



comhairle chontae na mí
meath county council



*County Meath
Joint Policing Committee*



County Meath Joint Policing Committee

ANNUAL REPORT 2015

County Meath Joint Policing Committee (JPC) was re-established in 2015 under the Garda Síochána Act 2005 –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 effecting the policing of Meath County Council’s administrative area and to keep under review:

- the levels and patterns of crime, disorder and anti-social behaviour in that area, and
- the factors underlying and contributing to the levels of crime, disorder and anti-social behaviour in the area.

The Members of the JPC in 2014 were the following:

Chairperson	Councillor Alan Tobin
Vice-Chairperson	Councillor Trevor Golden
Councillors	Gillian Toole Francis Deane Sharon Tolan Dr Claire O’Driscoll Eimear Ferguson Wayne Harding Caroline Lynch Joe Fox Ronan McKenna Sean Drew Maria Murphy David Gilroy Joe Reilly
Garda	Pat Mangan, Chief Superintendent Michael Devine, Superintendent
Oireachtas Members	Peadar Tobin TD Damien English TD Helen McEntee TD Thomas Byrne Senator Ray Butler TD Dominic Hannigan TD
Community & Voluntary Representatives	Jim Matthews Carol O’ Flaherty Bernard Kenny Tom Fitzpatrick Conor O’Leary Angela Murphy Cormac O ‘Sullivan

Officials

Barry Lynch, Director of Services
David Jones, Senior Executive Officer

During 2015 there were two meetings of the full Committee held at different venues in the county. The details of which are set out below

2015 Agendas

The following matters were discussed and attended to at the Committee meetings:

17 th September 2015 Buvinda House Navan	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Initial welcome / Introductions• Election of Chairperson• Election of Vice Chairperson• Presentation on the role of the Joint Policing Committee• Next Steps• Agree dates for further meetings
3 rd December 2015 Newgrange Hotel Navan	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• . Adoption of Minute of meeting of 17th September 2015• Matters arising from Minutes• To agree draft Standing Orders• Annual Policing Plan and Crime Statistics• To review draft JPC Strategic Plan• Agree dates for 2016 Meetings

Joint Policing Committee Meeting Minutes

Venue: Buvinda House Navan

Date: 17th September 2015

Time 7.30pm

Chair: Cllr Alan Tobin

Attendance: Deputies Dominic Hannigan; Helen McEntee; Senator Thomas Byrne; Cllrs Maria Murphy; Gillian Toole; Sharon Tolan; Claire O Driscoll; Caroline Lynch; Francis Deane; Joe Fox; Ronan McKenna; Sean Drew; Trevor Golden; Chief Super Pat Mangan; Super Michael Devine; Jim Matthews; Carol O’Flaherty; Bernard Kenny; Conor O’Leary; Angela Murphy; Cormac O’Sullivan; Tom Fitzpatrick; David Jones: Jackie Maguire ;Sgt Pat Conway

Apologies: Cllrs Joe Reilly ,Wayne Harding ,Eimear Ferguson ,Deputy Regina Doherty, Deputy Ray Butler,

1. Initial Welcome and introductions

David Jones SEO welcomed all to the inaugural meeting of the Co Meath newly constituted Joint Policing Committee and each member introduced themselves and the bodies they represented on the Committee.

2. Election of Chairperson

Cllr Alan Tobin was elected Chairperson on the proposal of Cllr Francis Deane seconded by Cllr Joe Fox

3. Election of Vice-Chairperson

Cllr Trevor Golden was elected Vice-Chairperson on the proposal of Cllr Alan Tobin seconded by Cllr Francis Deane

4. Presentation on the role of the Joint Policing Committee

Sgt Pat Conway gave a presentation on the JPC’ s role as a body and the responsibilities of the members of same. He informed the meeting that its function was to serve as a forum for consultations, discussions, and recommendations, on matters affecting the policing, of the local authority’s administrative area.

The Chair thanked Sgt Conway for his presentation , a copy of which was circulated to the members, and opened the discussion to the floor

Matters raised included:

- The reduced number of manned garda stations in the County
- The need to have a visible garda presence in main towns
- That a divisional map outlining the different garda divisions in the County be made available to the Committee
- East Coast policing being managed from Ashbourne Garda Station
- Anti social behaviour is a problem in certain built-up areas in the County
- Crime in rural areas affecting the elderly –living in fear –need for adequate garda response times and text alert schemes
- CCTV and monitored alarms for rural based elderly may be a solution in some areas
- Involvement and interaction between the Garda and young persons
- Need for garda to visit schools and gain the respect of the youth
- Need for the JPC Strategic Plan be informed by the LCDC Plan due out in November
- Standing Orders needed for the Committee
- Speed limit review needed for traffic calming measures to work and be enforced
- Need to get garda clearance for new tenants before allocation of houses
- Need for youth support schemes and help engage them with sporting bodies
- Public Drinking and drug taking bylaws need to be enforced
- CCTV needed at all public playgrounds to prevent ASB
- Fear of ASB versus prevalence of ASB
- Issue of Racism in a multicultural society
- Community Alert Groups need to liaise with local garda stations
- Crime-prevention Ambassador Programme roll-out of pilot in North East

5 Next steps

David Jones informed the meeting that the initial work of the Committee should focus on the JPC 6year Strategic Plan which is designed to link with the Local Economic and Community Plan for the County, which will be due for completion by year end and should be available for the Committee by December .

6 Date for next meeting:

Thursday 3rd December 2015 at 7.30pm –venue to be advised

7 Any Other Business.

None

This Concluded the Business of the Meeting

Joint Policing Committee Meeting Minutes

Venue: Newgrange Hotel Navan

Date: 3rd December 2015

Time 7.30pm

Chair: Cllr Alan Tobin

Attendance: Cllrs. Gillian Toole, Maria Murphy, Sharon Tolan, Caroline Lynch, Joe Fox ,Ronan McKenna, David Gilroy ,Francis Deane ,Trevor Golden, Joe Reilly ,Supt Michael Devine, Jackie Maguire CE, Carol O, Flaherty, Bernard Kenny, Conor O Leary, Angela Murphy, David Jones SEO and Barry Lynch DOS

Apologies: Senator Thomas Byrne, Deputies Damien English, Regina Doherty, Peadar Tobin ,Ray Butler, Dominic Hannigan , Cllrs. Claire O’Driscoll, Eimear Ferguson, Sean Drew, Wayne Harding, Chief Superintendent Pat Mangan, Jim Matthews, Cormac O’Sullivan ,Tom Fitzpatrick,

Councillor Alan Tobin opened the meeting and welcomed Barry Lynch who was nominated to the JPC as Jackie Maguire’s representative on the committee

1. Adoption of Minutes of 17th September 2015

The minutes of the above meeting were adopted on the proposal of Trevor Golden seconded by Marie Murphy with no matters arising. Barry Lynch was introduced as the nominated representative of the Chief Executive for Meath County Council on the Committee.

2. Agree Standing Orders

The Standing Orders as circulated were reviewed by the Committee and adopted subject to amendment at page 11 para 64 relating to “10 day notice of any questions to be made to the JPC Secretary in advance of the meeting in writing and amendment on page 7 paragraph 4 to read S16.5.4

The Standing Orders were adopted on the proposal of Trevor Golden seconded by David Gilroy.

3. Annual Policing Plan and Crime Statistics

4. Superintendant Devine informed that the Garda were currently reviewing the Annual Policing Plan for 2016 which will be available in January .

5. JPC Strategic Plan

David Jones informed the Committee that the currently circulated JPC Strategic plan was in draft form and welcomed any input from the committee members and from the JPC Linkage group which had just met prior to the meeting .The following matters of note in relation to crime in the County were outlined at the meeting as follows;

- Road Safety particularly at schools –speed limit review
- Anti-Social Behaviour
- Community Alert Schemes-70 active in Co Meath
- Senior Citizens Alert Scheme-particularly in the rural areas
- Urban Text Alert Scheme- what is involved in setting it up in Navan
- Youth involvement in education and sports programmes
- Tidy Town Groups could have an involvement in youth-reach programmes
- Foroige have a very successful track record in youth involvement
- Youth Development Officer was suggested as a new post with MCC
- Can By-laws be introduced to address Anti-Social Behaviour
- JPC meetings should be involved with strategic planning and monitoring issues not day-to-day policing matters which could be dealt with at local level.
- From previous experience on Navan Town JPC we need to select 3/4. Issues which have a commonality across the county and address same
- PPN Linkage Group is an important source of information and consultation
- Should look at examples of what worked elsewhere and adopt same
- Neighbourhood Watch Scheme in urban areas can be beneficial
- JPC Steering Group comprises :Superintendent Devine, Barry Lynch MCC and Cllr Alan Tobin who need to meet in advance of JPC meetings to set agendas/topics for discussion etc.

It was agreed to re-circulate the draft plan to the Committee and linkage group seeking submissions in writing to the Secretary preferably by close of business on Wednesday 23rd December 2015

6 Date for next meeting:

Thursday 4th February 2016 at 7.30pm –venue to be advised

8 Any Other Business.

None

This Concluded the Business of the Meeting

