

OFFALY JOINT POLICING COMMITTEE

ANNUAL REPORT 2017



Mission Statement

“To foster safe and secure communities in the county.”

Strategic Goals:

- **Communications**
- **Community Policing & Rural Isolation**
- **Crime Prevention**
- **Road Safety**
- **Public Safety**

Core Values:

- **Work in genuine partnership to deliver for the people of Offaly**
- **Honesty & Integrity**
- **Public Interest**
- **Accountability**
- **Active participation**
- **Respect**

RECORD OF MEETINGS HELD IN 2017 AND LIST OF MEMBERS

1. 4 JPC meetings were held in 2017 on:
 - i. 6th February 2017
 - ii. 29th May 2017
 - iii. 10th October 2017
 - iv. 11th November 2017

2. Name of Chairperson: Cllr. Eddie Fitzpatrick

3. Meetings are held In-Committee with the press invited to attend the public meeting.

4. A public meeting was held on 2nd October 2017 in the Mucklagh Community Centre, Mucklagh.

5. Attendance Record 2017:

NAME OF MEMBER	ORGANISATION OF WHICH MEMBER	TITLE	NO OF JPC MEETINGS ATTENDED
Noel Bourke	Offaly County Council	Co. Councillor	2
John Carroll	Offaly County Council	Co. Councillor	4
John Clendennen	Offaly County Council	Co. Councillor	4
Noel Cribbin	Offaly County Council	Co. Councillor	3
Sinead Dooley **	Offaly County Council	Co. Councillor	2 of 2 meetings
Eddie Fitzpatrick	Offaly County Council	Co. Councillor	4
John Foley	Offaly County Council	Co. Councillor	0
Declan Harvey	Offaly County Council	Co. Councillor	4
Brendan Killeavy	Offaly County Council	Co. Councillor	1
John Leahy	Offaly County Council	Co. Councillor	2
Sean Maher	Offaly County Council	Co. Councillor	3
Frank Moran	Offaly County Council	Co. Councillor	2
Peter Ormond	Offaly County Council	Co. Councillor	2
Tony McCormack***	Offaly County Council	Co. Councillor	1 of 1 meeting
Marcella Corcoran-Kennedy	Oireachtas Member	T.D.	1
Barry Cowen	Oireachtas Member	T.D.	2
Carol Nolan	Oireachtas Member	T.D.	0
Anna Marie Delaney	Offaly County Council	Chief Executive	4
Declan Kirrane ****	Offaly County Council	Director of Services	1 of 2 meetings
Frank Heslin ****	Offaly County Council	Director of Services	2 of 2 meetings
Monica Cleary	Offaly County Council	S.E.O. Corporate Services	3
John Scanlon	An Garda Siochana	Chief Superintendent	2
Martin Cashen	An Garda Siochana	Superintendent	3
John Maloney	An Garda Siochana	Superintendent	1
Michael Brennan	Community Representative		0 of 1 meeting
Vincent Bermingham	Community Representative		1
Mary Delaney	Community Representative		2
Gerard Galvin	Community Representative		2
Adrian Haines	Community Representative		2
Mary Margaret Martin	Community Representative		4

Inspector Kieran Keyes deputised for Superintendent Martin Cashen at the May meetings, and Superintendent John Maloney at the November meeting.

***Cllr Sinead Dooley retired from the Joint Policing Committee in August 2017, following her resignation from Offaly County Council.*

****Cllr Tony McCormack was co-opted to Offaly County Council on 18th September 2017 and nominated to serve on the Joint Policing Committee at the Monthly Council meeting held on 23rd October 2017.*

Mr Michael Brennan resigned as PPN Representative from the Joint Policing Committee in May 2017.

Sgt Graham Kavanagh attended the JPC Public Meeting held on 2nd October 2017.

Sgt Kevin Quinn and Sgt John Scahill attended the JPC meeting held on 27th November 2017.

***** Mr Declan Kirrane, Director of Services, Offaly County Council, retired in June 2017,*

***** Mr Frank Heslin, Director of Services, Offaly County Council, was nominated by the Chief Executive to serve on the Joint Policing Committee.*

JOINT POLICING COMMITTEE WORK PLAN 2015 – 2020

Progress Report considered at the JPC Meeting held on 28th May 2018

Objectives	By Whom	Time Frame
OBJECTIVE 1: COMMUNICATION		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Adopt, publish and launch the Strategic Work Plan 	JPC / OCC	Completed
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Host a public Joint Policing Committee meeting 	JPC	Held in October 2017
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promote school education programme 	OCC / Garda Síochána	Local and Community Development staff supports Comhairle na nÓg.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop a Communication Strategy to inform the general public and the community sector about the Joint Policing Committee e.g. newspapers, local radio campaign, PPN newsletter, and www.offaly.ie website 	Sub Group – Garda Síochána / PPN / OCC	Public meeting held in October 2017 was well attended by members of the public and widely reported in the local press. The JPC agreed that quarterly meetings will be held in public during 2018.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Arrange appropriate training for the all JPC Members 	OCC / JPC	On-going
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure meeting's Agenda include a report from the Gardaí and Offaly County Council 	OCC / Garda Síochána	Reports from An Garda Síochána and Council were provided at each meeting.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Facilitate JPC input to policy submissions as appropriate 	JPC / OCC	The Offaly JPC forwarded, in September 2017, a submission in relation to An Garda Síochána Policing Plan, 2018.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Organise a Safer Communities Seminar 	Sub Group – Garda Síochána / PPN / OCC	Safer Communities Seminar was held in 2016. An Garda Síochána and Council continue to work closely with local communities.

OBJECTIVE 2: COMMUNITY POLICING and RURAL ISOLATION

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promote the establishment of Community Alert Groups throughout the county 	Garda Síochána / PPN	On-going, quarterly Community Watch network meeting held in Áras an Chontae.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Explore the co-ordination of Community Alert areas 	Garda Síochána / PPN / OCC	On-going through the work of the Community Watch network meetings.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promote the use of Community Text Alerts 	JPC	On-going through the Community Watch Network. Currently in the region 73 groups in the scheme at present. Updates on the use, uptake and costs associated with Community Text Alert systems will be reviewed in 2018.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support the retention of a Garda presence in rural areas 	JPC	Additional Gardaí appointed and assigned to the Laois/Offaly division in 2017.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participation of Offaly County Council and Garda representatives in the Community Development structures and initiatives emanating from the SICAP and RAPID Programmes in disadvantaged areas. 	Garda Síochána / PPN	Participation in these initiatives continued during 2017.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review Anti-Social Behaviour Strategy 2015 	OCC in conjunction with JPC	Anti-Social Behaviour Strategy adopted by Offaly County Council 18 th Jan. 2016.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Examine adopted Estate Management strategies and initiatives with a view to developing a co-ordinated approach between Offaly County Council, Garda Síochána and HSE 	OCC / Garda Síochána / HSE	Updated Estate Management Policy adopted by Offaly County Council on 17 th January 2017.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support Estate Management Committees / Resident Associations 	OCC / Garda Síochána	The County Council and Municipal Districts, in conjunction with An Garda Síochána, continue to support the work of Residents Associations and Management Committees.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop a programme in conjunction with Comhairle na nÓg, local schools and youth groups to assist young people in dealing with issues such as crimes against children, bullying (incl. Cyber bullying), alcohol and substance abuse. 	OCC/ PPN / JPC	On-going liaison with Garda Community Policing unit, with Garda representatives attending the Comhairle AGM.

OBJECTIVE 3: CRIME PREVENTION

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implement measures to combat serious crime 	Garda Síochána	On-going. Anti-Drug unit established.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support public awareness campaign about crime prevention initiatives 	All	On-going
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review of existing CCTV systems in the County 	All	The new Department of Justice and Equality Community Based CCTV grant systems was examined by the JPC. Gardaí are liaising with community groups considering applying for the grant. Clarification on aspects of the scheme, in particular the assignment of the Data Controller duty to Local Authorities, was sought nationally, and advice is awaited.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify any areas where additional street lighting is required. 	OCC / Garda Síochána	During 2017 Offaly County Council continued its programme of upgrading street lighting with LED units. Additional funding for street lighting provided for in the 2018 Council Budget.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review of licensing, night time closing hours of entertainment and fast food outlets in the context of late night street disorder 	All	On-going
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Active engagement of community policing with local community groups including briefing of PPN on Crime Prevention initiatives. 	Garda Síochána / OCC	The PPN network met regularly during 2017. The PPN provide an update at JPC meetings.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implement initiatives to address re-offending particularly young people. 	Garda Síochána	On-going
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Liaise with the Midland Regional Drug and Alcohol Task Force (MRDAFT) 	JPC	The Council is represented on the MRDAFT.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide comprehensive support for victims of crime including victims of domestic and sexual violence. 	Garda Síochána	On-going

OBJECTIVE 4: ROAD SAFETY

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implementation of Road Traffic legislation and enforcement 	Garda Síochána	On-going
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Road Safety Committee to make regular reports to J.P.C. 	Garda Síochána / OCC	Reports were made to the JPC during the year.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure traffic management issues are reported in the local media etc. 	Garda Síochána / OCC	Notice of road closures and diversions are advertised in the local media and on the Council's social media portals.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to support Road Safety Education and Awareness initiatives 	Garda Síochána / OCC	An Garda Síochána / OCC worked in close conjunction with the RSA to deliver Awareness initiatives in 2017.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to support Road Safety Education programmes in schools and youth communities 	Garda Síochána / OCC	An Garda Síochána / OCC worked in close conjunction with the RSA to deliver Awareness initiatives in 2017. Continued support to School Warden Programme.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conduct a review of speed limits across the county with a particular emphasis on housing estates. 	OCC	Following a countywide review of speed limits the members adopted the revised speed limits and they came into effect on 19th January 2018.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establish a Working Group to examine the Public Lighting networks across the County in respect of Road Safety. 	All	Working Group to be established in 2018 and report back in Q4, 2018.

OBJECTIVE 5: PUBLIC SAFETY

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop protocols in respect of Public Events between the Gardaí and Offaly County Council 	<p>Garda Síochána / OCC</p>	<p>There is on-going liaison between An Garda Síochána and O.C.C. for major public events, including GAA fixtures, Tullamore Show etc.</p> <p>A working group, with members of the Gardaí and Council, was formed to ensure that traffic management was organised and communicated to the public in advance of the National Ploughing Championships. The Traffic Management Plan worked extremely well in 2017 and no significant issues arose before, during or after the event.</p> <p>The ploughing championship will be held in Offaly in 2018.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Examine the Public Lighting Network with a view to improving public safety 	<p>OCC</p>	<p>During 2017 Offaly County Council continued its programme of upgrading street lighting with LED units.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop protocols for addressing anti-social activity in public open space areas and parks. 	<p>OCC</p>	<p>The Council and An Garda Síochána continue to work together to develop protocols to deal with this issues as they arise.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review of existing Offaly County Council Bye-Laws 	<p>OCC</p>	<p>On-going</p>