



Comhairle Contae Chorcaí
Cork County Council



ANNUAL REPORT

ON THE OPERATION OF THE

CORK COUNTY JOINT POLICING COMMITTEE

(JPC)

FOR YEAR ENDING 31ST DECEMBER 2021



Introduction

This document constitutes the Annual Report of the Cork County Joint Policing Committee (JPC) for the year ended 31st December 2021.

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 a 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).



- 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.

(e) co-ordinate the activities of local policing fora under paragraph (d) or otherwise."

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 current Cork County JPC was established following the local elections on the 25th May 2019. The Committee comprises of 30 no. members drawn from the Cork County administrative area as follows:

Name	Organisation/ Sector
Cllr. Cathal Rasmussen CHAIR	Cork County Council
Cllr. Sean O'Donovan VICE-CHAIR	Cork County Council
Cllr. Ted Lucey	Cork County Council
Cllr. Aidan Lombard <i>(Replaced by Cllr. Michael Murtagh at Full Council Meeting 23rd June 2021)</i>	Cork County Council
Cllr Karen Coakley	Cork County Council
Cllr Kay Dawson	Cork County Council
Cllr. Kevin Murphy	Cork County Council
Cllr. Ian Doyle	Cork County Council
Cllr. Michael Looney	Cork County Council
Cllr. Gearóid Murphy	Cork County Council
Cllr. Frank Roche	Cork County Council
Cllr. Ben Dalton O'Sullivan	Cork County Council



Cllr. Danielle Twomey	Cork County Council
Cllr. Joe Carroll	Cork County Council
Cllr. Deirdre O'Brien	Cork County Council
Mr Tim Lucey	Chief Executive, Cork County Council
Ms Mairéad Lucey	Senior Executive Officer, Cork County Council
Aindrias Moynihan TD	Oireachtas Member
Sean Sherlock TD	Oireachtas Member
Thomas Gould TD	Oireachtas Member
Padraig O'Sullivan T.D.	Oireachtas Member
Michael Moynihan TD	Oireachtas Member
Chief Superintendent Thomas Myers	An Garda Síochána
Chief Superintendent Con Cadogan	An Garda Síochána
Chief Superintendent Barry McPolin*	An Garda Síochána
Mr. Gerry Moore**	Public Participation Network
Geraldine McNamara**	Public Participation Network
John Fuller**	Public Participation Network



Sean Kelly**	Public Participation Network
Danny Crowley**	Public Participation Network

* Chief Superintendent Barry McPolin's final JPC meeting prior to his retirement took place on 13th September 2021

** PPN Members were appointed onto JPC Committee at Full Council Meeting of the 13th December 2021.

There are 2 vacancies for PPN members which are due to be filled in 2022.

Supports to JPC

- Meeting support were provided to the JPC by Cork County Council: Ms Claire Looney O'Sullivan, Corporate Services who was replaced by Mr Enda O'Halloran, Corporate Services on 1st May 2021

Progress / Achievements in 2021

Due to Covid 19 all meetings for 2021 were held online via MS Teams.

- 4 No. JPC statutory meetings:
 - Monday 25th January
 - Monday 10th May
 - Monday 13th September
 - Monday 8th November
- 4 No. JPC Steering Group meetings:
 - Wednesday 13th January
 - Wednesday 28th April
 - Wednesday 1st September
 - Monday 1st November



Monitoring of Levels and Patterns of Crime

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

Covid 19

Meetings in 2021 included ongoing discussions on impacts of public health restrictions and new challenges facing both policing and communities.

Public Meeting

A full public meeting was held online on the 8th November 2021.

During the meeting the importance of the Joint Policing Committee was discussed in relation to developing greater consultation and cooperation on policing and crime issues between An Garda Síochána, Local Authorities and the Community and Voluntary sectors.

Never has this cooperation been more important than over the past 2 years due to the problems caused by Covid. Over this period communities and voluntary groups have had to come together with the Local Authorities and with An Garda Síochána working together to help as many people in our local communities as possible.

The online JPC public meeting was attended by over 40 participants.



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Six-Year Joint Policing Committee Strategy 2016-2021

The Cork County Joint Policing Committee Strategic Plan 2016-2021 was completed in June 2016. The strategy sets out a range of priorities, strategic objectives and strategic actions following an analysis of the county and an extensive consultation process. The plan is intended to deliver on opportunities afforded by maximising cooperation between all of the key actors involved in safety and security of the county by working in a coherent, efficient and integrated manner.

The outcomes of the plan will be reviewed in 2022.

PATRICIA LIDDY

DIRECTOR OF CORPORATE SERVICES

CORK COUNTY COUNCIL

DATE: 14th April 2022