



ANNUAL REPORT

ON THE OPERATION OF THE

WATERFORD CITY & COUNTY COUNCIL

JOINT POLICING COMMITTEE (JPC)

FOR YEAR ENDING 31ST DECEMBER 2018



Introduction

This document constitutes the Annual Report of the Waterford City & County Joint Policing Committee (JPC) for the year ended 31st December 2018

The report has been prepared in the context of the Joint Policing Committee Amended Guidelines 2014 jointly issued by the Minister for Justice and Equality and the Minister for Environment, Community and Local Government and in specific accordance with Section 36(5) of the Garda Síochána Act 2005.

Background

Legislation: Section 36 (1) of the Garda Síochána Act 2005 provides for the establishment of Joint Policing Committees to serve as a forum for consultations, discussions and recommendations on matters affecting the policing of the local authority's administrative area.

Functions of a JPC

The functions of JPCs set out in section 36(2) of the Garda Síochána Act, state the following:

“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 authority's administrative area, and in particular to –

(a) keep under review -

(i) the levels and patterns of crime, disorder and anti-social behaviour in that area (including the patterns and levels of misuse of alcohol and drugs), and

(ii) the factors underlying and contributing to the levels of crime, disorder and anti-social behaviour in the area,

(b) advise the local authority concerned and the Garda Síochána on how they might best perform their functions having regard to the need to do everything feasible to improve the safety and quality of life and to prevent crime, disorder and anti-social behaviour within the area,

(c) arrange and host public meetings concerning matters affecting the policing of the local authority's administrative area,

(d) establish, in consultation with the local Garda superintendent, as the committee considers necessary within specific neighbourhoods of the area, local policing fora to discuss and make recommendations to the committee concerning matters that it is to keep under review under paragraph (a) or on which it is to advise under paragraph (b), in so far as those matters affect their neighbourhoods, and

Section 37(1) also provides:

“A local authority shall, in performing its functions, have regard to the importance of taking steps to prevent crime, disorder and anti-social behaviour within its area of responsibility.”

JPC Membership

On 31st December 2018, The Waterford City & County JPC comprising of 32 members drawn from the Waterford City and County administrative areas as follows:

Name	Organisation/ Sector
Cllr. Eddie Mulligan, <i>Chair</i>	Waterford City & County Council
Cllr. James Tobin	Waterford City & County Council
Cllr. John O'Leary	Waterford City & County Council
Cllr. Jason Murphy	Waterford City & County Council
Cllr. Lola O' Sullivan, <i>Vice Chair</i>	Waterford City & County Council
Cllr. Cha O'Neill	Waterford City & County Council
Cllr. Joe Kelly	Waterford City & County Council
Cllr. Breda Brennan	Waterford City & County Council
Cllr. John Hearne	Waterford City & County Council
Cllr. Pat Fitzgerald	Waterford City & County Council
Cllr. Pat Nugent	Waterford City & County Council
Cllr. Declan Doocey	Waterford City & County Council
Cllr. Sean Power	Waterford City & County Council
Cllr. John Pratt	Waterford City & County Council
Council member vacancy	
Mr. Michael J. Walsh	Public Partnership Network Representative
Ms. Rosemary Kennedy	Public Partnership Network Representative
Ms. Breda Halligan	Public Partnership Network Representative
Mr. Criostoir O Faolain	Public Partnership Network Representative
Mr. Jay Collins	Public Partnership Network Representative
Mr. Donal Murphy	Public Partnership Network Representative
PPN member vacancy	
Chief Superintendent Padraig Dunne	An Garda Síochána
Superintendent Chris Delaney	An Garda Síochána
Mr. Michael Walsh, CEO	Waterford City & County Council
Mr. Ivan Grimes	Waterford City & County Council
Mary Butler TD	Oireachtas Member
David Cullinane TD	Oireachtas Member
John Deasy TD	Oireachtas Member
John Halligan TD	Oireachtas Member
Senator Paudie Coffey	Oireachtas Member
Senator Grace O'Sullivan	Oireachtas Member

Cllr. Mary Roche stepped down on 30th November 2018, new Council member to be nominated. Mr. John Devlin, PPN Representative also stepped down and an alternative member shall be nominated after the PPN elections in early 2019.

Cllr. John Carey, JPC Chair passed away in September 2018. Ar dheis Dé go raibh a anam. Cllr. Eddie Mulligan was elected Chair and Cllr. Lola O'Sullivan was elected Vice Chair at the December JPC meeting.



JPC Committee with members of the Criminal Assets Bureau

Progress / Achievements in 2018

- 4 No. JPC statutory meetings held in 2018:
 - 10th April 2018;
 - 11th June 2018;
 - 3rd September 2018; Public meeting
 - 3rd December 2018;

- Presentation received from Criminal Assets Bureau

- Presentation received from Comhairle Na nÓg

- Presentation received from Waterford Restorative Practice Network

- Presentation received from Chairperson, Policing Authority

- Discussions and preparatory work on the development of the JPC Strategic Plan 2018-2023, both at JPC level and at Steering and Oversight Committee level

- Implementation of various facets of the 2018 Annual Work Plan including JPC information leaflet suitable for all social media, feedback reports sent to An Garda Síochána to assist in development of Policing Strategy following various JPC working groups discussions with groups i.e. Age Friendly Alliance, youth groups etc.

Monitoring of Levels and Patterns of Crime

An Garda Síochána provided detailed quarterly statistical reports to Waterford City & County JPC which kept under review, and responded as appropriate, to the levels and patterns of crime, disorder and anti-social behaviour in Waterford City and County (including the patterns and levels of misuse of alcohol and drugs).

Launch of Strategic Plan 2018-2023

The Launch of the JPC Strategic Plan 2018-2023 was held prior to the public meeting in the Council Chamber, City Hall Waterford on the 3rd September 2018. The launch and meeting were well attended and excellent feedback received from the public and media in the following weeks.

The Plan sets out the JPC ambitions, priorities and expected outcomes for the next six years. It will form the basis for the Annual Plans and it will impact on the Annual Policing Plans developed by An Garda Síochána. The Plan has been greatly influenced by feedback received from local groups and the community in general and reflects their priorities and concerns.



JPC Members with Josephine Feehily, Chairperson, Policing Authority

JPC Steering and Oversight Committee

A JPC strategy sub-group was formed in 2017 with six of its thirty two members meeting regularly, supported by Council officials. This sub-group was tasked with preparing the Action Plans each year, overseeing the working groups, ensuring actions within Plan were completed by due dates and reporting back to the full JPC. The members of this sub-group included appropriate representation from Elected Members, An Garda Síochána and the PPN. The group held numerous meetings over the course of 2018.



JPC Steering & Oversight Committee

Colette O'Brien

Staff Officer
Oifigeach Foirne
Waterford City & County Council
Comhairle Cathrach & Contae Phort Láirge

DATE: 3rd January 2019