICON is a forum where issues affecting the people of Dublin's North-East Inner City are discussed and agreed and joint action is planned. It is made up of community and voluntary organisations and individuals working and living in the North East Inner City.

The broad functions of ICON include:

- Acting as a source of information
- Campaigning and lobbying around issues identified within the community
- Encouraging local policy making through debated and discussion forums
- Promoting partnership approach between community, voluntary, statutory and business sectors
- Providing a catalyst to initiate relevant service responses to issues identified within the community



Acknowledgment

This plan would not have been possible without the collective effort and commitment of members of the working groups of ICON, who worked tirelessly to organise the workshops at the conference in Kilkenny and continued to develop the actions over the course of 2006. The involvement of local residents and projects in Kilkenny resulted in considered and real inputs from all sectors of the community.



Methodology

In March 2006 ICON held a conference in Kilkenny. There have been five major conferences to date. These have focused on a participatory approach involving the community and voluntary and statutory agencies. A major element of these conferences has been the involvement of local people and developing links with a wide range of government agencies. This approach has been key in the development of initiatives such as the Inter-Agency Drugs Project, the Integrated Services Initiative, the Integrated Area Plan and the Employment Network.

The conference in Kilkenny aimed to consider the future of the network looking to the challenges and changes that the area is to face. The workshops as chosen by ICON members focused on education, drugs, childcare, intercultural issues and empowering youth. The conference was the means by which the management and staff of ICON could consult its' members on issues that needed to be addressed in the Strategic Plan for 2007-2010.

Additional aims of the conference were:

- To promote an interagency approach by bringing together the local community and the voluntary and statutory agencies to explore issues identified at local level which had arisen largely out of social and economic disadvantage, poverty and social exclusion.
- To encourage the participation, in particular of local tenants and residents, in discussion forums on issues with a view to ensuring their active involvement in the development of strategies aimed at tackling poverty and social exclusion.

As with previous ICON conferences, there was an opportunity for delegates to articulate their views on issues that impact on their lives. Each workshop was introduced by a guest speaker who gave their perceptions on the current issues facing the north inner city. Delegates were then asked to break into smaller groups to discuss the topics further. The drugs workshop was divided into four thematic workshops- Supply and Control, Rehabilitation, Treatment and Family and Youth.

The morning session involved each workshop reflecting on what they felt were the current issues facing the ICON area and were then asked to prioritise those issues. The afternoon session revisited those priorities and explored options for addressing those concerns.

Each workshop had a facilitator and a note taker who reported back to the wider conference at the end of the day.

There were many recommendations that arose from the conference, which are outlined in the conference report. Unfortunately ICON does not have the capacity to address all the recommendations made so the working groups were convened to try and break down the recommendations into practical actions that ICON could tackle. A facilitator was hired to support the working groups through this process. The end result was a series of actions to be undertaken over the course of the next three years.

North East Inner City Demographics

'The North East Inner city comprises ten electoral divisions in the centre of Dublin..... The area is bounded to the south by the River Liffey, to the east by the sea, to the north by the River Tolka and Clonliffe Road, and to the west by Dorset Street and East Arran Street'

(Integrated Services Initiative, Common Goals Unmet Needs. 1997:13)

The most recent Census data of 2006 indicates that the North East Inner City of Dublin has a population of 33,823 people.

District	2002	2006			Change in Population 2002-2006	
	Persons	Persons	Males	Females	Actual	Percentage
Ballybough A	3,368	3,617	1,851	1,766	249	7.4
Ballybough B	3,009	3,212	1,725	1,487	203	6.7
Mountjoy A	3,242	3,976	2,036	1,940	734	22.6
Mountjoy B	2,725	3,456	1,925	1,531	731	26.8
North City	3,942	3,667	1,958	1,709	-275	-7.0
North Dock A	1,287	1,208	610	598	-79	-6.1
North Dock B	3,628	3,700	1,889	1,811	72	2.0
North Dock C	3,568	4,126	2,121	2,005	558	15.6
Rotunda A	4,199	4,712	2,614	2,098	513	12.2
Rotunda B	1,752	2,149	1,139	1,010	397	22.7
Total	31,905	33,823	17,868	15,955	3,103	

In 2002 the government sponsored development programme RAPID (Revitalising Areas by Planning, Investment and Development) described the area in the following way:

'The Area is characterised by social exclusion, multi-dimensional deprivation and generational educational under-achievement. High levels of unemployment, dereliction, physical neglect, drugs, environmental decay, pollution, a poor infrastructure, a poor standard of housing, lack of recreational facilities and spaces to play, are prevalent throughout the Area.'

Recommendations and Actions

The following sections show the recommendations from the ICON Conference in the first column and the actions devised to meet each recommendation.

Each recommendation is categorised under the aims of ICON:

1. Acting as a Source of Information
2. Campaigning and Lobbying around issues identified within the community
3. Encouraging local policy making through debate and discussion forums/ sub groups
4. Promoting a partnership approach between community, voluntary, statutory and business sectors
5. Providing a catalyst to initiate relevant service responses to issues identified within the community
6. Research and Training

While research and training are not specific aims of ICON, these issues were raised continuously throughout the conference and were subsequently added. In this area ICON can access funding to undertake research and work with partner organisations to deliver training.



Education Strategic Plan

Recommendation	Action
Acting as A Source of Information	
Develop a system for passing on information to parents	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Through the ICON Newsletter • Expand the Community Participation Training Directory • Exhibition of Services • Through Tenants Groups • Update ISP Directory
Information on Apprentiships to be made available	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Information distribution as above
Dissemination of information e.g. Outreach Work, resource centres	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promote existing services
Campaigning and Lobbying Around Issues Identified within the Community	
Quality mark requirements should be put on schools, in relation to quality of service.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop research <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Meet with relevant government agencies to assess expectations – Meet with parents and children to assess expectations of a quality school
Retaining Benefits on return to education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop position paper with recommendations on this issue to use for 2007 general election
Question the withdrawal of funds from schools	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Raise the issue with local politicians and Dept of Education & Science • Lobby for increased resources for schools
Funding	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide Information on Funding options • Use general election to campaign for increased funds
Targeting those who are most in need	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Link with and support existing groups
Encouraging Local Policy Making through debate and discussion forums and sub/groups	
Establish an Education Forum	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Expand the Education Working Group • Target Stakeholders (Parents, Students, Teachers) • Set up a Forum
More Special Needs and resource teachers are required to work with the community and youth sector	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Link with existing bodies to lobby for increased resources in the area of special needs
Promoting partnership approach between community, voluntary, statutory and business sectors	
Strengthen the relationship between community groups and schools	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Design a Teachers in Service Programme
Arrange for Home School Liaisons to visit community groups	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Link the Home School Liaisons with the Teachers In Service Programme

Guidance Counsellors should link with community groups	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Link Guidance Counsellors with the Teachers In Service Programme
Link Fas with Youth Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support this process
Foster a partnership approach between the community and the Department of Education and Science	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop bi-annual meetings with the Department
Providing a Catalyst to initiate relevant service responses	
Provide Programmes to train people – scholarships, work experience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Host an exhibition of existing services in the area for youth and community groups
Further develop programmes aimed at people with special needs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Organise a seminar on the issue of special needs
Research and Training	
Study demographics and identify research gaps	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Study latest census figures
Training Young People as leaders	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support existing programmes • Support the emerging Youth Forum
Hold Voter Education Programmes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support the projects providing programmes



Intercultural Plan

Recommendation	Action
Acting as a Source of information	
Develop an Orientation Programme	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop an Orientation Pack for Dublin 1 &3 based on the KWCD Partnership pack developed for Dublin 12 – Look for funding on this initiative
Make a list of existing agencies and contact numbers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Include in the above Orientation Pack
Host a Know Your Rights Night	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Host an event with a community perspective, link with existing organisations to access information – Launch the aforementioned Orientation Pack – Establish a working group to develop this event
Hold Cultural Events	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Link with the Dublin Multicultural Resource Centre to hold cultural events
Make available information folders on different cultures	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Distribute to schools and community groups • Develop a flyer to tell groups where to access the information
Establish Information Centre	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promote the Dublin Multicultural Resource Centre
<i>Employment</i>	
Make information available on wages, standards etc.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promote the Refugee Information Service as a source of information • Access leaflets from the Rights Unit in the Department of Enterprise, Trade and Employment, MRCI, Integrating Ireland and Immigrant Council of Ireland – Collate information and distribute • Develop booklet for the indigenous community in relation to residency, work permits, welfare entitlements etc. – Link with the MRCI

Campaigning and Lobbying Around Issues Identified within the Community	
Confront Racism	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop Position Papers for the General Election <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Language – Community Development Support – Employment – Housing
School to provide language classes	
Demand Migrant groups be resourced	
<i>Employment</i>	
Lobby for change in government policy in relation to work permits and general employment standards	
Lobby for more labour inspectors	
<i>Housing</i>	
Lobby for Housing inspectors and regulation by the HSE	
Address the private rental sector and make private landlords accountable	
Encouraging Local Policy Making through debate and discussion forums and sub/groups	
Link with minority ethnic groups to discuss issues and exchange information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Engage with new groups to explain community development process • Link with new and existing groups • Include Minority Ethnic Groups in ICON activities
<i>Housing</i>	
Develop a policy in relation to tenants rights in the private rental sector	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Include minority ethnic communities in this debate • Include issues in position papers • Intercultural proofing for future work
Develop a local community response e.g. Buckingham Street Complex as an example	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Include minority ethnic communities in this debate
Promoting partnership approach between community, voluntary, statutory and business sectors	
Engage with new groups to explain community development system in Ireland	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meet with local minority ethnic groups • Invite new groups and members on to the Working Group
Work in partnership to build capacity of new communities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop links with the New Communities Partnership
Invite new communities to residents' meetings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explore the issue with Resident's Associations
Involve Children in the YAPR Initiative	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Target young people in local projects to join YPAR
Providing a catalyst to initiate relevant service responses to issues identified within the community	
Co-ordinate outreach work	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support the efforts of the DMRC to expand centre and hire new staff
Research and Training	
Review existing research	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Collate and utilise existing research to campaign an lobby for improvements
Support local educational and training initiatives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify a programme of education and anti-racism training • Seek partners to deliver training

Supply and Control Workshop

Recommendation	Action
Acting as a Source of Information	
Work with Gardai to disseminate information re: confidential hotline	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use website and newsletter to promote the confidential hotline
Campaigning and Lobbying around issues identified within the community	
Raise the issue of 10 year mandatory sentencing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support Supply and Control Sub-group on this issue. • ICON representatives will continue to raise the issue on the sub-group and at Task Force level. • Organise seminar to invite shadow ministers involved in justice to discuss the issue.
Additional resources required to assist the Gardai in tackling the increase in drug use	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support the Supply and Control Sub-group.
Lobby for more community Gardai	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Raise the issue on representative forums. • ICON reps report back any information received and disseminate through ICON.
CCTV cameras are needed in areas where drug dealing is taking place	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Write to Minister for Justice and request position in relation to supplying CCTV cameras. • Access Hubert Collins Report in relation to CCTV cameras to assist argument. • Utilise the response from the Minister to start a debate on the issue. • Attempt to pinpoint areas where drug dealing is taking place and lobby for cameras in these areas.
Implement existing anti-social behaviour policy and extend to private landlords	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Write to the Tenancies Board requesting complete information on registration of private landlords and policy in relation to anti social behaviour and redress. • Information should then be disseminated to the community.
Campaign for limits to be placed on number of outlets selling alcohol in the area	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tackle this issue is when license is being renewed. • Lobby for individual bar coding for off-licences to monitor where alcohol is coming from. • Write to DCC outlining how we have lobbied courts etc. and liaise with DCC in this matter
CAB: Lobby for money to re invested in communities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Write to Voluntary Bar Council to investigate how the law needs to be amended in order for money to be reinvested in communities.
Funding: Investment in communities to be adequate to meet the needs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue to lobby for investment to meet the needs of the communities.

Encourage local Policy Making through debate and discussion forums	
CAB: Local CAB be established to work to target the assets of local dealers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Write to Voluntary Bar Council to investigate how the law needs to be amended in order for money to be reinvested in communities.
Promoting a partnership approach between community, voluntary, statutory and business sectors	
Working with Gardai from Minority Ethnic Communities to link with new communities who might be involved in drug dealing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support Minority Ethnic Community Policing Forum
A Multi-agency response is required to deal with the increased usage of crack cocaine and cocaine	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support the Crack Cocaine Group which has ICON representation
Providing a Catalyst to initiate relevant service responses to issues identified within the community	
Emphasis needs to be placed on combating public drinking	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Investigate the number of fines issued for public drinking and the numbers that are paid. • Ask Councillors to raise the issue at the Area Committee as to why there is no follow through on fines.



Treatment Plan

Recommendation	Action
Acting as a Source of Information	
Promote new cocaine initiatives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Distribute NCAD and NDST report on cocaine use when available • Hold a local event/seminar on issue to coincide with report or support other groups in doing so
Share learning and good practice in relation to treatment services. Communicate any learning.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Look at other models of good practice • Raise the issue with City Clinic in relation to the dissemination of information to clients. • Develop a leaflet outlining services in the area
Campaigning and Lobbying around Issues identified within the community	
Focus on improving health services, not just methadone	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue to lobby on this issue • Support the recommendations from the 'We're People Too' Report
Fully Implement the Methadone protocol	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Set up dedicated procedure of quarterly meetings with HSE. Use a step-by step approach to develop this. <p>Raise the issues e.g.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – methadone protocol – What happened to Cocaine pilot at City Clinic? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encourage projects and representatives to feed into the agenda for these meetings
Encouraging Local Policy making through debated and discussion forums/sub groups	
Establishment of a Community Health Forum	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Issue is being progressed as part of a strategy in relation to primary health care units
Promoting Partnership approach between community, voluntary, statutory and business sectors	
Support the involvement of patients in the development of procedures and protocols and involved in any treatment reviews	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Patients Charter- obtain updates on the Patients charter • Support the full implementation of the recommendations of the 'We're People Too' Report.
Providing a Catalyst to initiate relevant service responses to issues identified within the community	
Promote the need to address harm reduction services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure community consultation and provide information on the location of services in the area • Revisit Task Force document on harm reduction services. Support Recommendations in document
Research and Training	
Community models of detox need to be examined and creative approaches developed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify a project to do this research and support through fund raising etc.

Rehabilitation Plan

Recommendation	Action
Campaigning and Lobbying around issues identified within the community	
Social Welfare Payments should take account of special circumstances and needs relating to rehabilitation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support the Rehabilitation Group in the Task Force on this issue • Lobby to ensure Dept of Social and Family Affairs sit at Drugs Task Force table
Respond to the undermining of the community drug response by the government	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Link with CityWide and drugs reps to further develop this campaign
Lobby for a full minister of state for drugs to reflect the importance of this issue	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Link with CityWide and drugs reps to further develop this campaign
Maintain pressure on the government for increase service provision and representation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Link with CityWide and drugs reps to further develop this campaign
Further Funding	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Link with CityWide and drugs reps to further develop this campaign
Call for reinstatement of childcare services at City Clinic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Link with Barnardos for information on Childcare strategies. • Strengthen existing partnership with the City Clinic to further issues
Work with CityWide and Saol in relation to CE Schemes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support current work in this area
Encourage local Policy Making through debate and discussion forums	
Initiate the debate on volunteerism and the capacity the community has to deliver services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plan a seminar on this issue to demystify language and assess capacity
Promoting a partnership approach between community, voluntary, statutory and business sectors	
Integrated care planning for all agencies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Following publication of rehabilitation document, ensure its dissemination within the community and highlight local issues
Work with agencies to develop a response and procedures around housing needs of those who have lost homes as a result of drug dealing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Revisit recommendation from Waterford Conference on Anti-Social Behaviour and housing • Arrange meeting with Ballyfermot to look at the Social Intervention Model • Clarify situation with DCC on policy in relation to advocates attending anti-social behaviour meetings with Dublin City Council. • Work with a sub-group to develop a list of advocates available to help families meeting DCC in relation to ASB.

Providing a Catalyst to initiate relevant service responses to issues identified within the community	
After-hours services for those attending drugs services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support current groups looking at this issue • Make a record of services and available hours for dissemination • Address the issue of day time services too
Dedicated Places in Rehabilitation Services Expand Family re-integration services Increase community based detox provision and residential service provision	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support existing campaign • Support the process • Promote rehabilitation document when it is published • Lobby key agencies to make these issues a priority
Research and Training	
Research into national drug rehabilitation programme focusing on the needs of the client	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support recommendations made in rehabilitation document • Debate at Steering Committee level to ensure a local perspective is considered
Education workshops using a rights based approach	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support current work in this area
Awareness raising training around rehab	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Following publication of rehabilitation report, analyse the impacts on the local community.



Family and Youth Plan

Recommendation	Action
Acting as A Source On Information	
<p>Develop a Comprehensive guide for families who are accessing services</p> <p>Travelling Exhibition of Services</p> <p>Information on services should be provided to every home in the North Inner City</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop a leaflet for families outlining a step-by-step guide of what to do if your child is using drugs and what supports are available. • Hold an exhibition of services of those dealing with drug users. Network Event to share information. • Disseminate the Step-by-Step Guide
Campaigning and Lobbying around issues identified within the community	
<p>Develop and resource services for the children of drug users</p> <p>Re-establishment of the crèche in the City Clinic</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Research actions in other areas in relation to Peer Support Groups for Children and Siblings affected by drug use. • Link with Youth Projects on this issue. • Involve relevant bodies to investigate how best to make this work. Two requirements <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) Supervised Play area for kids while parents receiving treatment (ii) A Crèche for the children of drug addicted parents
Encouraging local policy making through debate and discussion forums/sub-groups	
<p>Deliver age-appropriate services to children</p> <p>Establish a sub-group to address the difficulties inherent in drug related deaths of those on limited means</p> <p>Establishment of a grandparents sub-group to address issues and provide a consistent service to families</p> <p>Alcohol sub-group should be established</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Raise this issue with the Prevention & Education Group. • Promote local programmes • Document the reality of the situation to support a case. • Access research from Gay Mitchell. • Investigate holding a meeting with local undertakers to develop a policy in partnership. • Establish a sub-group to investigate starting a local hardship fund • Establish a sub-group • Lobby the Department of Social and Family Affairs to have a representative at the Drugs Task Force. • Raise this issue at the Drugs Task Force

Promoting a Partnership approach between community, voluntary, statutory and business sector	
Have a youth representative on the Task Force	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Raise the issue at the Drugs Task Force
Promote Partnership learning programmes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promote local programmes within schools. • Raise the issue at the Prevention and Education sub-group
Providing a catalyst to initiate relevant service responses to issues identified within the community	
Creating Out of Hours Service on evenings and weekends when families need most support	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Access funding to undertake needs analysis in relation to after hours services for families • Promote current services and supports
Research and Training	
Identify models of Best Practice to identify trends and be pro-active in relation to family services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Undertake research to collate research on best practice and models.



Childcare Plan

ICON is an active member of the Young People at Risk Process (YPAR) and is represented on the Steering Committee and the different sub-groups. As there is a dedicated process in place to address the concerns raised below it was felt that to avoid duplication of the work, the following actions would best be tackled by YPAR with additional support from ICON.

Recommendation	Action
Acting as a Source on Information	
Listings of Services for new communities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Link with the intercultural Group who will be developing a resource directory for the Dublin 1&3 areas.
Campaigning and Lobbying around issues identified within the community	
Lobby Pobal for increased resources and further supports for existing services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop position paper on affordable childcare services
Affordable Childcare Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Link with YPAR Steering Group and Dublin City Council Childcare committee to lobby for affordable childcare services in the North Inner City.
Encouraging Local Policy Making through debate and discussion forums/sub-groups	
Development of a co-ordinating body for 5-10 age cohort	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support the YPAR 5-12 group where practical and necessary.
Map Current Service Provision	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Distribute research undertaken by YPAR
Development of Services 0-1 years	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support Projects currently undertaking this work e.g. Hill Street FRC
Pockets of NEIC not covered by after school provision	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support the development of this group within YPAR
Promoting Partnership to initiate relevant service responses to issues identified within the community	
Code of conduct for agencies should be delivered and monitored	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support the research by YPAR in this area.
Research and Training	
Deliver training in relation to diversity and equality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify a programme of education in diversity and equality and seek partners to deliver training.
Examine Best Practice Research and fit for local context	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Collate available information and fit to local area

<p>Intercultural Training for adults working with children</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify an intercultural programme of training and seek partners to deliver training. • Encourage agencies to participate in local training
<p>Undertake a review of premises to assess what is available</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Utilise the YPAR mapping document • Co-ordinate and liaise with Dublin City Council on crèche and childcare facilities as they arise



Youth Empowering Youth

Background to Group

The ICON Young People at Risk Project (YPARP) aims to reduce the number of young people at risk in the North East Inner City of Dublin through the development of an integrated programme of care. The project adopts a partnership approach towards the development and implementation of a strategy targeted at young people at risk in the North East Inner City of Dublin.

12-18 Sub Group

The 12-18 sub-group is one of the sub-groups within the overall YPAR structure. The aims of the 12-18 sub-group are:

- To involve young people in the ICON/YPAR process.
- To set up a youth forum in the NEIC.
- To organise meetings, activities and weekends away in conjunction with the young people involved in order to:
 - Maintain the interest of the young people currently involved in the process.
 - Set up a youth forum in the NEIC.

The group has been working together since 1st April 2005, a consultation workshop was held at the Wexford Centre Project in Wexford. It was from this workshop that recommendations were developed and the group began its work together in an attempt to implement the recommendations and objectives mentioned above.

The group took part in the ICON Conference and had their own workshop. They developed designs for a Youth Forum logo, designed an application form for all organisations working with 12-18 year olds and worked on developing a structure for a Youth Forum. The original intention had been to launch the logo at the Conference but the group felt additional time was required to discuss the structure of the forum. It is intended to launch the Forum in early 2007.

Housing

Following the Conference in Kilkenny in March, ICON held two consultation sessions with residents from the north east inner city. ICON wanted to hear what tenants views were in relation to where they live and to raise any concerns that they might have. The aim was to identify how ICON could support the tenants in addressing those concerns.

The majority of the issues raised related to the particular areas where the participants lived and for confidentiality reasons will not be reproduced here as part of the ICON Strategic Plan. However, some of the issues can be summarised under the following headings:

- Rented Accommodation, transient population often do not take an active part in the community.
- Private landlords are often absentee landlords and buildings can be left without maintenance and repairs.
- Anti-social behaviour and vandalism.
- Lack of youth activities.
- Lack of facilities for senior citizens.
- Lack of parking facilities.
- Rubbish being dumped in public places.
- Divisions between the young and old.
- Fear of drug gangs.
- People from outside the area having a negative view of the neighbourhood.
- There is a lack of support for families experiencing social problems.
- There are too many high rise buildings which are destroying the community.

Appendix 1.

Organisations Affiliated to ICON

Name	Address	Target Group
Access Ireland	Dominick Street, Dublin 1	Minority Ethnic Communities
Adventure Sports Project	School on Stilts, Rutland St, Dublin 1	Youth
Age Action Ireland	30/31 Lower Camden Street, Dublin 2	Elderly
Amnesty International	48 Fleet Street, Dublin 2	Human Rights
Avondale House	North Cumberland Street	Tenants Association
Ballybough Youth Project	70 Courtney Place, Dublin 1	Youth
Belvedere Youth Club	41 Lower Buckingham Street, Dublin 1	Youth- Employment, sports and leisure and community development
BLEND	c/o ICON	Residents' Association
CAIRDE	Belvedere Place, Dublin 1	Minority Ethnic Communities- Health
CAN	Gardiner Place, Dublin 1	Training, community development
CDVEC Foundations Project	1 Parnell Square, Dublin 1	Education Project for individuals and families, adults and children who are experiencing homelessness
CentreCare/Emigrant Advice	1a Cathedral Street Dublin 1	Provision of information in homeless sector; provision of information in the migrant sector (immigration, emigration, return migration)
Clarence Street	c/o ICON	Residents' Association
Clarion Quay	IFSC	Tenants Association
Community After Schools Project	57 Amiens Street, Dublin 1	Community Development and Education
Community Policing Forum	Killarney Court	Residents and Policing
Community Technical Aid	Killarney Court	Training, urban planning and regeneration, research and policy development- inner city
Crinan Youth Project	72 Sean McDermot Street	Youth- health, education and drugs
Croke Park Residents Alliance	c/o 24 St James Avenue, Off Clonliffe Road, Dublin 3	Residents Association
Dominick Street Redevelopment Group	c/o CTA	Residents Association

Dublin Aids Alliance	53 Parnell Square West	Working to improve conditions for people living with, or affected by, HIV/AIDS
Dublin CityWide Drugs Crisis Campaign	175 NorthStrand Road, Dublin 1	Drugs and Community Development
East Wall Youth	Strangford Road	Youth
Five Lamps Addiction Services	15 North Strand Road	Addiction
Hill Street Family Resource Centre	Hill Street	Families and Children aged 0-5
Holy Child Pre-School	Sean McDermott Street	Early childhood education (Pre-School)
HOPE	15 North Strand Road	Families affected by addiction- drugs, youth and education
ICRG	57 Amiens Street, Dublin 1	CDP – Community development
Irish Council for Civil Liberties	40-41 Lower Dominick Street, Dublin 1	Human Rights
Irish Youth Foundation	Airways Industrial Estate	Youth
Killarney Court	c/o ICON	Residents' Association
Larkin Centre	North Strand road	Unemployed
Lourdes House	c/o ICON	Residents' Association
Lourdes House Tenants Association	Lourdes House	Residents Association
Lourdes Youth and Community Service	Sean McDermott Street	Youth, Arts ad Culture, Education, Women, Community Development, Family and Childcare
MountainView	c/o ICON	Residents' Association
NCCAP	9-11 Buckingham Street	Community Training Centre
Neighbourhood Youth Project 1 (NYP1)	School on Stilts, Rutland Street	Youth and Family
Neighbourhood Youth Project 2 (NYP2)	19 Summerhill Parade	Youth, Family and Community Development
NICDTF	22 Lower Buckingham Street, Dublin 1	Community development- drugs, health, youth and education
North Wall Community Training Centre	St Laurence Place East, Dublin 1	Early School Leavers, the unemployed, the marginalised
North Wall Women's Centre	Lower Sheriff Street, Dublin 1	Women, minority Ethnic communities, youth and childcare–education and community development
North William Street	c/o ICON	Residents Association

Ozanam House	53 Mountjoy Sq, Dublin 1	Community Development–Women, Minority Ethnic Communities, Family and Childcare, Youth, Elderly–Education and Sports and Leisure
Poplar Row	c/o ICON	Residents' Association
Portland Row Residents Assoc.	Portland Row	Residents' Association
Salesians	72 Sean McDermott Street	Community–youth, education, housing and drugs
SAOL Project	58 Amiens St, Dublin 1	Women and Drugs–Education and Community Development
Sean McDermott Street	c/o ICON	Residents' Association
Soilse	9 Henrietta Place	Drugs
St Vincent's Trust	½ Henrietta Street	Education- Young people at Risk
Summerhill Place/Rutland Court Tenants Association	c/o ICON	Residents Association
Sunflower Recycling	Shamrock Place	Unemployment and Environment
SWAN	St Agatha's Hall, North William Street, Dublin 1	Youth
Tabor House	70 Seville Palce, Dublin 1	Youth at Risk
The Cavan Centre	Ballyjamesduff, Co. Cavan	Youth, Elderly and Family- Community Development, Sports and Leisure
The Talbot Centre	29 Upper Buckingham St, Dublin 1	Youth and Family- counselling and support and prevention and education
Tosach Support Agency	44 Lower Gardiner Street	Community Development Support Agency for GDP's
Trocaire	12 Cathedral Street, Dublin 1	Irish Catholic Agency World Development
Wexford Centre Project	57 Amiens Street	Youth- Social Recreational Training/ Residential Centre for Youth and Families from NEIC

Appendix 2.

ICON Working Groups

Name	Aims
Intercultural	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Addressing racism• Promoting Integration and Diversity
Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Addressing educational disadvantage in the NEIC
Arts and Culture	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Arts and culture- prevention and education with youth
ICON Drugs Support Group	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Supporting the Community Reps on the Drugs Task Force
ICON RAPID Reps Support Group	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Supporting the Community Reps on RAPID



ICON Representation on Structures

Group/ Organisation/ Structure	Aims
YPAR	To promote a principled and integrated approach to working with young people at risk
Participation and Practice of Rights	The Project aims to test and produce a demonstration model of a participative rights based approach to social justice.
Dublin Inner City Partnership	Involved in a range of structures with the aim of promoting community regeneration, tackling educational disadvantage and supporting access to employment and enterprise.
CityWide	To promote and support a community development approach to the drugs problem - this means involving the people who are most affected by the problem in dealing with the problem - drug users, their families and communities.
The Employment Network	The Employment Network (TEN) is an umbrella body of inner city community and social service organisations.
Dublin Docklands Development Authority	Representation on the Docklands Council to ensure community views are represented
Inter-sectoral Crack Cocaine Group	A new group established to address the rise in the usage of crack cocaine
Good Neighbours Close to Town Action Group	An interagency committee working in partnership to address the needs of the Dorset Street, Dominick Street and Hardwicke street areas of Dublin.
IMPACT Small Grants Fund	Supports local initiatives in education and intercultural development
Health Promotion Fund	To facilitate the production of culturally relevant and sustainable resources and materials regarding problems related to drug use.
Ballybough Youth Project	Youth Project for the Ballybough Area
Integrated Area Process (IAP)	Represented on the Monitoring Committee to oversee the implementation of the Integrated Area Plan.
Tenants First	An independent forum of tenants and community workers who work together to provide a strong collective voice for tenants on issues related to their living and dwelling conditions.

Appendix 3.

Representation on Working Groups

Drugs Working Group

- Community Representatives x 4
- ICON
- Community Policing Forum
- HOPE
- Community

Intercultural Working Group

- ICON
- LYCS
- Hill Street Family Resource Centre
- Dublin City Council
- Dublin Multicultural Resource Centre
- Migrant Rights Centre Ireland
- YPAR

Education Working Group

- ICON
- LYCS
- DICP
- CASPr
- SWAN Youth Project
- YPAR
- NCCCAP

North Inner City Drugs Task Force Sub-Groups

Prevention/Education:

- HSE Addiction Services (Chair)
- SPHE

- WalkTall
- Talbot Centre
- Peter McVerry Trust
- Aodhan O'Riordain - Councillor, School Teacher, St. Laurence O'Toole's
- ICON
- CDYSB
- Crosscare (DAP)
- NICDTF

Supply / Control:

- Joe Costello – TD (Chair)
- Ana Liffey
- Community
- Probation Services
- Mountjoy
- NDST
- DCC
- Garda
- NICDTF

Treatment / Rehabilitation:

- Gerry McAleenan - Soilse (Chair)
- Soilse/Rutland Partnership
- ACRG
- Gateway
- UISCE
- NICDTF



22 Lower Buckingham Street

Dublin 1

Ph: 01 8366890

Fax: 01 8364870

Email: iconet@iol.ie

Web: www.iconnetwork.ie

2007

