

OFFALY JOINT POLICING COMMITTEE

ANNUAL REPORT 2018



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 2018 AND LIST OF MEMBERS

1. 4 JPC meetings were held in 2018 on:
 - i. 26th February 2018
 - ii. 26th May 2018
 - iii. 1st October 2018
 - iv. 3rd December 2018

2. Name of Chairperson: Cllr. Eddie Fitzpatrick

3. A public meeting was held on 1st October 2018 in the Community Centre, Kilcormac, County Offaly.

4. Attendance Record 2018:

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	3
John Clendennen	Offaly County Council	Co. Councillor	4
Noel Cribbin	Offaly County Council	Co. Councillor	2
Eddie Fitzpatrick	Offaly County Council	Co. Councillor	4
John Foley	Offaly County Council	Co. Councillor	0
Declan Harvey	Offaly County Council	Co. Councillor	1
Brendan Killeavy	Offaly County Council	Co. Councillor	0
John Leahy	Offaly County Council	Co. Councillor	4
Sean Maher	Offaly County Council	Co. Councillor	1
Frank Moran	Offaly County Council	Co. Councillor	0
Peter Ormond	Offaly County Council	Co. Councillor	2
Tony McCormack	Offaly County Council	Co. Councillor	3
Marcella Corcoran-Kennedy	Oireachtas Member	T.D.	0
Barry Cowen	Oireachtas Member	T.D.	1
Carol Nolan	Oireachtas Member	T.D.	0
Anna Marie Delaney	Offaly County Council	Chief Executive	2
Frank Heslin	Offaly County Council	Director of Services	2
Monica Cleary **	Offaly County Council	S.E.O. Corporate Services	2 of 2 meetings
Mary Flynn Kenny **	Offaly County Council	Acting S.E.O. Corporate Services	1 of 2 meetings
John Scanlon	An Garda Síochaná	Chief Superintendent	3
Martin Cashen ***	An Garda Síochaná	Superintendent (Retired)	1 of 1 meeting
John Maloney ****	An Garda Síochaná	Superintendent (Retired)	0 of 1 meeting
Thomas Mullarkey *****	An Garda Síochaná	Superintendent	2 of 2 meetings
Pat O'Callaghan ***	An Garda Síochaná	Superintendent	1 of 2 meetings
Vincent Bermingham	Community Representative		1
Mary Delaney	Community Representative		2
Gerard Galvin *****	Community Representative		1 of 1 meeting
Adrian Haines *****	Community Representative		0
Mary Margaret Martin	Community Representative		3
Jane Simms *****	Community Representative		3 of 3 meetings

Inspector Kieran Keyes and Inspector John Lawless attended the February and May meetings of the JPC. Inspector Kieran Keyes attended the October Public meeting of the JPC.

Mr Tom Shanahan, D.o.S. deputised for the Chief Executive at the Public meeting held on 1st October 2018.

*** Ms Monica Cleary, SEO, Offaly County Council stepped down from the JPC in June 2018*

*** Ms. Mary Flynn Kenny, Acting SEO, Offaly County Council, was assigned to the JPC in June 2018*

**** Supt John Maloney retired from An Garda Síochaná in March 2018 and he was replaced on the JPC by Supt. Thomas Mullarkey*

***** Supt Martin Cashen retired from An Garda Síochaná in March 2018 and he was replaced on the JPC by Supt. Pat O'Callaghan*

****** Gerard Galvin and Adrian Haines stepped down from the JPC in May 2018. Ms Jane Simms was elected to serve on the JPC from May 2018*

Ms Bridie Costello Hynes, PPN Resource Worker attended all the JPC meetings in 2018.

JOINT POLICING COMMITTEE WORK PLAN 2015 – 2020

Progress Report considered at the JPC Meeting held on 25th February 2019

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 2018
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promote school education programme 	OCC / Garda Síochána	Community and Culture staff supports Comhairle na nÓg. The members of Comhairle na nÓg occasionally attend the Monthly County Council meeting.
<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 2018. The JPC agreed that quarterly meetings will be held in public during 2019 and that the Press would be invited to attend these meetings.
<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 Chairperson of the Offaly JPC and the acting Meeting Administrator attended a consultation event hosted by the Policing Authority in July 2018
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Organise a Safer Communities Seminar 	Sub Group – Garda Síochána / PPN / OCC	An Garda Síochána and Council continue to work closely with local communities, through the PPN Forum

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 were 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 2018.
<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 2018.
<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 / HS	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.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify any areas where additional street lighting is required. 	OCC / Garda Síochána	During 2018 Offaly County Council continued its programme of upgrading street lighting with LED units. Additional funding for street lighting provided for in the 2019 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 2018. 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 2018.
<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 2018. 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 mid-2019 and report back in Q2, 2020.

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 2018 and no significant issues arose before, during or after the event. The Group worked to accommodate the additional day required because of the adverse weather conditions experienced on the 2nd day of the Championships.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Examine the Public Lighting Network with a view to improving public safety 	<p>OCC</p>	<p>During 2018 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>