

County Clare  
Joint Policing Committee

Annual Report 2021

Tuarascáil Bhliantúil 2021



Comhairle Contae an Chláir  
Clare County Council



## Introduction

The Clare Joint Policing Committee (JPC) was established in 2009 under the Garda Síochána Act 2005. The overall aim of the JPC is to serve as a forum for consultations, discussions and recommendations on matters affecting the policing of Clare County Council's administrative area. The JPC also review levels and patterns of crime, disorder and anti-social behaviour and the factors contributing to such crime.

### 1. Membership of Committee

There are 31 JPC Members.

	<b>January to December 2021</b>
<b>Chairperson</b>	<b>Cllr. John Crowe</b>
<b>Vice Chairperson</b>	Cllr. Alan O Callaghan
<b>Councillors</b>	Michael Begley Pat Burke Pat Daly Ian Lynch Paul Murphy Ann Norton P.J. Ryan Mary Howard Pat McMahan Joe Killeen Gabriel Keating Bill Chambers
<b>Oireachtas Members</b>	Cathal Crowe TD Joe Carey TD Michael McNamara TD Violet-Anne Wynne TD Senator Róisín Garvey Senator Timmy Dooley
<b>Gardaí</b>	Chief Superintendent Sean Colleran Superintendent Brendan McDonagh Superintendent John Galvin
<b>Community &amp; Voluntary Representatives</b>	<b>Clare Older People's Council</b> Mary Mather Leahy
	<b>Clare Public Participation Network</b> Madeline McAleer
	<b>Clare Youth Services</b> Brian McManus
	<b>Disability Interests</b> Dermot Hayes

	<b>Irish Farmers Association</b> Adrian Brooks
	<b>Lahinch Development</b> Bill Slattery
<b>Officials</b>	Leonard Cleary, Director of Rural Development & West Clare Municipal District, Karen Fennessy, Meetings Administrator

### 1. Meetings held:

Four JPC meetings were held in 2021. The first three meetings were held on-line and a Special Meeting with Garda Commissioner Drew Harris was held in the Council Chamber, Áras Contae an Chláir, Ennis. The following matters were discussed and attended to at these meetings.

<b>Date and meeting venue</b>	<b>Items discussed at meetings</b>
<b>8<sup>th</sup> February 2021 (online)</b>	Update on crime figures by An Garda Síochána. Draft Anti-Social Behaviour Strategy 2020 – 2026. Illegal encampments. Barring order breaches. Domestic Violence. Drug detection. Presence of Garda patrol cars. Draft Amended Standing Orders for JPC Meetings. Draft JPC Annual Report 2020. Agreement of schedule of meetings for 2021.
<b>12<sup>th</sup> April 2021 (online)</b>	Presentation – Support for Victims of Crime Update on crime figures by An Garda Síochána Domestic violence – repeat offenders, reporting and public awareness campaign Drug dealing. Illegal encampments and animal welfare issues. Homeless situation in Ennis. Increase in anti-social behaviour in Ennis and Kilrush. CCTV Scheme for Clarecastle. Temporary Accommodation for the Winter Initiative. Legislation in relation to body cams for An Garda Síochána. Theft of MPVs, catalytic convertors and thefts from cars. Kilrush Multi-Agency Task Force. Tourism; staycations, camping and traffic pinch points/congestion. Garda patrols in housing estates. Mental Health Supports.
<b>6<sup>th</sup> September 2021 (online)</b>	Update on crime figures by An Garda Síochána. CCTV Clarecastle; Local Project Team set up. Unanswered 999 calls in the Clare division.

	<p>Statistics in relation to car thefts.  Domestic Violence in Clare.  Lifting of Covid restrictions during the Mid-term break.  Ennis Purple Flag status.  Policing Plan in relation to staycations/tourists.  Upcoming meeting with Garda Commissioner Drew Harris.  JPC 6 Year Plan 2022-2027.  Community Safety Partnership Pilots.  Retirement of Supt. Brendan McDonagh.  Illegal encampment update.  Boy racers and anti-social behaviour in Ennis.</p>
<p><b>18<sup>th</sup> October 2021  (Special Meeting held  in the Council  Chamber, Áras  Contae an Chláir  Ennis)</b></p>	<p>Presentation by Commissioner Drew Harris on the new Garda Operating Model.  Increase in the number of Garda personnel in County Clare.  Staffing levels of the new Clare/Tipperary Garda Division.  Resources for the Economic Crime and Cyber Crime Bureau.  Protected Services Bureau.  Closure of Garda Stations and increase in population in small villages.  Unanswered Domestic Violence calls and new system for classifying calls.  An Garda Síochána's success at national level and county level in terms of combatting drug dealing.  Discussion on Proceeds of Crime Act.  Principle of discretion in relation to offences under the Road Traffic Act.  Investigation of members of An Garda Síochána.  Chain of command for notification of road traffic offences.  Policy services for the future around organisational change and the operating model.</p>

### 1. Plan adopted during the year 2020

Due to COVID19, Clare Joint Policing Committee adopted a two year JPC Work Plan for the period 2020/2021 which can be viewed [here](#).

Signed:

  
Chairperson: Cllr. John Crowe

Dated: 31<sup>st</sup> March 2021