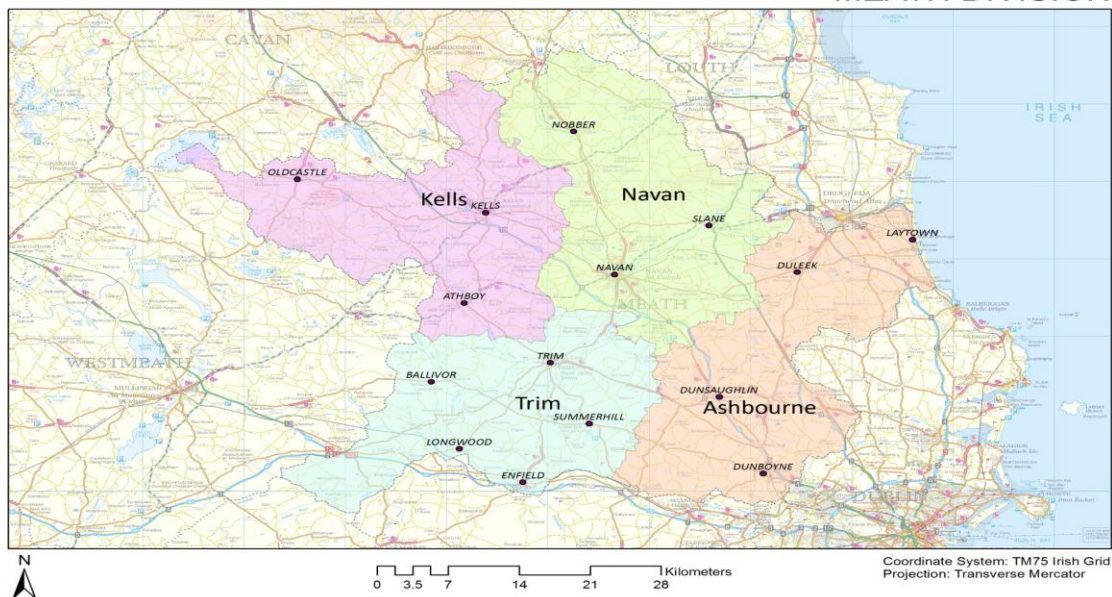




Meath County Joint Policing Committee Annual Report for the year 2017

MEATH DIVISION





1. Introduction

Section 35 of An Garda Síochána Act 2005 provides for the establishment of Joint Policing Committees (JPC). The Meath Joint Policing Committee was established in 2015 following the introduction of new JPC Guidelines by the Minister for Justice in August 2014.

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 held on the 4th of February 2016 the Meath Joint Policing Committee Strategic Plan 2016-2020 was formally adopted.

2. JPC Meetings 2017

Meetings were held in the Chamber, Co Hall Navan in the early part of 2017 and then moved to Buvinda House Navan from September with 4 meetings held as follows:

- **27th February 2017**
- **22nd May 2017**
- **25th September 2017**
- **10th December 2017**

3. Presentations

In addition to strategy development work, the JPC also received presentations on and considered other relevant policing matters, such as:

Presentation	Presented By	Meeting
County Crime Statistics: Levels and patterns of crime, disorder and anti-social behavior in Co Meath	Chief Supt Fergus Healey	February 2017 May 2017 September 2017 December 2017
JPC Annual Report 2016	Fiona Fallon SEO	February 2017
JPC Sub-Committee Quarterly Report to JPC	E Farrelly SSO	May 2017 September 2017 December 2017
MCC Abandoned Cars Policy 2017	Larry Whelan SEO	May 2017
30KPH Speed Limit By-laws for Housing Estates	E Farrelly SSO	May 2017 December 2017
Update of MCC/JPC Web-Site Content	E Farrelly SSO	September 2017



4. Membership of County Meath Joint Policing Committee

<p>An Garda Siochana (2)</p>	<p>Chief Superintendent Fergus Healey</p> <p>Superintendent Michael Devine</p>	<p>Oireachtas Members (all)</p>	<p>Minister D English Minister Helen McEntee Minister Regina Doherty Thomas Byrne TD Shane Cassells TD Peadar Tobin TD Ray Butler Senator</p>
<p>MCC Elected Members (15)</p>	<p>Chair :Alan Tobin (Cllr Trevor Golden from September) Vice Chair: Trevor Golden (Cllr Alan Tobin from September) Gillian Toole Francis Deane Sharon Tolan Dr Claire O’Driscoll Eimear Ferguson Wayne Harding Caroline Lynch (replaced by Cllr Sinead Burke from September) Joe Fox (replaced by Cllr Enda Flynn from September) Ronan McKenna (replaced by Cllr Pdraig Fitzsimons from May) Sean Drew (Replaced by Cllr Damien O Reilly from May) Maria Murphy David Gilroy Joe Reilly</p>	<p>PPN/Community & Voluntary Sector (7)</p>	<p>Jim Matthews (Later Life Network) Carol O’ Flaherty (Vincent de Paul) Bernard Kenny (Core Navan) Tom Fitzpatrick (Replaced by Ronnie Owens from September) North Meath Development Association Conor O’Leary (Muintir na Tire) Angela Murphy (Kells Resource Center) Ruth Caffrey/Sophie Skattergood(Comhairle na Nog)</p>
<p>Meath Co Co Officials (2)</p>	<p>Barry Lynch Director of Services Fiona Fallon Senior Executive Officer</p>		

(The JPC members from An Garda Siochána and Meath Co Co may be accompanied to meetings by other Garda officers and personnel as appropriate)



5. Summary of progress in implementing the JPC's work programme

The JPC strategic plan provides a structured and integrated approach to achieving social, economic and environmental wellbeing of all those that work, live and visit Co. Meath.

In this strategy three strands inform the work of the JPC, namely educational/awareness work, prevention and enforcement. The strategy outlines general aims, so that the JPC can be flexible to adapt to changing priorities and good practice over the term of the Plan.

The priority issues for the Co. Meath JPC have been identified as the following and these are consistent with the Local Economic and Community Plan 2016-2021 and the Age Friendly Strategy 2017-2020 that have been adopted by the Council.

- Crime Prevention – to reduce the levels of crime in Co. Meath
- Community/Personal Safety– to increase people’s sense of security in their communities and ensure that they can undertake their daily activities in a safe manner
- Promoting Public Order – to reduce the incidents of anti social behavior and public disorder in Co. Meath
- Road Safety – to reduce road accidents and fatalities

Meath Garda Crime Statistics 2014-2017

Category	2017	2016	2015	2014	2016/17%Change
Property Crime	3,028	2,228	2,956	3,400	+36%
Burglary (not aggravated)	785	578	858	919	+36%
Robbery from establishment/Institution	21	14	24	25	+50%
Crime against the Person	495	472	505	428	+5%
Robbery from the Person	16	15	26	26	+7%
Theft from the Person	23	21	54	59	+10%
Theft from Vehicle	531	431	564	679	+23%
Theft/U/T of vehicle	156	137	222	292	+14%
Theft from Shop –	641	461	508	512	+39%
Theft of other property -	698	466	568	720	+50%
Road User Fatalities	9	12	8	5	-25%



6. Reports from the JPC Sub Committees 2017

At the February 2016 JPC meeting the committee approved the 5 year Strategic Plan and agreed that an annual review of the plan should occur thereafter. It was also agreed to set up working groups to deliver on the objectives of the strategy .The following 3 sub- committees were set-up under each priority issue identified in the strategy and chaired by a Councillor of the JPC.

- **Community Safety and Crime Prevention – Chaired by Cllr E Ferguson**
- **Road Safety and Improved Driver Behaviour – Chaired by Cllr A Tobin-Cllr D Gilroy from May**
- **Public Order and Anti Social Behaviour – Chaired by Cllr M Murphy**

Public Order and Anti-Social Behaviour Sub Committee

Chair: Cllr Maria Murphy

Members: Inspector Declan Power, Cllr Gillian Toole, Cllr Frances Deane, Bernard Kenny, Angela Murphy.

The PO & ASB Sub Committee met 5 times over the course of 2017 and considered the following Actions under the Strategic Plan:

Strategic Objectives	Summary of strategy to be pursued	Anticipated outcomes	Outcomes at 31/12/2017
SCO 1.5: To Increase Perceptions and Experience of Community Safety	<p>1 Ensure that proper attention and seriousness is given to rural Anti Social Behaviour.</p> <p>2 Revision of MCC's Anti Social Behaviour Policy, and preventative measures to be explored</p> <p>3 Review of existing Bye Laws in operation in the County .</p>	<p>Rural communities feel more supported to tackle this problem.</p> <p>Reduction in anti social behaviour activity</p> <p>Effective and efficient operation of appropriate Bye Laws in the pursuit of Public Order</p>	<p>Update sought on Text Alert Groups to examine gaps.</p> <p>Review and update of the JPC Website arranged and launched at the September JPC meeting.Q3</p> <p>Review of MCCs ASB Policy carried out Q2</p> <p>Review of MCCs Parks Bye-laws Q3 and enforcement procedures implemented by MCC/AGS .Prosecution levels to be reviewed annually.</p>



	4 To support and coordinate the activities of Community/Text Alert groups within the County	A strengthened, well supported Community/Text Alert infrastructure	AGS have arranged to hold District Text Alert Meetings with TE Groups from 2018.
SCO 3.3: To Address the Specific Needs of Particular Groups	5 Work in partnership to divert children and young people from anti social behaviour, including assessment of current Garda youth related services	Reduction in levels of anti social behaviour	Report on the levels of ASB encountered in Meath Public Housing examined in Q1 for annual review
	6 Work in partnership to ensure that young people engage positively with the justice system	Reduction in levels of anti social behaviour	Updates on the Navan District NYPD and Ashbourne District LAR Project discussed in Q2

Community Safety and Crime Prevention Sub Committee

Chair : Cllr Eimear Fergusson

Members: Inspector Martina Noonan, Sgt Dean Kearns, Cllr Joe Reilly, Conor O Leary, Jim Matthews, Carol O Flaherty

The CS & CP Sub Committee met 5 times over the course of 2017 and considered the following Actions under the Strategic Plan:

Strategic Objectives	Summary of strategy to be pursued	Anticipated outcomes	Outcomes at 31/12/2017
SCO 1.5: To Increase Perceptions and Experience of Community Safety	Develop a means to identify priority locations for targeted intervention based on evidence of need	Pilot targeted initiatives activated, with resulting reduced levels of crime/anti social behaviour in 'hot spot' areas	Draft County CCTV Scheme under discussion at Q4 and CCTV Scheme installed and operational in Duleek/Donore Q3. Outcome of County CCTV Scheme Policy dependent on outcomes of MCC data protection impact assessments
	Extend the 'Crime Ambassador' programme that supports older people to develop crime prevention strategies	Increased coverage of community/personal safety programmes	Crime Ambassador Programme not extended to include Co Meath in 2017 in Q3/Q4
	Develop and support joint programmes/activities	Reduction in levels of mistrust between the	Chair Yoga programme promoted by Later Life



<p>SCO 3.3: To Address the Specific Needs of Particular Groups</p>	<p>between older people and the younger population to encourage cross generational support and trust including the extension of 'The Way We Were' programme</p> <p>Increase awareness and implementation of crime prevention measures</p> <p>Analysis of crime figures pertaining to older persons to address the perception of crime versus reality in order to reduce fear level</p> <p>Support an environment where older people's sense of security is enhanced through befriending and other initiatives .Initiate a series of preventative programmes enhancing older people's safety</p> <p>Build a peaceful, safe, inclusive and cohesive society that is tolerant and respectful of diversity</p> <p>Take appropriate measures to reduce racist crime and discrimination</p>	<p>younger and older populations.</p> <p>Increased coverage of crime prevention measures</p> <p>Fear of crime among older persons reduced</p> <p>Fear of crime reduced among older persons</p> <p>Fear of crime reduced among older persons</p> <p>Reduction in levels of racist crime and discrimination</p>	<p>Network in Q2&Q3.IT Skills Programme with Eureka Transition Yr & Elderly commenced in Q3 promoted by AGS.</p> <p>Crime prevention Officer did targeted advise clinics in Q2/Q3/Q4 - business/Farmers. Community Open Days Navan Garda Station, Property Recovery, Facebook Alerts, Missing person alerts, crime call piece on RTE etc. Discussed launch of new Seniors Alert Scheme by Pobal in Q4.</p> <p>LLN arranged County wide Road-shows in Q2/Q3/Q4 in the 6 Municipal Districts where the elderly were invited to attend workshops on many topics which included crime awareness and prevention advice provided by AGS</p> <p>Advices provided by Muintir ns Tire on the text alert scheme to encourage more participation.</p> <p>Availability of the Pobal Initiative on Personal Alarm Devices information delivered at these work-shops. Cultur Organisation gave a presentation to the Sub-Committee in Q3 on crime experienced in Minority communities.</p>
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Road Safety and Improved Driver Behaviour Sub Committee

Chair : Cllr David Gilroy

Members: Sgt Pat Dowd, Michael Finnegan Road Safety Officer, Cllr Alan Tobin, Cllr Enda Flynn, Cllr Sharon Tolan ,Cllr Damien O'Reilly, Ronnie Owens ,

The RS & IDB Sub Committee met 5 times over the course of 2017 and considered the following Actions under the Strategic Plan:

Strategic Objectives	Summary of strategy to be pursued	Anticipated outcomes	Outcomes at 31/12/2017
<p>SCO 1.5: To Increase Perceptions and Experience of Community Safety</p> <p>SCO 3.3: To Address the Specific Needs of Particular Groups</p>	<p>Promote the Road Safety message, including awareness of the dangers, and address careless behavior</p> <p>Promote a clean local environment to cultivate pride of place and community ownership</p> <p>Work to improve the perception of community safety among local communities via increased civic participation</p> <p>Develop Estate Management Initiatives and supports to Tenant/Resident Associations</p>	<p>A reduction in road accidents and fatalities</p> <p>Improvement in image and confidence of communities</p> <p>Communities supported and equipped to promote and advance the Community Safety agenda</p> <p>Implement safety estate management plans/Creation of safer residential environments</p>	<p>AGS and RSO promoting road safety message around primary and secondary schools in the County Q2/Q3/Q4. Road Deaths down from 11 in 2016 to 9 in 2017.</p> <p>PPN Network Forum used to disseminate information on Road Safety and also Public Adverts at Holiday time.</p> <p>Leaflets advising communities of new 30KPH Speed limits under MCC Speed limit Bye laws in estates in each Municipal District circulated via the PPN network in Q2 and Q4. The cycle safety programme is co-ordinated by Meath Sports Partnership and rolled out with the support of the Road Safety Authority to promote safe cycling for primary school classes in Meath. This programme provides safe cycle training for classes from 3rd through to 6th class and continues to be very popular.</p> <p>Measures being considered for implementation in 2018.</p>



7. Public Meeting 2017

A public meeting was held on the 11th October 2017 in Trim.

Questions were submitted on the evening and responded to by the Chief Superintendent and revolved around community policing, levels of crime, road traffic issues. The event was well attended by the public on the night.

The public in attendance were invited to raise issues and the following were discussed:

- Extension of CCTV Scheme to Johnstown Navan
- Recording and enforcement of Wildlife Crimes
- Volume ,speed and HGV vehicles passing through Longwood Village
- Ability of Garda to respond effectively to calls at the boundaries of Garda Divisions e.g., Louth/Meath Divisions
- Increase in incidents of Anti-Social Behaviour and the Youth Diversion Programme.
- Lack of visible Garda patrols in Urban Areas –particularly Johnstown, Navan
- Effectiveness of Youth Diversion Programmes
- Victims ability to follow-up on crimes perpetrated against them with investigating Gardai
- Garda Drug Squad set up to tackle drug use and drug dealing in the County
- Number of fatalities on the N2 Slane-Ashbourne; increased volumes of traffic on the R132 Drogheda-Julianstown and R147 Navan-Dunshaughlin roads in recent times due to traffic avoiding the tolls on the M1 and M3 Motorways.
- Need for increased Garda presence in Enfield Area due to increased population, the M4 Motorway fast escape route to Dublin, and development of greenway routes bringing added tourist traffic to the area.
- Suspension of Driving Licences for Rural crime convictions.
- Number of Gardai required to ensure Meath has its full complement of Gardai
- In view of the growth in levels of crime in all categories what long term planning measures are being employed to tackle same.
- Encouragement of individuals to join the Garda Reserve

The committee and sub-groups will continue to meet and progress the actions in the strategy plan and issues of public concern as they arise in 2018.



8. County Meath JPC Work Plan 2018

Obj No	Objective	Description	Sub Committee/JPC
1	Develop and adopt a CCTV Policy for Co Meath	Bring a Policy paper for adoption by the JPC in 2018. This will be subject to the outcome of the MCC data protection impact assessments.	CS &CP/JPC
2	Persue the introduction of the Crime Ambassador programme in Co Meath	Arrange distribution of the Security for Older Persons Leaflet via the PPN	CS &CP/JPC
3	Develop and support joint programmes/activities between older people and the younger population to encourage cross generational support and trust including the extension of 'The Way We Were' programme	Promote engagement between Comhairle na nÓg and Later Life Network to encourage participation in activity programmes involving MSP/LMETB during 2018	CS &CP/JPC
4	Increase awareness and implementation of crime prevention measures	Initiate Programme of Crime Prevention advisory clinics by AGS with targeted groups across the County	CS &CP/JPC
5	Initiate a series of preventative programmes enhancing older people's safety	Expand the number of and coverage of Text Alert Groups in the County Launch the Seniors Alert Scheme via the Age Friendly Alliance/LLN	CS & CP/JPC
6	Ensure that proper attention and seriousness is given to Anti Social Behaviour.	Update sought on Text Alert Groups to examine gaps. Quantify the number of AGS meetings with TE Groups in the County during 2018 and identify any gaps in same	PO &ASB/JPC
7	Monitor MCC's Anti Social Behaviour Policy, and preventative measures to be explored	Quantify the number of School visits/YTS engagements by AGS/MCC in 2018 and identify any gaps in delivery of the programmes across the County.	PO &ASB/JPC



8	Work in partnership to divert children and young people from anti social behaviour, including assessment of current Garda youth related services	Seek presentation from AGS and MCC on the incidence of ASB and assist in identifying preventative measures that may be employed to reduce ASB	PO &ASB/JPC
9	Work in partnership to ensure that young people engage positively with the justice system	Research the value of the Youth Diversion programme in the County	PO &ASB/JPC
10	Promote the Road Safety message, including awareness of the dangers, and address careless behaviour	Identify ways to improve public awareness of traffic dangers at bank holidays via RSO and advertising campaigns	RS &IDB/JPC
11	Work to improve the perception of community safety among local communities via increased civic participation	Foster a positive road safety attitude across local communities – receive presentations on Control of Horses/Dogs Littering offences/Traffic violations from MCC /AGS	RS &IDB/JPC
12	Develop Estate Management Initiatives and supports to Tenant/Resident Associations	Encourage Residents Associations to join with local Text Alert Groups to increase coverage across the County. Tie in with PPN Secretariat in joint promotion programme	RS &IDB/JPC