



comhairle chontae na mí  
meath county council



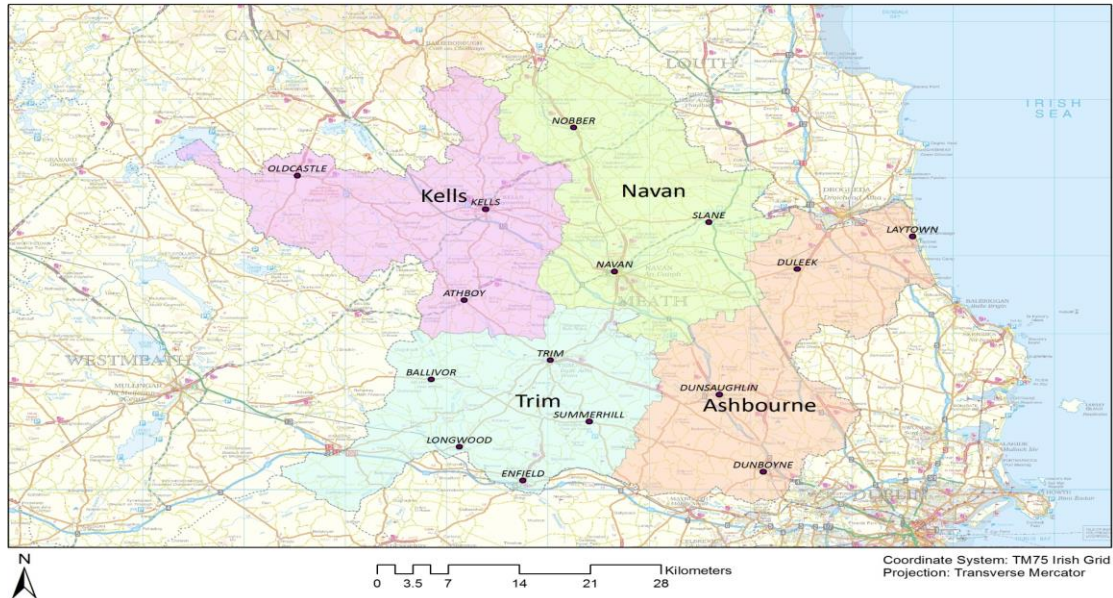
## Meath County Joint Policing Committee Annual Report for the year 2019



Commissioner Harris visit to JPC Meeting in December 2019



## MEATH DIVISION



### 1. Introduction

Section 35 of An Garda Síochána Act 2005 provides for the establishment of Joint Policing Committees (JPC). The Meath Joint Policing Committee was established in 2015 following the introduction of new JPC Guidelines by the Minister for Justice in August 2014.

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 Authorities administrative area. The Population of County Meath from the last census taken in 2016 stood at 195,044 an increase of 6% from the previous census figure.

At a meeting held on the 4<sup>th</sup> of February 2016 the Meath Joint Policing Committee Strategic Plan 2016-2020 was formally adopted.

### 1. JPC Meetings 2019

Meetings were held in Buvinda House Navan with 4 meetings held as follows:

- **25<sup>th</sup> February 2019**
- **29<sup>th</sup> April 2019**
- **23<sup>rd</sup> September 2019**
- **9<sup>th</sup> December 2019 – this meeting was attended by Commissioner Drew Harris. He addressed concerns raised by JPC Members in relation to the proposed new Garda Division of Meath-Westmeath**



## 2. Presentations

In addition to strategy development work, the JPC also received presentations on and considered other relevant policing matters, such as:

<b>Presentation</b>	<b>Presented By</b>	<b>Meeting</b>
County Crime Statistics: Levels and patterns of crime, disorder and anti-social behaviour in Co Meath.  County Meath Policing Plan 2019	<b>Chief Supt Fergus Healy</b>	<b>February 2019</b> <b>April 2019</b> <b>September 2019</b> <b>December 2019</b>  <b>April 2019</b>
JPC Annual Report 2018 and Work Plan 2019.	<b>Fiona Fallon SEO</b>	<b>February 2019</b>
<b>Presentation</b>	<b>Presented By</b>	<b>Meeting</b>
JPC Sub-Committee Quarterly Report to JPC	<b>E Farrelly SSO</b>	<b>February 2019</b> <b>September 2019</b> <b>December 2019</b>
Presentation on Make Way Day Campaign	<b>E Farrelly SSO</b>	<b>September 2019</b>
Update on the CCTV Scheme Extension for Navan	<b>Barry Lynch DOS</b>	<b>April 2019</b>
Presentation from Later Life Network and 3 <sup>rd</sup> Age Summerhill	<b>Jim Matthews &amp; Avril Hevey</b>	<b>February 2019</b>
Presentation on the Role of the incoming JPC	<b>E Farrelly SSO</b>	<b>September 2019</b>
Presentation on the new Policing structure for the Meath/Westmeath District	<b>Commissioner Drew Harris</b>	<b>December 2019</b>





	<p><b>Cllr Eimear Fergusson*</b></p> <p><b>Cllr Sinead Burke*</b></p> <p><b>Cllr Enda Flynn*</b></p> <p><b>Cllr Stephen McKee*</b></p> <p><b>Cllr Wayne Harding*</b></p>		
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- *(The JPC members from An Garda Síochána and Meath Co Co may be accompanied to meetings by other Garda officers and personnel as appropriate)*
- *\*Designates Councillors who were on the JPC up to local Elections in May 2019.*

#### **4. Summary of progress in implementing the JPC's work programme**

The JPC strategic plan provides a structured and integrated approach to achieving social, economic and environmental wellbeing of all those that work, live and visit Co. Meath.

In this strategy three strands inform the work of the JPC, namely educational/awareness work, prevention and enforcement. The strategy outlines general aims, so that the JPC can be flexible to adapt to changing priorities and good practice over the term of the Plan.

The priority issues for the Co. Meath JPC have been identified as the following and these are consistent with the Local Economic and Community Plan 2016-2021 and the Age Friendly Strategy 2017-2020 that have been adopted by the Council.

- Crime Prevention – to reduce the levels of crime in Co. Meath
- Community/Personal Safety– to increase people’s sense of security in their communities and ensure that they can undertake their daily activities in a safe manner
- Promoting Public Order – to reduce the incidents of anti social behaviour and public disorder in Co. Meath
- Road Safety – to reduce road accidents and fatalities



## Meath Garda Crime Statistics 2014-2019

Category	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014	2018/19.%Change
<b>Property Crime</b>	2,643	2,673	3,025	2,228	2,956	3,400	-1%
<b>Burglary (not aggravated)</b>	550	603	789	578	858	919	-9%
<b>Robbery from establishment/Institution</b>	12	14	21	14	24	25	-16%
<b>Crime against the Person</b>	601	570	512	472	505	428	+6%
<b>Robbery from the Person</b>	23	13	15	15	26	26	+56%
<b>Theft from the Person</b>	28	27	24	21	54	59	+3%
<b>Theft from Vehicle</b>	502	402	534	431	564	679	+10%
<b>Theft/U/T of vehicle</b>	195	172	150	137	222	292	+12%
<b>Theft from Shop</b>	629	708	641	461	508	512	-13%
<b>Theft of other property</b>	583	627	692	466	568	720	-7%
<b>Road User Fatalities</b>	7	7	9	12	8	5	0%

### 5. Reports from the JPC Sub Committees 2018

At the February 2016 JPC meeting the committee approved the 5 year Strategic Plan and agreed that an annual review of the plan should occur thereafter. It was also agreed to set up working groups to deliver on the objectives of the strategy. The following 3 sub-committees were set-up under each priority issue identified in the strategy and chaired by a Councillor of the JPC.

- **Community Safety and Crime Prevention – Chaired by Cllr G Toole**
- **Road Safety and Improved Driver Behaviour – Chaired by Cllr D Gilroy**
- **Public Order and Anti Social Behaviour – Chaired by Cllr Alan Lawes**





**Public Order and Anti-Social Behaviour Sub Committee**

**Chair: Cllr Alan Lawes (previously Cllr Maria Murphy up to May 2019)**

**Members: Inspector Declan Power, Cllr Maria Murphy, Cllr Darren O Rourke, Cllr Eddie Fennessy, Bernard Kenny, Tinu Achioya**

**The PO & ASB Sub Committee met 3 times over the course of 2019 and considered the following Actions under the Strategic Plan:**

Objective	Description	Sub Committee/JPC
Ensure that proper attention and seriousness is given to Anti Social Behaviour.	<b>Update sought on Text Alert Groups to examine gaps. Quantify the number of AGS meetings with TE Groups in the County during 2019 and identify any gaps in same</b>	PO &ASB/JPC
Monitor MCC's Anti Social Behaviour Policy, and preventative measures to be explored	<b>Quantify the number of School visits/YTS engagements by AGS/MCC in 2018 and identify any gaps in delivery of the programmes across the County.</b>	PO &ASB/JPC
Work in partnership to divert children and young people from antisocial behaviour, including assessment of current Garda youth related services	<b>Seek presentation from AGS and MCC on the incidence of ASB and assist in identifying preventative measures that may be employed to reduce ASB</b>	PO &ASB/JPC
Work in partnership to ensure that young people engage positively with the justice system	<b>Research the value of the Youth Diversion programme in the County</b>	PO &ASB/JPC



**Community Safety and Crime Prevention Sub Committee**

**Chair: Cllr Gillian Toole (previously Cllr Eimear Fergusson up to May 2019)**

**Members: Inspector Martina Noonan, Sgt Dean Kearns, Cllr Francis Deane, Cllr Noel French, Conor O’Leary, John Tobin, Cllr Yemi Adenuga ,Ronnie Owens**

**The CS & CP Sub Committee met 3 times over the course of 2019 and considered the following Actions under the Strategic Plan:**

Objective	Description	Sub Committee/JPC
Develop and adopt a CCTV Policy for Co Meath	<b>Bring a Policy paper for adoption by the JPC . This will be subject to the outcome of the MCC data protection impact assessments.</b>	CS &CP/JPC
Pursue the introduction of the Crime Ambassador programme in Co Meath	<b>Arrange distribution of the Age Well Programme being promoted by 3<sup>rd</sup> Age for Older Persons -Leaflet via the PPN</b>	CS &CP/JPC
Develop and support joint programmes/activities between older people and the younger population to encourage cross generational support and trust including the extension of ‘The Way We Were’ programme	<b>Promote engagement between Comhairle na nÓg and Later Life Network to encourage participation in activity programmes involving MSP/LMETB during 2019</b>	CS &CP/JPC
Increase awareness and implementation of crime prevention measures	<b>Initiate Programme of Crime Prevention advisory clinics by AGS with targeted groups across the County</b>	CS &CP/JPC
Initiate a series of preventative programmes enhancing older people’s safety	<b>Expand the number of and coverage of Text Alert Groups in the County Launch the Seniors Alert Scheme via the Age Friendly Alliance/LLN</b>	CS & CP/JPC





**Road Safety and Improved Driver Behaviour Sub Committee**

**Chair: Cllr David Gilroy**

**Members: Supt Peter Gilsenan, Michael Finnegan Road Safety Officer, Cllr Alan Tobin, Cllr Trevor Golden, Cllr Padraig Fitzsimons, Bill Commerford, John Tobin.**

**The RS & IDB Sub Committee met 3 times over the course of 2019 and considered the following Actions under the Strategic Plan:**

<b>Objective</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Sub Committee/JPC</b>
Work to improve the perception of community safety among local communities via increased civic participation	<b>Foster a positive road safety attitude across local communities – receive presentations on Control of Horses/Dogs Littering offences/Traffic violations from MCC /AGS</b>	RS & IDB/JPC
Develop Estate Management Initiatives and supports to Tenant/Resident Associations	<b>Encourage Residents Associations to join with local Text Alert Groups to increase coverage across the County. Tie in with PPN Secretariat in joint promotion programme</b>	RS & IDB/JPC



## 6. Public Meeting 2019

A public meeting was held on the 16<sup>th</sup> October 2019 in Kells

Questions were submitted on the evening and responded to by the Chief Superintendent and revolved around community policing, levels of crime, road traffic issues. The event wasn't as well attended as previous years.

The public in attendance were invited to raise issues and the following were discussed:

- **Progress on CCTV Policy and Trim ASB.**
- **Underage ASB and the JLO Scheme -is it being operated across the County ?**
- **Issues around drug dealing and Text Alert Schemes and GDPR requirements**
- **Prevalence of Drug dealing at public events.**
- **Onerous GDPR requirements for Text Alert Groups in the County.**
- **Anti -Social Behavior in Trim.**
- **Wildlife Act prosecutions**
- **Revocation of Driving Licences and Suspension of Passports.**
- **Possession of Fireworks and ASB in youths**
- **Dunboyne citizen rights**
- **What is being done about ASB in Navan and Johnstown in particular**
- **Concerns around the impact of the 2 County amalgamation on Co Meath and the current County wide JPC arrangement.**
- **What changes are expected over the coming Months re Meath W/Meath Division**

Chair Francis Deane thanked all for attending and wished all a safe journey home and then closed the Meeting.

## County Meath JPC Work Plan 2020

Obj No	Objective	Description	Sub Committee/JPC
1	Develop and adopt a CCTV Policy for Co Meath	<b>Bring a Policy paper for adoption by the JPC in 2020. This will be subject to the outcome of the MCC data protection impact assessments.</b>	CS &CP/JPC
2	Purchase a property marking machine	<b>Machine can be utilised by AGS Crime Prevention Unit and by Community Groups to mark</b>	CS &CP/JPC



		their property thereby ensuring traceability of all items	
3	Carry out a mid term review of the JPC strategy and examine the success of the sub group structure.	<b>Review carried out and also determine whether alternative structures should be established.</b>	JPC
4	Pursue the introduction of the Crime Ambassador programme in Co Meath	<b>Arrange distribution of the Age Well Programme being promoted by 3<sup>rd</sup> Age and Befriending Service for Older Persons -Leaflet via the PPN</b>	CS &CP/JPC
5	Develop and support joint programmes/activities between older people and the younger population to encourage cross generational support and trust including the extension of 'The Way We Were' programme	<b>Promote engagement between Comhairle na nÓg and Later Life Network to encourage participation in activity programmes involving MSP/LMETB during 2019</b>	CS &CP/JPC
6	Increase awareness and implementation of crime prevention measures	<b>Initiate Programme of Crime Prevention advisory clinics by AGS with targeted groups across the County</b>	CS &CP/JPC
7	Initiate a series of preventative programmes enhancing older people's safety	<b>Expand the number of and coverage of Text Alert Groups in the County Launch the Seniors Alert Scheme via the Age Friendly Alliance/LLN</b>	CS & CP/JPC
8	Assist Community Groups by introducing practical solutions to prevent burglary and theft of property in the County	<b>Arrange for purchase of a Property Marking Machine in 2020 for the identification of individual and community owned property in the County.</b>	PO &ASB/JPC



9	Monitor MCC's Anti-Social Behaviour Policy, and preventative measures to be explored	<b>Quantify the number of School visits/YTS engagements by AGS/MCC in 2020 and identify any gaps in delivery of the programmes across the County.</b>	PO &ASB/JPC
10	Work in partnership to divert children and young people from anti-social behaviour, including assessment of current Garda youth related services	<b>Seek presentation from AGS and MCC on the incidence of ASB and assist in identifying preventative measures that may be employed to reduce ASB</b>	PO &ASB/JPC
11	Work in partnership to ensure that young people engage positively with the justice system	<b>Research the value of the Youth Diversion programme in the County</b>	PO &ASB/JPC
12	Promote the Road Safety message, including awareness of the dangers, and address careless behaviour	<b>Identify ways to improve public awareness of traffic dangers at bank holidays via RSO and advertising campaigns</b>	RS &IDB/JPC
13	Work to improve the perception of community safety among local communities via increased civic participation	<b>Foster a positive road safety attitude across local communities – receive presentations on Control of Horses/Dogs Littering offences/Traffic violations from MCC /AGS</b>	RS &IDB/JPC
14	Develop Estate Management Initiatives and supports to Tenant/Resident Associations	<b>Encourage Residents Associations to join with local Text Alert Groups to increase coverage across the County. Tie in with PPN Secretariat in joint promotion programme</b>	RS & IDB/JPC