

Sligo Joint Policing Commitee



Annual Report 2017

Draft

The Sligo Joint Policing Committee (JPC) was re-established in 2015 under the Garda Síochána Act 2005 and in accordance with the Joint Policing Committee Guidelines as amended in August 2014. The overall aim is to serve as a forum for consultations, discussions and recommendations on matters affecting the policing of Sligo County Council's administrative area and to keep under review the levels and patterns of, and the factors underlying and contributing to the levels of crime, disorder and anti-social behaviour in the area.

Membership of County Sligo JPC

The Joint Policing Committee consists of 24 members (i.e.) 12 Elected Members of Sligo Co. Council, 2 Oireachtas Members, 2 Local Authority Officials, 2 nominees of the Garda Commissioner, and 6 community nominees.

Local Authority Elected Members

- Cllr Rosaleen O'Grady, Chairperson
- Cllr Keith Henry
- Cllr Paul Taylor
- Cllr Jerry Lundy
- Cllr Martin Baker
- Cllr Hubert Keaney
- Cllr Dara Mulvey
- Cllr Marie Casserly
- Cllr Thomas Healy
- Cllr Gino O'Boyle
- Cllr Margaret Gormley
- Cllr Chris MacManus

Oireachtas Elected Members

- Deputy Eamon Scanlon TD
- Deputy Tony McLoughlin TD

Local Authority Officials

- Ciarán Hayes, Chief Executive
- Margaret McConnell, Senior Executive Officer

An Garda Síochána Members

- Chief Superintendent Michael Clancy / Aidan Glacken
- Superintendent Mary Murray

Public Participation Network (PPN) Members

- Vanessa Clarke
- David Tuffy
- Patrick Benson
- Tom McGettrick
- Pat Conway
- Alan McMenamin



Steering Group

Each JPC must establish a steering group, consisting of the Chairperson of the JPC, a representative of An Garda Síochána and the Chief Executive of the Local Authority or a person nominated by him or her. The function of the steering group is to facilitate the efficient functioning of the JPC and in particular to ensure that it retains a clear focus on strategic and collaborative action. It also arranges procedures for the appointment of any new or replacement members, draws up the agenda and arranges for documentation for meetings, and is the point of contact for co-operation and joint action with other JPC's and with any sub-committees of the JPC. The members of the Sligo Joint Policing Committee Steering Group are:

- Cllr Rosaleen O'Grady, Sligo JPC Chairperson
- Chief Superintendent Michael Clancy / Chief Superintendent Aidan Glacken, An Garda Síochána
- Ciarán Hayes, Chief Executive, Sligo County Council

Activities of the Committee & Steering Group

In 2017, meetings of the Sligo Joint Policing Committee Steering Group took place on 21st March, 19th May, 12th September and 22nd November..

The Joint Policing Committee also met on four occasions during 2017 – 31st March, 16th June, 29th September and 15th December.

Business conducted related primarily to the Draft Six Year Strategic Plan 2017-2022 (which was adopted by the JPC at its meeting of 31st March 2017), adoption of Annual Report for 2016, the adoption and monitoring of the implementation of the Annual Work Plan for 2017, the establishment of a Sub-committee on Alcohol & Substance Related Harm and Crime, the support of proposals to upgrade CCTV equipment in Cranmore. The Joint Policing Committee also received presentations from the Sligo/Leitrim Garda Divisional Drugs Unit and the Garda Victims Service Office.

Strategic Plan 2017 -2022

The Sligo Joint Policing Committee commenced the preparation of a 6 Year Strategic Plan in 2016 for the period 2017 to 2022. The Plan identifies priorities and key objectives to be delivered over its lifetime, the implementation of which will be overseen by the Joint Policing Committee.

The Draft Sligo Joint Policing Committee Strategic Plan 2017-2022, which was agreed by the JPC at its meeting held on 16th December, 2016, was placed on public display for a period of 3 weeks from 10th January, 2017 to 1st February, 2017. Notice was published in the Local Press, and on the Council’s website and copies of the Draft Plan were made available. The Draft plan was also circulated to the 391 groups/organisations registered with the Sligo PPN. Submissions were invited from interested parties, four submissions were received from:

1. *Rathcormac and Drumcliffe Community Alert*
2. *Muintir na Tire*
3. *Sligo Public Participation Network, JPC Representatives*
4. *Respond Housing Association*

A report on submissions was considered by the JPC members, and the Plan adopted with agreed amendments at the Joint Policing Committee meeting held on 31st March 2017.

The Plan identified five strategic Priority areas for actions:

- Crime Prevention
- Community Policing
- Road Safety
- Public Safety
- Communication & Promotion of JPC

Key objectives were identified under each of the priority areas, to be delivered over the life-time of the Plan. It also identified lead agencies and key partners in respect of each of the deliverables, to be over-seen by the Joint Policing Committee.

The following priorities / actions were agreed for inclusion in the Strategic Plan:

Priority Area 1: Crime Prevention

Priority	Action
1.1	Audit of current status of CCTV in Sligo Town and encourage the provision of CCTV in other towns
1.2	Encourage all businesses to install CCTV and/or engage in a Business Watch Scheme
1.3	Highlight through the media the key precautions & simple steps that should be taken by homeowners
1.4	Identify areas where additional public lighting is required.
1.5	Encourage the reporting of anti social behaviour

1.6	Ensure that there is a visible policing presence in areas associated with anti social behaviour
1.7	Target local crime reduction and prevention initiatives, working with communities and business groups
1.8	Implement measures to combat serious crime
1.9	Support public awareness campaign about crime prevention initiatives
1.10	Liaise with the North West Regional Drug and Alcohol Task Force (NWRDTF)
1.11	Identify crime and trend patterns in relation to the farming sector and consider measures to address crime affecting the farming sector as appropriate
1.12	Examine initiatives to address fear of crime
1.13	Examine initiatives to address hate crime and sectarianism

Priority Area 2: Community Policing

Priority	Action
2.1	Promote awareness within the farming community of new preventive activities to reduce farm thefts
2.2	Promote the establishment of Community Alert Groups throughout the County, energise existing groups and promote the use of Community Text Alerts.
2.3	Adopt the Crime Prevention Ambassador Programme, or similar alternative programme for Older people
2.4	Engage with Age Friendly Ireland and work towards alleviating the fear of crime amongst the elderly
2.5	Examine adopted Estate Management strategies and initiatives with a view to developing a co-ordinated approach between Sligo County Council, Garda Síochána and HSE
2.6	Hold a series of community meetings to raise awareness of anti social behaviour
2.7	Support the retention of a Garda presence in rural areas
2.8	Interagency networking with communities to respond to urban and rural community safety concerns
2.9	Research into the community safety concerns and crime to inform evidence-based planning
2.10	Set up youth engagement initiatives

2.11	Explore the potential of cross-border collaboration in relation to community safety initiatives.
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Priority Area 3: Road Safety

Priority	Action
3.1	Examine the enforcement of legislation with regards to double parking, parking in disabled parking areas and loading bays.
3.2	Implementation of Road Traffic legislation and enforcement
3.3	Continue to support Road Safety Education and Awareness Initiatives
3.4	Continue to review speed limits across the county with a particular emphasis on housing estates.
3.5	Review road accidents in the county for the last two years.
3.6	Road Safety Authority to make regular reports to JPC
3.7	Organise distribution points for free RSA Hi-Viz vests.

Priority Area 4: Public Safety

Priority	Action
4.1	Review lighting in public areas
4.2	Examine the enforcement of legislation with regards to litter with the aim of creating a better environment for our citizens and those visiting the country
4.3	Enforce and review the operation of derelict site laws
4.4	Increase the number of Gardaí in rural areas
4.5	Develop protocols for addressing anti-social behaviour in public open space areas and parks
4.6	Develop protocols in respect of public events between An Garda Síochána and Sligo County Council

Priority Area 5: Communication and Promotion of Joint Policy Committee

Priority	Action
5.1	Adopt, publish and launch the Strategic Work Plan

5.2	Host a public Joint Policing Committee meeting
5.3	Promotion of JPC through Sligo County Council website and the local media
5.4	Facilitate JPC input to policy submissions as appropriate

Annual Work Plan 2017

The amended Joint Policing Guidelines (August 2014) introduced a new requirement that Committees, in addition to developing a Six year Strategic Plan, also develop an Annual Work Plan. Appendix 2 of the Guidelines outline suggested Annual Work Plan content, and a Template for the Plan.

The main points to note are that an Action Plan:

- must include relevant objectives from the Garda Annual Policing Plan/s
- should link to the Local Economic and Community Plan (LECP), and reflect the adopted JPC 6 year Strategic Plan
- should be confined to a limited number of strategic objectives (at least 3 High Priority objectives, plus a small number of other objectives)
- should set realistic targets and indicators to measure implementation
- should set out tasks for each stakeholder
- consideration should be given to linking JPC plans to
 - Appropriate elements of other local authority or Garda strategies (e.g. accommodation plans or particular crime prevention initiatives)
 - Drugs Task Force Plans relevant to the area
 - Other issues which the JPC considers to be important for crime prevention, policing and public safety (including road safety) in the area
 - Strategic actions to enhance communications with the public and to ensure adequate communication with other local fora (e.g. Drugs Task Forces, Community Alert, Neighbourhood Watch, etc.).

The Joint Policing Committee adopted an Annual Work Plan for 2017 at meeting held on 31st March, 2017, a copy of which is attached. An update on progress in implementing the Work Plan was considered by the Committee its meetings held on 16th June, 29th September and 15th December.

Joint Policing Committee Annual Work Plan 2017 – update November 2017

REF	Priority	Origin	Action	Lead Agency / KeyPartners	Timeframe	UPDATE NOVEMBER 2017
1	Crime Prevention	JPC Strategic Plan 2017-2022	Audit of current status of CCTV in Sligo Town and encourage the provision of CCTV in other towns	An Garda Síochána, SCC.	By end 2017	- SCC & Garda Síochána reviewing current status of CCTV's in Sligo Town and examining the possibility of extending coverage
2	Crime Prevention	JPC Strategic Plan 2017-2022	Provide communities /businesses with information re: CCTV and encourage all businesses to install CCTV and/or engage in a Business Watch Scheme	An Garda Síochána, SCC., [Chamber of Commerce , LEO,PPN, Muintir na tire]	By end 2017	- Community Based CCTV Funding Scheme launched by Department of Justice & Equality - being promoted by PPN – individual applications require letter of approval from the JPC
			Explore funding opportunities to support communities to access CCTV			- Sligo Community Alert held information Seminar for Community Groups on 7 th November 2017
3	Crime Prevention	JPC Strategic Plan 2017-2022	Highlight the key precautions & simple steps that should be taken by homeowners	SCC, An Garda Síochána. PPN, [Muintir na tire]	By end 2017	- Crime Prevention Officer visiting communities and businesses
4	Crime Prevention	JPC Strategic Plan 2017-2022	Liaise with the North West Regional Drug and Alcohol Task Force (NWRDTF) to address alcohol/substance related harm and crime	JPC / NWRDTF	On-going	- sub-committee - alcohol & substance related harm and crime, being established – TOR & membership agreed by JPC - NDRDTF nominees received, 1 st meeting to be arranged
5	Community Policing	JPC Strategic Plan 2017-2022	Promote the establishment of Community Alert Groups throughout the County, energise existing groups and promote the use of Community Text Alerts.	An Garda Síochána, SCC [& Muintir na Tire]	By end 2017	- Muintir na Tire publicising availability of funding (Text Alert Rebate Scheme) – closing date for applications is 30/11/17
6	Road Safety	JPC Strategic Plan 2017-2022	Organise distribution points for free RSA Hi-Viz vests and use text alerts to promote their usage	SCC, RSA, An Garda Síochána, [Community groups, Muintir na Tire Local text alert groups]	By end 2017	- See response from the CEO of the RSA dated 1st June 2017 previously circulated- circulated – further information awaited from the RSA's on its national distribution network

Joint Policing Committee Annual Work Plan 2017 – update November 2017 (continued)

	Priority	Origin	Action	Lead Agency / Key Partners	Timeframe	UPDATE NOVEMBER 2017
7	Road Safety	JPC Strategic Plan 2017-2022	Road Safety Authority to make regular reports to JPC	RSA, JPC	On-going	- See response from the CEO of the RSA dated 1st June 2017 previously circulated – RSA seeking clarification of type of information the JPC require
8	Public Safety	JPC Strategic Plan 2017-2022	Review the operation of derelict site laws	SCC	By end 2017	- Presentation to JPC to be arranged
9	Service to Victim of Crime	Sligo Divisional Policing Plan 2017	Continue to develop services to victims of crime, receive presentation from Sligo / Leitrim Garda Victims Office	An Garda Síochána	By end 2017	- Presentation to JPC by the Sligo / Leitrim Garda Victims Service Office to be arranged for December meeting
10	Roads Policing	Sligo Divisional Policing Plan 2017	Increase road user compliance and Garda visibility in Sligo / Leitrim Division to enhance road safety	An Garda Síochána	By end 2017	- Ongoing - also SCC, Gardai & Rotary Club engaging on proposed Road Safety initiative
11	Roads Policing	Sligo Divisional Policing Plan 2017	Carry out review of collision prone zones, receive presentation from Sligo / Leitrim Traffic Inspector	An Garda Síochána	By end 2017	- Presentation to JPC by the Sligo / Leitrim Traffic Inspector to be arranged
12	Roads Policing	Sligo Divisional Policing Plan 2017	Work in partnership with other agencies having stakeholder roll in road safety	An Garda Síochána	By end 2017	ongoing

Joint Policing Committee Annual Work Plan 2017 - update November 2017 (continued)

	Priority	Origin	Action	Lead Agency / Key Partners	Timeframe	UPDATE NOVEMBER 2017
13	Organisation and capacity improvement	Sligo Divisional Policing Plan 2017	Improve accommodation capacity in Sligo / Leitrim Division to improve and enhance policing service delivery	An Garda Síochána	By end 2017	ongoing
14	Community Engagement and Public Safety	Sligo Divisional Policing Plan 2017	Identify and liaise with farming representative bodies to address issues surrounding rural crime	An Garda Síochána	By end 2017	ongoing