

ANNUAL REPORT OF AN GARDA SÍOCHÁNA

2007



The Mission of An Garda Síochána is to achieve the highest attainable level of

- Personal Protection •
- Community Commitment • State Security •



LOOKING TO THE FUTURE



This is the first Annual Report published since I became Commissioner. It covers the year 2007 and a range of garda activities which fell largely under the stewardship of my predecessor, Noel Conroy who retired last November. I want to acknowledge the long professional commitment and dedication of Noel Conroy to policing in Ireland.

This report focuses on our core activities – the prevention and detection of crime, protecting national security, ensuring road safety and, most importantly, working on a daily basis with the community.

Partnership and consultation with the community is essential to successful policing. The community's problems are our problems and their needs are our

COMMISSIONER'S FOREWORD LOOKING TO THE FUTURE



priorities. I am committed to re-energising and refocusing community policing which is fundamental to the nature and quality of the service we provide.

Drugs present a major challenge for our society. Gardaí in both national and local units have made significant seizures and arrests throughout 2007 and this will be an

important focus again in 2008. We will continue to target the supply side and we will work to protect our young people and society generally from this unacceptable activity which has ugly and devastating consequences for everyone involved.

This report presents garda activity in the community in its broadest

sense. It highlights successes in the fight against serious and organised crime, our ongoing work to reduce deaths and serious injuries on our roads, and the interesting and innovative work in which gardaí across the country engage on a daily basis to maintain a meaningful connection with the people they serve.

Policing will never be without its challenges and An Garda Síochána is ready and able to meet them. The community which we serve is always changing and we too are committed to adapting and changing as we work to provide an excellent policing service to everyone.

FACHTNA MURPHY
Commissioner of
An Garda Síochána

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'Reflections of the real capital', an award-winning photograph by Detective Garda Austin O'Callaghan, Garda Photographic Section. The photograph won the first prize in the National Police Improvement Agency Police Photographer Award 2007.

FIGHTING CRIME



Particulars of Drugs Analysed during 2007

DRUG	Quantity	Cases
Cannabis	725,222 grams	1,324
Cannabis resin	1,167,285 grams	2,454
Cannabis plants	1,264 plants	92
Heroin (Diamorphine)	117,854 grams	1,444
Ecstasy MDMA	119,127 tablets, 12,516 grams	948
Ecstasy MDEA	7 tablets	2
Ketamine	50.4 grams, 1,009 tablets	22
Amphetamine	54,933 grams, 10,395 tablets	194
Cocaine	1,718,499 grams	1,368
Diazepam	69,693 tablets, 24.2 grams	133
Flunitrazepam (Rohypnol)	76 tablets	4
Flurazepam	3,527 capsules	18
Temazepam	4 tablets	2
Alprazolam	182 tablets	13
Methadone	5,323 millilitres, 691 tablets	13
Dihydrocodeine	311 tablets	10
Ephedrine	537 tablets, 27 capsules	4
Methylamphetamine	10.2 grams	5
BZP	60 tablets, 0.77 grams	13
MCCP	57,254 tablets	8
LSD	73 units	6

Strategic Goal

To significantly reduce the incidence of crime and criminal behaviour

Criminal Assets Bureau (CAB)

The Criminal Assets Bureau (CAB) took a number of actions in the fulfilment of its remit to **target the proceeds of criminal conduct**. These actions covered a wide range of **Garda, Revenue and Social Welfare activities**. CAB started **16 new cases under the Proceeds of Crime Acts** before the High Court in 2007. Of these, 11 cases related to the proceeds of crime generated through drug dealing. This was as a direct result of the Bureau's **policy to target drug dealing at all levels**.

CAB collected €10,009,459 in relation to **income from criminal conduct**. Under Social Welfare legislation the Bureau also disallowed persons not entitled to **Social Welfare payments** resulting in savings of €550,977 for all schemes and a total of €136,624 was recovered from overpayments made.

Orders obtained under the Proceeds of Crime Acts 1996/2005

Order	Number of Defendants	Number of Orders	Amount €	Amount STG £
Section 2	23	16	9,804,193	30,690
Section 3(1)	10	8	6,531,594	Nil
Section 3(3)	3	2	3,316,839	Nil
Section 4	5	3	907,154	Nil
Section 4A	4	4	528,187	Nil
Section 7	16	11	5,358,861	30,690

DRIVING DOWN CRIME

When the 2007 crime figures are compared to 2006 they show:-

- A 5.4% **DECREASE** in burglary,
- An 18.3% **DECREASE** in theft from the person offences,
- A 12.4% **DECREASE** in robbery offences.

Operation Anvil

Operation Anvil was set up in the Dublin Metropolitan Region (DMR) in May 2005 to target serious and organised criminal activity. The operation was extended nationwide in 2006. Outside the DMR, there are significant differences in the way Operation Anvil is applied; operations have a short-time focus and are designed to address the particular needs of specific areas.

Outside the DMR there were:

- 14,682 persons arrested,
 - 595 firearms seized.
- (This is a running total since Anvil went nationwide up to year-end 2007).

Crime trends are monitored closely and are the subject of ongoing discussion at both management meetings and other appropriate fora. The Commissioner and Deputy Commissioner Operations are in ongoing contact with the Regional Assistant Commissioners and Assistant Commissioners in charge of the National Units. Together they put in place appropriate intelligence-led initiatives in conjunction with resources made available under Operation Anvil. Indications at present are that these initiatives are proving effective, with particular emphasis on serious and large volume crimes. Operation Anvil is one of many initiatives that have been set up to tackle criminal activity.

Anvil - DMR Figures for 2007

Arrest Category	Number
Burglary	1,078
Robbery Offences	454
Robbery from the person	260
Robbery from establishments	185
Other robberies	9
Murder	43
Serious Assaults	375

Category	No./Amt.
No. of searches for drugs	21,585
No. of searches for thefts	1,122
No. of Section 29 searches	581
No. of firearms seized/recovered	256
No. of Section 41 seizures	7,856
Value of property recovered	€10,073,672

Organised Crime Unit

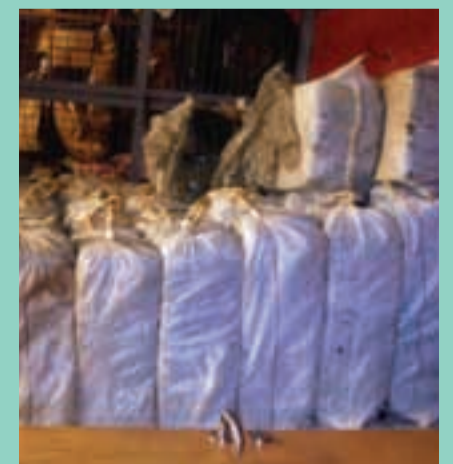
The Organised Crime Unit (OCU) had a highly successful year in 2007. During the year, 130 arrests were made for crimes including armed robbery, drug trafficking, aggravated burglary and firearms offences. 120 searches were conducted and 30 firearms and drugs with a street value of €7 million were seized.

The OCU focuses on criminality which transcends garda divisional boundaries including armed robberies, hi-jacking of valuable loads and commodities, warehouse burglaries, 'tiger' kidnappings and the importation of large quantities of controlled

drugs. The Unit works closely with other specialist units including the Garda National Drugs Unit, the Garda National Immigration Unit and the Emergency Response Unit. It identifies and profiles suspects associated with the main criminal gangs. The OCU continues to work closely with local gardaí.

Two notable operations during 2007 were the foiling of two robberies on cash in transit vans making deliveries to ATM's in Sandymount Business Park, Co. Dublin (August) and Celbridge Co. Kildare (November). In both cases, arrests were made, firearms were

recovered, no shots were fired, no persons were injured and no money was taken. Both cases are currently before the courts.



Cocaine with a street value of €105 million was seized off Mizen Head in July 2007. This is the largest seizure in the State to date.

NATIONAL SUPPORT SERVICES



Strategic Goal
To maintain national and international security

Garda Síochána Analysis Service (GSAS)

On 1 August 2007 the Head of the new Civilian Analyst Service, Mr. Gurchand Singh, was appointed along with two deputy heads. The Unit met with Senior Garda Management, divisional representatives and the national units to identify organisational needs and priorities. The aim of GSAS is to assist An Garda Síochána in making Ireland safer by supporting policing excellence. It will do this through:-

- Using crime pattern analysis techniques to determine patterns, trends, hotspots and linked crime series,
- Formulating practical, evidence-based recommendations,
- Evaluating the effectiveness of policing operations and techniques,
- Assisting with ongoing operations by researching, collating and analysing information from all relevant sources.

When fully operational, GSAS will provide a nationwide service and there will be 28 full-time analysts. It is anticipated that the analysts will be in place by the end of 2008.

Water Unit

The Garda Water Unit was deployed to Dunmore East on 11 January 2007 following the sinking of the *Père Charles* with the loss of five crew members. There was a second incident on 12 January when the Kinsale-based *Honeydew II* sank with the loss of the boat's skipper and a crew member. The wreckage of the *Honeydew II* was located by other fishing boats three miles off Ram's Head, Ardmore, Co. Waterford.



The Coastguard requested the Garda Water Unit to conduct dive searches on the *Honeydew II* to check for the missing men. The Marine Casualty Investigation Board (MCIB) also sought the Unit's assistance in determining the cause of the sinking. The Unit was offered and accepted the assistance of the Customs Service Cutter R.C.C. *Suirbheir*.

The Unit's diving operation which lasted until 31 January was one of the biggest diving projects it had ever conducted. Dives were deep and in a hazardous environment. The Unit succeeded in penetrating the vessel and thoroughly searched all areas for two weeks. In addition the Unit's divers made video footage which the MCIB used in its investigation. The footage was viewed in real time by the previous owner of the boat who was able to verify the methodical search carried out by the dive team to the family and the fishing community.

Recovery

The Garda Water Unit was again deployed to

Dunmore East on 4 November 2007 to assist with the recovery of the *Père Charles* and *Magi B*. The *Magi B* sank in March 2005 with the loss of two lives. The Divisional Search Team carried out a detailed search, assisted by the Technical Bureau and the Garda Water Unit. Sadly no bodies from either sinking were located. The operation led to:-

- An enhanced relationship between the Garda Water Unit and the Customs Service,
- Heightened appreciation of the work of An Garda Síochána by the wider fishing community,
- An improvement in the professional competence of the Garda Water Unit.

The local community, and especially the fishing community, were very grateful to the Garda Water Unit for their efforts and commitment throughout the operation, and a lasting sense of camaraderie and cooperation was forged.

New Automatic Fingerprint Identification System (AFIS)

On 23 November 2007 the new Commissioner Fachtna Murphy, on his first official function as Garda Commissioner, welcomed the Minister for Justice, Equality and Law Reform, Brian Lenihan, to Garda Headquarters to launch the new Garda Automatic Fingerprint Identification System (AFIS).

The Commissioner highlighted the challenges and opportunities that modern technology presents in the daily work of preventing and detecting crime. He also praised the work of the many agencies involved in the successful delivery of the AFIS project.

The launch of the new AFIS marked the successful completion of phase 1 of this challenging project and represents a significant investment of €7.6 million to date.

The system is now at the cutting edge of fingerprint technology and has many advantages over the old system including:-

- The capture of flat hand and palm impressions,
- Much greater degree of accuracy in searching 'ten' prints and palm prints.

The new technology is proving to be of great assistance in supporting crime investigations. There has been a significant rise in the number of identifications relating to crimes of burglary,

robbery, theft, criminal damage and unauthorised taking.

'Livescans' (electronic scanning) have been installed in Mountjoy Prison, Store Street Garda Station and the Bridewell Garda Station in Cork. This means that fingerprints can now be taken without ink in these locations and sent electronically without delay. AFIS also provides electronic data links with EURODAC (European fingerprints database stored in The Hague) and the Office of the Refugee Applications Commissioner (ORAC).

In the next phase of the project, the new AFIS will be deployed to a further 24 locations including Divisional Garda Stations and Ports of Entry (Dublin Airport, Cork, Shannon).



Commissioner Fachtna Murphy and Minister for Justice Brian Lenihan examine the new AFIS

Firearms Automated Training System

The Firearms Automated Training System (FATS) was introduced in January 2007. This is a digital interactive marksmanship and judgemental training system using bluetooth technology. It provides simulated training, exposing course participants to hundreds of varying scenarios and is used extensively by police forces all over the world. Only gardaí who are firearms cardholders i.e. trained and meet the required standard are permitted to carry and use firearms. 65% of all authorised firearms cardholders received a one day introduction to the system, which has the following benefits:-

- It shows how fast an incident involving firearms can occur,
- It highlights the importance of cover and concealment,
- Cardholders receive feedback on where and how they are or are not hitting the target,
- All small weapons currently in service by An Garda Síochána can be used on the system,

- It can be moved from region to region and set up quickly.

A number of digital interactive marksmanship and judgemental trainers provide the FATS training. One of the trainers is responsible for the Eastern, Western and Northern Regions, one is based in the Garda College with responsibility for the Southern Region and a third trainer is based in Harcourt Square.

The introduction of FATS for authorised firearms cardholders has been very successful and it is anticipated that the remaining cardholders will receive training in the system in 2008.



FATS in action

Serious Crime Review Team

The Serious Crime Review team was set up in March 2007. The team investigates and reviews historical unresolved homicides. It is headed up by a Detective Superintendent and includes one Detective Inspector, two detective sergeants and four detective gardaí. Each member has extensive experience both in the investigation of murder and serious crime, and the

preparation and submission of investigation material to the Law Officers.

Initially only those cases that occurred after 1 January 1980 were included in the cold case review. However should evidence or material from cases that occurred before this date become available, then such evidence would be pursued. A methodology has been developed in the screening and

developing of potential cases including:-

- Use of documents held at the Garda National Archives and Repository at Santry,
- Original investigation material,
- Information supplied by original investigators,
- Information supplied by the Forensic Science Laboratory,

- Interaction with the relatives of crime victims.

Each member of the team attended a Serious Crime Review Course in the United Kingdom. Two members have been trained as Family Liaison Officers and contact has already been made with some of the families of murder victims. This contact is a vital part of the team's strategy.

COMMUNITY - at the heart of policing



Crimecall

Crimecall is an hour-long television programme which is broadcast monthly on RTE One on a Tuesday at 10.15pm. It was first broadcast in September 2004 and is now in its fourth series.

The programme attracts an average audience of 360,000 viewers. The studio receives about 100 calls from members of the public during and after the programme. In some cases these calls identify a suspect in an investigation. In almost all cases they provide new avenues of investigation. The calls are passed on to the investigators in each case.

The programme provides an in-depth analysis of crime, including televised re-enactments, which greatly improve public response. In addition to serious crime, the programme includes special features on matters of public concern e.g. road safety, drug abuse, missing persons and crime prevention advice.

The Community Relations Section, assisted by the Garda Press and Public Relations Office, is responsible for the Crimecall initiative. The main objective of the Community Relations Section is to further the support and confidence of the public. Crimecall supports this aim and is therefore a central part of the Community Relations remit. It also

encourages the public to engage with the gardaí in the prevention and solving of crime, which is a central aspect of the Policing Plan.



Garda Alan Roughneen is a regular presenter on CrimeCall.

CCTV Systems for the Eastern Region

In 2007, CCTV systems were installed in Ballyfermot, Clondalkin and Tullamore, where CCTV was successfully used for the Ploughing Championships and Fleadh Cheoil na hÉireann. Garda telecommunications staff are currently installing town centre CCTV projects in Drogheda, Mullingar, Portlaoise, Carlow and Athlone. These projects are groundbreaking in terms of the speed of rollout and the wireless technology. The systems have huge benefits for operational policing in towns all around Ireland. Significant inroads were made in 2007 into making CCTV systems more widely available and this work will be built on in 2008.



Sergeant Gary Gordon and Garda Aidan Fitzpatrick, of the Community Policing Unit at the Cameroonian Community in Kilkenny's 2007 Christmas Party

Community Policing – 2007 Highlights

Community policing was supported through a number of developments in 2007:-

- A Joint Policing Committee (JPC) Office was set up in May 2007. The main role of the JPC Office is to monitor garda involvement in Joint Policing Committees and make recommendations on how participation and effectiveness could be improved,
- A Superintendent was appointed to the new position of Family Liaison Officer in March 2007 to improve victim-related services,
- The pilot phase of the Garda Síochána National Model of Community Policing was approved and work is progressing to implement same,
- At year end 2007, 1,250 Community Alert and 2,601 Neighbourhood Watch schemes were active throughout the country.

Community Initiatives in Cork City

The Cork City Division continued to engage with the community through a variety of initiatives and interactions, while preparing for the roll-out of the National Model of Community Policing. Noteworthy events in 2007 included:-

A joint initiative with Bus Éireann to reduce the number of criminal damage incidents. The scheme involves school visits by a Bus Éireann representative,

community gardaí and a member of the Cork hurling team whose father is a bus driver. The aim is to educate school children about the consequences of their actions and to generate respect for Bus Éireann officials, particularly the drivers. A number of gardaí travel on the buses from time to time and this has proven to be a powerful deterrent to anti-social behaviour.

Refugees from the Kinsale

Road Accommodation Centre visited Anglesea Street Garda Station on **Anti-Racism Day** where they received a tour of the station.

Garda Ethnic Liaison Officers from the Cork City Division held their first meeting in Anglesea Street. This initiative was designed to encourage members from outside districts to become more involved with immigrants and immigrant issues.

Strategic Goal

To provide equal protection and appropriate service, while nurturing mutual respect and trust



Inspector Colm Fox receiving the World Refugee Day Award on 20 June 2007 at a reception in Civic Offices. The award is given for achievements in promoting cooperation between An Garda Síochána and the ethnic and minority communities.

Strategic Goal

To build a garda service that reflects the needs and priorities of the people of Ireland



Inspector Tony Gallagher, Superintendent John Leahy and Sergeant Declan Yeats at the Ireland V England RBS Six Nations International on 24 February 2007 at Croke Park. Irish policing passed a stern test under the scrutiny of an international audience on this historic occasion.

Chinese New Year

On 15 January 2008, Dublin City Council hosted a function in City Hall to launch the Chinese New Year. About 200 guests attended, including the Chinese Ambassador H. E. Mr. Lu Biwei, Dublin City Lord Mayor Paddy Bourke and the designer John Rocha. The function was attended by student gardaí of Chinese nationality - a sure reflection of the increased diversity in modern Irish society.



Inspector Colm Healy Community Relations, with the Chinese Ambassador, His Excellency Liu Biwei and Student Gardaí at the Dublin City Council Chinese New Year Celebrations

To support An Garda Síochána's Strategic Goal on **Ethnic and Cultural Diversity**, 20,000 copies of 'An Garda Síochána – our Police Service in Intercultural Ireland' were produced in 11 languages. Some 3,000 posters were printed in 11 languages for the 'Racism is Wrong' campaign

Garda Reserve

The Garda Reserve was provided for by the Garda Síochána Act 2005. It is a voluntary, unpaid body drawn from the community whose purpose is to assist the full-time force in various policing duties. Reserve gardaí have certain garda powers while on duty and at all times are accompanied and supported by full-time members of An Garda Síochána. The duties of a reservist include:-

- Communications room duty,
- Foot patrol,
- Road traffic checkpoint duties,
- Giving evidence in court.

The Reserve is coordinated, managed and marketed by a Chief Superintendent and a Superintendent. The Public Appointments Service (PAS) manages the recruitment process. The intensive training programme comprises five phases as follows:-

- Phase 1: Weekend induction training at the Garda College, Templemore,
- Phase 2: A minimum of 56 hours of legal instruction delivered in 3 hour modules,
- Phase 3: Weekend of role-play exercises, radio, self-defence and handcuff procedures at the Garda College,
- Phase 4: 40 hours 'on the job' training at the local garda station,
- Phase 5: One day attestation and graduation ceremony.

The Garda Reserve helps An Garda Síochána to develop closer links with local communities. Moreover it allows committed individuals from a diversity of professional, social, cultural and ethnic groups to take part in policing.

Members have joined from China, Japan, Nigeria and Germany and come from many different professions including nursing and teaching. At year end 2007 there were 217 attested members in the Garda Reserve and 74 in training.

GARDA RESERVE - COMMENDATION FOR RESERVIST

A reservist received a commendation letter from his Superintendent for his quick thinking while on duty in June 2007. He observed suspicious activity while out on foot patrol which led to the search of a previously unknown drug dealer and the recovery of a substantial quantity of drugs. His achievement encouraged the reservist to apply to become a full-time member, and he started his training in Templemore in February 2008. This incident shows that in addition to operational benefits, the Reserve can be a valuable recruitment tool by identifying people with an aptitude for policing work.

WHY I JOINED THE GARDA RESERVE

I am an operations manager but have always had an interest in An Garda Síochána. When the Garda Reserve was established, I saw an opportunity to give something back to the community. I started my training in January 2007 and was attested on 20 June 2007. I was assigned to Fitzgibbon Street Garda Station where my main role is assisting full-time members in policing special events at Croke Park such as the GAA All Ireland finals. I also assist the Sergeant in the public office by validating passport and driving licence applications, taking reports of various incidents and dealing with general enquiries from members of the public. While out on the beat, I am always accompanied by a full-time uniformed member. I have assisted in numerous arrests and incidents. I find being a reservist interesting and challenging - it's really rewarding to be assisting the gardaí with their work in the community.

MANAGING OUR RESOURCES



Engaging, Training, Developing and Motivating Staff

HR Excellence Award

The Garda Human Resource (HR) team won the top award in the public service category at the Chartered Institute of Personnel and Development (CIPD) HR Excellence Awards.

The CIPD Awards recognise excellence in HR in the private and public sector. In particular they identify benchmarks that others can apply, thereby contributing to the growth and development of human resource management in Ireland.

The HR team's initiative, 'Modernising the Garda HR Function', showed how HR could add value to An Garda Síochána and support its corporate objectives. The initiative outlined a HR strategy that was linked to improving operational policing performance. It also identified projects aimed at increasing both organisational and individual HR capability across the service.

These projects include the introduction of a web-based HR knowledge database and the development of the Garda Executive Leadership Programme (GELP).

Achievements of the Civilianisation Programme in 2007 included:

- 383 new Clerical Officers were assigned to An Garda Síochána and posted throughout the country. (This figure includes the filling of existing vacancies),



Mr. John Leamy, Chief Administrative Officer

- Appointments were made to the positions of Chief Administrative Officer and Director of Communications,

- 13 teachers were appointed to the Garda College,

- 12 Higher Executive Officers were appointed in Garda Headquarters and the regional offices,

- A dedicated Human Resource Directorate was established to serve the needs of the civilian, administrative, professional, technical and industrial staff in An Garda Síochána and to promote an extensive programme of civilianisation.

Garda Employee Assistance Programme

On 27 January 2007, the Garda Commissioner re-launched the Garda Employee Assistance Service. The re-launch followed a review of the Garda Welfare Service which proposed various changes aimed at making the programme more relevant to employees. A large quantity of leaflets, posters, information cards and policy documentation was distributed throughout the organisation to increase awareness of the service.

Bullying policy

The new policy and procedure guide on harassment, sexual harassment and bullying in the workplace came into effect on 1 November

2007. A comprehensive training programme is being delivered at all management ranks to support the policy and ensure full compliance with the legislation.

Human Resource Allocation to An Garda Síochána

Recruitment and Allocation	
Trainee gardaí recruited	1,032
Gardaí attested and allocated to stations	1,090

Garda Strength as of the 31 December 2007

Sworn members	13,755
Trainee gardaí	1,043
Total strength	14,798

Garda Reserve as of the 31 December 2007

Sworn members	217
In training	74

Ethnic Recruitment

Garda trainees recruited from non-Irish backgrounds	18
Garda reserve trainees recruited from non-Irish backgrounds	11

Garda Civilianisation Programme

Full-time equivalent civilian staff 1 Jan 2007	1,282
Full-time equivalent civilian staff 31 Dec 2007	1,687
Increase	32%

Finance

Remote Entry Payroll Project

The remote entry payroll project went live in the Finance Section in November 2007. This project will allow garda overtime and allowances to be entered directly to the payroll system from source i.e. from each garda district office. It replaces the current manual system and brings significant cost and time savings. It is planned go live in three pilot sites in early 2008 with a nationwide roll-out completed by mid 2008.

Electronic Fund Transfer

The Finance Section introduced Electronic Fund Transfer (EFT) for the payment of travel and subsistence claims. By the end of 2007, Chief Superintendents and Superintendents had signed up to EFT. The project will be completed in 2008 when the details of members at Garda, Sergeant and Inspector ranks are uploaded to the Financial Management System. The result will be that members' travel and subsistence claims will be processed quicker and more efficiently.

Procurement

- All operational gardaí have now received anti stab/ballistic vests,
- A contract was awarded for the purchase of chemical, biological and radiation protection suits and equipment,
- A pilot project which outsourced the administration and storage of vehicles seized under the Road Traffic Act, 1994 was run in Cork City. The outsourcing of routine work associated with the legislation successfully freed up garda personnel to concentrate on core policing tasks. Due to the success of the project, it will be extended to Cork West, Limerick and Galway in 2008.

Transport

The addition of 761 new vehicles to the Garda Fleet significantly increased the overall fleet size and also reduced the average vehicle age. The composition of the Garda Fleet at the end of 2007 was as follows:-

Cars	Vans	Motor-cycles	4 x 4s	Multi-purpose vehicles	Mini-buses	HGVs	Total
1,769	257	235	92	43	54	3	2,453

The age profile at the end of 2007 was as follows:-

Under 1 Year	1 to 2 Years	2 to 3 Years	3 to 4 Years	4 to 6 Years	Over 6 Years
25%	29%	15%	9%	13%	9%

Housing

- Three new garda stations at Castlereagh, Oranmore and Schull were built,
- The building of six new stations started in Ballymun, Claremorris, Finglas, Irishtown, Kill-o-the-Grange and Leixlip,
- Fixed Charge Processing System offices were decentralised to Thurles and Civilian HR moved to Navan.

The new stations and the staff moves eased accommodation concerns by providing much-improved facilities. This in turn leads to garda stations and offices providing a better service to both garda personnel and the community.

Louis Harkin was appointed Assistant Commissioner Strategy in May 2007. He succeeded Assistant Commissioner Pat Crummev. A native of Co. Laois, Louis Harkin has served with An Garda Síochána since 1972. He previously worked as Chief Superintendent in the Strategic Management Initiative Office and the Change Management Unit.



Policing Administration Diplomas

Some 65 civilian staff became the first graduates of the IPA Diploma in Policing Administration. The course was commissioned by the Learning and Development Unit in the Civilian HR Directorate. The course aims to provide students with extensive knowledge of the history, functions, structures and culture of An Garda Síochána, the legal framework within which it operates, its ongoing change and modernisation programme and comparative studies of other police forces. Following on from the success of the first year of the programme, 70 students are currently enrolled in the 2007/2008 course.



Assistant Commissioner Nacie Rice with graduates from the IPA Diploma in Policing Administration Elaine O'Donovan, Frances Howley and Judy Keane. © Ann Egan Photography

Internal Affairs

The Garda Síochána (Discipline) Regulations 2007 came into effect on 1 June 2007 and were the subject of regional briefings.

During 2007, 103 members were found to be in breach of the Garda Síochána (Discipline) Regulations 1989 and 15 in breach of the Garda Síochána (Discipline) Regulations 2007. This resulted in four dismissals and 114

members receiving a combination of monetary sanctions, cautions and reprimands. The total monetary penalties imposed on members was 52,332. One member was dismissed under the provisions of the Garda Síochána Act 2005 and nine members remained suspended at the end of the year.

In 2007, six people died in garda custody. Two of these deaths (Store Street and Naas) are

being investigated by an officer outside the relevant division, appointed by the Garda Commissioner. The remaining four deaths (Tralee, Bishopstown, Gurranabraher and Terenure) are being investigated by the Garda Síochána Ombudsman Commission (GSOC) which since its establishment on 9 May 2007 examines and reports on all deaths in garda custody. No inquests have been held to date.

Garda Executive Leadership Programme

On 30 October 2007 at a ceremony in Templemore, ten senior gardaí became the first graduates of the new Garda Executive Leadership Programme (GELP). The programme started in September 2006. It aims to provide senior garda officers with structured opportunities for personal growth and professional development.

The UCD Smurfit School of Business designed and delivered the modules which include Negotiation Strategy and Team Development & Organisation. Participants complete ten three-day modules on a monthly basis, and attend an additional overseas

module at the Kennedy School of Government, Harvard University.

Graduates receive an Advanced Management Diploma in Police Leadership and can go on to complete a M.Sc. by research.

This world-class executive-level programme represents a substantial investment by An Garda Síochána in the development of its senior management team. A further group of 14 police officers including representatives from other police forces started the programme in September 2007.



The new garda helicopter which was delivered in 2007 represents an investment of €7.6 million in the Garda Fleet



Delivering Safer Roads

An Garda Síochána is committed to significantly reducing the incidence of fatal and serious road traffic collisions and to improving road safety. In 2007, this goal was supported through significant investment in both forensic collision investigation personnel and equipment, and rigorous enforcement of road traffic legislation.

New Forensic Collision Equipment and Personnel

- Forensic Collision Investigation equipment was purchased for each of the six regions to assist in the investigation of fatal and serious injury collisions,
- 13 members are now qualified as Forensic Collision Investigators to expert status and a further 16 members are undergoing training,
- A Traffic Collision Investigation Manual was produced. The manual outlines garda policy for the investigation, reporting and recording of all traffic collisions.

Enforcement

Gardaí continued to provide strong, targeted enforcement in 2007, particularly at weekends and over holiday periods such as bank holiday weekends. This rigorous, intelligence-led enforcement resulted in detections in key road safety areas increasing significantly in 2007 over 2006 figures, although this is of course no comfort

to families bereaved through road traffic collisions.

- Speeding detections increased by 8.9%,
- Drink driving detections increased by 5%,
- Dangerous driving detections increased by 37%,
- Seatbelt detections increased by 14%,

32,669 fixed charge notices were issued for mobile phone usage. (The use of handheld mobile phones became a penalty point offence in September 2006).

The number of people killed on Ireland's roads fell again in 2007 from 368 to 338.

Analysis of these fatalities showed:-

- The 16 to 30 year old age group continued to be at most risk from road traffic related death with 129 of the 338 killed in that category,
- The most dangerous times for fatal collisions were between 4 and 6pm (38), 8 and 10am (37), 6 and 8pm (35) and 10 and 12pm (31),
- The most dangerous days were Sunday (75), Saturday (59) and Thursday (56),
- December was the worst month for fatalities with 37 deaths followed by July (31), April (30) and June (29),
- Males accounted for 252 fatalities and females 86,
- Drivers accounted for 138 of the road deaths, passengers accounted for 70 and pedestrians accounted for 82.



Receipt of new Yamaha FJR 1300 motorbikes which added significantly to the Garda Traffic Fleet in 2007

Strategic Goal

To significantly reduce the incidence of fatal and serious injury collisions and improve traffic flow

'It won't happen to me' - on the road with the Garda Road Safety Unit

The Garda Road Safety Unit piloted its new presentation called 'It won't happen to me', in 40 schools around the country in 2007. This programme is aimed at secondary school students and forms part of the road safety module on the Transition Year syllabus. The Road Safety Unit delivered the presentation to 2,600 students in 2007 and received very favourable feedback. It also trained 75 members in the delivery of the programme. It is anticipated that the module will be introduced into every Transition Year syllabus from 2008.

The Unit also delivered the presentation to 790 people in community groups and industry during the year. A number of high profile companies availed of the presentation for staff.

In addition to going into schools, businesses and community groups, the Unit staffed an information stand at a number of high profile exhibitions in 2007.

These included the Young Scientist Exhibition, Pro Drive event, Mondello Park, Young Social Innovators, Irish Classic and Vintage Show and The National Ploughing Championships. These exhibitions provided a great opportunity for all age groups in the community to address road safety concerns with members of the Unit. Questions ranged from serious road safety issues to how fast the garda bikes and helicopters go! The exhibitions also give members of the unit the opportunity to gauge young people's opinions of road safety issues.

Central to the Unit's approach is its informal style, while never downplaying the seriousness of road safety. Members of the Unit talk 'to' people and not 'at' them. Members also have vast experience of traffic policing from both a collision investigation and enforcement perspective, which gives credibility to the advice they provide.



Changing Driver Behaviour



The Garda's Road Safety Unit stand at the Young Scientist Exhibition in the RDS in January 2007 and (inset) Garda Declan Egan attached to the DMR Traffic Corps, Dublin Castle with his family at the exhibition.



The challenge of changing the behaviour of all road users, including pedestrians, continues to be the focus of An Garda Síochána. In that regard, An Garda Síochána continues to work closely with other agencies including the National Roads Authority, the Road Safety Authority, Local Authorities and other relevant stakeholders. Road safety is also promoted widely in schools, colleges and at exhibitions.

In 2007 a dedicated Traffic Superintendent was appointed in each Garda Region

AN GARDA SÍOCHÁNA - WORKING WITH THE COMMUNITY



Dublin Metropolitan Region

DMR North

Santry, Raheny and Coolock Garda Districts – Every Christmas Juvenile Liaison Officers (JLOs) from Coolock Garda Station arrange for Santa Claus to visit the local primary schools. Last year the JLOs were joined by community gardaí in the **visit to St Joseph's School** on the Macroom Road in Coolock. Santa Claus arrived by helicopter with lots of presents. The Garda Band added to the entertainment. A great time was had by all – parents, teachers, gardaí and especially the children.



Garda Philip McCaffrey attached to the Garda Band welcomes Santa to St. Joseph's School, Coolock

A new **hill-walking club** based in Santry was set up in April 2007. The Garda Mountaineering and Canoeing Club covers all aspects of outdoor pursuits including hill-walking, orienteering, rock-climbing and kayaking. It caters for all levels of experience, and provides a safe and welcoming environment for anyone interested in developing their competency and fitness in the great outdoors. Monthly walks take place in the beautiful surroundings of the Wicklow and Dublin mountains. The club is open to members, civilian personnel and the general public.



Mountain skills course in September 2007 on top of Lugnaquilla. Included: Sergeant Ian Lambe, David Carrol (Civilian Children's officer), Garda Seosaimh Ó Conghaile, Garda Robin Faughnan, Sergeant Aidan McGuinness and Garda Brian Ó Faolain

DMR West

Blanchardstown, Lucan and Clondalkin Garda Districts – Lucan Garda Station held an **Intercultural Family Day** on 23 September 2007. A number of garda specialist services attended, including the Garda Mounted Unit, Garda Water Unit, Garda Dog Unit, Air Support Unit, Garda National Immigration Bureau, Garda Reserve, Divisional Traffic Unit, Drugs Unit, Detective Unit, Scenes of Crime and Garda Museum. Between 500 and 600 people of various nationalities attended. There were guided tours of the station and a video display was put on by the Air Support Unit. Entertainment was provided by the Garda Band and there

was face painting and balloon modelling for children. The event was a great success and a similar open day is planned for 28 September 2008.

Events like the Intercultural Family Day in Lucan Garda Station support An Garda Síochána's Strategic Goal on Ethnic and Cultural Diversity. In 2007, there were 215 such initiatives involving traveller, refugee and migrant communities. The aim of these initiatives is to build trust and confidence with ethnic and culturally diverse communities.

DMR North Central

Store Street, Bridewell and Fitzgibbon Street Garda Districts – The Community Policing Unit in Fitzgibbon Street introduced **a scheme to improve the safety of vulnerable people in their home**. The scheme is built around a monitored pendant alarm and smoke detector that is linked to a call centre.

The project is grant-aided and received €25,463 from the Department of Community, Rural & Gaeltacht Affairs in 2007. To date, 62 applications for alarm systems and sensor lights have been fulfilled with another 60 scheduled for 2008.

Garda John Condrón from the Community Policing Unit in Fitzgibbon Street won the Templemore Town Council Medal in April 2007 for this project. He was awarded the medal for demonstrating 'exceptional social and interpersonal skills' and a 'commitment to the community in which he served'.

As a result of the scheme many of the residents feel safer in their own homes. There has also been a drop in the number of burglaries and closer links with the community have been forged.



Garda John Condrón speaking with residents at a presentation about the safety scheme in Croke Park

Initiatives such as the Garda scheme introduced in DMR North Central to improve the safety of vulnerable people in their home support An Garda Síochána's Strategic Goal on Community Engagement.

DMR East

Dún Laoghaire, Blackrock and Bray Garda Districts – **Operation Slogan** began in January 2007 in the Dún Laoghaire District. The project aimed to tackle the serious **graffiti** problem in the district through the development and implementation of a coordinated strategy. Members from different units throughout the district became involved as the project went on. The first step was the identification and photographing of graffiti locations. In addition, a database was set up to store pictures and locations of graffiti, and information about graffiti artists and their artistic styles.

Early on in the project the 'tag' (or 'signature') of a prolific graffiti artist was connected to him. He was later charged and the case is currently before the courts. The project was widened as a result of this operation. Directions about the operation were sent to all members and the Garda PULSE system was upgraded to allow the creation of incidents relating to Operation Slogan. Another important part of the project was offender profiling. It was found that the typical offender was between 11 and 14 years of age and learnt about graffiti on the internet.

A further benefit that arose from the project was the strengthening of links with the community. As with many crime initiatives, the success of Operation Slogan depended on the cooperation and assistance of members of the public, community groups and businesses. The local support for the project was a key factor in its success. Further links were created with Dún Laoghaire Rathdown County Council which played its part throughout the swift removal of graffiti, particularly in very problematic areas.



Students from DMR South walking the 'Wicklow Way'

DMR South

Crumlin, Tallaght and Terenure Garda Districts – A DMR South tradition is for student gardaí to walk some of the **'Wicklow Way'** to satisfy both their Phase Two Sports Project requirement, and to raise money for charity. Three groups completed the walk in 2007 and between them raised €6,834 for charity. The first two walks between them raised €4,000 for Debra Ireland.

Projects like Operation Slogan target anti-social behaviour in the community, and therefore support An Garda Síochána's Strategic Goal on Public Order.

In addition to working with the Council, community gardaí also forged cooperative links with the Catholic Youth Council, youth workers and schools.

Offenders are dealt with in a variety of ways. Some are brought before the courts and in other cases offenders are dealt with under the Juvenile Diversion Programme. Often the injured parties (e.g. the Council) take part in the process and explain the problems caused by the graffiti and the cost of removing it. Where possible, cleaning and re-painting is carried out by the offender.

Sergeant Con Mulhall comments that Operation Slogan has been very successful in tackling the graffiti problem in the district. Members are also developing long term strategies for the problem. These include the incorporation of the graffiti problem into the Schools Programme, use of restorative justice meetings with injured parties and a possible inter-agency initiative involving An Garda Síochána, the Department of Education & Science and the Department of the Environment, Heritage & Local Government. The key message is that graffiti is a crime, has serious cost implications for injured parties and may in certain instances result in custodial sentences. If this message is brought home early enough to young children this should stem the problem if not stop it completely.



AN GARDA SÍOCHÁNA - WORKING WITH THE COMMUNITY



Southern Region

Cork City

Anglesea Street, Gurranabraher, Mayfield and Togher Garda Districts – In May 2007, a Community Garda based in Anglesea Street, Trish O'Riordan, received a **Civic Award** for outstanding work with the immigrant community and her commitment to intercultural issues. The Lord Mayor of Cork City presented Garda O'Riordan with the award at a high profile event attended by 500 guests.

The first **'Festival of the Bulls'** was launched in Blackpool Shopping Centre during the June bank holiday weekend. The Traffic Corps placed a number of crashed cars in strategic areas to raise awareness of road safety and also made some presentations to those attending the festival. The Garda Mounted Unit also attended.

Cork North

Fermoy, Cobh, Midleton and Mallow Garda Districts – The Glanmire Hurling Blitz hosted by Sarsfield's Hurling Club at Riverstown, under its Chairman Tadgh Murphy and President Denis Hurly, is Cork's most prestigious annual hurling competition for under nines and attracts interest from all over the country. Sergeant Barry Myres along with Garda Noel Fitzgerald, Community Garda and Pat Hegarty, Juvenile Liaison Officer, organised and coordinated the 2007 Blitz which took place in August. The event is an important part of the Cobh Garda District community engagement programme. 16 teams took part representing Cork City and county and Killeagh St. Ita's from East Cork won this hugely competitive event. Following last year's success, more clubs than ever have expressed interest in the 2008 event, which will take place 3 August.



The trophy is presented at the Glanmire Hurling Blitz. Included are Superintendent Pat Sheahan and Denis Hurly, President of Sarsfield's.

Cork West

Bandon, Bantry, Clonakilty, Kanturk and Macroom Garda Districts – An **International Soccer Tournament** in conjunction with the Timoleague Harvest Festival was organised by Bandon Community Garda James O'Donovan. Many workers employed by businesses in the Bandon area and representing a number of Eastern European countries took part. The event was very successful particularly in helping to integrate ethnic minorities into the community.

The annual **Kinsale Rugby Sevens** which takes place over the May bank holiday weekend always represents a vigorous policing challenge. The event continues to grow in

popularity and attracts a huge following from all over the world, with teams competing from Britain and Europe. In 2007, the event was policed with the assistance of the Garda Mounted Unit which proved very successful.

In July 2007, the International Caravanning and Camping Club (ICCC) held their annual rally at the "Green Glens", arena in Millstreet. The finale of this 14-day event was the **'Parade of Nations'** which took place in Millstreet Town. Despite it being one of the wettest days of the year, the parade attracted a huge crowd with participants from all over the world. Gardaí policed this large and lively event effectively while always maintaining their good humour despite the elements!

Kerry

Tralee, Cahirciveen, Killarney, Listowel Garda Districts – The Tralee School of Tae Kwon Do won the **Garda Friendship Award 2007**. The award is given to organisations that encourage youth involvement and participation and make an outstanding contribution to the community.

A **Garda Gala Night in Aid of Suicide Prevention** took place on 2 Feb 2007 at the Brandon Hotel, Tralee. Over 1,400 people attended this event which raised €16,000 for the Irish Association of Suicidology.

The **Garda Just Us Garden Project** in association with the local AIB concluded in November 2007. Over €20,000 was spent on the grounds of a local school. The money was raised through Tralee Community Policing initiatives.

Community gardaí organised a **Social Day** in the fishing town of Dingle for over 60 residents of Tralee. A great time was had by all.

Over 30 gardaí attached to Tralee District took part in a **Charity Triathlon** which included a run, a swim and a cycle. They raised €6,000 for the Castleisland Community Centre.

Limerick

Henry Street, Roxboro Road, Askeaton and Newcastlewest Garda Districts – Community gardaí in **Mayorstone** and **Henry Street** Garda stations, with the assistance of the Traffic Corps, ran several **Road Safety** initiatives as part of the **Garda Schools Programme**. These initiatives included presentations in national schools and **visits to Mayorstone Garda Station** by local schoolchildren.

Another project was a **pedal cycle safety**



Members of the Limerick Dog Unit with Aisling and Caolan Parrot at the Limerick Garda Sports Camp 2007 which was organised by Mayorstone community gardaí.



Community gardaí attached to Mayorstone Garda Station

competition in conjunction with Limerick Sports Partnership and Simpson Xavier. Students learned about cycle safety through practising on an obstacle course similar to that used on the Garda Mountain Bike course. JFK Memorial School on the Ennis Road, Limerick won the competition and was presented with the top prize of a school computer.

Other events organised by gardaí at Mayorstone and Henry Street included:-

A **Sports Day** at the Limerick Institute of Technology in August. This event was attended by 90 young people from Ballynanty, Killeely, Thomondgate, Rhebogue and other areas of the city.

A **Tag Rugby** league in conjunction with the IRFU with games in Ballynanty and Moyross National schools.

Gardaí at **Roxboro Road** Sub-District organised many initiatives during 2007 including the **20th Senior Citizens Christmas Party**. 230 senior citizens attended this event at Our Lady's Queen of Peace Community Centre on 10 December. The Mayor of Limerick also attended.

A **sponsored walk** in May raised €5,300 for the Special Olympics Sponsor an Athlete Programme.

The **work experience programme** for students in second-level colleges, now in its fifth year, was again very successful in 2007.



Sean Murtagh from JFK Primary School, winner of the Pedal Cycle Safety Competition, which was run by community gardaí from Limerick in conjunction with Limerick City Sports Partnership (LCSP) and Simpson Xavier (SX). Also pictured are Denis Herlihy (SX), Elaine O'Connor (LCSP) and Garda John Flanagan attached to the Mayorstone Community Policing Unit.

South Eastern Region

Tipperary

Thurles, Cahir, Clonmel, Nenagh, Templemore and Tipperary Garda Districts – Over 350 people attended the seventh **Cahir Older Person's Party** on 18 January 2007. Sergeant Peter Butler, Garda Pat English and Garda Paschal O'Dwyer organised the party along with the Cahir District Community Alert committee. Crime prevention leaflets were distributed on the night. The local Superintendent addressed the attendees and thanked the various groups for their help in preventing crime and improving the quality of life for the elderly. One of the many benefits of running this event is that elderly residents get to know their local gardaí and similarly gardaí get to know where these residents live. In addition, the event helps to maintain Community Alert groups by providing them with a major social event and recognising their work.



Sergeant Peter Butler thanking Mr. Bill Coffey, the Treasurer of Cahir District Community Alert for committee-funding of the Older Person's Party and other community initiatives

Events like the Cahir Community Alert Party support An Garda Síochána's Strategic Goal on Community Engagement. In 2007, there were 1,250 active Community Alert schemes and 2,601 Neighbourhood Watch schemes in operation.

Waterford/Kilkenny

Waterford, Dungarvan, Kilkenny, Thomastown and Tramore Garda Districts – Kilkenny Gardaí raised €5,213 for the **Special Olympics Support an Athlete Programme** 2007 through two events. The first event was a table quiz in July organised by the Community Policing Unit, which raised €1,720. The second event was a sponsored cycle. Gardaí from the Community Policing Unit and regular units in the district completed the 55 kilometre route which took them through Castlecomer, Ballyragget and Freshford. The cycle raised €3,493.



Members in Kilkenny who took part in the sponsored cycle

AN GARDA SÍOCHÁNA - WORKING WITH THE COMMUNITY



Eastern Region

Carlow/Kildare

Naas, Kildare, Carlow and Baltinglass Garda Districts – 2007 marked the final year of the five-year Naas Garda League. This is a community soccer tournament for children and teenagers from the ages of 7 to 17. The tournament was the idea of a Community Garda, Mark Doran, who was struck by the amount of young people hanging around kicking a football about in the estates of Naas. The tournament ran for two weeks every summer with about 380 young footballers



Sergeant Mark Doran with the PARKERS and Naas Celtic who took part in the Garda Soccer League

taking part. Teams from Kill, Sallins, Johnstown, Two-mile House, Ballymore Eustace and Caragh village entered the competition. During its five years, the tournament made a great contribution to the community and also raised about €5,000 for Naas Care of the Aged, Naas Elderly Building Project, Our Lady's Hospital for Sick Children and St. Luke's Hospital.

Louth/Meath

Drogheda, Dundalk, Kells, Navan, Trim, Balbriggan and Ashbourne Garda Districts – In September 2007, Garda Tony Gavigan attached to Kells took part in the World Transplant and Dialysis Games in Bangkok. Garda Gavigan, who has served with An Garda Síochána for almost 30 years, received a kidney transplant after becoming ill in 1996. He became involved with the Irish Kidney Association, athletic members of which can compete in National, European and World Transplant and Dialysis Games. In the World Games in Thailand, Tony

competed in the golf and petanque (a French game similar to bowls). Although he found playing golf in the heat and humidity 'like being in a sauna', and did not get 'the rub of the green' in the petanque, the Irish Team between them brought home 39 medals. This was a great achievement and the team was invited to meet President Mary McAleese at Áras an Uachtaráin on its return. Garda Gavigan remembers this day as a great occasion, and feels privileged to have represented his country.



Garda Tony Gavigan at the World Transplant Games in Bangkok

Longford/Westmeath.

Mullingar, Athlone, Granard and Longford Garda Districts – Athlone hosted the 2007 **TriAthlone** – the first triathlon event in Ireland to have over 1,000 participants. The event attracted thousands of spectators and required the implementation of major traffic management plans. Close cooperation between the event organisers, An Garda Síochána, the Defence Forces, Roscommon County Council, Athlone Town Council and the local community ensured the smooth and successful running of this major event. Athlone was awarded the 2010 European Triathlon Championships following a presentation to the European Triathlon Union in Copenhagen during the year. This is the first time Ireland will host such an event and it will be the largest participation sport ever held in the midlands. In the meantime, two elite races will be held in Athlone in 2008 due to the success of the 2007 event and its growing popularity.

Northern Region

New Assistant Commissioner

Derek Byrne was appointed Assistant Commissioner Northern Region in May 2007. He succeeded Assistant Commissioner Michael McCarthy. A native of Dublin, Derek Byrne has served with An Garda Síochána since 1979. He previously worked in the Garda National Drugs Unit, the Garda National Immigration Bureau and Pearse Street Garda Station.



Gardaí escort the rally

North West Rally



The final stretch of the rally at Mullaghmore

The largest sporting event ever held in the North West, **Round 15 of the World Rally Championship**, took place from 15 to 18 November 2007. The rally attracted over 250,000 people throughout the weekend. Over 500 gardaí played a crucial role in ensuring the smooth running of the event.

Planning for the Garda operation began in May 2007 when requests were made for the deployment of personnel from the National Support Service including the Garda Air Support Unit, Garda Dog Unit, Garda Mounted



The official handover of the escort to the PSNI

Unit, Garda National Drug Unit and the Regional Traffic Corps.

In August 2007, two gardaí attended the German Rally at Trier to observe the policing plans put in place for that event.

The rally stages were spread out over counties Donegal, Sligo, Leitrim and Roscommon. All gardaí within the Sligo/Leitrim Division were deployed on 12 hour tours of duty. They were assisted by members from Donegal, Galway, Roscommon, Mayo, Louth and Dublin. The rally crossed over the border on several occasions, and close cooperation with the PSNI ensured the handovers went smoothly.

This was the first occasion that a stage of the World Rally Championship took place in Ireland and it was a great success. The excellent policing of the rally was no doubt a major factor in securing an additional staging of the event. This has been confirmed for the North West for the weekend of 29 January 2009.



Garda Seamus Herron, Ethnic Liaison Officer in Cavan, receives an award marking his contribution to multi-cultural integration from the Lord Mayor of Cavan, Des Cullen. Also Photographed is Pastor John Eniola.



Hillwalkers from Manorhamilton District present their cheque to the Leitrim Special Olympics Committee

Sligo/Leitrim

Sligo, Ballymote, Carrick-on-Shannon and Manorhamilton Garda Districts – Manorhamilton District organised a **Charity Hill Walk** from Glencar to Truskmore which raised €10,595 for the Special Olympics.

A Multi Cultural Soccer Tournament took place at the Aura Leisure Centre, Carrick-on-Shannon in April 2007. Detective Sergeant Dermot Flannery oversaw the planning and organising of the event. The aim of the tournament was to help integrate the 21 different nationalities living and working in the Carrick-on-Shannon area. 20 teams of mixed nationality entered the tournament, and there were about 400 spectators on the final day. An awards ceremony took place afterwards at the Bush Hotel. The local Superintendent presented prizes and medals, and refreshments were served. This enjoyable ceremony was a fitting

end to the tournament, which succeeded in bringing together many different nationalities in a spirit of fun and cooperation.

Cavan/Monaghan

Monaghan, Bailieboro, Ballyconnell, Carrickmacross and Cavan Garda Districts – In accordance with An Garda Síochána Policing Plan 2007, several initiatives were launched in the division under Strategic Goal 5 which focuses on ethnic and cultural diversity. One of these initiatives was an **award made to the Ethnic Liaison Officer** in Cavan, Garda Seamus Herron, in recognition of his work with the Cavan Multi-Cultural Network and his commitment to the promotion of multi-cultural integration during the year. The Mayor of Cavan presented Garda Herron with the award at a reception in Hosanna House, Cavan.

Ten gardaí from Cavan and Ballyconnell garda districts completed a **Polish language course** at the local VEC. Teaching staff designed the course specifically for garda members and delivered the module over 16 weeks. The course gave the attending members a basic level of Polish and has greatly assisted them in their interaction with the large Polish community in Cavan.



Graduates from the Polish language course. L-r: Garda Darren Morgan, Garda Padraig Brennan, Sergeant David Coyle, Garda Paula Hough, Garda John O'Donoghue and Garda Mary Bushell Denning. Also included are Superintendent Majella Ryan, Superintendent Gerry Giblin and Co. Cavan VEC Officials.

AN GARDA SÍOCHÁNA - WORKING WITH THE COMMUNITY



Western Region

New Assistant Commissioner

Noirín O'Sullivan was appointed **Assistant Commissioner Western Region** in August 2007. She succeeded Assistant Commissioner Gerry Kelly. A native of Dublin, Noirín O'Sullivan has served with An Garda Síochána since 1981. She previously worked in the Technical Bureau, Human Resource Management and the Garda National Drugs Unit.

Galway West

Galway, Clifden, Gort, Loughrea and Salthill Garda Districts – In May 2007, members from the Western Region took part in a **motorbike ride along the famous Route 66 in aid of UNICEF Ireland**. Inspector Derek Gannon attached to Mill Street Garda Station came up with the idea after travelling to Africa in 2005 as a volunteer. All garda divisions in the Western region became involved in the fundraising for the event. The group included 58 motorcyclists, 6 pillion passengers, 8 support personnel, a medical team and a mechanic. The participants covered over 2,700 miles of this historic route in nine days. €403,000 was raised and the event was the biggest ever fundraiser for UNICEF since it was set up in 1962.

Roscommon/Galway East

Roscommon, Ballinasloe, Boyle, Castlerea and Tuam Garda Districts – A number of personnel from the division took part in the Route 66 Motorbike ride in aid of UNICEF in May 2007. Several fundraisers were held for the event including a **Family Fun Day at Roscommon**

Racecourse. Although high winds prevented some of the displays from taking place, the event was a major success from a fundraising and community relations perspective.

Mayo

Castlebar, Ballina, Belmullet, Claremorris, Swinford and Westport Garda Districts – In February 2007, a **Road Safety Roadshow** was held at the Traveller's Friend Hotel, Castlebar. This initiative, promoted by AXA Insurance in conjunction with An Garda Síochána and Mayo County Council, was a great success with 1,200 students attending. The roadshow incorporated real life experiences of serious road traffic collisions from members of An Garda Síochána, the emergency services, medical personnel, victims and family members.

The number of **personnel allocated to the Divisional Traffic Corps** increased by one Sergeant and six gardaí.

Two fundraising events for the **Special Olympics** took place. On 8 May 2007, a group of 20 people comprising gardaí, civilian personnel and friends took part in a climb of Croagh Patrick and raised over €2,000. On 1 September 2007, gardaí from Mayo held a charity cycle travelling through all major towns in Co. Mayo. Over 30 gardaí took part and raised €27,000 through sponsorship and bucket-collecting en route. All funds from both events were donated to Irish participants in the Special Olympics.

Westport won the overall **Tidy Towns** prize for the second time in 2007. Members at

Westport Garda Station played their part in this achievement by improving the appearance of the station, the yard and garden areas. They greatly enhanced the

visual impact of the station by adding window boxes and planting summer bedding and flowers.



Some images from the motorbike ride along Route 66 which raised over €400,000 for UNICEF

PUBLIC ATTITUDES SURVEY 2007

The 2007 Garda Public Attitudes Survey focused on satisfaction with garda service, policing priorities and experiences and fear of crime.

The survey is the sixth since 2002. Results in respect of key indicators, such as satisfaction with overall service, satisfaction with contact with the gardaí, garda approachability and overall performance at local level, have been consistent over the recent surveys despite the use of different survey companies and methodologies.

Satisfaction with overall garda service to the community was 81%, compared with 79% in 2006.

Crime victimisation rates were similar to previous years, with 9.8% saying they or a member of their household had been a victim of a crime in 2006 (down by 0.3 of a percentage point compared with the 2006 report).

As regards **crime reporting**, 87% of those victimised said that they reported the most recent crime to the gardaí, a similar rate to the 2006 survey (up by one percentage point).

4% of respondents requested an **emergency garda response** in 2006. In 82% of cases their phone call was answered within 10 seconds; higher than in 2006 and 2005. Response time was within 15 minutes for 50% of respondents. 70% expressed satisfaction with the service received, identical to the 2006 survey.

Satisfaction with overall contact with the

gardaí was 80%, similar to the 2006 survey.

Asked about **garda approachability**, 90% of respondents described gardaí at their local station as either very approachable or approachable.

As regards **garda visibility**, 53% reported seeing a Garda in their locality in the previous week. The proportion who remembered seeing a Garda on the day of their interview was the same as in 2006 (8%). 62% of respondents were satisfied with the level of garda visibility in their locality.

Ratings for **how good a job the gardaí do in the locality** were at 82%, up by two percentage points on 2006. Satisfaction rates were lower among Local Authority tenants compared with other housing tenure categories. Ratings for how good a job the gardaí do in the locality **as regards road safety** were at 76%, up by six percentage points on 2006.

Responses about the **relationship between the gardaí and the community** showed, among other things, high degrees of confidence that anyone in garda custody would have their rights fully respected, that the gardaí would help if a person's rights were being infringed, and that the gardaí carry out their role in a fair and impartial manner. The majority surveyed disagreed that 'the gardaí discriminate against immigrants'.

Overall, 75% of respondents said that they



felt safe out walking, four percentage points higher than in the 2006 survey. Regarding **fear of crime**, 37% of respondents worried about becoming a victim of crime themselves, while 44% were worried about other family members and friends becoming victims. These figures represent improvements on the 2006 survey.

Just over a quarter of respondents (27%)

said they were in **Neighbourhood Watch/Community Alert** schemes, down on previous surveys. The activity levels of the schemes were higher than was reported in the 2006, 2005 and 2002 surveys, with 19% of those in schemes saying that they were regularly informed about criminal activity in their area.



Strategic Goal

To significantly reduce the incidence of public disorder and anti-social behaviour in our communities

Public Order

In 2007, gardaí continued to work closely with community and statutory groups and elected representatives to identify and target local public order 'hot-spots'. 19 closure orders were applied for nationally for businesses identified as contributors to public disorder and anti-social behaviour. Throughout the year, gardaí continued to proactively enforce the law relating to **underage drinking and substance abuse** in both public places and licensed premises. 179 prosecutions of licensed holders were commenced for allowing drunkenness on the premises. 86 prosecutions were initiated for sale and/or supply of alcohol to underage persons.

Child behaviour warnings and good behaviour contracts came into effect on 1 March 2007. A behaviour warning may be issued by a Garda to a person over 12 years of age if the person has behaved in an anti-social manner. A warning advises the person that he or she has behaved in an anti-social manner and must stop the behaviour. It can be given verbally or in writing. Good behaviour contracts apply to children only and can arise where the Superintendent in charge of the district convenes a meeting to discuss the child's behaviour on foot of a report from a member of An Garda Síochána. **Behaviour orders** (children) and **civil orders** (adults) are applied for by a Garda Superintendent before the Court. The maximum duration of these orders is two years.

Behaviour warnings, good behaviour contracts and orders issued or applied for in 2007

Behaviour warnings issued (adult)	445
Behaviour warnings issued (child)	131
Good behaviour contracts issued	4
Behaviour orders applied for	2
Civil orders applied for	1

Firearms & Explosives

Firearms and Explosives seized by Gardaí in 2007

Firearms	
Shotguns	206
Machine Guns	10
Rifles	59
Revolvers	28
Pistols/Airguns	293
Stun Guns	49
Crossbows	23
CS/CN Gas	6
Pen Guns	1
Replicas	73
Paintball Guns	4
Spear Guns	0
Silencers	7
Sights	8
Magazines	29
Humane Killers	1
Starting Pistols/Revolvers	83
Muskets	6
Total	886
Explosives and Components	
Hand Grenades	4
Improvised Explosive Devices	9
Pipe Bombs	9
Hoax Devices	9
Explosives	0
Smoke Grenades	0
Petrol Bombs	0
Fireworks	9
Component Parts	5

Headline Offences Reported to Gardaí

The total number of headline crimes recorded in 2007 and published by the Central Statistics Office was 104,946. This was an increase of 2% over the 103,177 headline crimes recorded in 2006. The overall detection rate of 41% of headline crime in 2007 is an increase of 1% over the 2006 figure. All of the six manslaughter offences and 67% of the murder offences were detected at the end of 2007. Robbery offences decreased by 12% with the highest decrease of 26% recorded for Robbery from establishment/institution offences. Theft from Person and Assault Causing Harm offences decreased by 18% and 4% respectively while Rape (of female & Section 4) and Sexual Assault offences have also shown a decrease of 7% and 14% respectively. For a more detailed breakdown of figures please go to www.cso.ie

Offence Type	2007
Murder	78
Manslaughter	6
Rape of a female	283
Rape section 4	70
Criminal Law (Sexual Offences) Act, 2006	52
Aggravated sexual assault	17
Sexual assault	774
False imprisonment	73
Abduction	35
Assault causing harm	3,832
Theft from person	2,950
Theft from MPV	14,709
Theft from shop	18,859
Theft of a pedal cycle	165
Theft (other)	20,295
Burglary	22,939
Aggravated burglary	252
Robbery of an establishment or institution	812
Robbery of cash or goods in transit	20
Robbery from the person	1,258
Arson	1,998
Possession of drugs for sale or supply	3,620
Possession of firearms	431
Discharging a firearm	327
Other headline offences	11,091
Total	104,946

Missing Person Reports

2007	Category A Missing persons considered at serious risk to themselves or others		Category B Persons who have gone missing of their own volition and are assumed not to be at serious risk to themselves or others		Category C Missing persons where there is no apparent danger to the missing person or the public; they are over 18 years and may have decided to start a new life		Total	
	Reports	Untraced	Reports	Untraced	Reports	Untraced	Reports	Untraced
EASTERN REGION	466	1	208	2	251	3	925	6
Carlow/Kildare	109	1	62	0	83	0	254	1
Laois/Offaly	63	0	22	0	26	1	111	1
Longford/Westmeath	66	0	60	0	50	0	176	0
Louth/Meath	228	0	64	2	92	2	384	4
DUBLIN MET. REGION	2,191	33	853	10	706	19	3,750	62
East	394	0	59	0	67	0	520	0
North Central	184	5	423	8	185	5	792	18
North	954	4	151	0	141	2	1246	6
South Central	137	21	82	1	158	10	377	32
South	251	0	76	0	78	2	405	2
West	271	3	62	1	77	0	410	4
NORTHERN REGION	329	2	159	1	194	0	682	3
Cavan/Monaghan	90	0	62	0	96	0	248	0
Donegal	168	1	81	1	77	0	326	2
Sligo/Leitrim	71	1	16	0	21	0	108	1
SOUTH EASTERN REGION	538	7	184	0	186	1	908	8
Tipperary	120	0	77	0	38	0	235	0
Waterford/Kilkenny	254	1	83	0	109	1	446	2
Wexford/Wicklow	164	6	24	0	39	0	227	6
SOUTHERN REGION	524	7	248	1	273	6	1,045	14
Cork City	211	2	157	0	98	1	466	3
Cork North	97	1	32	0	26	1	155	2
Cork West	30	0	15	0	15	0	60	0
Kerry	45	1	10	0	27	2	82	3
Limerick	141	3	34	1	107	2	282	6
WESTERN REGION	466	1	106	3	110	1	682	5
Clare	36	1	15	0	13	0	64	1
Galway West	326	0	44	3	59	0	429	3
Mayo	47	0	14	0	20	1	81	1
Roscommon/Galway East	57	0	33	0	18	0	108	0
Total	4,514	51	1,758	17	1,720	30	7,992	98

There were 7,992 reports for the year 2007 which was an increase of 17% on the 2006 reports of 6,811. There were 98 persons untraced at year's end 2007 which was a decrease of 10% compared to 2006.