

# QC declares 23 barangays drug-free

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Twenty-three barangays have been declared drug-free by the Philippine Drug Enforcement Agency (PDEA).

Vice Mayor and Quezon City Anti-Drug Abuse Advisory Council (QCADAAC) Chairperson Joy Belmonte made the announcement during a recent meeting with members of the drug council. In June 2017, Mayor Herbert Bautista announced that 21 out of 142 barangays have been classified as drug-free.

“We are happy with this because it’s not easy to declare that a barangay is drug-free,” the vice mayor said.

Belmonte said “it’s a very long process with lots of requirements, so we are happy that our barangays have the motivation and initiative to continue and maintain our campaign against illegal drugs.”

In order for PDEA to declare a barangay drug-free, a committee must validate the non-availability of the supply of illegal drugs in the barangay, the absence of drug transit, storage, and production operations, and the loss of users and pushers.

PDEA works closely with the local government against illegal drug activities in accordance with the Dangerous Drugs Board (DDB) Regulation No. 3 Series of 2017, otherwise known as “Strengthening the Implementation of the Barangay Drug-Clearing Program.”