

# 10 QC villages under tighter dengue watch

**By Rio N. Araja**

QUEZON City Mayor Joy Belmonte on Monday ordered a strict monitoring and intensified anti-dengue drive in at least 10 barangays with the most dengue cases.

“Our city health department is in full force. And our barangay health workers conduct search and destroy, and spraying campaign every day in these barangays,” she said.

The barangays involved are Fairview, Payatas, Commonwealth, Holy Spirit, Batasan, Pasing Tamo, Bagong Silangan, Bagbag, Tandang Sora and Tatalon.

Belmonte issued a memorandum mandating public schools to encour-

age students to wear long-sleeved shirts and long pants.

“This is one of the city’s immediate actions as we learned that the age group most hit by dengue is children 1 to 10 years old,” she said.

As of latest count, the number of dengue cases in Quezon City totaled 3,502 with 29 deaths from January to Aug. 10, or 15 percent lower compared to the same period last year.

The mayor assured that the local government is intensifying its awareness campaign, clean-up drive and spraying as part of measures to combat dengue.

“Rest assured the city government is doing everything required and ex-

pected of us and beyond,” she said.

She urged the residents to cooperate with the local government’s efforts to fight dengue, especially spraying, “which has been long proven to be effective, to prevent an impending outbreak.”

“We call on the people to cooperate. I have heard some people would refuse spraying at their home and on the streets,” Belmonte said.

“Simultaneously, we are employing active fever surveillance and the use of NS1 rapid diagnostic tests to diagnose dengue early. Once dengue is detected, our health workers immediately address it to avoid further complications,” the mayor said.