

An Garda Síochána



CPP

Collision Prevention Programme

“A Garda Síochána/ Local Authority partnership initiative to identify traffic collision prone locations and to take preventative remedial action”

1.1 What is the Collision Prevention Programme?

CPP is a partnership programme that brings Local Authorities and the An Garda Síochána together in a united and sustained effort to identify collision prone locations (CPLs) and by taking preventive remedial action, help ensure that our families and friends, who are road users, return home safely regardless of the length or times of their journeys.

Research and experience indicate that the identification of “collisions prone locations (CPLs) and subsequent action by road engineers and the police can have an effective role in road traffic collision reduction. By adopting the CPP partnership, we aim to significantly reduce the number of deaths and serious personal injuries sustained on our roads.

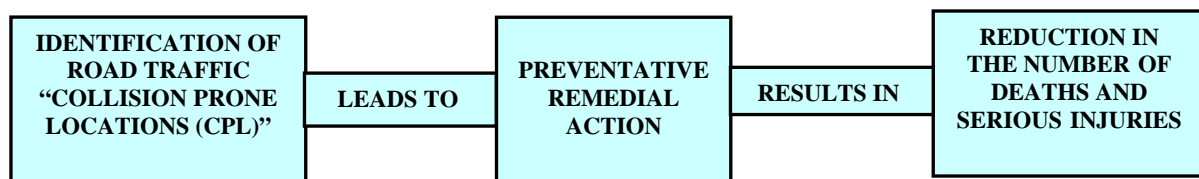


Figure 1: Conceptual Model for CPP programme

1.2 Purpose

The purpose of the CPP partnership programme is to involve the National Roads Authority, the Local Authorities and An Garda Síochána in proactively contributing to improving road safety; in a preventative approach to reduce the high number of road traffic collisions on Irish Roads.

1.3 Objectives

1. To raise awareness among all Garda members of the need for and the value of actively contributing to the prevention of road traffic collisions.
2. To identify the collision prone locations (CPLs) which result in deaths, serious and minor injuries, and material damage to property on our roads?
3. To create public awareness as a preventive remedial action at appropriate CPLs.
4. To recommend to the Local Authorities and the National Roads Authority possible engineering actions that can be taken to reduce or prevent road traffic collisions which result in road users being killed and injured.
5. To clarify for An Garda Síochána what enforcement actions they can take to reduce or prevent road traffic collisions.
6. To train selected Garda personnel to act as CPP Officers.

7. To establish Traffic Safety Teams (TST) comprising members of An Garda Síochána and the Local Authorities.
8. To develop a culture of proactive preventative action as a basis to reduce the level of road traffic collisions in Ireland.
9. To enhance and improve the level of cooperation and co-ordination between the various agencies which contribute to the goal of increased tranquillity in Irish society through better road safety.
10. To maintain a high level of accurate recording and reporting of all traffic collisions.

1.4 An Garda Síochána Corporate Strategy.

The initiative of CPP is in line with the Strategic Goal 3 in An Garda Síochána Corporate Strategy as "contributing to improve road safety and the reduction of casualties".

1.5 An Garda Síochána Policing Plan.

An Garda Síochána is committed to "the development of District Traffic Management Plan to reduce accidents at black spots". The establishment of the CPP will assist and direct District Officers to put such plans in place and to maintain a focus and momentum for District personnel.

1.6 Principles

The CPP Programme is underpinned and governed by the following principles:

1. Road safety is a *social responsibility* for all members of our communities.
2. Some form of error generally causes road collisions. The elimination of such errors by engineering, enforcement or public awareness matters will prevent such collisions.
3. Commitment from **ALL** Garda personnel at regional, divisional and district is vital for the CPP initiative to be effective.
4. Where sufficient verifiable information is provided to the National Roads Authority and/or the Local Authority, these organisations are committed to the provision and maintenance of whatever engineering remedial action is required.
5. Where sufficient verifiable information is provided to An Garda Síochána, the Gardai are committed to the provision and maintenance of whatever enforcement remedial action is required.
6. Details of any engineering or enforcement remedial action should be passed on to the general public via local media sources as local radio and local newspapers.

1.7 Implementation Approach & Strategy

- For identification, marketing and communication purposes the Programme shall be known as CPP
- The Strategy for the development, implementation and evaluation of CPP is agreed with Assistant Commissioner Traffic in consultation with local management who will oversee such development, implementation and evaluation.
- Each District will establish a Traffic Safety Team. This team will operate under the direct supervision of the District Officer.
- The Team will consist of the District Officer, CPP Officer, Divisional Traffic Sergeant, local Gardaí for the areas in which the CPLs under discussion are located and local authority engineers. The Training Sergeant should attend if required.
- Selected Garda personnel will be trained as CPP Officers.
- The Traffic Safety Team will meet every two months. Such meeting will be organised by the CPP officer.
- The identification of collision prone locations will be based on the examination of C(T) 68 forms and eventually on PULSE information. Local knowledge and the history of collisions will also aid such identification. The TST will be responsible for such identification.
- Once collision prone locations have been established the Traffic Safety Team will decide on what actions should take place
- Overall responsibility for the development and implementation and evaluation of CPP, on a national basis, will rest with Assistant Commissioner, Traffic.
- Partnership, consultation, innovation and continuous improvement shall be hallmarks of the approach. The Chairman of the Traffic Safety Team will liaise, on an ongoing basis, with the Chief Superintendent, Garda National Traffic Bureau, who shall provide support and expert assistance to the Team
- The local media - newspapers, news sheets, advertisement boards, local radio, internet, etc - will be engaged and utilised to raise awareness of CPP among members of the public.

1.8 Expected Outcomes

Outcomes are best considered in terms of their effects on the agencies involved, road users, the community in general and the Garda Corporate Strategy. Hence the following outcomes are considered appropriate:

- 1. Reduction in the number and incidents of fatal and serious injury traffic collisions in line with national strategies*
- 2. Increased Garda involvement in and commitment to road safety based duties*
- 3. Significant increased cooperation between the National Roads Authority, Local Authorities and An Garda Síochána in their respective contributions to reducing collisions on our roads.*
- 4. Enhanced Road User understanding of how they may contribute directly to making our roads safer for all.*
- 5. Improved Road User satisfaction with Garda contribution to road safety*
- 6. Enhanced Garda contribution to improving the quality of community life.*
- 7. Identification of best practice for development of the CPP Programme.*