



GALWAY CITY JOINT POLICING COMMITTEE (JPC)

ANNUAL REPORT 2020

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Message from the Chairperson of Galway City Joint Policing Committee

As Chairperson of the Galway City Joint Policing Committee (JPC) I welcome the publication of the Annual Report for 2020. The report details the work of the committee in delivering on its work during 2020 within the context of the COVID-19 pandemic and is an important means of communicating the role and work of the committee.

The Joint Policing Committee aims to develop greater consultation, co-operation and synergy on policing and crime issues between An Garda Síochána, Galway City Council, Community Representatives and Elected Local Representatives. During 2020, the JPC continued to take a strategic approach to its work in addressing local issues collectively and strategically in what has been the most challenging of years on record due to the impact of COVID-19 and the major uncertainties this has caused, and likely to continue into the year ahead. Throughout 2020 the consistent message from An Garda Síochána about the need for a balanced and graduated approach to policing the COVID-19 public health crisis through the use of the 4 E's – engage, explain, encourage and enforce in the context of the dangers posed by the COVID-19 pandemic was very much welcomed.

As we moved through the levels of restrictions as set out in the National Framework for living with COVID-19, the extent of engagement and support by all members of the JPC across many elements of the City's response to COVID-19 should be noted. Increased policing activity in terms of the Operation Fanacht checkpoints, ongoing outreach to vulnerable persons and victims of abuse through Operation Faoiseamh are just two to note. Communities have expressed appreciation for the responsiveness of the Garda Síochána in meeting the needs of members of the community as the country moved from and through the various levels of restrictions during 2020. 2020 was also a general election year and with that came changes in membership. I would like to thank the previous members of the JPC for their support and work and would also like to welcome our new members to the Committee and look forward to working with you all.

The Galway City JPC convened online on three occasions during 2020, with additional meetings of the JPC Sub-committees taking place online. I want to acknowledge the important work of members of An Garda Síochána in playing their part in keeping our communities safe at this exceptionally difficult time. I also want to acknowledge the excellent level of participation by the elected and community representatives on the Committee and to each member of the JPC for their continuing support in fulfilling the role and purpose of the JPC. Finally, I would like to acknowledge and thank Galway City Council for the administration of the Committee.

Cllr. Níall McNelis

Councillor Níall McNelis
Chairperson of the Galway City Joint Policing Committee

Message from the Chief Superintendent, Galway Garda Division

As Chief Superintendent of the Galway Division, I wish to record my appreciation to Galway City Council, community representatives and elected local representatives in the Galway City area for 2020. 2020 was a challenging year with the COVID-19 pandemic. The co-operation and participation of Galway City Council, community representatives and elected representatives in the COVID-19 pandemic with An Garda Síochána is acknowledged in the challenges faced during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Thomas Curley
Chief Superintendent

Introduction

This document constitutes the Annual Report on the operation of the Galway City Joint Policing Committee (JPC) for the year ended 31st December 2020. 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

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 JPC 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

(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."

Summary of Progress

Monitoring of Levels and Patterns of Crime

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

Chief Superintendent Tom Curley presented the Garda Report at each JPC meeting, noting some of the key crime statistics and approaches proposed to address identified priorities. Areas covered included property crime, drugs, roads policing and other areas as included below. As per previous years each report covered how the crime types are trending in comparison to the same period in the previous year. In consideration of the reports and the international COVID-19 pandemic, it is important that the figures reflect and need to be interpreted in the context of the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic in Ireland and restrictions that followed it, including travel restrictions, limitations to public life and, more recently, a lockdown. A Fraud Incident Report also formed part of this report for 2020, detailing the number of cases of the different types of fraud happening in Galway City.

An Garda Síochána Garda Statistics Report 2020

Galway City	Year to 31st of December 2020			
	2019	2020	Difference	% Difference
Property Crime				
Burglary/ Buirgléireacht	221	195	-26	-12%
Theft from M.P.V./ Goid as Feithicil	174	176	2	1%
Theft from Person/ Goid Ó'n Duine	73	29	-44	-60%
Theft from Shop/ Goid as Siopa	625	456	-169	-27%
Theft Other/ Goid eile	331	185	-146	-44%
Drugs/ Drugaí				
For Sale or Supply/ Le díol nó soláthar	77	88	11	14%
Simple Possession/ Seilbh shimplí	266	220	-46	-17%
Drugs Seized/ Urghabháil Drugaí				
Cocaine/ Cócaon	€186,709			
Ecstasy/ Eacstais	€26,140			
Cannabis/ Cannabas	€485,635			
Heroin/ Hearóin	€49,345			
Other Eile	€64,642			
Road Accidents/ Statisticí Timpistí Bóthair				
Fatal/ Marfach	0	0	0	
Serious Injury/ Gortú Tromchúiseach	13	14	1	8%
FCPN Speeding / Bhrostú	2730	7003	4273	157%
No Insurance/ Gan Árachas	200	108	-92	-46%
Intoxicated Driving/ Tiomáint faoi thionchar alcóil nó drugaí	146	108	-38	-26%
MIT Checkpoints/ Seicphointí - Teist Alcóil Sainordaitheach	1163	391	-772	-66%
FCPN Parking Offences	1683	1034	-649	--39%
FCPN - Traffic Lights Driving Past	237	146	-91	-38%

FCPN Pedal Cycles	71	32	-39	-55%
Public Order Incidents				
Public Order Offences/ Coireanna Ord Poiblí	591	491	-100	-17%
Begging	19	41	22	116%
Assaults/ Ionsaithe				
Assault causing Harm/ Ionsaithe Ag déanamh dochar	108	88	-20	-19%
Minor Assault/ Mion-ionsaí	325	298	-27	-8%
Domestic Incidents/ Eactraí Intíre				
Breach of Barring Order, Safety Order and Protection Order Bearnaigh d'Orda Cosanta, Orda Cosaint agus Orda Sábháilte	58	67	9	16%
No Offence Disclosed	330	302	-28	-8%
Sexual Assaults/ Ionsaithe Gnéasacha				
Rape of Male or Female / Éigniú ar Fhear nó ar Bhean	32	13	-19	-59%
Sexual Assault (Not aggravated)	42	28	-14	-33%

*Data is provisional, operational and may be subject to change

Fraud Type	Number in 2020
Accommodation Fraud	8
Account Take Over Fraud	10
ATM Fraud/Black Box attacks	1
Business E-Mail Compromise	4
Card Not Present Fraud	13
Counterfeiting Notes and Coins	28
Deception/Other	70
Employee/Internal Fraud	3
False Pretences	1
Forgery / False Instrument Offences	10
Insurance Fraud	6
Investment Fraud	3
Money Laundering	8
Phishing/Vishing/Smishing Frauds	12
Romance Fraud	2
Shopping/Online Auction Fraud	12
Grand Total	191

Key Actions 2020

Sub-committee 1 – To Promote the Safety of all Road Users in Galway City

During 2020 and in line with priorities agreed by this Sub-committee, a number of Driver Feedback signs were purchased and erected in key locations across Galway City. In addition the maintenance contract for these signs was finalised to be implemented in 2021. A number of measures were advanced to promote alternatives to the car transport system, including major resurfacing works; commencement of school streets pilot project; implementation of park and stride programme for city schools. Finally a number of events took place as part of Road Safety Week in October 2020, including a 'Light up your Life' message for all road users with a focus on pedestrians and cyclists promoted during December 2020.

Sub-committee 2 – To Enhance Community Safety Responses in Galway City with a view to Crime Prevention

During 2020 and in line with priorities agreed by this Sub-committee, a series of crime prevention actions were delivered, including the distribution of 16,000 bespoke crime prevention leaflets in addition to on-going awareness and advertising in local print media, Social Media and a targeted campaign on a number of bus shelters across Galway City highlighting domestic violence and fraud prevention. In addition a number of national campaigns were highlighted and promoted throughout the community. In addition throughout 2020, the Garda Crime Prevention Officer and members of the Garda Community Policing team were interviewed on a regular basis on Galway Bay FM, offering information and advice to members of the public on how to safeguard themselves against cybercrime and domestic violence. In addition, advice was circulated on the Garda Western Region Facebook page throughout 2020, along with newspaper articles featuring in the Connacht and City Tribunes. In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, the "Still Here" campaign launched in April 2020 which addresses the issue of domestic violence, as the incidence of this is known to increase in times of stress. This initiative and campaign is a partnership between the Department of Justice and Equality, and frontline State services including An Garda Síochána working together with organisations from the Community & Voluntary sector, standing together in support for victims of domestic and sexual violence during this difficult period. The introduction of Operation Faoiseamh which commenced as part of An Garda Síochána community engagement response to COVID-19 was an important development that was widely welcomed. Finally, the Garda Community Engagement and Crime Prevention Offices continued to engage with their Community Alert, Neighbourhood Watch and Business Watch programmes throughout 2020 via online webinars and other video conferencing platforms.





**DOMESTIC ABUSE
AT HOME SHOULDN'T MEAN AT RISK**

An Garda Síochána are available to help and support anyone who is a victim of domestic or sexual abuse. Domestic abuse incidents, including coercive control, will continue to receive highest priority response by Gardaí. If you are subjected to this kind of abuse, or if you know someone who is, you should contact your local Garda station, or in an emergency call 999 or 112.

It is important that you know you are not alone – domestic and sexual violence support services have been adapted and increased to ensure they remain available to support you. Log onto www.StillHere.ie for a list of local support services in your area or contact your local Garda Station.

If you are in immediate danger call An Garda Síochána on 999 or 112




**SCAM ALERT
A GUIDE TO FRAUD PREVENTION**

1. Be suspicious of all "Too good to be true" offers and deals.
2. Don't assume anyone who has sent you an email text message or has called your phone is who they say they are.
3. Never ever give banking details or personal details to someone you don't know or trust. Genuine organisations like banks and the revenue commissioners will never contact you out of the blue to ask for your PIN, password or bank details.
4. Always log on to a website directly rather than clicking on links in an email or text message.
5. When shopping online only buy from trusted sources. Use a credit card other than direct Transfers from your bank account or payment card!
6. Never send money to someone you have only met online no matter how much you trust him or believed her story.
7. Monitor your bank account regularly.
8. Don't return calls to international numbers that you don't recognise.
9. If you receive a notification of a change of bank account details from the supplier always verify this change directly using an established contact.
10. Don't be embarrassed if you have been scammed, always report crime to An Garda Síochána.

For more information on fraud and crime prevention visit www.FraudSmart.ie



Sub-committee 3 - To Reduce and Prevent Anti-Social Behaviour in Galway City

In an effort to combat anti-social behaviour, three local electoral areas with high incidences have been identified and a task group has been set up for each area, with each task group being chaired by a local City Councillor. These task groups have met and have begun to discuss solutions for these areas. A multi-agency approach was needed and the SARA problem solving model was the most effective approach to these problem areas. The SARA model consists of four steps – Scanning, Analysis, Response and Assessment. In addition and in partnership with both NUI Galway, GMIT and their respective student unions on-going engagement took place during 2020 in relation to anti-social behaviour as part of the Campus Watch programme, which is the community based crime prevention programme. Community Garda are assigned to each campus to provide on-going support and assistance throughout the academic year. Briefings and crime prevention advice is delivered to students at the commencement of the year and during the year if and when needed. An Garda Síochána also engage with the management of the campuses to assist and ensure the safe running of the campus during the year. Campus Watch booklets and e-booklets are provided to each campus in 12 different languages - <https://www.garda.ie/en/crime-prevention/crime-prevention/campus-watch/>



Sub-committee 4 – To Devise & Support Community Engagement models of best practise in Galway City

During 2020 a number of community initiatives took place with members from the Community Gardaí, Galway City Council and community and voluntary groups, highlighting the on-going and strong working relationship in our community. The Community Gardaí played a vital role during COVID-19 by making regular contact with the elderly community by providing support and assistance to vulnerable members of the community. Staff at the Westside Resource Centre and Ballybane Resource Centre also worked closely with Community Gardaí to disseminate important crime prevention tips and to educate the community as to the details of their local community Garda. The Ballybane Newsletter disseminated by Galway City Partnership was utilised to communicate information to local residents in Ballybane.



Terry Mangan (Galway Tourist Train), Garda Kenneth Boyle & Karen Bonner, COPE Galway taking senior citizens on a trip around the city to celebrate Positive Ageing Week

#MakeWayDay

Make way day is an initiative that brings the disability and wider community together to consider the needs of people with disabilities (e.g.; disabled persons are given clear access to footpaths and public spaces).



#Keepwell Campaign



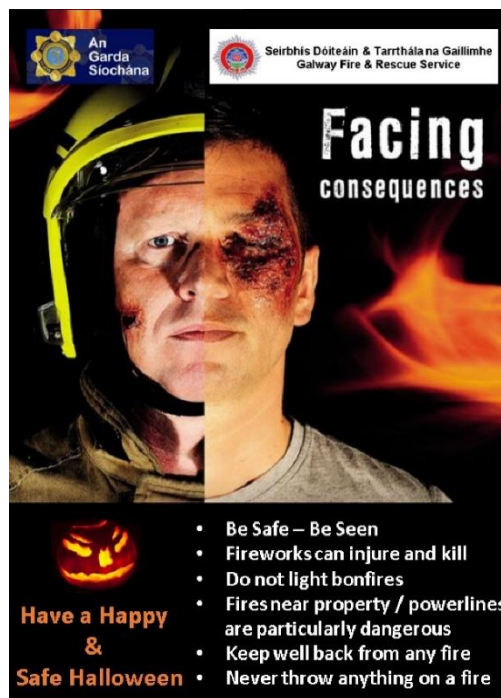
Galway City Council, in collaboration with its partners continued to drive and lead community based responses to the pandemic by developing and delivering local resources, services, initiatives and activities to support both individuals and communities, and strengthen their resilience through an especially challenging time in all our lives. The HSE Community Services in Galway joined with Galway City Council to support older people to mind their physical and mental health and wellbeing by producing a 20-page booklet and a series of accompanying videos, as part of a new range of initiatives under the Keep Well campaign. The booklet provides a range of practical advice focusing on the key themes of keeping active, staying connected, switching off, eating well and minding your mood.

The Keep Well campaign is aimed at showing people of all ages how we can mind our own physical and mental health and wellbeing by adding healthy and helpful habits to our daily and weekly routines. It provides guidelines, information, and tips on how we can make a plan to do things that will help us keep well through the coming months.



Halloween - Facing Consequences

Once again and in the lead up to Halloween, An Garda Síochána together with Galway Fire & Rescue Services reminded the public of the dangers of fireworks and bonfires. A poster and press release formed part of this local campaign which was promoted and highlighted to the Galway City JPC for their support and circulation widely across their communities and networks. Galway Fire & Rescue Services urged the public to consider some of the dangers on what proves to be one of the busiest nights of the year for emergency services in the City and County. It is emphasized that fireworks and bonfires are a safety hazard and are an unnecessary burden on emergency services. In addition public healthy safety messages were included and emphasised COVID-19 safe Halloween advice. Community Gardaí along with Garda Reserves assisted the Environment Section of Galway City Council on Halloween Night to identify areas where bonfire material was gathered and to remove these items. This was carried out as part of Operation Tombola in the interest of protecting the community and property from damage.



During 2020, Galway City JPC received a number of briefings / presentations to aid delivery on the strategic objectives, in addition to the COVID-19 Community Response. The JPC received a verbal update on the Control of Horses Act 1996 in Galway City as requested. In addition the JPC received a presentation from the Western Region Drug & Alcohol Taskforce on key areas of work, projects that are on-going and services / supports in place during COVID-19.

Cllr. Níall McNelis, Chairperson of the JPC and Mr. Brendan McGrath, Chief Executive of Galway City Council attended the online annual meeting with the Policing Authority held on 8th October 2020. The purposes of this annual meeting with the Policing Authority is to receive an overview of policing priorities 2021 as part of their consultation process, giving an important opportunity to better understand what the most important policing outcomes are for local communities. During 2020 the Policing Authority explored new and innovative ways to engage with and consult key stakeholders, using an online exercise to deepen their insight and help capture what is important to communities, and how they think that policing resources can best be used. During September 2020 Galway City JPC, as an important stakeholder, were invited to take part in this exercise in order to indicate how it believed policing time, resources and attention should be prioritised.

Galway City COVID-19 Community Response

Throughout 2020, Galway City JPC received updates and presentations on the Galway City COVID-19 Community Response, which included the Community Response Forum co-ordinated by Galway City Council to lead the co-ordination of COVID-19 community supports and resilience and to ensure that there was and is a co-ordinated community response, enabling all the voluntary and statutory agencies to collaborate in support of our communities and particularly our most vulnerable members. Members of the Forum include An Garda Síochána, HSE, and many community and voluntary organisations / groups operating across Galway City. Gardaí across the city actively identify persons most at need, particularly those with limited local family or social support, providing assistance if and when needed.

In addition the JPC received regular communication and updates on the Community Call Helpline, led and co-ordinated by Galway City Council which continued to provide a dedicated community response helpline to ensure that all vulnerable members of our community were appropriately supported as we moved through the response to COVID-19. A key purpose of the Helpline is to ensure that older people and those most vulnerable in our community have access to very practical supports such as groceries, meals on wheels, transportation, medication collection and many others. The Helpline has dealt with over 1,050 requests to date and the importance of a local response in this regard was essential.

Finally Galway City JPC received updates on the number and range of initiatives and measures that were progressed by the Galway City Council Mobility Team, who worked through on-going consultation with An Garda Síochána and other stakeholders to implement, support and review measures introduced as part of the Mobility Plan.



Community Call support is available

We are here if you need someone to talk to or practical help or support.

National government, local government and the community and voluntary sectors have joined together in the Community Call initiative to provide a dedicated helpline in each local authority area to offer support if you need it.

The Community Call can provide:

- **Delivery of food, medication, fuel or other household items**
- **Someone to talk to or keep in touch with**
- **Other practical supports**
- **Signposting and referral to reliable information and services**

Helpline numbers and emails for all local authorities are available at www.gov.ie/communitycall.

Calls can also be made via a national phone number 0818 222 024.

Get in touch

You can contact the Galway City Council Community Call helpdesk by phone or email.

1800 400 150

Covidsupport@galwaycity.ie

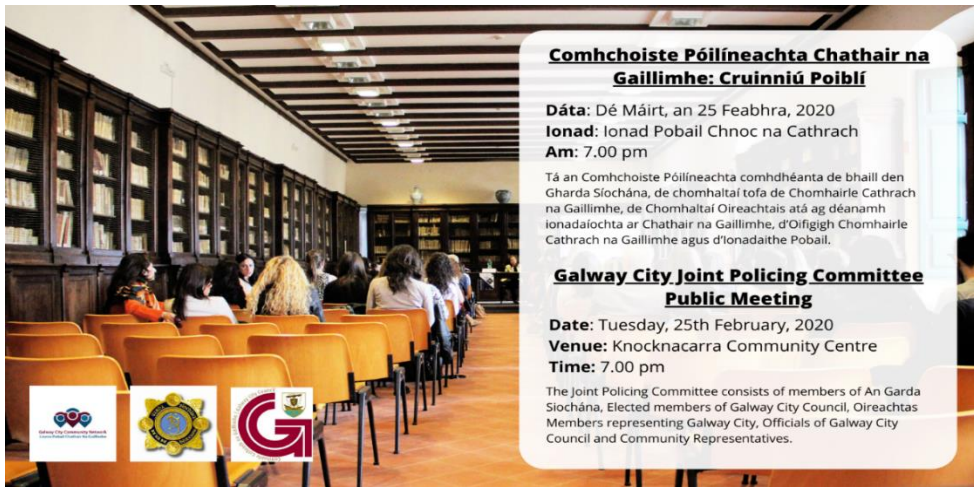
Community Call is part of the Government's 'Keep Well' programme of activities and initiatives to help you look after your mental and physical wellbeing. Find out more about what is happening in Galway City at www.galwaycity.ie/wellbeing or at www.gov.ie/healthyireland.

KEEP WELL
IN YOUR COMMUNITY

 Comhairle Cathrach na Galílimhe
Galway City Council

 Rialtas na hÉireann
Government of Ireland

Galway City Joint Policing Committee Public Meeting



The Galway City JPC held a Public Meeting on Tuesday 25th February 2020 at 7.00pm in the Knocknacarra Community Centre. This meeting was well attended due to the fact that the meeting was publicised in all local newspapers, social media and through the Galway City Community Network and was chaired by Cllr. Níall McNelis, Chairperson of the Galway City JPC.

Members of the public were invited to express their views and were invited to put questions to the Galway City JPC on general policing matters affecting the policing of Galway City. Questions were also invited from the public prior to the meeting on policing matters that affected members of the public. It was also noted that the meeting would focus on the strategic aims as set out in the Galway City Joint Policing Committee 4 year Strategic Plan 2017 – 2020. A total of 12 written questions were received in advance of the meeting, which related to a range of matters including the enforcement of parking regulations and illegal parking; speeding which included speed limits for certain areas; community safety concerns; CCTV etc. A number of other questions were taken from members of the public during the meeting, with the following items being discussed:

- Garda and Fraud Incident Report up to the end of 2019. Areas covered included statistics on property crime, drugs, roads policing, public order and assaults.
- Community Policing
- Community Engagement

Chief Superintendent Tom Curley gave a very informative update on the Divisional Policing Model, Operating Model and Policing Plan for the Galway Garda Division. He outlined at the meeting the journey taken to the new Operating Model, which included consultation to date with both internal and external personnel. He presented an overview of the Operating Model, noting that it will bring increased consistency of high quality policing services and will increase the number of frontline Gardaí, deliver a more localised service to communities, and maximise the local operational impact of An Garda Síochána. He further outlined the community benefits, timeline for implementation with a particular emphasis on the local focus and what this will mean for the Galway Garda Division.

Cllr. Níall McNelis, Chairperson of the Galway City JPC then brought the meeting to a close by thanking the speakers and those in attendance for their contributions and their participation in the meeting. The Policing Authority were in attendance at the Public Meeting, in line with their statutory functions in relation to JPCs which includes responsibility for issuing guidelines to local authorities and the Garda Commission concerning the establishment and maintenance of JPCS, in addition to their role in convening meetings of JPC chairpersons for the purpose of co-ordinating or facilitating the performance of their functions.

Record of Members and Meetings held during 2020

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic three JPC meetings were held during 2020. In addition a public meeting was held on 25th February 2020. Due to COVID-19, the meeting scheduled to be held on 23rd March 2020 did not take place. All subsequent meetings were held online via Zoom. The three JPC meetings held during 2020 took place on the following dates:

22 nd June 2020	19 th October 2020	7 th December 2020
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Name of Member	Organisation	No. of meetings attended
Cllr. Níall McNelis (Chairperson)	Galway City Council	3
Cllr. Mike Cubbard	Galway City Council	3
Cllr. Frank Fahy	Galway City Council	3
Cllr. Donal Lyons	Galway City Council	3
Cllr. Terry O'Flaherty	Galway City Council	3
Cllr. Michael Crowe	Galway City Council	0
Cllr. Eddie Hoare	Galway City Council	3
Cllr. Noel Larkin	Galway City Council	2
Cllr. Alan Cheevers	Galway City Council	3
Cllr. Owen Hanley	Galway City Council	3
Cllr. Niall Murphy	Galway City Council	2
Deputy Eamon O'Cuiv	Oireachtas	0
Deputy Mairead Farrell TD	Oireachtas	3
Senator Seán Kyne	Oireachtas	2
Senator Pauline O'Reilly	Oireachtas	2
Chief Supt. T Curley	An Garda Síochána	3
Supt Damien Flanagan	An Garda Síochána	2
Inspector Brian Ryan	An Garda Síochána	1
Sgt. Sinead Cunniffe	An Garda Síochána	3
Mr. Tommy Flaherty	Galway City Community Network (GCCN)	3
Ms. Nicola Tierney	Galway City Community Network (GCCN)	3
Mr. John Rabbitte	Galway City Community Network (GCCN)	3
Mr. Cameron Keighron	Galway City Community Network (GCCN)	1
Mr. John Cleary	Galway City Community Network (GCCN)	3
Mr. Brendan McGrath	Galway City Council (Chief Executive)	2
Mr. Brian Barrett	Galway City Council	3

During 2020 there were a number of changes in membership on the Galway City JPC.

Mr. Tom Connell, Director of Services, Galway City Council retired from Galway City Council in March 2020 and was replaced by Mr. Brian Barrett, Acting Director of Services. Superintendent Marie Skehill retired from An Garda Síochána in March 2020 and was replaced by Superintendent Damien Flanagan. Following appointment to a new position in November 2020, Inspector Peter Conlon was replaced by Inspector Brian Ryan. Following election to the Seanad in April 2020, Senator Pauline O'Reilly confirmed her membership on the JPC. Cllr. Niall Murphy was co-opted onto Galway City Council in June 2020 in place of Senator Pauline O'Reilly and confirmed his membership on the JPC. Following appointment to the Seanad in March 2020, Senator Seán Kyne confirmed this membership on the JPC.

Joint Policing Sub-committees - Membership (December 2020)

<i>Strategic Goal 1 To Promote the Safety of all Road Users in Galway City</i>	<i>Strategic Goal 2 To Enhance Community Safety Responses in Galway City with a view to Crime Prevention</i>	<i>Strategic Goal 3 To Reduce and Prevent Anti-Social Behaviour in Galway City</i>	<i>Strategic Goal 4 To Devise & Support Community Engagement models of best practise in Galway City</i>
Cllr. Eddie Hoare	Cllr. Donal Lyons	Cllr. Terry O'Flaherty	Mr. Tommy Flaherty (Chairperson)
Cllr. Frank Fahy	Cllr. Mike Cubbard (Chairperson)	Cllr. Níall McNelis (Chairperson)	Cllr. Owen Hanley
Mr. John Cleary	Mr. Cameron Keighron	Cllr. Noel Larkin	Cllr. Niall Murphy
Mr. John Rabbitte (Chairperson)	Mr. Tommy Flaherty	Mr. John Cleary	Ms. Nichola Tierney
		Ms. Nichola Tierney	Mr. Cameron Keighron
Supt. Noel Kelly, Inspector Conor Madden and Inspector Finbarr Philpott	Sgt. Michael Walsh and Inspector Brian Ryan	Sgt. Michael Walsh, Sgt. Peadar Ryan / Sgt. Darragh Browne	Sgt. Peadar Ryan / Sgt. Darragh Browne
Mr. Francis McEvoy	Ms. Caitriona Morgan	Ms. Sharon Carroll	Ms. Theresa Donohue

Strategic Goal 1: To Promote the Safety of All Road Users in Galway City

	Strategic Objectives	Summarise the actions taken and the progress achieved during the year and any significant difficulties which were encountered	Summarise the advice given by the JPC to the local authority / Gardaí	Results of advice / Recommendations
1	Ensure effective speed controls are in place in the City – with a focus on the Driver Feedback Signs	<p>20 no. Driver Feedback Signs purchased and locations identified having regard to representations / feedback.</p> <p>4 no. signs erected and retention sockets installed to facilitate erection of remaining signs in 2021.</p> <p>Maintenance Contract for Driver Feedback Signs to be implemented in 2021.</p>	Advised of areas which should be focused on.	Task Completed
2	Promote alternative to the car transport system	<p>Major resurfacing of 7.2km of cycle lanes on N6 completed from Ballybane Junction to Browne Roundabout.</p> <p>Draft Options Reports & draft preliminary designs submitted to National Transport Authority for approval in relation to Galway Cycle Network Stage 1 (East) and Stage 2 (West).</p> <p>Application for consent submitted to An Bord Pleanála for Salmon Weir Pedestrian and Cycle Bridge on 27th November 2020.</p> <p>Commencement of School Streets Pilot project at Scoil Iognáid, Raleigh Row.</p> <p>Park and Stride—over 420 permits issued.</p> <p>Road markings refreshed throughout the City at major junctions to aid in the facilitation of pedestrians/cyclists.</p> <p>Footpaths reconstructed in Dominick Street (Lower and Upper) and programme of housing estate footpath reconstruction works completed.</p>	Ensure adequate maintenance of existing cycle lanes; Progress plans for new cycle lanes as outlined.	Task Completed
3	Protect and support pedestrian, cyclists and people with disabilities	Road Safety Week took place from 5th – 11th October 2020, with a number of campaigns supported by GCC to raise awareness and highlight key road safety messages.	Promotion of road safety campaigns directly, on website and Social Media: Road Safety Week;	Task Completed

	<p>'Road Safety Together Committee' promoted road safety awareness message for cyclists in June 2020.</p> <p>'Light up your Life' message for all road users with a focus on pedestrians and cyclists promoted by GCC in December 2020 via website and social media further to request by the sub-committee.</p>	<p>Bike Week; Check it Fits Campaign; Eye Health: Eyes on the Road etc.</p>	
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Strategic Goal 2: To Enhance Community Safety Responses in Galway City with a view to Crime Prevention

	Strategic Objectives	Summarise the actions taken and the progress achieved during the year and any significant difficulties which were encountered	Summarise the advice given by the JPC to the local authority / Gardai	Results of advice / Recommendations
1	Cybercrime / Scam awareness during COVID-19	<p>Bespoke crime prevention leaflets in both the English and Irish were produced and circulated through Galway City Council, PPN, and Galway Garda Stations and as an insert in the City Tribune before Christmas.</p> <p>Crime Prevention ads were placed in a number of bus shelters around Galway for 4 weeks in December 2020 / January 2021.</p> <p>Garda Crime Prevention Officer and members of the Garda Community Policing team gave crime prevention interviews on Galway Bay FM on a regular basis.</p> <p>A Crime Prevention article was published in the Connacht Tribune: https://connachttribune.ie/ten-key-tips-to-help-thwart-threat-of-online-scammers/</p> <p>Crime Prevention stands were set up at high footfall locations in Galway City during December 2020 advising the public and distributing leaflets.</p> <p>Information and advice was circulated via the Garda Western Region Facebook page during 2020.</p>	<p>Printing and distribution of leaflets.</p> <p>Advised of placing of ads on bus shelters – motion passed through JPC.</p> <p>Advised of upcoming interviews.</p> <p>Advised of upcoming article being published.</p> <p>Advised of upcoming Crime Prevention stands.</p> <p>Advised to circulate information and advice on social media where relevant.</p>	<p>Task Completed</p> <p>Task Completed</p> <p>Task Completed</p> <p>Task Completed</p> <p>Task Completed</p> <p>Task Completed</p>

			The continuing Garda advice to the public to be wary of new threats associated with and during COVID-19 is an important service and welcomed.	
2	Domestic Violence	<p>Bespoke crime prevention leaflets in both the English and Irish were produced and circulated through Galway City Council (and associated agencies), PPN, Galway Garda Stations and as an insert in the City Tribune before Christmas.</p> <p>Crime Prevention ads were placed in a number of bus shelters around Galway for 4 weeks in December 2020 / January 2021.</p> <p>Articles were published in the Connacht Tribune and other publications giving advice and support to victims, including information about the Bright Sky Ireland App: https://connachttribune.ie/control-and-power-lie-at-heart-of-domestic-abuse/</p> <p>RTE Crimecall aired specific segments on domestic violence, including an interview with Commissioner Harris in December 2020.</p> <p>The Divisional Garda Protected Services Bureau in Galway continued to provide help and support to the victims of domestic and sexual crimes.</p> <p>Information and advice was circulated via the Garda Western Region Facebook page during 2020.</p> <p>Information and advice circulated via Galway Bay FM radio station.</p>	<p>Printing and distribution of leaflets.</p> <p>Advised of placing of ads on bus shelters – motion passed through JPC.</p> <p>Identify and communicate the range of services and supports for victims of domestic violence.</p> <p>Informed of upcoming interview segments.</p> <p>Advised of continued support being provided.</p> <p>Advised to circulate information and advice on social media where relevant.</p> <p>Advised of upcoming radio segments.</p>	<p>Task Completed</p> <p>Task Completed</p> <p>Task Completed and on-going promotion of the 'Bright Sky Ireland' mobile phone app</p> <p>Task Completed</p> <p>Task Completed</p> <p>Task Completed and still on-going</p> <p>Task Completed and still on-going</p>

		The Divisional Garda Victims Office engaged directly with each victim.	Updated on engagement with victims.	Task Completed and still on-going
3	Continue to support the existing and new safety networks	<p>The Garda Community Engagement and Crime Prevention Offices continued to engage with their Community Alert, Neighbourhood Watch, Campus Watch and Business Watch programmes throughout the year via online webinars and other video conferencing platforms.</p> <p>A newspaper article was published in the Connacht Tribune advising how older and more vulnerable members of the community can stay safe during the winter. https://connachttribune.ie/how-older-people-can-stay-safe-and-secure-this-winter/</p> <p>Business Watch crime prevention leaflets and other information was circulated to the business community across the city through the chamber of commerce and other outlets.</p> <p>Business Text Alert groups continued to provide timely information and support to the business community.</p>	<p>Business Watch, Community Safety linkage group and explore the feasibility of hosting relevant crime prevention webinars covering the different areas of business / community interest.</p> <p>Advised of upcoming article being published.</p> <p>Printing and distribution of leaflets.</p> <p>Advised of on-going engagement with businesses.</p>	<p>Task Completed and still on-going</p> <p>Task Completed</p> <p>Task Completed</p> <p>Task Completed and still on-going</p>

Strategic Goal 3: To Reduce and Prevent Anti-Social Behaviour in Galway City

	Strategic Objectives	Summarise the actions taken and the progress achieved during the year and any significant difficulties which were encountered	Summarise the advice given by the JPC to the local authority / Gardaí	Results of advice / Recommendations
1	Examine the safety and access in housing estates relative to anti-social behaviour	<p>An Garda Síochána through its local Community Engagement Teams and Crime Prevention Officer have joined with key partner agencies to review anti-social behaviour across the entire city. The project has been divided into the three electoral areas and each area has a committee chaired by a local City Councillor. The project uses the acclaimed SARA Model to examine to root causes of crime in a particular area and will determine bespoke set of responses to tackle the causes of crime the relevant area.</p> <p>https://connachttribune.ie/radical-plan-to-tackle-antisocial-behaviour/</p> <p>The SARA model consists of four steps -</p> <p>Scanning: Identifying, prioritising and selecting problems that need addressing using both data from An Garda Síochána, City Council and other sources as well as community and citizen input.</p> <p>Analysis: Deeply analysing the causes of the problem, including the underlying causes of repeated calls for service and crime incidents.</p> <p>Response: Determining and implementing a response to a particular problem. Ideas for responses should be “evidence-based” when possible or at least tailored to the specific problem at hand using general principles of good crime prevention.</p> <p>Assessment: Evaluating the impact of a particular response and being willing to try something different if the response was not effective.</p>	Gave updates on progress of task force in the three electoral areas.	On-going
2	Support Crime Prevention through environmental design of housing estates	Contact made with the Galway City Council Planning Office by the Garda Crime Prevention Officer.	Will give update when available.	On-going

3	Produce a simple leaflet to inform people where and how to report anti-social behaviour e.g. for Council Housing, Parks, for Private Rentals, An Garda Síochána	Citizen Information Centre are the lead agency.	To hear an update from the Citizen Information Centre. GCC Tenancy Handbook being updated. GCC Anti-Social Behaviour Strategy being updated.	On-going On-going On-going
4	Work in partnership with Agencies and organisations to divert children and young people away from anti-social behaviour	Garda JLO - https://www.garda.ie/en/crime-prevention/community-engagement/community-engagement-offices/garda-youth-diversion-bureau/ Local community engagement projects with the Garda Community Policing Units. Example – Boxing training with Community Garda Joe Hurst (COVID-19 dependant).	Organise Workshops with Foróige & Youth Work Ireland including Comhairle na nÓg.	On-going
5	Increase liaison with students unions, colleges, landlords and residents to tackle Anti-Social Behaviour	An Garda Síochána work closely with each of the Galway Colleges and Students Unions through their Campus Watch Programme. A Community Garda is assigned to each campus who provides support and assistance throughout the academic year. Briefings and crime prevention advice is delivered to students at the commencement of the year and during the year on an on-going basis if and when needed. An Garda Síochána also engage with the management of the colleges to assist and ensure in the safe running of the campus during the year. Student related crime prevention advice is circulated through both Garda and Student Union Social Media as required. Campus Watch booklets and e-booklets are provided to each college in 12 different languages - https://www.garda.ie/en/crime-prevention/crime-prevention/campus-watch/	Invite students unions to join the JPC Sub-committee. Gardaí to provide advice to students on college campus. Distribute leaflets on how to report anti-social behaviour to property management companies.	On-going On-going On-going

Strategic Goal 4: To Devise and Support Community Engagement Models of best practice in Galway City

	Strategic Objectives	Summarise the actions taken and the progress achieved during the year and any significant difficulties which were encountered	Summarise the advice given by the JPC to the local authority / Gardaí	Results of advice / Recommendations
1	Update the Galway City Council website with access to JPC agendas, minutes and other related information for 2019 and 2020	Galway City Council website was updated with JPC Agendas and Minutes uploaded to website.	Website would be updated.	Task completed
2	Explore the development of an initiative to support elderly and vulnerable people	During COVID-19, the Community Gardaí were in on-going daily contact with older persons who were listed on the Older Persons Register. The Tenant Liaison Officers from the Housing Department were also in regular contact with their elderly housing tenants.	During COVID-19 this was of particular relevance that contact be made with those who were living alone.	On-going
3	Support the re-establishment of regular meetings between ethnic minorities and the Garda Ethnic Liaison Officers Seek a representative to join the JPC Sub-committee who would represent Ethnic Minorities	Garda Ethnic Liaison Officers met with the representatives of the Direct Provision Centres, representatives from the Islamic Community, African Community & Galway Traveller Movement. Request made to GCCN	Meetings are taking place. Seek a nomination from the GCCN.	On-going Representative will be in place in 2021
4	Hold at least one JPC meeting in each of the local area communities during the lifetime of the plan.	Due to COVID-19, it was not possible to organise a second JPC public meeting towards the end of 2020.	Request a second JPC public meeting be held.	Once COVID-19 restrictions are lifted, a JPC public meeting can be organised and held on the East side of the city.