



Tipperary County Joint Policing Committee

Annual Report for the year 2019



Figure 1 Picture from the March 2019 Joint Policing Committee (JPC) meeting



Introduction

Section 35 of An Garda Síochána Act 2005 provides for the establishment of Joint Policing Committees (JPC).

The Tipperary Joint Policing Committee was established in 2014 following the merger of North and South Tipperary County Councils and the abolition of North Tipperary JPC and South Tipperary JPC.

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.

At a meeting on the 4th of March 2016 the Tipperary Joint Policing Committee Strategic Plan 2015-2021 was formally adopted.

Meetings 2019

Meetings are held on rotation across the five Municipal Districts within County Tipperary. There were 5 meetings of Tipperary JPC held in 2019, as follows:

- 22nd March Council Chamber, Nenagh Civic Offices, Nenagh
- 28th June Council Chamber, Carrick-on-Suir MD, Carrick-on-Suir
- 27th September Council Chamber, Clonmel Civic Offices, Clonmel.
- 1st November Council Chamber, Thurles MD, Thurles
- 13th December Council Chamber, Cahir-Cashel-Tipperary MD, Tipperary.

Presentations to the JPC 2019

In addition to strategy development work, the JPC also received presentations and considered other relevant policing matters. Table 1 lists some of the presentations to the JPC in 2019.



Presentation	Presented by	Meeting
Review levels & patterns of crime, disorder and anti-social behaviour in the county:	Chief Superintendent Catherine Kehoe	22 nd March
Authorisation of CCTV in Clonmel	Anthony Coleman Clonmel BD	22 nd March
Review levels & patterns of crime, disorder and anti-social behaviour in the county:	Chief Superintendent Derek Smart	27 th September & 13 th December
Local Link is a nationwide bus service in rural areas around Ireland	Anthony Moroney	22 nd March
Halloween Fire Safety	John Hoctor Fire Service	27 th September
Zombie Walk an alternative family activity to bonfires	Carol Creighton Clonmel BD	27 th September
Bonfires not suitable for waste disposal	David Corbett Environment Section	27 th September
Be Sober be Safe	Amy O'Halloran	27 th September
Garda Restructuring Model and New Divisional Boundary	Garda Commissioner Drew Harris	1 st November
Komeer Text Alert Service	Pat Walsh	13 th December

Table 1 List of Presentations made to the JPC in 2019

Membership of County Tipperary Joint Policing Committee

The membership of the Joint Policing Committee is based on the Joint Policing Committees Guidelines – Amended August 2014. Tipperary County Council has 40 elected members. It is recommended that the JPC consist of:

- 2 An Garda Síochána,
- 15 Local Authority Elected Members,
- 5 Oireachtas Elected Members,
- 7 Community
- 2 Local Authority Officials

Following the Local Authority Elections in May 2019, a new Joint Policing Committee was formed with Councillors being nominated from



Tipperary County Council at their June meeting. On the 28th of June 2019, an induction to JPC regulations for new council members took place.

The Chief Superintendent Catherine Keogh retired from the force in April 2019. She was replaced by Chief Superintendent Derek Smart who attended the meeting of the newly formed Joint Policing Committee in September. Table 2 below lists the JPC member post Local Authority Elections 2019 and Appendix 1 Table 3 lists the JPC membership prior to the Local Authority Elections May 2019.

An Garda Síochána (2)	Chief Superintendent Derek Smart Plus 1 other
Local Authority Elected Member (15)	Cllr Noel Coonan (Chair) Cllr AnneMarie Ryan Cllr David Dunne Cllr Fiona Bonfield Cllr Ger Darcy Cllr Hughie McGrath Cllr Jim Ryan Cllr John Crosse Cllr Marie Murphy Cllr Mark Fitzgerald Cllr Pat English Cllr Richie Molloy Cllr Shane Lee Cllr Siobhan Ambrose Cllr Tony Black
Oireachtas (5)	Deputy Alan Kelly Deputy Mattie McGrath Deputy Jackie Cahill Deputy Michael Lowry Deputy Seamus Healy
PPN/Community (7)	Vacant (Farming Pillar) Vacant (Business Pillar) Carmel O'Neill (PPN Tipp/Cashel MD) Margaret Sheehy (PPN Nenagh MD) Vacant (PPN Clonmel/Cahir MD) Anne Williamson (PPN Carrick-on-Suir) Vacant (Thurles)
Local Authority Official (2)	Pat Slattery Director of Services Eddie Meegan, Administrative Officer

Table 2 Membership of the JPC post Local Authority Elections May 2019.



(The JPC members from An Garda Síochána and Tipperary County Council may be accompanied to meetings by other Garda officers and other Council officials as deemed appropriate).

Key Achievements of Tipperary JPC in 2019

- At the September meeting a new committee was formed, Cllr Noel Coonan was elected Chair and Cllr Marie Murphy Vice Chair.
- Clarity was sought in relation to the role of the Local Authority as Data Controllers in relation to CCTV systems. This has now been provided.
- Tipperary County Council purchased a property marking machine for use by community within the Carrick-on-Suir Municipal District as a pilot. Tipperary County supported Newport Community Text Alert Committee in the purchase of a property marking machine for use within Nenagh Municipal District.
- Municipal District Safety Committees meetings took place in each of the MD areas. These allowed for discussion in relation to operational safety issues in camera while general feedback/progress from the meetings fed into the JPC on a quarterly basis.
- Presentations in relation to the review of levels and patterns of crime, disorder and anti-social behaviour in Co Tipperary were provided at all the JPC meetings and clarity in relation to key Garda Operations and policies were provided across a range of areas.
- Local Link provides a nationwide bus service in rural areas around Ireland. It was established to address rural social exclusion. Anthony Moroney made a presentation on Local Link Tipperary. He gave some background to the local retendering process and national structures.
- Tipperary County Council staff updated the JPC on Halloween initiatives.
 - John Hctor from the Fire Service briefed the JPC on the role of the fire service around Halloween.
 - Carol Creighton from Clonmel Borough District briefed the JPC on the “zombie walk” held in Clonmel. This event is held annually to provide an alternative family activity to bonfires.



- David Corbett from the Environment Section briefed the JPC on waste management and why bonfires are not suitable for the disposal of waste.
- Amy O'Halloran from the Edge Garda Youth Diversion Project in Carrick-on-Suir made a presentation to the JPC on the "Be Sober Be Safe" pilot being rolled out to Junior Certificate students. It aims to reduce the consumption of alcohol on the night of the Junior Certificate Results. The programme has been drawn up with the help of a focus group of older teenagers. These teenagers visit schools in the town and speak with the students about the risks of drinking on results night.
- In November Garda Commissioner Drew Harris made a presentation on the Garda Restructuring Model and New Divisional Boundary to the JPC. JPC members asked the Commissioner to justify the relocation of the Division Headquarters to Ennis.
- Pat Walsh the CEO of Komeer, a private company providing a community alert system, gave a presentation to the Committee on the benefits of their system.



Figure 2 Chairman Noel Coonan with the Garda Commissioner Drew Harris November JPC meeting



Figure 3 Cappawhite Community Alert Group with Property Marking awareness signage



Appendix 1 Joint Policing Committee Membership Prior to Local Authority Elections 2019

An Síochána (2)	Garda	Chief Superintendent Catherine Keogh Plus 1 other	Oireachtas (5)	VACANT Deputy Mattie McGrath Deputy Jackie Cahill Deputy Michael Lowry Deputy Seamus Healy
LA Member (15)	Elected	Cllr Roger Kennedy (CHAIR) Cllr Martin Lonergan Cllr Andy Moloney Cllr Catherine Carey Cllr Phyll Bugler Cllr Fiona Bonfield Cllr Hughie McGrath Cllr John Crosse Cllr Denis Leahy Cllr David Dunne Cllr Kieran Bourke Cllr Imelda Goldsboro Cllr Sean Ryan Cllr David Doran Cllr Michael Smith	PPN/Community (7)	Billy Collins (Farming Pillar) Joe Leahy (Business Pillar) Carmel O'Neill (PPN Tipp/Cashel MD) Catherine Guest (PPN Thurles MD) Margaret Sheehy (PPN Nenagh MD) Anne Richardson (PPN Carrick-on-Suir MD) VACANT (PPN Clonmel MD)
Local Authority Official (2)		Pat Slattery Director of Services Margo Hayes, Administrative Officer		

Table 3 Membership of the JPC prior to Local Authority Elections May 2019.