



AN TÚDARÁS PÓILÍNEACHTA  
POLICING AUTHORITY

**Invitation for views on the draft Code of Ethics for the Garda Síochána**

**Background**

Section 17 of the Garda Síochána Act requires the Authority to establish a Code of Ethics for the Garda Síochána and provides that the Code shall include standards of conduct and practice for Garda members and provisions to encourage and facilitate the reporting of wrongdoing in the Garda Síochána. The legislation requires that this be done by 31 December 2016.

Section 17 provides that in preparing this Code the Authority must have regard to certain matters including the standards in other EU states, the relevant recommendations of the Council of Europe and the policing principles. The policing principles state that policing services are to be provided:

- (i). independently and impartially,
- (ii). in a manner that respects human rights, and
- (iii). in a manner that supports the proper and effective administration of justice.

The Authority invited preliminary views on the Code of Ethics in April of this year. Following a period of research and consideration of the submissions received, the Authority has developed an initial draft Code which is now available on our website.

**Call for submissions**

This call for preliminary views and comments is an important opportunity for interested members of the public, employees of the Garda Síochána, civil society organisations and relevant statutory bodies to offer their views on the Code.

In particular we would invite views on:

- whether there are any issues of concern not covered by the draft Code,
- whether there are any issues which should be addressed differently,
- any examples that you think should be included in the Code to demonstrate what would constitute good ethical behaviour or alternatively, examples of what would constitute a breach of the Code, and
- any other comments or feedback

Responses to this consultation should be received no later than close of business on **Friday 23 September 2016**. After this date the Authority will, giving due consideration to all submissions received, proceed to finalise the Code of Ethics before the statutory deadline of 31 December 2016.

Please forward your submission to [info@policingauthority.ie](mailto:info@policingauthority.ie). If you do not have access to email you may post your submission to:

The Policing Authority  
Fourth Floor  
90 King Street North  
Dublin 7  
D07N7CV

### **Publication of responses**

Please note that it is intended to publish the submissions received (or a summary thereof) from organisations and public agencies at a later stage of this process. Submissions from private individuals will also be published but will have the names and contact details redacted. If you believe that your submission, or part of it, should not be published (e.g. because it contains personal or confidential information) please highlight this. Submissions received will also be subject to the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act 2014.

### **Consultation even 8 September 2016**

Finally, please note that the Authority is holding a stakeholders meeting to elicit feedback on the draft Code on 8 September 2016. If you are interested in attending this event, please contact the Authority by phone on 01 8589090, or by email at [info@policingauthority.ie](mailto:info@policingauthority.ie).