



GARDA INSPECTORATE

PROMOTING EXCELLENCE & ACCOUNTABILITY



GARDA
INSPECTORATE
PROMOTING EXCELLENCE & ACCOUNTABILITY

Report of the Garda
Síochána Inspectorate

Public Order Policing

A Review of Practices in the Garda Síochána

Report Overview

- **Strategy Governance and Accountability**
- **Capacity and Capability**
- **Operational Delivery**
- **Post Incident Management**
- **Human Rights and Garda Code of Ethics**



- **A Detailed Analysis of the Strategic, Public Order Threats and Risks in Ireland is Absent.**
- **The Governance of Public Order Policing is Spread Across Multiple Functions and Individuals.**
- **There is a Lack of Transparency, Governance and Oversight in relation to Public Order and Garda Use of Force.**

Published Use of Force Data

Use of Force	1 Apr 2017-30 Sept 2017	1Apr 2018-30 Sept 2018	% Change ^(c)
AEP Pointed	22	25	14%
AEP Discharged	0	2	-
AEP Total	22	27	23%
Baton Drawn Only	184	187	2%
Baton Drawn & Used	86	76	-12%
Baton Total	270	263	-3%
CS Drawn (not sprayed)	84	118	40%
CS Sprayed	106	102	-4%
CS Total	190	220	16%
PAVA drawn (not sprayed)	1	0	-100%
PAVA Sprayed	2	1	-50%
PAVA Total	3	1	-67%
Firearm Drawn or Pointed	256	220	-14%
Firearm Discharged	1	0	-100%
Firearm Total	257	220	-14%
Police Dog Used	115	79	-31%
CED Drawn ^(a)	167	160	-4%
CED Fired ^(b)	19	7	-63%
CED Total	186	167	-10%

Capacity and Capability

- **Current Public Order Capacity is Based on a Historical Requirement.**
- **Inconsistent Selection Practices for the National Public Order Unit.**
- **Low Level of Female Representation.**
- **No Mandatory Recertification Process for Public Order Commanders.**

Operational Delivery

- **Public Order Commanders and Event Planners have Limited Access to Human Rights Advice.**
- **A Structured Approach to Community Engagement is not Part of the Planning Process.**
- **Lack of Consistency in the Authorisation of National Public Order Unit.**

Post Incident Management

- **Organisational Learning is an Ad Hoc Process.**
- **Welfare Support is not Embedded in the Planning Process.**

Report Conclusion

- **Several Areas of Good Practice.**

- **19 Recommendations to Improve Public Order Policing.**

- **Priority Actions:-**
 - 1. *Strategic Threat and Risk Assessment***
 - 2. *Enhanced Governance***
 - 3. *Authorisation Process.***



GARDA INSPECTORATE

PROMOTING EXCELLENCE & ACCOUNTABILITY