

Joy: Linkages needed to swat drug menace

By Rio N. Araja

AMID reports the anti-drug campaign has contributed to crime reduction, Quezon City Vice Mayor Joy Belmonte on Sunday cited the importance of linkages among the police force, local government and communities to improve peace and order.

"According to data [from the police], all index crimes apart from murder have went down, and so they feel that there's really correlation between drug use and criminal activity in the city," she said.

To establish linkages in the community precisely would ensure that the community is one with the government and the police effort to eradicate drugs, Belmonte said.

As head of the Quezon City Anti-Drug Abuse and Advisory Council, the vice mayor said local government and community efforts complement the police campaign.

While the police force focuses on the enforcement of the law, the mandate of the council and its programs are on preventive education, treatment, and rehabilitation, especially for the youth, she said.

The city government shall also provide community-based drug rehabilitation and counseling for drug surrenderers, Belmonte added.

Meanwhile, Quezon City Mayor Herbert Bautista has approved an ordinance converting Pedro Tuason Elementary School to Pedro Tuason Senior High School.

City Ordinance 2664-2018, introduced by Councilor Julienne Alyson Rae V. Medalla, approves the Local School Board's (LSB) recommendation to convert P. Tuason Elementary School in Barangay Kaunlaran to P. Tuason Senior High School.