



BALLYMUN

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Metro

The decision of the RPA to run the Metro through Ballymun is a fantastic boost for this area. Trains will run underground from the City Centre, up the Ballymun Road and on to Swords every four minutes at peak times. The journey from Ballymun to the city centre will only be about 15 minutes and will bring a lot of people here.

The planning process for the Metro involves the making of a Railway Order, which the RPA hope to have done by next March so that they can keep on schedule. Because of the tight deadline, they need to have the plans for the Metro station (and its entrance from the Plaza) in place before then.

Because of this and due to the complex nature of building an underground train station, the design options for the plaza have become quite limited. The station will be 10 metres underground and it is necessary to have a gradual drop in level down to the station. In addition to this it will be necessary to include emergency exits and lifts around the Plaza from the station.



RPA discussing their plans at the BRL Open Day

Error correction

In the last newsletter, we stated that people from certain blocks of flats would be moving to certain new housing schemes. Some of the information in that report was incorrect and has led to some confusion. Printed in the table below is the most up

to date allocation schedule but do please note that this may be subject to change and we will keep people informed of these changes as they happen. If you have any queries, please phone the Allocations Team on 01 222 5660.

SCHEMES PLANNED FOR 2008

SCHEME	NO OF UNITS	ESTIMATED START DATE	AREA
BALCURRIS 5	55	January 2008	193 - 288 Balcurris Road
BALCURRIS 7A/B	109	January 2008	97 - 192 Balbutcher Lane
SILLOGUE 8	61	June 2008	187 - 372 Sillogue Road
SILLOGUE 9	80	February 2009	187 - 372 Sillogue Road
COULTRY 6	39	July 2008	94 - 186 Coultury Road
SHANGAN 5A/B	97	August and November 2008	187 - 310 Shangan Road
SILLOGUE 6	58	On Site	94 - 186 Sillogue Road

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REGENERATION NEWS

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The old and the new



Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year

ANOTHER YEAR OVER

Another year has passed and it's time again for us to celebrate the progress made over the past twelve months and to look forward to what we would like to achieve in 2008.

Many changes have taken place around Ballymun over the last year, not least of which was the much-anticipated demolition of more tower blocks.

Residents reflected with mixed emotions as they watched the gradual demolition of the block at Balcurris and Connolly Tower, a certain sadness attached to waving goodbye to how things used to be, excitement and enthusiasm to the bright new future that lies ahead for Ballymun. The countrywide interest in the demolition of the towers has been huge and the coming year will be no different with the demolition of Clarke Tower planned for early in the New Year.

Physical improvements

The changing face of Ballymun has been very evident:

- over 1,200 (one thousand two hundred) new housing units completed
- over 500 (five hundred) more homes currently under construction
- new shops and services in the neighbourhood centres
- Shangan Neighbourhood Centre opened its doors for the first time in November

HEALTH & SAFETY
If you see anything that you are concerned about on the building sites, outside of working hours, please contact Ballymun Gardaí at 01 666 4400



- additional recreational facilities opened
- new equestrian centre in Meakstown opened
- 2 new play areas in Coultrey Green and Whiteacre Park opened
- IKEA received full planning permission to build its flagship Irish store and construction on roads and services for the store has started.

Social regeneration

- Ballymun continues to lead the way as Dublin's first fair trade town
- IKEA is committed to training and employing a large number of local people when it opens in 2008.
- Unemployment rates have fallen by over 25% and it is hoped that this trend will continue.
- The Community Safety Strategy has proved very successful over the last year and continues to gain momentum as it receives the backing of more and more members of the community.
- The ongoing work on the new Garda station and the announcement of the Ballymun wide CCTV system have instilled a great source of hope into a community who are united in the idea that Ballymun will no

longer tolerate the kind of anti-social behaviour that it has seen in the past.

"During 2007 Ballymun Regeneration have achieved many positive things, and much progress has been made in partnership and with the co-operation of the community and residents," said Ciaran Murray, Managing Director, BRL. "We look forward to next year and the challenges it holds and we know that with the continued help and support of the community we will achieve the Ballymun that everyone believes in. On behalf of the BRL team, I wish everyone a very happy Christmas and best wishes for 2008."

Looking forward

- The very successful Farmers Market will continue in 2008 and it is testament to the new healthy living lifestyle around the area
- A new Gym will open in the New Year at the Leisure Centre on Main Street
- Metro is due in approx 2013
- A new shopping centre to rival some of the best in the country will start construction at the end of next year.

Your neighbourhood needs you

The Ballymun Tidy Towns Committee is in the process of expansion and is encouraging every citizen in Ballymun to get out and get involved. After two successful years involved in this prestigious national campaign the currently very small committee wants to branch out, expand and achieve even greater results and more prizes for Ballymun in 2008.

"The aim is to get everyone within the community involved, from Green schools teams, to forum representatives, parishioners to local businesses. Everyone has something to offer," says Roger Warburton, Tidy Town's committee representative.

Tidy Towns is not all about creating a 'neat and tidy' area. It also incorporates wider objectives such as overall community participation in activities such as neighbourhood clean ups, promotion of healthy walk ways (Sli na Slainte's), encouragement of biodiversity, Green Schools, recycling and much, much more.

As part of the new approach to Tidy Towns, the committee will meet regularly in various locations throughout Ballymun to plan out each year's Tidy Towns

campaign. If you are interested in contributing to the committee or if you would like to set up your own local committee, i.e. residents association, Green School's team, youth group, community group, business group or feel you can contribute to the overall Ballymun Tidy Towns submission, please contact one of the following committee members:

- Roger Warburton, 01 222 8526
- Simon Cocking or Elise Finnigan, 01 883 2164
- Vanessa Moore, 01 862 5846



Ballymun Tidy Towns' committee

Coultrey Green Opens

Coultrey Green is the latest park to open in Ballymun!

The construction fences were taken down on Friday 9th November and the new park was unveiled to the delight of children in the area who were in using it straight away. Coultrey Green has swings, a climbing frame and other play equipment for children of all ages to enjoy and these were certainly proving a big hit on the day of the opening.



Aerial view of Coultrey Green

A meeting was held in the weeks before the opening between local residents, Ballymun Regeneration, Dublin City Council, Coultrey Forum and The Gardaí in order to agree on everyone's responsibility in relation to the success of the park and from these meetings a 'Friends of the Park' group is to be set up in the area.

More new parks on the way

Whiteacre Park is the next to open in Ballymun and it is hoped that similar meetings will take place between all the stakeholders and that a similar group to that in Coultrey can be set up in order to ensure the success of the park.

With the opening of more and more parks around Ballymun it is worth remembering how much of an asset these places are for all the community. Already Coultrey and Balcurris Parks have become popular recreation places for young and old alike and both are yet to be finished. Balcurris Park will extend north once the flats come down and Coultrey's oval shape will be complete with the demolition of the next two blocks in Coultrey.

All parks in Ballymun should be available for use by everyone and it is always good for parents to go to the parks with their children and to remind them that children from other areas should be welcomed into the parks.

Ballymun Plaza - Where we are now

As many people will have noticed, the Plaza outside The Civic Centre and Axis is being given a face-lift at the moment. This is a temporary measure in order to allow the area to be used by the public and for the farmers market.

The permanent plaza will not be completed for several years, because it can't be finished off until the Metro has been built by the Railway Procurement Agency (RPA) by about 2013. The best place to put the station is underneath the Plaza as it is the very centre of Ballymun and will be across the road from the new shopping centre, which will be convenient for people working and shopping there.

We will be holding a public information session about the design of the plaza in January when it is more certain about the plans of the RPA. Keep an eye out for posters advertising this in January and do come along.



Temporary Ballymun Plaza