



April 2026

An Garda Síochána
COMMISSIONER'S MONTHLY
REPORT TO THE POLICING
AND COMMUNITY SAFETY
AUTHORITY



An Garda Síochána

Monthly Report for April 2026 to the Policing and Community Safety Authority

In accordance with Section 133 (1) of the Policing, Security and Community Safety Act, 2024

An Garda Síochána

Oifig an Choimisinéara
An Garda Síochána
Páirc an Fhionnuisce
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Luaigh an uimhir tharaghta seo a leanas le do thoil:
Please quote the following ref. number: **CMR_86-49721/26**



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Ms. Helen Hall
Chief Executive
Policing and Community Safety Authority

RE: Commissioner's Monthly Report to the Policing and Community Safety Authority

Dear Helen,

I am pleased to provide the Commissioner's Monthly Report for the month of April 2026.

The report includes key aspects of finance, human resources and operational data to assist the Authority in keeping itself informed on the activities and performance by An Garda Síochána of its function relating to policing services.

The statistics for March 2026 are reported a month in arrears on key metrics.

Yours sincerely,

AIDAN MCCARTHY
CHIEF SUPERINTENDENT
COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE

Commissioner's Message

Chairperson,

I am pleased to present you with the monthly report for An Garda Síochána which captures key organisational updates for April 2026.

A significant operation was undertaken during the month of April to mobilise a response to the fuel protests, which culminated in the blockades of national infrastructure and required the calling of an exceptional event. This was the first time such a response had to be mobilised and saw more than 1,600 Gardaí deployed within a 48-hour period at a number of locations across the country.

During this event Gardaí responded to complex and highly challenging situations with professionalism, restraint and dedication. This led to the restoration of critical infrastructure and the maintaining of public order. Importantly, this was achieved without serious injury to members of the public or Gardaí, something that cannot always be said of similar events internationally.

As part of the enforcement stage of this operation, An Garda Síochána made 25 arrests, resulting in 44 court charges/summons. 166 Fixed Charge Notices were issued, primarily for motorway offences and 7 vehicles were detained (*this is based on provisional data, is operational and subject to change*).

Further aggravating aspects which occurred during these protests were the significant challenges faced by Gardaí who were subjected to threats and intimidation at scene and online, which were extended in some cases to their family members. Such matters must be robustly condemned and, if they reach a criminal threshold, investigated. This is why I initiated dedicated incident rooms in each region headed by Senior Investigating Officers. As this was the first time An Garda Síochána called an exceptional event to police a blockade/protest of this type, with multiple locations impacted, there will be key learning points for us as an organisation.

An internal debrief of the policing operation is being undertaken by Assistant Commissioner Roads Policing and Community Engagement, Catharina Gunne. This review will feed into lessons we can learn in relation to our ongoing preparations for the upcoming EU Presidency.

During the month of April 2026, I met with both the Garda Representative Association and the Association of Chief Superintendents, where I similarly canvassed these issues, and they expressed similar concerns around the threats made to their members and other Garda personnel.

My team and I had a number of other engagements of note this month including an event which I attended with the Croatian Ambassador to Ireland, H.E. Mr. Davor Vidiš. This focused on the EU Presidency and our continued cooperation. I also met with Safe Ireland at Garda Headquarters, where we discussed matters of mutual interest. Deputy Commissioner Shawna Coxon attended a closed meeting of the Joint Oireachtas Committee on European Affairs, to similarly discuss preparations long underway for the delivery of a safe and secure EU Presidency.

On 16th and 17th April 2026, personnel from the Garda National Bureau of Criminal Investigation took part in a 'hackathon' to help identify and track down children who have been forcibly transferred or deported during the war in Ukraine. This initiative, which was hosted by Europol and the Netherlands,

saw 40 experts from 18 countries, the International Criminal Court, as well as non-governmental partners, working together in The Hague.

A significant arrest was made during the month in the United Arab Emirates (UAE) in collaboration with An Garda Síochána. Daniel Kinahan was arrested on foot of an arrest warrant issued by the Irish Courts in relation to alleged serious organised crime offences following a complex Garda investigation. The arrest was in accordance with the bi-lateral agreement on extradition between Ireland and the United Arab Emirates. This is another extremely important demonstration of the need for international law enforcement co-operation in tackling transnational organised crime.

Collaboration between An Garda Síochána and our partners in other jurisdictions was further exemplified in the detection and seizure of suspected cannabis worth almost €5.2m, as part of a Joint Agency Task Force Operation (JATF), with detectives from the PSNI's Organised Crime Branch working with the Garda National Drugs and Organised Crime Bureau.

Policing operations were put in place for the Six Nations International Women's Rugby match against England in Dublin on 11th April and the Ireland v Poland football match in the Aviva on 18th April.

In relation to road safety, An Garda Síochána conducted an extensive roads policing operation from 7am on Thursday, 2nd April 2026 until 7am on Tuesday, 7th April 2026, to ensure road safety during the bank holiday weekend. In excess of 175 drivers were detected for intoxicated driving and in excess of 4,000 drivers were detected for speeding during the operation.

Meanwhile, on 15th April 2026, Assistant Commissioner Catharina Gunne attended 'Road Safety Reimagined', an initiative conducted in partnership with the University of Limerick and partner university students, that generates impactful and innovative road safety marketing campaigns. These are promoted across our channels and serves to open up important conversations around road safety with the public, and which is targeted at students and their peers.

An Garda Síochána was delighted to be shortlisted as a joint partner in five categories at the Better Public Service Awards 2026, recognising excellence in innovation, collaboration and service delivery across the public sector. These nominations reflect the organisation's strong partnerships and commitment to delivering meaningful improvements for communities nationwide.

Our Office of Corporate Communications was honoured at the Strategic Global Awards 2026 in Brussels, receiving the Integrated Strategic Communication Campaign of the Year award for the "99 Persons of Interest" campaign.

I was pleased to attend our monthly meeting on 25th April 2026 held in public in Midleton Co. Cork, where we discussed a wide range of issues, including the fuel protests, domestic abuse and operational matters in Cork County. I consider these engagements in public valuable and I look forward to our next meeting.

Justin Kelly

Garda Commissioner

USE OF FORCE



The following table sets out the statistics for use of force for March 2026. It also illustrates the variances between February 2026 and March 2026.

| Use of Force Comparison – February 2026 / March 2026 | | | | |
|---|---------------|---------------|-------------------------------|-----------------|
| Category | Feb 26 | Mar 26 | Increase/ Decrease | % Change |
| Total UOF for Month | 1,177 | 1,381 | 204 | 17% |
| Civilians Injured | 21 | 18 | -3 | -14% |
| Garda Members Injured | 4 | 20 | 16 | 400% |
| Pepper Spray Deployed | 116 | 143 | 27 | 23% |
| Batons | 19 | 36 | 17 | 89% |
| Handcuffs | 1,033 | 1,214 | 181 | 18% |
| Anti-spit guard | 1 | 0 | -1 | -100% |
| Unarmed Restraint | 161 | 178 | 17 | 11% |
| Taser | 4 | 2 | -2 | -50% |
| Less Lethal Firearm | 1 | 0 | -1 | -100% |
| Firearm | 1 | 0 | -1 | -100% |
| Gender Subject to Force - Male | 898 | 1,022 | 124 | 14% |
| Gender Subject to Force - Female | 125 | 140 | 15 | 12% |
| Drugs Involved | 317 | 376 | 59 | 19% |
| Alcohol Involved | 575 | 741 | 166 | 29% |
| | | | | |
| Division with highest level UOF: DMR South Central | 190 | 255 | 65 | 34% |
| Percentage of UOF Deployments occurring Friday, Saturday & Sunday | 48.10% | 44.10% | -4.00% | |

This is operational information which may be subject to change.

FINANCE

**Financial figures as at 31 March 2026**

An Garda Síochána has a gross expenditure budget of €2.74b for 2026 and net allocation of €2.62b. At the end of March 2026, total gross expenditure is €620.63m (23% of allocation) and receipts are €35.84m (29% of allocation). An additional €17.31m is available by way of capital carryover, giving an adjusted gross allocation of €2.76b.

- **Current Expenditure** to date is €582.46m, which is €27.44m under budget profile of €609.90m, principally driven by salaries, EU Presidency and fleet, due to profiling and timing of expenditure.
- **Capital Expenditure** of €38.17m, is €3.01m under budget, driven by an underspend of €6.60m in the capital building programme, €4.02m in fleet, €0.14m in communications, offsetting an overspend in ICT of €7.75m.
- **Appropriations in Aid** is €35.84m, which is €3.94m over budget. This is largely driven by pay related receipts of €25.76m.

| | 2026 Allocation €'000 | Expenditure/Receipts end March 2026 €'000 | Remaining Apr-Dec 2026 €'000 | Remaining |
|--|--------------------------|---|------------------------------------|-----------|
| Gross Total | 2,741,171 | 620,634 | 2,120,537 | 77% |
| Appropriation in Aid (receipts) | -121,750 | -35,840 | -85,910 | 71% |
| Net Total | 2,619,421 | 584,794 | 2,034,627 | 78% |
| Deferred Capital | 17,310 | | 17,310 | 100% |

PEOPLE AND DEVELOPMENT



The Strength of Garda Personnel

As at 31 March 2026, the Garda member strength stood at 14,495 and the Garda Staff strength stood at 3,659. A full breakdown by rank, grade and gender is outlined below.

Garda Member Strengths as of 31 March 2026

| Rank | As of 31 March 2026 | Male | % | Female | % | WTE |
|------------------------|---------------------|---------------|-----------|--------------|-----------|---------------|
| Commissioner | 1 | 1 | 100 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| Deputy Commissioner | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 100 | 1 |
| Assistant Commissioner | 8 | 3 | 37.5 | 5 | 62.5 | 8 |
| Chief Superintendent | 48 | 41 | 85 | 7 | 15 | 48 |
| Superintendent | 159 | 127 | 80 | 32 | 20 | 159 |
| Inspector | 477 | 380 | 80 | 97 | 20 | 477 |
| Sergeant | 2,200 | 1,652 | 75 | 548 | 25 | 2,198.5 |
| Garda | 11,601 | 8,107 | 70 | 3,494 | 30 | 11,567.5 |
| Total | 14,495 | 10,311 | 71 | 4,184 | 29 | 14,460 |

| Of which | As of 31 March 2026 | Male | % | Female | % |
|-----------------------------|---------------------|-----------------|-------------|----------------|-------------|
| Career Breaks (incl. ICB) | 33 | 21 | 63.6 | 12 | 36.4 |
| Work-sharing | 35 | 0.5 | 1.4 | 34.5 | 98.6 |
| Secondments (Overseas etc.) | 48 | 33 | 69 | 15 | 31 |
| Maternity Leave | 41 | 0 | 0 | 41 | 100 |
| Unpaid Maternity Leave | 31 | 0 | 0 | 31 | 100 |
| Paternity Leave | 14 | 14 | 100 | 0 | 0 |
| Available Strength | 14,293 | 10,242.5 | 71.7 | 4,050.5 | 28.3 |

| Garda Reserves Strength 31/03/2026 | Total | Male | % | Female | % |
|------------------------------------|------------|------|----|--------|----|
| | 300 | 229 | 76 | 71 | 24 |

Compulsory Retirements from An Garda Síochána to 2035

The number of compulsory retirements below the rank of Commissioner will increase over the next 10 years, except for 2027 and 2028. This reflects historical recruitment patterns and shows that there will be up to 1,664 exits based on service in the coming years irrespective of any other factors.

| Rank | 31-Dec-26 | 31-Dec-27 | 31-Dec-28 | 31-Dec-29 | 31-Dec-30 | 31-Dec-31 | 31-Dec-32 | 31-Dec-33 | 31-Dec-34 | 31-Dec-35 |
|--------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| CR | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| DC | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| AC | 0 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 1 |
| CS | 4 | 1 | 1 | 3 | 0 | 3 | 8 | 3 | 5 | 5 |
| SU | 5 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 8 | 10 | 11 | 10 | 15 | 10 |
| IN | 6 | 9 | 5 | 7 | 7 | 13 | 16 | 27 | 33 | 28 |
| SG | 10 | 15 | 18 | 18 | 31 | 39 | 54 | 65 | 82 | 89 |
| GD | 30 | 13 | 23 | 38 | 47 | 92 | 121 | 154 | 207 | 249 |
| Total | 55 | 39 | 51 | 69 | 93 | 159 | 211 | 260 | 345 | 382 |

Please note that the data above captures actual compulsory retirements for members that will reach compulsory retirement age (of 62 years of age) during the respective years. This figure may change if a member applies and is granted an extension under the provisions of An Garda Síochána (Retirement) (No.2) Regulations 1951, (S.I. No. 335/1951), to extend service to An Garda Síochána.

Suspended Members

As of 1 May 2026, the total number of suspended Garda members is 101; 9 female members and 92 male members. The following tables categorise the lists by rank and the causes for suspension.

| CURRENT MEMBERS ON SUSPENSION BY RANK | |
|--|------------|
| Region | All |
| Suspension (Ended / Ongoing) | Ongoing |
| Rank | Total |
| Inspector Rank and above | 2 |
| Sergeant | 13 |
| Detective Garda | 56 |
| Garda | 16 |
| Probationer Garda | 1 |
| Reserve Garda | 13 |
| Grand Total | 101 |

| CURRENT SUSPENSIONS & CORE ISSUES INVESTIGATED BY AGS & GSOC | |
|---|----------------|
| Suspension (Ended / Ongoing) | Ongoing |
| Main Reason | Total |
| Driving under Influence of Intoxicant | 19 |
| Other | 12 |
| Corruption/Criminal Association | 8 |
| Assault/Assault Causing Harm | 9 |
| Domestic Violence/Coercive Control | 10 |
| Theft/Forgery/Fraud/Dishonesty | 12 |
| Sexual Assault/Sexual Misconduct | 17 |
| Drugs/Drug Related | 3 |
| Disclosure of Information/Data Protection/Abuse of PULSE | 11 |
| Grand Total | 101 |

| Suspensions | | | | | |
|---|------------------------|---------------|--|------------------|---|
| Year | New Suspensions | Lifted | Ended (Resignation /Retirement) | Dismissal | Total (Lifted/ Ended/ Dismissal) |
| 2019 | 26 | 4 | 5 | 10 | 19 |
| 2020 | 41 | 6 | 9 | 0 | 15 |
| 2021 | 44 | 13 | 8 | 1 | 22 |
| 2022 | 44 | 11 | 7 | 1 | 19 |
| 2023 | 27 | 19 | 13 | 0 | 32 |
| 2024 | 18 | 21 | 13* | 1** | 35 |
| 2025 | 42 | 13 | 15 | 1 | 29 |
| 2026 | 15 | 11 | 6 | 2 | 19 |
| *Figure includes one Death in service | | | | | |
| ** Section 17(4)B Criminal Justice (Corruption Offences) Act 2018 – Court Ordered | | | | | |

The following tables outline Garda Staff strengths by gender as of 31 March 2026.

| Grade | Total | WTE | Male | % | Female | % |
|---|--------------|----------------|--------------|-------------|--------------|-------------|
| CCO | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 100 |
| Executive Director | 5 | 5 | 2 | 40 | 3 | 60 |
| Chief Medical Officer | 1 | 1 | 1 | 100 | 0 | 0 |
| Director | 3 | 3 | 2 | 66.7 | 1 | 33.3 |
| PO | 29 | 29 | 15 | 51.7 | 14 | 48.3 |
| AP | 122 | 122 | 59 | 48.4 | 63 | 51.6 |
| HEO | 247 | 245.7 | 100 | 40.5 | 147 | 59.5 |
| AO | 23 | 23 | 12 | 52.2 | 11 | 47.8 |
| EO | 911 | 901.9 | 315 | 34.6 | 596 | 65.4 |
| CO | 1,966 | 1,900 | 519 | 26.4 | 1,447 | 73.6 |
| Total | 3,308 | 3,231.6 | 1,025 | 31 | 2,283 | 69 |
| | | | | | | |
| | Total | WTE* | Male | % | Female | % |
| Professional/Technical (including Chief Medical Officer) | 71 | 71 | 34 | 47.9 | 37 | 52.1 |
| Administrative *** | 3,307 | 3,230.6 | 1,024 | 31 | 2,283 | 69 |
| Industrial/Non Industrial | 281 | 193.6 | 94 | 33.5 | 187 | 66.5 |
| Total | 3,659 | 3,495.2 | 1,152 | 31.5 | 2,507 | 68.5 |
| | | | | | | |
| Of which | Total | WTE* | Male | % | Female | % |
| Maternity Leave | 22 | 22 | 0 | 0 | 22 | 100 |
| Unpaid Maternity Leave | 12 | 12 | 0 | 0 | 12 | 100 |
| Paternity Leave | 1 | 1 | 1 | 100 | 0 | 0 |
| Available Total | 3,624 | 3,460.2 | 1,151 | 31.8 | 2,473 | 68.2 |

* WTE = Whole time equivalent – Garda Staff work on several different work-sharing patterns.

** Garda Staff Headcount is exclusive of Temporary Clerical Officers.

*** Civil Service grades and other administrative posts.

| Work Sharing | Total | WTE | Male | % | Female | % |
|--------------|-------|------|------|---|--------|----|
| | 284 | 76.4 | 18 | 6 | 266 | 94 |

*** Work-sharing figure excludes industrial/non-industrial staff. Many posts are part-time.

| Career Breaks**** | Total | WTE | Male | % | Female | % |
|-------------------|-------|-----|------|----|--------|----|
| | 25 | 25 | 8 | 32 | 17 | 68 |

**** Staff on career breaks are not included in total Garda strengths above.

As of 31 March 2026, the total number of suspended Garda Staff is seven. Due to the small proportion of suspended staff, the table categorises the lists by causes for suspension only. This table does not categorise by gender or grade, as this would make the staff easily identifiable.

| CURRENT GARDA SUSPENSION & CORE ISSUES INVESTIGATED BY AGS | |
|---|--------------|
| | |
| Main Reason | Total |
| Driving under the Influence of an Intoxicant | 1 |
| Criminal Charges | 2 |
| Misconduct in Role | 2 |
| Disclosure of Information/Data Protection/Abuse of PULSE/Breach of ICT Policy | 2 |
| Grand Total | 7 |

Crime Trends (March 2026)

The Garda Síochána Analysis Service closely monitors crime trends and disseminates analysis on a national, regional and divisional basis. This feeds directly into planning operational activities aimed at reducing and preventing crime at various levels.

Crime incident figures and the associated trends are based on provisional data and are subject to change following review. The CSO publications represent the official crime statistics. These are carried in the CSO’s quarterly publications of crime trends and in their annual reports.



