



CROKE PARK

RESIDENT ENGAGEMENT PROCESS

DRAFT Consultation Report V2

2025 – 2026

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Executive Summary

A structured resident consultation and engagement process was undertaken involving six facilitated resident working group meetings, written submissions from residents and residents' associations and multi-agency consultation.

Residents are broadly supportive of Croke Park and recognise its sporting, cultural and economic importance. However, the consultation identified a consistent view that the scale, frequency and operational footprint of events require a more structured, transparent and coordinated management framework in order to improve community confidence.

The consultation process demonstrated strong alignment between residents, public agencies and stadium stakeholders regarding both the problems experienced and the practical solutions capable of being implemented.

The report identifies a significant opportunity to establish a Joint event management arrangements incorporating:

- resident access and traffic management protocols
- stewarding and An Garda Síochána, security and stewarding teams deployment arrangements
- toilet provision strategies
- cleaning and environmental management plans
- communication and resident information systems
- community benefit and ticketing arrangements
- implementation monitoring and action tracking mechanisms

1 – Introduction

This draft report brings together the findings, discussions and emerging recommendations arising from the Croke Park Resident Engagement Process undertaken between late 2025 and spring 2026.

The report is intended as a consultation document, and residents and stakeholders are invited to review and comment on its contents before a final version is published. Following this consultation period, a final version of the report will be prepared and a Monitoring and Implementation Group established to oversee progress and delivery of agreed actions.

The process was independently chaired by David Begg and focused on identifying practical and achievable improvements that would allow major events and residential life to coexist more effectively.

David is a former general secretary of ICTU and CEO of Concern Worldwide. He is currently chair of the Balbriggan regeneration project and former chair of the Mater Hospital, the Pensions Authority and the WRC.

The engagement process demonstrated a strong willingness among residents to engage constructively and in a solutions-focused manner. Residents consistently acknowledged the national importance of Croke Park while also highlighting recurring and, in some cases, unresolved impacts experienced by local communities during major events.

An additional element of the consultation process involved inviting written submissions from residents' associations, community groups and individual residents. A total of 29 groups and individuals availed of this opportunity submitted observations, concerns and recommendations for consideration as part of the overall process.

The submissions formed an important part of the evidence base underpinning the recommendations and conclusions contained within this report.

2 – The GAA: History, Purpose and Community Role

The Gaelic Athletic Association (GAA) was founded in 1884 in Thurles, County Tipperary, with the objective of preserving and promoting Ireland's indigenous sports and culture.

Since its foundation, the organisation has become one of Ireland's largest sporting and cultural institutions, deeply rooted in local communities throughout the country. The GAA oversees Gaelic football, hurling, camogie and handball, supporting thousands of volunteer-led clubs nationwide.

Revenue generated through major events at Croke Park supports grassroots clubs, coaching and youth development programmes, maintenance and development of sporting facilities, player welfare initiatives and community programmes throughout Ireland.

The GAA continues to play a significant role not only in sport, but also in community identity, volunteerism, youth participation, health and wellbeing and Irish cultural life. Residents participating in the engagement process consistently acknowledged the cultural and national significance of both the GAA and Croke Park while also emphasising the need for improved management arrangements to reduce the impact on surrounding communities.

The consultation process highlighted a strong recognition that the stadium and the organisation are of national importance, while also recognising the need to ensure that the surrounding residential community can continue to function effectively alongside major events.

3 – History of Croke Park Stadium

Croke Park is one of Ireland's most iconic sporting and cultural venues and has served as the headquarters of the GAA for more than a century.

The stadium has evolved from a modest sporting ground into a modern stadium with a capacity of more than 82,000 people. It occupies a unique place in Irish history, including its association with Bloody Sunday in 1920, when civilians attending a football match lost their lives during the War of Independence.

The stadium has hosted, and continues to host, significant sporting, cultural and civic events. These include All-Ireland Finals, international football and rugby fixtures, the 2003 Special Olympics Opening and Closing Ceremonies, the 2018 visit of Pope Francis and concerts by internationally renowned artists including U2, Bruce Springsteen, Taylor Swift and Garth Brooks. Muhammad Ali fought Alvin "Blue" Lewis at Croke Park in July 1972, winning by an 11th-round technical knockout. The stadium has also seen historic occasions such as the visit of Queen Elizabeth II in 2011, which was widely viewed as an important moment in Anglo-Irish relations.

Croke Park Community Fund

A €100,000 community fund is available annually to community and voluntary groups.

While not raised as a concern, this information was referenced as part of broader discussions on community engagement and benefit. It was highlighted that 37 groups availed of this funding in 2025.

Residents repeatedly stated during the consultation process that they recognise and support the national importance of the stadium and the events it hosts, while also seeking practical solutions to reduce the impact on local communities.

4 – Resident Engagement Methodology

Rather than holding large public meetings, a structured small-group methodology was adopted to ensure constructive discussion and meaningful engagement.

Croke Park maintains a resident database of approximately 8,500 households within the surrounding area. Residents were invited to express an interest in participating in focused working groups examining key event-related issues.

More than 300 residents applied to participate in the process. Three separate resident working groups were established, each consisting of approximately 15 residents selected randomly using a computerised selection process to ensure fairness and balance.

Representation was balanced between residents living closest to the stadium and those living in the wider surrounding area.

Each group participated in two facilitated meetings chaired by David Begg. The process focused on three principal themes:

- Transport, Traffic and Parking
- Anti-Social Behaviour and Public Realm
- Communications and Ticketing

The process also included written resident submissions, stakeholder meetings, issue mapping exercises and review of operational arrangements and event-day procedures.

The engagement process was designed not only to identify concerns, but also to explore practical and realistic solutions capable of being implemented in the short, medium and long term.

5 – Summary of Resident Meetings

Across all meetings and submissions several consistent themes emerged. Residents remain broadly supportive of matches and concerts and recognise the importance of Croke Park as a national sporting and cultural venue.

Concerns raised by residents were primarily operational rather than opposition to events themselves. Many of the issues identified were viewed as predictable and manageable through improved planning, communication and coordination.

Key issues raised included:

- Access, traffic and parking difficulties
- Anti-social behaviour and public sanitation concerns
- Cleaning and waste management issues
- Communication and transparency problems
- Ticketing and community benefit concerns

Residents highlighted difficulties relating to illegal parking, inconsistent road closures, public urination, crowd behaviour and delayed post-event clean-up operations.

Residents also highlighted the cumulative impact of the revised and more compressed GAA championship calendar. A greater concentration of fixtures and event weekends within an earlier part of the summer can reduce recovery time between events and intensify access, parking, noise, sanitation and cleaning pressures. The final implementation process should maintain an annual event-impact calendar showing event dates, scale, consecutive-event periods and associated mitigation measures.

Residents identified the gathering of non-ticketed crowds on Clonliffe Road during some concerts as a distinct concern. Such gatherings can restrict access to homes, obstruct movement and increase noise, litter and anti-social behaviour. Event plans for concerts should include defined crowd-dispersal arrangements, resident access routes, stewarding and Garda deployment, and clear escalation contacts for affected residents.

Residents sought clearer and earlier information regarding road closures, transport plans, operational arrangements and event schedules.

There was also a strong emphasis on accountability, with residents seeking clearer responsibilities between Croke Park, An Garda Síochána, Dublin City Council services, Dublin Street Parking Services, contracted stewarding and security providers, transport bodies and event promoters.

Despite frustrations expressed during the meetings, the overall tone of the engagement process remained constructive and solutions-focused throughout.

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6 – Multi-Agency Stakeholder Perspectives

Following the six resident consultation meetings, a multi-agency stakeholder meeting was held at Croke Park on 23 April 2026. Representatives of Croke Park, An Garda Síochána, Dublin City Council (DCC) and Dublin Street Parking Services (DSPS) considered the principal concerns raised by residents and potential short-, medium- and long-term responses. The meeting was intended to inform a practical action plan and an ongoing monitoring arrangement, rather than to revisit individual incidents.

Areas of Common Ground

Stakeholders noted that residents broadly recognise the significance of Croke Park and that their concerns relate mainly to the recurring operational impact of events. Communication was identified as a cross-cutting issue. Discussion focused on traffic and parking, anti-social behaviour, sanitation and litter, resident information, and the need for clearer coordination and accountability.

Transport, Traffic and Parking

The meeting considered illegal parking, enforcement and clamping, road closures, resident and delivery access, park-and-ride opportunities and post-event public transport. Existing enforcement plans are reviewed for each fixture, but stronger deterrent messaging and digital signage were proposed. Stakeholders also discussed sharing post-event enforcement data and continuing engagement with the National Transport Authority on transport coordination and park-and-ride options.

Anti-Social Behaviour, Sanitation and Litter

Public urination, alcohol-related disorder, temporary toilet provision, bin servicing and post-event cleansing were identified as priority concerns. Options discussed included reviewing external toilet provision with event promoters, examining high-capacity urinals and alternative bin or liner systems, and improving cleansing arrangements. Behavioural messaging through GAA clubs, ticket communications and stadium channels was also proposed, alongside the continuation of community clean-up initiatives.

Stakeholder Roles and Responsibilities

The consultation identified the need to name the responsible body for each action. An Garda Síochána is responsible for policing and public-order decisions and has a central role in traffic management and road closures. Dublin Street Parking Services carries out on-street parking enforcement on behalf of Dublin City Council, while relevant Dublin City Council services retain responsibilities including waste management and the public realm. Croke Park and its event partners are responsible for stadium operations, contracted stewarding and security, event communications and coordination with statutory bodies. Transport bodies and operators are responsible for services within their respective remits. These distinctions should be reflected in every action recorded by the SMIG.

Proposed actions in this draft are subject to agency confirmation, feasibility assessment and, where necessary, resourcing.

Agreed Direction and Next Steps

There was broad support for a coordinated approach based on better operational information, clearer responsibilities and measurable follow-through. The next steps identified were to prepare a draft action plan informed by both resident and stakeholder feedback; circulate it to stakeholders and resident groups for review; collect better incident and enforcement data; continue joint event planning; and establish an ongoing monitoring mechanism to prevent agreed actions from drifting.

The meeting demonstrated substantial alignment on the nature of the issues and on the practical measures worth testing. It did not alter the statutory or operational responsibilities of participating organisations. Delivery will therefore depend on each organisation confirming actions within its remit, identifying lead and supporting bodies, setting realistic timelines and reporting progress through the proposed Stadium Monitoring and Implementation Group.

7 – Emerging Priorities and Action Framework

This chapter brings together the priorities identified in the resident issues tables and the wider consultation process. It provides a practical framework to be tested with Croke Park Stadium, An Garda Síochána, Dublin City Council services, Dublin Street Parking Services, stewarding and security providers, transport bodies, event promoters and resident representatives before finalisation through the proposed monitoring structure.

The proposed actions are grouped under the principal issue areas raised by residents and should be treated as a living framework, capable of being refined as operational experience and stakeholder feedback develops.

Issue Area	Main Concerns Raised	Proposed Actions
Transport, Traffic and Parking	Illegal parking, blocked driveways and junctions, congestion on residential streets, inconsistent enforcement, resident access delays, delivery access issues and public transport pressure.	Dublin Street Parking Services should lead review of event-day parking enforcement and reporting, in coordination with Dublin City Council and An Garda Síochána; introduce or strengthen resident-focused parking controls where lawful; develop tiered traffic plans linked to event size; improve park-and-ride, shuttle and public transport arrangements; coordinate delivery access and traffic routes in advance.
Resident Access and Mobility	Access refusals, inconsistent use of resident passes, mobility difficulties at barriers, emergency access concerns and Garda confusion at closure points.	Treat prompt resident access as a priority; review the resident pass system; agree standardised access rules and clear escalation contacts; brief Gardaí, stewards and traffic personnel consistently and require respectful resident interactions; maintain emergency and mobility access routes; assess

Issue Area	Main Concerns Raised	Proposed Actions
		practical support, including bicycle patrol or escort assistance where operationally feasible.
Anti-Social Behaviour and Public Sanitation	Public urination and defecation, public drinking, alcohol-related disorder, congregation in laneways, underage drinking, intimidation and lack of respect for private property.	Review, enhance and appropriately increase Garda, security and steward visibility on affected residential streets; include concert-specific plans for non-ticketed crowds on Clonliffe Road; expand crowd messaging; engage with pubs and off-licences; communicate with GAA clubs and visiting groups on responsible behaviour; develop a visible Respect Residents campaign.
Public Toilets and Facilities	Insufficient toilets, poor toilet placement, facilities locked or unavailable after events and lack of monitoring.	Review the adequacy, number and placement of portable toilets for matches and concerts and increase provision where evidence supports it; agree locations with residents and agencies; maintain facilities for appropriate post-event periods; use staffed facilities and high-capacity temporary urinals where appropriate.
Stewarding, Policing and Enforcement	Stewards perceived as ineffective, inconsistent Garda presence, limited enforcement after events, unclear reporting routes and poor resident interactions.	Agree written event-day protocols; review Garda, security and steward coverage; improve training and local briefings; require professional and respectful interactions with residents; clarify responsibilities, reporting routes and escalation contacts; include responsible agencies in review meetings.
Littering and Post-Event Clean-Up	Cans, bottles, food packaging, plastic waste, spillages and human waste left on streets,	With Dublin City Council, assess permanent and temporary bin provision

Issue Area	Main Concerns Raised	Proposed Actions
	gardens and laneways, sometimes for extended periods.	along key routes; empty bins more frequently; deploy clean-up teams after major events to an agreed service standard; include side streets and laneways; coordinate power-washing and cleansing; publish completion and exception reporting where practicable.
Communication and Information for Residents	Short notice, lack of accessible information, absence of a clear calendar, digital-only communication, unclear hotline arrangements and residents feeling excluded.	Issue earlier and clearer event information; maintain and regularly update the resident database; use SMS, email, letters and printed calendars; create simple maps and accessible infographics; review hotline visibility and responsiveness; publish clear information on traffic, access, operational changes and escalation routes; review the purpose, frequency and effectiveness of existing community meetings.
Ticket Allocation and Community Benefits	Perceived unfairness in ticket allocation, limited local access, concern that the same people may benefit repeatedly and questions around proximity-based benefit.	Review resident ticketing arrangements, allocation levels and availability; improve communication and transparency; consider proximity-based, tiered or other discount options subject to operational, contractual and ticketing constraints; communicate community benefit schemes more clearly; examine practice at other major venues.
Community Behaviour, Culture and Event Experience	Decline in respectful behaviour, excessive drinking culture, events feeling less family-friendly and residents feeling treated as obstacles rather than stakeholders.	Use stadium screens, public address messages and ticket communications to promote respect;

Issue Area	Main Concerns Raised	Proposed Actions
		- Encourage family-friendly messaging; - Work with GAA, promoters and transport operators to shape visitor behaviour.
Wider Community Impact	Cumulative disruption from frequent events, environmental impact, pressure on local amenities, lack of green space and concern that community protections have not kept pace with event activity.	Review the cumulative impact of the compressed championship calendar, consecutive events and event setup/take-down periods; maintain an annual impact calendar; invest in local amenities and environmental improvements; support community projects; consider social-impact and longer-term legacy measures.

Implementation Approach

- Short-term actions should focus on measures capable of being introduced or piloted within the next event cycle, with improved and respectful resident access treated as an immediate priority alongside communication improvements, toilet provision, bin placement, resident information, briefing protocols and post-event clean-up.
- Medium-term actions should focus on traffic and access redesign, resident parking and pass systems, formal enforcement protocols, ticketing transparency and multi-agency operational planning.
- Long-term actions should focus on permanent joint event management arrangements, wider community benefit measures, environmental improvements, legacy projects and ongoing governance through the Monitoring and Implementation Group.
- Actions will be tracked using the Red-Amber-Green framework described in Appendix B.

8 – Proposed Actions and Implementation Measures

The following delivery schedule converts the emerging priorities into proposed, monitorable actions. Lead bodies and target periods are provisional until confirmed by the organisations concerned. The SMIG should record a named lead, supporting bodies, milestone, target date, status and evidence of delivery for every action.

Priority action	Number	Initial target	Evidence / milestone
Agree consistent resident access and escalation protocol	An Garda Síochána / Croke Park	Before next event cycle	Written protocol; briefing record; resident contact route
Review parking enforcement deployment and publish outcome data	DSPS	Within 3 months	Event plan and quarterly enforcement summary
Prepare concert crowd plan for Clonliffe Road and affected streets	Croke Park / An Garda Síochána	Before next concert series	Defined access, deployment and dispersal plan
Review toilet numbers, locations and opening periods	Croke Park / event promoter	Before next event cycle	Provision plan informed by incident and footfall data
Set post-event cleansing standard, coverage and reporting	Dublin City Council / Croke Park	Within 3 months	Street coverage map, timing standard and exception log
Refresh resident database and communication standards	Croke Park	Within 3 months	Updated records process; notice standards; accessible channel map
Review resident ticketing and community benefit communications	Croke Park / relevant rights holders	Within 6 months	Published process, eligibility and allocation information
Map previous commitments, agreements and community forums	Croke Park / SMIG	Within 6 months	Public baseline register identifying status and lessons
Review existing community meeting arrangements	SMIG	Within 6 months	Recommendations on purpose, frequency, representation and feedback
Maintain annual event-impact calendar	Croke Park / SMIG	Annual; updated quarterly	Calendar identifying concentrated periods and mitigations
Residents' Association / Community Organisation Representative	1		

Progress against these actions should be reported quarterly using the RAG framework. Where an action is not accepted or cannot proceed, the responsible organisation should record the reason, any alternative measure and the next review date.

9 – Governance, Monitoring and Implementation

One of the clearest messages arising from the engagement process is that consultation alone will not rebuild trust unless it is followed by implementation, visible progress and clear accountability.

It is proposed that a formal Stadium Monitoring and Implementation Group be established involving residents, Croke Park, An Garda Síochána, Dublin City Council and other relevant stakeholders.

Recognised residents' associations and community organisations should have a route to contribute, while elected representatives and specialist bodies may be invited where their remit is relevant.

The proposed Monitoring Group would focus on:

- Implementation tracking
- Operational review
- Resident feedback
- Identification of emerging issues
- Updating the event management arrangements over time

The group would meet regularly to assess progress, review operational arrangements and identify opportunities for further improvements.

The consultation process also highlighted the importance of transparent reporting, public communication and structured review processes to ensure that agreed actions are followed through and delivered effectively.

Residents repeatedly emphasised the importance of seeing practical outcomes arising from the consultation process and expressed strong support for an ongoing monitoring structure.

10 – Conclusion

This engagement process has demonstrated that there is a strong willingness among residents, Croke Park and public agencies to work collaboratively towards practical solutions.

The issues raised throughout the consultation are largely predictable, recurring and, in some cases, unresolved. Importantly, many of the solutions identified are practical, achievable and capable of improving the experience of residents while allowing major sporting and cultural events to continue successfully.

The process highlighted the importance of communication, accountability, coordinated planning and visible operational improvements.

Across all consultation materials, several clear and recurring themes emerged:

- Issues experienced by residents are largely predictable and recurring.
- Residents remain constructive and solutions-focused.
- Better coordination between agencies is consistently identified as the key requirement.
- Lack of communication can significantly undermine trust and confidence.
- Many practical improvements are achievable in the short to medium term.
- Residents seek visible implementation rather than consultation alone.

The consultation process highlighted the need for a more integrated operational model involving Croke Park Stadium, An Garda Síochána, event security and stewarding teams, Dublin City Council, event promoters and residents themselves.

Residents consistently acknowledged the importance of Croke Park and the role it plays within Irish sporting and cultural life, while also emphasising the need for improved protections and arrangements for those living within the surrounding communities.

This draft report is now being issued for consultation and comment. Following the consultation period, a final report and implementation framework will be prepared together with the establishment of a **Stadium Monitoring and Implementation Group** (See Appendix B) to oversee ongoing delivery, review progress and ensure that the issues raised throughout the consultation process continue to be addressed into the future.

Appendix A – Summary of Group Meetings

ANTI SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR GROUP

MEETING ONE - Summary of Issues Raised

Public Drinking and Anti-Social Behaviour

Widespread public drinking before and after matches and concerts.

Behaviour includes fighting, shouting, intimidation, vomiting, and urination in public spaces.

Problems are worse at concerts than at matches, and particularly on warm days.

Public Urination and Lack of Toilet Facilities

Residents report people urinating on streets, walls, gates, and in gardens.

People knock on doors or enter laneways and side streets to urinate.

Insufficient portable toilets provided on match days (currently mainly for concerts only).

Lack of Garda and Security Presence and Enforcement

Garda, security and stewarding presence drops significantly after events finish.

Calls to An Garda Síochána, security and stewarding teams and the hotline often receive no response or follow-up.

Residents feel laws on public order and public drinking are not being enforced.

Poor Crowd Management After Events

Large groups gather in residential streets and laneways after events.

No active stewarding to keep crowds moving towards transport routes.

Side streets become hotspots for disorderly behaviour.

Inadequate Cleaning and Litter Control

Streets left with bottles, cans, food waste, and human waste for days after events.

Reduction in public bins has made the problem worse.

Reliance on volunteers and residents rather than professional clean-up crews.

Impact on Families and Quality of Life

Children frightened by crowds, drunken behaviour, and noise.

Residents unable to access their homes due to road closures and congestion.

Some residents feel forced to leave their homes during major events.

Lack of Respect for the Local Community

Perception that visitors treat the area as disposable.

Residents feel their neighbourhood is not respected by attendees.

Strong desire for a visible message from Croke Park encouraging respect for residents.

Insufficient Communication and Transparency

Residents unclear about:

Event licensing processes

Security and An Garda Síochána, security and stewarding teams deployment levels

How complaints are tracked and resolved

Request for published data on incidents and follow-up actions.

Number of Events and Overall Impact

Concern about increasing frequency of matches and concerts.

Feeling there is no “down time” for residents.

View that the scale of activity has outpaced community protections.

Local Business and Alcohol Sales

Pubs and off-licences contribute to street drinking.

Little evidence of enforcement of responsible alcohol service.

Perception that businesses are not managing litter or behaviour outside their premises.

Need for Structured Planning

Tiered planning for events (large vs small events)

More stewards and An Garda Síochána, security and stewarding teams on major event days

More toilets and bins in residential areas

Professional clean-up crews after every major event

Clear escalation process when residents report issues

Community Relationship with Croke Park

Goodwill towards the GAA remains strong.

Residents do not want events to stop but want balance.

Relationship currently seen as strained and needing repair.

Desire for Croke Park to visibly act as a responsible neighbour.

MEETING TWO - Summary of Issues Raised

The meeting focused on addressing ongoing issues related to large events and their impact on the local community. This was part of a second round of discussions aimed at moving from identifying problems to developing practical solutions.

Key Issues Identified

Public drinking and anti-social behaviour, particularly before and after events, with more severe issues reported at concerts than matches.

Public urination and insufficient toilet facilities, including poorly located or inaccessible portable toilets.

Limited An Garda Síochána presence and inconsistent enforcement, especially outside main access routes.

Poor crowd management, particularly after events.

Waste and cleanliness issues, including insufficient bins and delayed or inadequate cleaning.

Negative impact on residents' quality of life, including noise, disruption, intimidation, and lack of respect.

Transport and access challenges, affecting residents, deliveries, and public transport users.

Strained relationships between stakeholders, with residents feeling unheard or excluded.

Proposed Solutions and Suggestions

1. Managing Public Drinking & Behaviour

Engage directly with local pubs to promote responsible alcohol service.

Enforce licensing laws more consistently.

Review and assess Garda, security and stewarding visibility across all affected areas, not just main routes.

Introduce cultural and behavioural campaigns to encourage respectful conduct.

Place responsibility on clubs (especially youth groups) to discourage alcohol consumption on buses.

2. Toilet Facilities

Review and assess the number and improve placement of portable toilets along key routes.

Ensure facilities remain open and are properly monitored.

Consider alternative solutions such as temporary urinals or designated zones.

3. Garda and Security Presence & Enforcement

Improve consistency, visibility, and professionalism of Garda, security and stewarding operations.

Extend Garda, security and stewarding presence beyond event start times and main access points.

Improve communication between An Garda Síochána, security and stewarding teams, residents, and event organisers.

Address perceived issues of dismissiveness or aggression in interactions with residents.

4. Waste Management & Cleaning

Review and assess the number of bins or service them more frequently.

Improve coordination with Dublin City Council for timely waste collection.

Introduce recycling and charity-based initiatives to encourage responsible disposal.

Expand cleaning efforts to side streets and residential areas.

5. Community Engagement & Communication

Improve transparency and consistency in communication with residents.

Provide clearer information on event plans, road closures, and services.

Develop simple guides or infographics outlining available supports and processes.

Ensure residents are treated as stakeholders rather than obstacles.

6. Transport & Access

Improve public transport availability, especially after events.

Ensure delivery access for residents is maintained where possible.

Explore better traffic and access planning to reduce disruption.

7. Cultural Review and assess & Long-Term Approach

Promote a culture of respect, highlighting that events take place in residential areas.

Use stadium screens and campaigns to encourage positive behaviour.

Encourage family-friendly messaging and responsible enjoyment of events.

Work with governing bodies (e.g., GAA) to influence behaviour at grassroots level.

The meeting highlighted widespread agreement that while the problems are well understood, meaningful progress depends on:

Stronger collaboration between stakeholders (residents, An Garda Síochána, security and stewarding teams, Dublin City Council, and event organisers).

Improved enforcement and communication.

A combination of practical measures and long-term cultural change.

The next step is to assess the feasibility of proposed solutions and develop a coordinated action plan with all relevant parties.

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Communications & Ticketing Group

MEETING ONE - Summary of Issues Raised

Residents raised concerns about how information relating to events is communicated, accessed, and understood across the local community:

The need for a comprehensive survey to establish how many residents live within the 1.5km area surrounding the venue, and whether demographic data is available (e.g. age, gender, nationality, household type, disability, literacy levels, and internet access).

A better understanding of how different groups receive information, including preferences for online communication, printed materials, SMS alerts, or leaflet drops.

Recognition of literacy and accessibility challenges affecting some residents, particularly older people, newer residents to the city or country, and those with visual impairments.

The need for clearer and earlier advance notice of ticket sales and ticket draws.

Clarification on what proportion of tickets is made available to residents through pre-sales or dedicated allocations.

Requests to review and assess the number of complimentary tickets available to residents.

A desire to examine ticket allocation practices used by other major venues as potential best practice.

Calls for a review of the current ticket allocation process, with a view to making it more transparent, fair, and resident-friendly.

Communication, Transparency and Trust

Residents expressed wider concerns about transparency and trust, as they relate specifically to communication, including:

A lack of clear, accessible information about how decisions are made and communicated to residents.

Uncertainty about how resident complaints or issues are logged, monitored, and resolved.

Requests for clearer feedback loops so residents understand what action (if any) is taken following complaints.

A desire for more visible, proactive communication demonstrating respect for residents and acknowledgement of community impacts.

Residents remain broadly supportive of events but believe that communication and ticketing systems require significant improvement to ensure fairness, clarity, and accessibility. There is a strong desire for earlier engagement, clearer messaging, and more transparent processes to help rebuild trust and improve the resident experience around event days.

MEETING TWO - Summary of Issues Raised

Communication gaps and accessibility

Lack of clarity on how residents receive event information.

Need to understand demographics and communication preferences.

Accessibility concerns for older residents and those with literacy barriers.

Transparency and trust

Residents unclear about decision-making processes.

Complaints tracking and feedback loops are not visible.

Ticketing concerns

Limited transparency around allocations.

Requests for more resident access and earlier notice.

Key Steps from the Second Meeting

Resident communication strategy

Commission a baseline resident communications survey.

Map preferred channels (SMS, post, digital, etc.).

Transparency improvements

Design a complaint tracking and feedback system.

Clarify what information should be published (e.g., incidents, responses).

Event-day information

Agree standards for advance notice timelines.

Improve clarity on event impacts (road closures, crowd plans, etc.).

Ticketing review

Examine best-practice models from other venues.

Define options for improving resident allocation transparency.

Community engagement

Review how community benefits (e.g., funding schemes) are communicated.

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TRANSPORT AND PARKING GROUP

MEETING ONE - Summary of Issues Raised

Residents' access to homes is regularly blocked or delayed on event days (both by car and on foot), even when roads are quiet and there is no obvious crowd pressure.

Residents' car pass system is seen as ineffective / "meaningless", with residents not always being prioritised (and concerns that other groups may be treated better).

Inconsistent and unpredictable Garda traffic management, creating confusion and frequent confrontation (e.g., different rules applied at different times/locations, even on empty streets).

Reports of hostile or disrespectful treatment of residents by some An Garda Síochána, security and stewarding teams, including stressful situations where residents felt intimidated or unsafe.

Designated access routes and entry points are not working well in practice, forcing residents into long diversions and congested routes unnecessarily.

Lack of a clearly communicated, consistent traffic plan for different event "sizes", with calls for a structured approach (e.g., tiered road closures/time windows).

Parking problems on residential streets, including suspected staff/event-related parking, and roads being closed too early which increases illegal/undesirable parking pressure.

Aggressive behaviour from drivers searching for parking, including blocking laneways/alleys and obstructing access routes that should remain clear for emergencies.

Footpath parking and blocked dropped kerbs, creating serious accessibility issues (especially for wheelchair users, people with disabilities, older residents, and families).

Insufficient enforcement by Dublin City Council parking services, with residents reporting little or no response when illegal parking is reported.

Communication failures with residents and visitors, including lack of clarity about permitted routes, what's closing when, and poor pre-event messaging to discourage driving.

The event hotline is viewed as unreliable, with residents unsure how it is staffed and why responses are missed or inconsistent.

Cumulative disruption from consecutive-night concerts and increasing event numbers, with residents describing multi-day disruption well beyond the actual event times (set-up/tear-down, traffic, noise, road changes).

Wider, long-term pressure on parking and access from ongoing development and population changes (new hotel, apartments, transient population, hospital-related parking demand), meaning the plan needs to address the "everyday" situation too—not just match days.

MEETING TWO - Summary of Issues Raised

1. Overall Process & Next Steps

The group has completed the first round of discussions with subgroups and has begun a second round of meetings with ticketing and communications teams.

Initial sessions focused on identifying problems; current discussions aim to develop practical solutions.

Future steps include:

Testing proposed solutions with stakeholders such as An Garda Síochána, security and stewarding teams, Dublin City Council, and service providers.

Integrating feedback into a broader traffic and community management plan.

Treating the final plan as a “living document” with ongoing monitoring and adjustments.

Key Issues Raised

2. Resident Access & Cordon System

Current inner/outer cordon system around the stadium is considered unclear and inconsistent.

Residents suggested:

Conducting a “census” or mapping exercise to clearly define streets, residential areas, and problem locations.

Using detailed street mapping to identify access needs and congestion points.

Concerns raised that:

Some areas heavily affected by events are excluded from the current cordon definitions.

Enforcement and access decisions are often based on crowd movement rather than residents’ needs.

3. Traffic & Transport Management

Suggestions to improve traffic management included:

Developing tiered traffic plans based on event size.

Introducing local traffic routes and pedestrian routes around the stadium.

Improving coordination between Croke Park, An Garda Síochána, security and stewarding teams, and Dublin City Council.

Proposals discussed:

Possible car restrictions or bans within a defined radius around the stadium.

More park-and-ride facilities and transport partnerships.

Collaboration with Transport for Ireland and transport providers to improve event-day travel options.

4. Parking Issues & Enforcement

Residents reported illegal parking, blocked access, and inconsistent enforcement.

Concerns included:

Parking blocking homes and footpaths.

Limited Garda and enforcement resources leading to lack of enforcement.

Proposed solutions:

Earlier traffic control presence on event days.

Resident parking passes or controlled parking zones.

Better parking monitoring and enforcement responsibilities.

5. Garda Coordination & Consistency

Residents reported inconsistent instructions from An Garda Síochána, security and stewarding teams on event days.

Issues included:

Different rules applied week-to-week.

Lack of familiarity with local streets among officers.

Suggestions:

Greater consistency in policing approach.

Pairing new An Garda Síochána, security and stewarding teams with experienced officer's familiar with the area.

Involving An Garda Síochána, security and stewarding teams earlier in planning discussions.

6. Communication Failures

Communication between residents, An Garda Síochána, security and stewarding teams, and event organisers was described as poor.

Problems included:

Residents receiving short notice of access restrictions.

Lack of clear instructions for residents during events.

Proposed improvements:

Clear pre-event messaging and travel information.

Improved visibility and operation of the event hotline.

7. Behaviour & Community Impact

Event-related issues affecting residents include:

Anti-social behaviour.

Noise and crowd management.

Parking and congestion.

Education campaigns were suggested to encourage:

Responsible visitor behaviour.

Awareness of impacts on residents, elderly people, and people with disabilities.

8. Long-Term Planning Considerations

Increasing development and population density around the stadium will intensify traffic and parking pressures.

Ideas discussed:

Encouraging cycling infrastructure and secure bike parking.

Planning for future housing developments and hotel guests.

Ensuring infrastructure supports sustainable transport options.

There is broad agreement that improvements require better coordination between stakeholders, clearer planning frameworks, stronger enforcement, and improved communication with residents.

The group will continue developing proposals and engage with An Garda Síochána, security and stewarding teams, Dublin City Council, and transport authorities to create a workable long-term traffic and community management strategy.

Appendix B

Stadium Monitoring and Implementation Group (SMIG)

A consistent theme emerging throughout the consultation process was the importance of ensuring that the recommendations arising from resident engagement led to tangible and measurable improvements.

Residents repeatedly emphasised that the success of the consultation process should ultimately be judged by the implementation of agreed actions rather than the consultation process itself.

To support this objective, it is proposed that a **Stadium Monitoring and Implementation Group (SMIG)** be established for a fixed period of two years following publication of the final report.

The Group will provide a structure for monitoring progress, reviewing implementation, identifying barriers and ensuring ongoing communication between residents, Croke Park Stadium and key public agencies.

The Group will not replace any existing decision-making arrangements but will provide oversight and a forum for collaborative review and problem-solving.

Purpose

The purpose of the **Stadium Monitoring and Implementation Group** shall be to:

- Monitor implementation of the recommendations contained within this report.
- Track progress against agreed short-term, medium-term and long-term actions.
- Promote transparency and accountability among all participating stakeholders.
- Identify obstacles to implementation and seek practical solutions.
- Provide a structured forum for reviewing event-related issues and operational performance.
- Facilitate ongoing engagement between residents, Croke Park Stadium and public agencies.
- Ensure residents remain informed regarding progress achieved and challenges encountered.
- Assist in refining and improving operational arrangements over time.

Membership

The Stadium Monitoring and Implementation Group shall comprise:

Representation	Number
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Transport, Access & Parking Resident Group	2
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Communications & Ticketing Resident Group	2
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Anti-Social Behaviour Resident Group	2
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Croke Park Stadium Representative	1
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An Garda Síochána Representative	1
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Dublin City Council Representative	1
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Community Liaison Officer (Secretary)	1
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Total Membership: 11

Additional stakeholders may be invited to attend meetings where specialist expertise, community leadership or operational input is required, including elected representatives, additional residents' associations, transport providers, event promoters, Dublin Street Parking Services, environmental services or other agencies. Invitees may contribute within their remit but do not replace the resident representatives selected through the consultation process.

Representation and continuity

The membership model balances direct representation from the three consultation groups. This provides continuity and local knowledge while retaining the legitimacy of the resident engagement process. The Group should adopt a transparent nomination process, declarations of interest and a published attendance record.

Resident Representation

Each of the three resident working groups established through the consultation process shall elect two representatives from among their members.

Representatives shall:

- Act in the interests of the wider resident community.
- Communicate regularly with members of their respective working group.
- Present issues and feedback received from residents.
- Participate constructively in discussions and reviews.
- Support consensus-building wherever possible.

Should a representative step down during the two-year term, the relevant resident group shall nominate a replacement.

Secretariat

The Community Liaison Officer shall act as Secretary and:

- Arrange meetings.
 - Prepare agendas and supporting papers.
 - Maintain action trackers.
 - Record minutes.
 - Coordinate progress reports.
 - Circulate reports to resident groups and stakeholders.
-

Meetings

The **Stadium Monitoring and Implementation Group** shall:

- Meet quarterly in person.
- Hold a minimum of eight meetings during its two-year term.
- Meet at Croke Park or another agreed venue.
- Maintain a standing agenda item reviewing implementation progress.

A quorum shall consist of:

- Three resident representatives; and
 - Two stakeholder representatives.
-

Monitoring Framework

The Group shall maintain an implementation tracker covering all actions arising from this report.

Actions shall be categorised as:

Short-Term Actions

Examples include:

- Resident communications improvements.
- Event-day information systems.

- Toilet provision measures.
- Bin placement enhancements.
- Steward and operational briefings.
- Post-event cleaning improvements.

Medium-Term Actions

Examples include:

- Resident access system reviews.
- Parking and permit arrangements.
- Traffic management improvements.
- Enforcement protocols.
- Ticketing transparency initiatives.
- Enhanced operational coordination.

Long-Term Actions

Examples include:

- Joint event management arrangements.
- Community benefit programmes.
- Environmental improvement initiatives.
- Long-term governance arrangements.

Reporting and Accountability

Progress shall be measured using a Red-Amber-Green (RAG) reporting framework:

Status Definition

Green On schedule / completed

Amber Progress underway but issues identified

Red Delayed or no progress

Each action shall identify:

- Lead organisation.
- Supporting organisations.

- Target completion date.
 - Status.
 - Barriers to implementation.
 - Agreed next steps.
-

Communication with Residents

Following each quarterly meeting:

- A summary report shall be prepared.
- Reports shall be circulated to all members of the three resident working groups.
- Progress updates shall be published through appropriate community communication channels.
- Key achievements and emerging issues shall be highlighted.
- Residents shall have an opportunity to provide feedback.

This reporting mechanism will ensure transparency and maintain ongoing resident involvement throughout implementation.

Mid-Term Review

At the end of Year One the Group shall undertake a review examining:

- Progress achieved.
- Actions completed.
- Actions delayed.
- Emerging priorities.
- Effectiveness of governance arrangements.
- Stakeholder participation.

The review shall identify any corrective actions required during the second year.

Succession and Future Governance

A specific responsibility of the Stadium Monitoring and Implementation Group shall be to develop recommendations regarding future governance arrangements beyond the initial two-year period.

During the final six months of its term the Group shall:

- Review the effectiveness of the monitoring process.
- Consult with resident representatives.
- Consider alternative governance models.
- Assess ongoing monitoring requirements.
- Recommend an appropriate successor structure.

Options may include:

- A permanent Community Liaison Forum.
- A refreshed resident monitoring panel.
- Rotating resident representative structures.

The objective shall be to ensure continuity, preserve institutional knowledge and maintain long-term accountability for community commitments.