

Annual Report for Kilkenny County Council Joint Policing Committee for Year 2021



Approved by Kilkenny Joint Policing Committee on Monday 14th March 2022

Introduction

Section 36(2) of the Act provides that a Joint Policing Committee (JPC)'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 antisocial 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 An 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) coordinate the activities of policing fora established under paragraph (d) or otherwise.

Kilkenny County Joint Policing Committee's Work Programme for 2021

ISSUES	ACTIONS	PERSONS RESPONSIBLE	PROGRESS ACHIEVED
Crime Statistics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Deliver improved investigative outcomes on all aspect of crime investigation and detection. 	Garda Síochána	<p><i>14,364 crime patrols carried out.</i></p> <p><i>Burglary (Not Aggravated), Theft from shop, Theft from Vehicle, Theft from other property down from 2020.</i></p> <p><i>Assaults/Domestic abuse incidents up from 2020.</i></p> <p><i>Incidents of Fraud/Economic crime have more than tripled since 2020.</i></p>
Traffic and Road Safety	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Reduce collisions, road deaths and serious injuries through enforcement of key lifesaver offences (e.g. speeding, drink driving, seatbelt and mobile phone offences). ❖ Learner Drivers -Promote an awareness of safe driving. 	<p>Garda Síochána / Kilkenny County Council.</p> <p>Garda Síochána</p>	<p><i>3,423 checkpoints and 627 mandatory intoxication tests carried out.</i></p> <p><i>Traffic collisions resulting in serious injury are up on 2020 but fatalities down from 2020.</i></p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Promotion of the Road Safety Message through all available platforms including education, engagement, enforcement and engineering. ❖ Engage in the process of drafting the Road Safety Strategy 2021-2030 for Kilkenny once guidance has been received from the RSA. ❖ Speed limit Review ❖ Event Management for Irish Open in Mount Juliet, Thomastown. 	<p>Garda Síochána / Kilkenny County Council.</p> <p>Kilkenny County Council.</p> <p>Garda Síochána/Kilkenny County Council / HSE/ Ambulance Service/Food Safety</p>	<p><i>Due to Covid restrictions all social media platforms used to promote safe driving.</i></p> <p><i>Kilkenny County Council spent €373,000 on 15 schemes across the County under the Low Cost Safety programme.</i></p> <p><i>5th National Road Safety Strategy 2021 – 2030 launched in December, 2021. Work on County Kilkenny's strategy will commence in 2022.</i></p> <p><i>Commenced review in September, 2021. Public Consultation will commence in April, 2022</i></p> <p><i>All agencies engaged with the Organisers of the Irish Open to ensure a safe environment for this major event in Thomastown.</i></p>
<p>Community Engagement</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Meetings will be convened throughout County Kilkenny as part of collaborative engagement with Communities and continue rolling out Local Policing Partnership. 	<p>Garda Síochána supported by Kilkenny County Council.</p>	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Project Connect - Expand the multi-agency approach to supporting the Elderly and most vulnerable in our communities. ❖ Promotion of Mental Health. ❖ Engage with Age Friendly Forum, PPN, Neighbourhood Watch, Business Watch and Campus Watch through AGM's held in each District. ❖ Listen to Community needs. ❖ Expand Garda Victim and Community Engagement Office. ❖ Establish the Local Policing Partnership in each of the Municipal Districts in Kilkenny. ❖ Promotion of the Divisional Protection Service Unit to support victims including victims of domestic abuse, sexual offences and trafficking. 	<p>Garda Síochána/Kilkenny County Council / HSE/ALONE</p> <p>Garda Síochána/HSE</p> <p>Garda Síochána / Kilkenny County Council.</p> <p>Garda Síochána / Kilkenny County Council.</p> <p>Garda Síochána.</p> <p>Garda Síochána supported by Kilkenny County Council.</p> <p>Garda Síochána.</p>	<p><i>Kilkenny County Council continued with Age Friendly on line Meetings and delivered Projects while adhering to Covid restrictions. Kilkenny city centre task force continued to meet on line to discuss relevant changes to traffic flow within the city centre.</i></p> <p><i>Kilkenny Gardaí engaged with over four thousand families through the text alert system in the development of the Kilkenny Policing Plan for 2022.</i></p> <p><i>Kilkenny Gardaí published videos on social media to support victims of domestic</i></p>
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Action local concerns ❖ Continue with City Safe Initiative and providing a visible responsive policing service targeting anti-social behaviour. 	<p>Garda Síochána.</p> <p>Garda Síochána / Kilkenny County Council.</p>	<p><i>abused during period of Covid-19 pandemic.</i></p> <p><i>Covid 19 restrictions remained in place for the greater part of 2021. Operation Citysafe was undertaken by the Gardai during any period of re-openings.</i></p>
Keeping People Safe	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Maintain operation City Safe with the objective of reducing incidents of public assaults. 	<p>Garda Síochána.</p>	<p><i>Covid 19 restrictions remained in place for the greater part of 2021. Operation Citysafe continued to be undertaken by the Gardai during any period of re-openings.</i></p>
Community Text Alert Scheme	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Update on the progress of existing Text Alert Schemes and plans to set up new schemes. 	<p>Garda Síochána.</p>	<p><i>Online meetings conducted with text alert groups during the Covid-19 pandemic.</i></p>
CCTV	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Overview of An Garda Síochána CCTV system in Kilkenny City. Progress the provision of new cameras. 	<p>Garda Síochána/ Kilkenny County Council</p>	<p><i>20 additional cameras to be provided in Kilkenny City & 4 cameras to be transferred from Kilkenny County Council to An Garda Síochána. Mapping and public consultation completed in 2021. Full application to be submitted to the National Community Relations Office in January 2022. Consultant appointed in February 2022 to</i></p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Assist communities in applying for grant aid to the Department of Justice for community-based CCTV. 	Garda Síochána/ Kilkenny County Council.	<p><i>prepare Implementation and Transmission Report.</i></p> <p><i>All installation work completed in Urlingford and the official launch of the Urlingford Community CCTV launched in July, 2021.</i></p>
Animal Welfare	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Continue to priorities the welfare of Horse and Dogs in the County. Implement Bye-Laws when adopted by Kilkenny County Council 	Kilkenny County Council, Kilkenny Traveller Movement Network supported by An Garda Síochána.	<p><i>Control of Horses Bye laws 2020 adopted by Kilkenny County Council in March, 2021. Training provided to An Garda Síochána by Kilkenny County Council on the Bye laws.</i></p>
Event Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Ensure adequate planning for all large gatherings of persons for Sports Events and Festivals. Engage and work closely with relevant agencies in relation to large events. 	Garda Síochána, Kilkenny County Council and other Statutory Agencies.	<p><i>Due to Covid Restrictions large events did not take place. Yuelfest 2021 proceeded and all events were manged outdoors successfully.</i></p>
Garda Youth Project	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Engage young people in activities that support the reduction in criminal and antisocial behaviour. 	Garda Síochána/Kilkenny County Council/Netwatch	<p><i>The awards recognise the good work being done by young people throughout the communities. In July, 2021, Garda Youth Awards took place in the Butler Gallery, Kilkenny City.</i></p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Support the Drug Awareness Task Force 	Kilkenny County Council	<p><i>Drug Awareness Task Force has been established since early 2020. However, it was agreed</i></p>

<p>Control of Drugs</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Develop a multi-agency approach for reducing the availability of and harm caused by controlled drugs. ❖ Educate and advise young people on using controlled drugs ❖ Increase detection for the sale and supply of drugs ❖ Implement the National Drugs Strategy through enforcement and supporting families affected by drugs. 	<p>Garda Síochána, Kilkenny County Council and other Agencies.</p> <p>Garda Síochána, Kilkenny County Council and other Agencies.</p> <p>Garda Síochána</p> <p>Garda Síochána, Kilkenny County Council and other Agencies.</p>	<p><i>to defer the inaugural meeting and any work while the Covid pandemic was still with us.</i></p> <p><i>Safer socialising talks continue to be delivered by An Garda Síochána with transition year students in Kilkenny</i></p>
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Public Meeting

Kilkenny County Joint Policing Committee did not hold a public meeting in 2021 because of the Covid pandemic restrictions.

Record of Meetings held in 2021 and list of Members

The total number of JPC meetings held in the year was 4. (All meetings held remotely via MS Teams)

Name of Chairperson: Cllr. Pat Fitzpatrick.

<i>NAME OF MEMBER</i>	<i>ORGANISATION OF WHICH MEMBER</i>	<i>TITLE</i>	<i>NO OF JPC MEETINGS ATTENDED</i>
<i>Cllr. Tomás Breathnach</i>	<i>Kilkenny County Council</i>	<i>Elected member</i>	<i>4/4</i>
<i>Cllr. Patrick O'Neill</i>	<i>Kilkenny County Council</i>	<i>Elected member</i>	<i>2/4</i>
<i>Cllr. Michael Doyle</i>	<i>Kilkenny County Council</i>	<i>Elected member</i>	<i>2/4</i>
<i>Cllr. Fidelis Doherty</i>	<i>Kilkenny County Council</i>	<i>Elected member</i>	<i>3/4</i>
<i>Cllr. Denis Hynes</i>	<i>Kilkenny County Council</i>	<i>Elected member</i>	<i>3/4</i>
<i>Cllr. Pat Dunphy</i>	<i>Kilkenny County Council</i>	<i>Elected member</i>	<i>4/4</i>
<i>Cllr. Pat Fitzpatrick</i>	<i>Kilkenny County Council</i>	<i>Elected member</i>	<i>4/4</i>
<i>Cllr. Michael McCarthy</i>	<i>Kilkenny County Council</i>	<i>Elected member</i>	<i>4/4</i>
<i>Cllr. Joe Malone</i>	<i>Kilkenny County Council</i>	<i>Elected member</i>	<i>2/4</i>
<i>Cllr. Deirdre Cullen</i>	<i>Kilkenny County Council</i>	<i>Elected member</i>	<i>4/4</i>
<i>Cllr. Michael Delaney</i>	<i>Kilkenny County Council</i>	<i>Elected member</i>	<i>2/4</i>
<i>Cllr. Martin Brett</i>	<i>Kilkenny County Council</i>	<i>Elected member</i>	<i>4/4</i>
<i>Cllr. Denis Hynes</i>	<i>Kilkenny County Council</i>	<i>Elected member</i>	<i>3/4</i>

<i>Cllr. Joe Lyons</i>	<i>Kilkenny County Council</i>	<i>Elected member</i>	<i>4/4</i>
<i>Cllr. Andrew McGuinness</i>	<i>Kilkenny County Council</i>	<i>Elected member</i>	<i>4/4</i>
<i>Cllr. Eugene McGuinness</i>	<i>Kilkenny County Council</i>	<i>Elected Member</i>	<i>1/4</i>
<i>Deputy John McGuinness TD</i>	<i>Oireachtas Member</i>		<i>1/4</i>
<i>Deputy Jennifer Murnane O'Connor</i>			<i>1/4</i>
<i>Chief Supt. Padraig Dunne</i>	<i>An Garda Síochána</i>	<i>Chief Superintendent</i>	<i>4/4</i>
<i>Chief Supt. Patrick Lordan</i>	<i>An Garda Síochána</i>	<i>Chief Superintendent</i>	<i>1/4</i>
<i>Supt. Derek Hughes</i>	<i>An Garda Síochána</i>	<i>Superintendent</i>	<i>4/4</i>
<i>Supt. Colin Furlong</i>	<i>An Garda Síochána</i>	<i>Superintendent</i>	<i>4/4</i>
<i>Detective Inspector Sean O'Meara</i>	<i>An Garda Síochána</i>	<i>Detective Inspector</i>	<i>4/4</i>
<i>Inspector Peter McConnon</i>	<i>An Garda Síochána</i>	<i>Inspector</i>	<i>1/4</i>
<i>Inspector Paul Donohue</i>	<i>An Garda Síochána</i>	<i>Inspector</i>	<i>1/4</i>
<i>Inspector Barry Smith</i>	<i>An Garda Síochána</i>	<i>Inspector</i>	<i>1/4</i>
<i>Inspector Claire Kenealy</i>	<i>An Garda Síochána</i>	<i>Inspector</i>	<i>1/4</i>
<i>Sergeant Laura Dragoi</i>	<i>An Garda Síochána</i>	<i>Sergeant</i>	<i>1/4</i>
<i>Ms. Colette Murphy</i>	<i>Community & Voluntary Forum</i>		<i>1/4</i>
<i>Ms. Helena Power</i>	<i>Community & Voluntary Forum</i>		<i>2/4</i>
<i>Mr. Samuel Morgan</i>	<i>Community & Voluntary Forum</i>		<i>1/4</i>
<i>Ms. Marion Acreman</i>	<i>Kilkenny Chambers</i>		<i>2/4</i>
<i>Mr. Anthony Morrisson</i>	<i>Vintners Assoc.</i>		<i>2/4</i>
<i>Ms. Colette Byrne</i>	<i>Kilkenny County Council</i>	<i>Chief Executive</i>	<i>4/4</i>
<i>Mr. Tim Butler</i>	<i>Kilkenny County Council</i>	<i>Director of Services</i>	<i>4/4</i>
<i>Ms. Anne Maria Walsh</i>	<i>Kilkenny County Council</i>	<i>Senior Executive Officer</i>	<i>4/4</i>
<i>Ms. Teresa Mahon</i>	<i>Kilkenny County Council</i>	<i>Staff Officer</i>	<i>4/4</i>



Garda Youth Awards 2021