



Comhairle Chontae Chill Chainnigh

Halla an Chontae Sraid Eoin Cill Chainnigh
R95 A39T

Pobail agus Áiteanna Inbhuanaithe a Chruthú

Kilkenny County Council

County Hall John Street Kilkenny
R95 A39T

Creating Sustainable Communities and Places

JPC Administrator,
The Policing Authority,
4th Floor,
90 King Street North,
Dublin 7,
D07 N7CV.

07th March ,2024

RE: KILKENNY JOINT POLICING COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT 2023

Dear Sir,

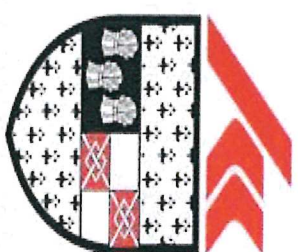
Please find attached Kilkenny Joint Policing Committee Annual Report 2023 adopted at our meeting on 04th March, 2024, which has been prepared in accordance with the guidelines for Joint Policing Committees.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any queries.

Yours Sincerely,

**Anne Maria Walsh,
Senior Staff Officer/
Meetings Administrator,
Corporate Services.**

Encl. 1



Annual Report 2023

Kilkenny County Council Joint Policing Committee

Approved at meeting on 4th March, 2024

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 2023

ISSUES	ACTIONS	PERSONS RESPONSIBLE	PROGRESS ACHIEVED
<p><i>Crime Statistics</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Deliver improved investigative outcomes on all aspect of crime investigation and detection. 	<p>Garda Stiochána</p>	<p>Kilkenny/Thomastown District responded to 2,429 Crime Incidents & 5,033 callouts through the Regional Control Centre.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Burglary Offences 88 ▪ Fraud Offences 205 ▪ Theft from shops 365 (229 in 2022) ▪ Theft from MPV 41 (73 in 2022) ▪ Theft (other) 144 ▪ Assaults (minor) 137 ▪ Assaults Causing Harm 51 ▪ Drug Possession 134 ▪ Drug Possession for Sale/Supply 53 ▪ Sexual Offences 31 ▪ Domestic Abuse Offences 330 (266 in 2022) ▪ Arrests 780.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Reduce collisions, road deaths and serious injuries through enforcement of key lifesaver offences (e.g. speeding, driving under the influence or impaired driving, seatbelt and mobile phone offences). ❖ Promotion of the Road Safety Message through all available platforms including education, engagement, enforcement and engineering. 	<p>Garda Stiochána / Kilkenny County Council.</p> <p>Garda Stiochána / Kilkenny County Council.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 1,290 traffic checkpoints conducted and 525 mandatory intoxication tests carried out. Seizure of 271 vehicles. ▪ Operation Surround – number of checkpoints in towns and all main roads into towns. ▪ National Slow Down Day. ▪ Project EDWARD – European Day Without A Road Death. ▪ Vision Zero -checkpoints with Garda and Emergency services personnel. Message to “Slow Down”.

	❖ Implementation of the Road Safety Strategy 2022-2030 for Kilkenny.	Kilkenny County Council.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Minor Schemes completed: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> N76 Callan Road Realignment, N77 Ballyragget to Ballynaslee, N24 Tower Road N24 Carrick Road. ▪ Speed Limit Review 2017 & 2022-23 ▪ 30km Speed limit in Urban areas
<p>Community Engagement</p>	<p>❖ Meetings will be convened throughout County Kilkenny as part of collaborative engagement with Communities and continue rolling out Local Policing Partnership in the Municipal Districts in County Kilkenny.</p> <p>❖ Project Connect - Expand the multi-agency approach to supporting the most vulnerable in our communities.</p> <p>❖ Promotion of the Divisional Protection Service Unit to support victims including victims of domestic abuse, sexual offences and trafficking.</p>	<p>Garda Síochána supported by Kilkenny County Council.</p> <p>Garda Síochána/ HSE/ALONE</p> <p>Garda Síochána.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Phased implementation of An Garda Síochána Operating Model a key element in the “A Policing Service For the Future” comprising of four functional areas Community Engagement, Crime, Performance Assurance and Business Services. Each Functional Area is led by a Superintendent with the exception of the Business Services Area led by the Assistant Principal . Crime Superintendent will be based in Tramore and the Performance Assurance Superintendent will be based in Thomastown. ▪ Continued work with these agencies to combat rural isolation of older people in the community. ▪ Go Purple initiative to raise awareness around domestic violence has resulted in more reporting of incidents. Garda policy is a Call-back within 24 hours, follow up a week later and a further follow up a month later in all cases.

Keeping People Safe	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Maintain operation City Safe with the objective of reducing incidents of public assaults. ❖ Implement and monitor Anti-Social Behaviour Strategy 2020-2025 	Garda Síochána. Kilkenny County Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Operation Citysafe continues to be undertaken by the Garda every weekend. ▪ Thomastown Gardai upskilling communities in use of Defib and CPR in conjunction with IFA and National Ambulance Service. ▪ All tenants Garda Vetted prior to allocation of Tenancy. ▪ All new tenants required to attend a compulsory Pre-Tenancy Course. ▪ Issue of Verbal Warnings, Tenancy Notification Letters / Warning Letters and Court proceedings as required. ▪ Engagement with TUSLA, Health Service Executive & Department of Social Protection.
Community Text Alert Scheme	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Support Text Alert Schemes and plans to set up new schemes. ❖ Overview of An Garda Síochána CCTV system in Kilkenny City. Progress the provision of additional Garda cameras at additional locations. 	Garda Síochána. Garda Síochána/ Kilkenny County Council	<p>Garda supported the Text Alert Schemes throughout the year.</p> <p>Awaiting the passing of legislation during the year. The Act was signed into law in December, 2023.</p>
Crime Prevention, Detection - CCTV	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Continue to prioritise the welfare of all animals in the County. Implement Bye-Laws adopted by Kilkenny County Council 	Kilkenny County Council, Kilkenny Traveller Movement Network supported by An Garda Síochána.	Control of Horses Bye laws 2020 implemented and regular meetings held with the Animal Welfare Committee in 2023
Animal Welfare	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Develop a multi-agency approach for reducing the availability of and harm caused by controlled drugs. ❖ Support the Drug Awareness Task Force 	Garda Síochána, Kilkenny County Council and other Agencies. Garda Síochána, Kilkenny County	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Safer socialising talks continue to be delivered by An Garda Síochána with transition year students in Kilkenny District ▪ An Garda Síochána commenced an awareness programme in collaboration with Kilkenny GAA in
Control of Drugs			

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ 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. ❖ 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. 	<p>Council and other Agencies.</p> <p>Garda Síochána</p> <p>Garda Síochána, Kilkenny County Council and other Agencies.</p> <p>Garda Síochána, Kilkenny County Council and other Statutory Agencies.</p>	<p>2022 – HEED “Drugs ruin Lives.” (10 events have been held to date.)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 53 arrests in 2023 compared with 37 in 2022. ▪ D/Inspector assigned to offer support and advice to drug related intimidation.
<p>Event Management</p>			<p>All civic/public events were managed outdoors successfully in 2023. These included.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ St Patricks Day Festival. ▪ Rás na mBan. ▪ Kilkenny Inter County Hurling Team Homecoming. ▪ Yulefest <p>All agencies successfully delivered and managed a safe international event through collaboration with the organisers.</p>
<p>Garda Youth Project</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Engage young people in activities that support the reduction in criminal and antisocial behaviour. ❖ Support the Annual Youth Awards 	<p>Garda Síochána/Kilkenny County Council/Netwatch</p> <p>Garda Síochána/Kilkenny County Council/Netwatch</p>	<p>Safety talks conducted in 2023 in all Secondary Schools throughout the County and colleges including Piltown Agriculture College.</p> <p>Garda Youth Awards were held at the Dolmen Hotel in May 2023 to honour the achievements of young people throughout Carlow /Kilkenny</p>

RECORD OF MEETINGS HELD IN 2023 AND LIST OF MEMBERS

The total number of JPC Meetings held in the year was 4 (Including 1 Public Meeting).

Name of Chairperson: Cllr Martin Brett

NAME OF MEMBER	ORGANISATION OF WHICH MEMBER	TITLE	NO OF JPC MEETINGS ATTENDED
Cllr. Tomás Breathnach	Kilkenny County Council	Elected Member	4/4
Cllr. Patrick O'Neill	Kilkenny County Council	Elected Member	0/4
Cllr. Michael Doyle	Kilkenny County Council	Elected Member	3/4
Cllr. Fidelis Doherty	Kilkenny County Council	Elected Member	2/4
Cllr. Denis Hynes	Kilkenny County Council	Elected Member	0/4
Cllr. John Brennan	Kilkenny County Council	Elected Member	3/4
Cllr. John Coonan	Kilkenny County Council	Elected Member	4/4
Cllr David Fitzgerald	Kilkenny County Council	Elected Member	2/4
Cllr. Pat Dunphy	Kilkenny County Council	Elected Member	3/4
Cllr. Pat Fitzpatrick	Kilkenny County Council	Elected Member	4/4
Cllr. Michael McCarthy	Kilkenny County Council	Elected Member	3/4
Cllr. Joe Malone	Kilkenny County Council	Elected Member	2/4
Cllr. Deirdre Cullen	Kilkenny County Council	Elected Member	4/4
Cllr. Michael Delaney	Kilkenny County Council	Elected Member	3/4
Cllr. Martin Brett	Kilkenny County Council	Elected Member	4/4
Cllr. Joe Lyons	Kilkenny County Council	Elected Member	2/4
Cllr. Andrew McGuinness	Kilkenny County Council	Elected Member	1/4
Cllr. Eugene McGuinness	Kilkenny County Council	Elected Member	2/4
Chief Supt. Anthony Pettit	An Garda Síochána	Chief Superintendent	3/4
Superintendent Aidan Brennan	An Garda Síochána	Superintendent	3/4
A/Superintendent Claire Kennealy	An Garda Síochána	Acting Superintendent	1/4
Mr Lar Power	Kilkenny County Council	Chief Executive	1/1
Mr Sean McKeown	Kilkenny County Council	Acting Chief Executive	3/3
Mr. Tim Butler	Kilkenny County Council	Director of Services	4/4
Ms. Anne Maria Walsh	Kilkenny County Council	Senior Executive Officer	4/4

Ms. Marion Acreman	Kilkenny Chamber of Commerce		4/4
Mr. Anthony Morrisson	Vintners Association		3/4
Sergeant David Gorman	An Garda Síochána	Sergeant	1/4
Detective Inspector Sean O'Meara	An Garda Síochána	Detective Inspector	2/4
Inspector Peter McConnon	An Garda Síochána	Inspector	1/4
Inspector Alma Molloy	An Garda Síochána	Inspector	1/4
Inspector Paul O'Donoghue	An Garda Síochána	Inspector	1/4
Detective Sergeant Matt Phylan	An Garda Síochána	Detective Sergeant	1/4
Detective Brian Sheeran	An Garda Síochána	Detective Sergeant	2/4

Garda Youth Awards



Sally McDonald was also given the Lifetime Achievement Award for her work with the Carlow Pride Committee and other community groups over the decades.