

ANNUAL REPORT

ON THE OPERATION OF THE

WATERFORD CITY & COUNTY JOINT

POLICING COMMITTEE (JPC)

FOR YEAR ENDING 31ST DECEMBER 2017

Introduction

This document constitutes the Annual Report of the Waterford City & County Joint Policing Committee (JPC) for the year ended 31st December 2017

The report has been prepared in the context of the Joint Policing Committee Amended Guidelines 2014 jointly issued by the Minister for Justice and Equality and the Minister for Environment, Community and Local Government and in specific accordance with Section 36(5) of the Garda Síochána Act 2005.

Background

Legislation: Section 36 (1) of the Garda Síochána Act 2005 provides for the establishment of Joint Policing Committees to serve as a forum for consultations, discussions and recommendations on matters affecting the policing of the local authority's administrative area.

Functions of a JPC

The functions of JPCs set out in section 36(2) of the Garda Síochána Act, state the following:

“The Joint Policing Committee's function is to serve as a forum for consultations, discussions and recommendations on matters affecting the policing of the local authority's administrative area, and in particular to –

(a) keep under review -

(i) the levels and patterns of crime, disorder and anti-social behaviour in that area (including the patterns and levels of misuse of alcohol and drugs), and

(ii) the factors underlying and contributing to the levels of crime, disorder and anti-social behaviour in the area,

(b) advise the local authority concerned and the Garda Síochána on how they might best perform their functions having regard to the need to do everything feasible to improve the safety and quality of life and to prevent crime, disorder and anti-social behaviour within the area,

(c) arrange and host public meetings concerning matters affecting the policing of the local authority's administrative area,

(d) establish, in consultation with the local Garda superintendent, as the committee considers necessary within specific neighbourhoods of the area, local policing fora to discuss and make recommendations to the committee concerning matters that it is to keep under review under paragraph (a) or on which it is to advise under paragraph (b), in so far as those matters affect their neighbourhoods, and

Section 37(1) also provides:

“A local authority shall, in performing its functions, have regard to the importance of taking steps to prevent crime, disorder and anti-social behaviour within its area of responsibility.”

JPC Membership

The Waterford City & County JPC comprising of 32 members drawn from the Waterford City and County administrative areas as follows:

| Name | Organisation/ Sector |
|------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Cllr. John Carey, <i>Chair</i> | Waterford City & County Council |
| Cllr. James Tobin | Waterford City & County Council |
| Cllr. John O'Leary | Waterford City & County Council |
| Cllr. Jason Murphy | Waterford City & County Council |
| Cllr. Eddie Mulligan | Waterford City & County Council |
| Cllr. Mary Roche | Waterford City & County Council |
| Cllr. Cha O'Neill | Waterford City & County Council |
| Cllr. Joe Kelly | Waterford City & County Council |
| Cllr. Breda Brennan | Waterford City & County Council |
| Cllr. John Hearne | Waterford City & County Council |
| Cllr. Pat Fitzgerald | Waterford City & County Council |
| Cllr. Pat Nugent | Waterford City & County Council |
| Cllr. Declan Doocey | Waterford City & County Council |
| Cllr. Sean Power | Waterford City & County Council |
| Cllr. John Pratt | Waterford City & County Council |
| Mr. Michael J. Walsh | PPN Representative |
| Mr. John Devlin | PPN Representative |
| Ms. Rosemary Kennedy | PPN Representative |
| Ms. Breda Halligan | PPN Representative |
| Mr. Criostoir O Faolain | PPN Representative |
| Mr. Jay Collins | PPN Representative |
| Mr. Donal Murphy | PPN Representative |
| Chief Superintendent Dominic Hayes | An Garda Síochána |
| Superintendent Chris Delaney | An Garda Síochána |
| Mr. Michael Walsh, CEO | Waterford City & County Council |
| Mr. Ivan Grimes | Waterford City & County Council |
| Mary Butler TD | Oireachtas Member |
| David Cullinane TD | Oireachtas Member |
| John Deasy TD | Oireachtas Member |
| John Halligan TD | Oireachtas Member |
| Senator Paudie Coffey | Oireachtas Member |
| Senator Grace O'Sullivan | Oireachtas Member |

Progress / Achievements in 2017

- 4 No. JPC statutory meetings held in 2017:
 - 6th March 2017;
 - 12th June 2017;
 - 11th September 2017;
 - 4th December 2017;
- Workshop held on finalising Strategic Plan in November 2017
- Presentation received from SE Drug & Alcohol Task Force
- Promoted Waterford Restorative Practice Network to wider community

Monitoring of Levels and Patterns of Crime

An Garda Síochána provided detailed quarterly statistical reports to Waterford City & County JPC which kept under review, and responded as appropriate, to the levels and patterns of crime, disorder and anti-social behaviour in Waterford City and County (including the patterns and levels of misuse of alcohol and drugs).

Public Meeting

A full public meeting was held in the Park Hotel, Dungarvan, Co. Waterford on the 12th June 2017. The theme of the public meeting was practical implementation of improving Public Safety, Crime Prevention and Personal Safety through working with Communities. The JPC public meeting was well attended and excellent feedback received from the public.

Drafting of a Six-Year Joint Policing Committee Strategy 2018-2023

A JPC strategy sub-group was formed with eight of its thirty two members. This sub-group was tasked with preparing a six year draft plan 2018-2023 and reporting back to the full JPC. The members of this sub-group included appropriate representation from Elected Members, An Garda Síochána and the PPN. The group held numerous meetings over the course of 2017. Consultations for the plan were held with stakeholders and submissions received from the public. The Strategy was ratified at the December meeting.

**COLETTE O' BRIEN, STAFF OFFICER
WATERFORD CITY & COUNTY COUNCIL**

DATE: 2nd FEBRUARY 2018