



SENATOR
MARIE SHERLOCK

Dear Superintendent O' Brien,

We the undersigned are a group of local residents and public representatives in the Stoneybatter area. On Monday July 1st we came together to meet with our community Gardaí in the area to express the significant concerns among many in the local community about crime and ongoing anti-social behaviour in the area.

We are very grateful to Garda Mark Campbell and Garda Vicky Fisher for attending the meeting, for listening to residents and crucially for responding empathetically to very real concerns among people in the area.

A number of residents gave accounts of their interactions with members of An Garda Síochána, which we felt fell far short of the standard that Gardaí should maintain in terms of professionalism, attitude and the lack of seriousness with which repeated incidents are dealt with.

Among the key themes discussed at the meeting:

- Intimidation and anti-social behaviour.
- Concerns about illegal activities in certain hotspots.
- Drugs dealing.
- Dangerous driving and the use of scrambler bikes.
- Lack of responsiveness from Gardaí to calls.

While we heard several harrowing stories from local residents, it was agreed by all in attendance that this is an opportunity to act to make our communities safer for all who live, work and visit Stoneybatter.

We ask that you respond to our concerns and make tangible changes to improve the sense of safety for residents in the area.

We ask for a comprehensive policing plan for our area, with greater Garda resources and a greater responsiveness and consideration to the needs of our community.

We agreed that a follow-up community meeting would be held in September, including the local community, Gardaí and a number of local organisations active in the Stoneybatter area in terms of youth organisations, Dublin City Council, addiction recovery services, community development and other voluntary organisations.

We hope that you will use the Summer to make the necessary improvements and changes for Stoneybatter and that you meet with us in September.

Yours Sincerely,

Senator Marie Sherlock