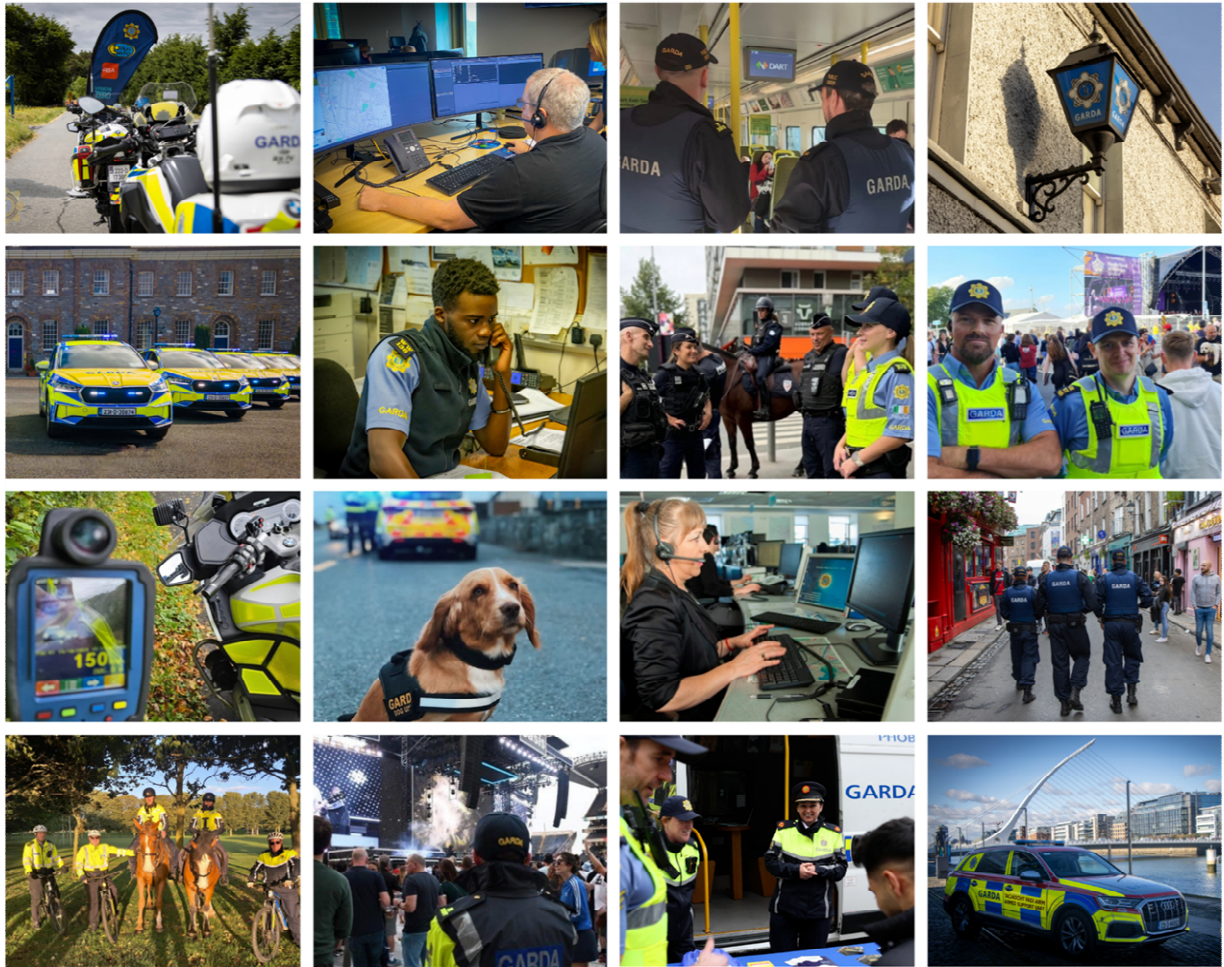




August 2026

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



An Garda Síochána

Monthly Report for August 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
Baile Átha Cliath 8
D08 HN3X



Luaigh an uimhir tharaghta seo a leanas le do thoil:
Please quote the following ref. number: **CMR_86-49721/26**



Office of the Commissioner
Garda Headquarters
Phoenix Park
Dublin 8
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Láithreán Gréasáin/ Website:
www.garda.ie

Ríomhpost/E-mail:
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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, outlining the key aspects of the administration and operation of An Garda Síochána for the month of August 2026, in accordance with Section 133(1) of the Policing, Security and Community Safety Act, 2024.

Yours sincerely,


AIDAN MCCARTHY
CHIEF SUPERINTENDENT
COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE

18 September 2026

Commissioner's Message

I am pleased to present you with An Garda Síochána's monthly report capturing key updates for August 2026.

During August, I travelled to Galway to launch a new permanent High Visibility Policing Plan for Galway City and Salthill, supported by the allocation of twenty-eight (28) additional Gardaí to the Galway Division. The introduction of seven (7) dedicated high visibility patrol areas in Galway follows the successful introduction of High Visibility Policing initiatives in Dublin City, Cork, City, and Limerick City. These patrols will focus on preventing and responding to public order offences, anti-social behaviour, drug dealing, aggressive begging and shoplifting, supported by wider resources from across the Galway Division.

Patrol areas have been identified following an analysis of calls for service and crime trends, together with feedback from local communities and businesses. Community Policing Gardaí will also continue to engage directly with residents, visitors and businesses, providing crime prevention advice and support. High visibility policing is about ensuring Gardaí are visible, accessible and available to the communities we serve. The aim of this plan is clear, to help keep Galway City and Salthill as safe places to live, work, visit and socialise.

Road safety continued to be a significant focus during the month of August and over the August Bank Holiday period An Garda Síochána conducted an extensive Roads Policing Operation from Thursday 30 July until Tuesday, 4 August 2026. Tragically, during the first five (5) days of the operation, two (2) people lost their lives as a result of collisions on our roads, bringing the number of road fatalities recorded at that point in the year to one hundred and ten (110). Throughout the operation, Gardaí conducted Mandatory Intoxicant Testing checkpoints alongside regular high-visibility roads policing activity. A total of one hundred and sixty-nine (169) people were arrested for driving under the influence of an intoxicant, while more than four thousand four hundred (4,400) drivers were detected for speeding offences. More than three hundred and seventy (370) drivers were also detected either using a mobile phone while driving or failing to wear a seatbelt.

The issue of road safety was brought into particularly sharp focus later in August following the tragic collision on the M9 in Co. Kildare in which five (5) young people lost their lives and four (4) occupants of another vehicle were seriously injured. This incident, together with other recent incidents involving vehicles being driven the wrong way on motorways, highlighted the serious risks posed to members of the public, Garda personnel and those travelling in the vehicles involved. Deliberately driving the wrong way on a motorway is a serious offence and is likely to lead to criminal prosecution.

Tragically, just a week later, the policing community felt the devastating impact of this illegal behaviour with the death of two (2) police officers from Cleveland Police (UK), PC Tom Clough and PC Matthew Blades, who were killed when their vehicle was struck by a car travelling the wrong way down a dual carriageway.

An Garda Síochána introduced a new pursuit policy in 2024 and the vast majority of relevant personnel in Garda regional control rooms have been trained on that policy. A number of Garda driving instructors attached to our driving school are currently undergoing Initial Phase Pursuit training in the United Kingdom.

This training will qualify the selected members from our driving schools as Initial Phase Pursuit Instructors. There are three (3) stages to this training and two (2) stages have now been successfully

completed and it is envisaged the final stage will be completed in Q4 2026. The completion and qualification of these members as initial phase pursuit training instructors will enable the introduction of initial phase pursuit training to our operational Gardaí. An Garda Síochána are also engaging with a number of driving schools, attached to UK police forces, seeking further opportunities to train additional Garda driving instructors as initial phase pursuit instructors so we can roll out this training at scale.

An Garda Síochána will take action against reckless driving, however, decisions around pursuits must balance the need for enforcement against the potential risk to the public and Garda personnel.

During August, An Garda Síochána also conducted a High Impact Day of Action under Operation Meacán in the Dublin Metropolitan Region, targeting the use of electric motorbikes, e-scooters and e-bikes for criminal activity including drug distribution, money laundering and the transportation of firearms. As part of the operation, Gardaí conducted ninety-six (96) searches, resulting in the seizure of one hundred and sixty-six (166) e-bikes and e-scooters, €25,820 in cash, suspected drugs valued in excess of €158,000, and a sawn-off shotgun and ammunition. Five (5) people were arrested during the operation, with four (4) subsequently charged to appear before the courts.

Operation Meacán has been in place in the Dublin Metropolitan Region since December 2023 and represents a targeted collaborative approach involving Divisional Crime Units, supported by Community Engagement Areas, to disrupt the use of these vehicles in serious criminal activity.

On 27 August 2026, I addressed the Law Enforcement and Faith Partnerships in Preventing Extremism Conference, which An Garda Síochána was pleased to co-host with the Interfaith Alliance. The conference brought together representatives from faith and community groups, academia, government departments and An Garda Síochána to consider how we can work collectively to prevent radicalisation and violent extremism and keep our communities safe. Radicalisation and violent extremism remain serious threats to public safety and social cohesion, with methods changing rapidly, particularly online through social media, encrypted platforms, gaming spaces, artificial intelligence and synthetic media.

An Garda Síochána has an important role in preventing and responding to these threats, but enforcement alone cannot deliver prevention. Strong and trusted partnerships with communities are central to our early intervention approach, bringing together specialist expertise, local knowledge and established community relationships. The conference provided an important opportunity to strengthen those relationships, share learning and develop further collaboration in responding to the threat of radicalisation in our society.



Justin Kelly
Garda Commissioner

USE OF FORCE



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

Use of Force Comparison – Jun 2026 / Jul 2026				
Category	Jun-26	Jul-26	Increase/ Decrease	% Change
Total UOF for Month	1,385	1,456	71	5%
Civilians Injured	26	29	3	12%
Garda Members Injured	25	19	-6	-24%
Pepper Spray Deployed	135	175	40	30%
Batons	32	39	7	22%
Handcuffs	1,205	1,285	80	7%
Anti-spit guard	0	0	0	-
Unarmed Restraint	199	208	9	5%
Taser	6	4	-2	-33%
Taser Pilot Group	0	1	1	-
Non-Pilot	6	3	-3	-50%
Less Lethal Firearm	2	1	-1	-50%
Firearm	0	0	0	-
Gender Subject to Force - Male	1,004	1,038	34	3%
Gender Subject to Force - Female	171	175	4	2%
Drugs Involved	369	387	18	5%
Alcohol Involved	746	756	10	1%
Division with highest level UOF: DMR South Central	200	206	6	3%
Percentage of UOF Deployments occurring Friday, Saturday & Sunday	44.90%	42.00%	-2.90%	

This is operational information which may be subject to change.

FINANCE



Financial figures as at 31 July 2026

An Garda Síochána has a gross expenditure budget of €2,741.17m for 2026. At the end of July 2026, total gross expenditure is €1,545.21m (56% of allocation) and receipts are €95.54m (78% of allocation). An additional €17.31m is available by way of capital carryover giving an adjusted gross allocation of €2,758.48m.

- Current expenditure (including EU Presidency) to date is €1,473.40m, which is €9.38m under budget profile of €1,482.78m, principally driven by EU Presidency and salaries.
- Capital expenditure of €71.81m is €29.80m under budget, driven by an underspend of €21.26m in the Capital Building Programme, €7.67m in fleet, €6.00m in aircraft, while there is an overspend in ICT and communications of €5.12m.
- Deferred capital to date is €17.31m. The deferred capital carry over has now been fully depleted.
- Appropriations in Aid is €95.54m, €21.93m over budget. This is driven by pay related receipts over budget by €9.60m, and non-pay of €12.33m.

Estate Management

- Bailieborough Garda Station: Substantial completion took place on 23 July 2026. An opening date is to be confirmed.
- Portlaoise Garda Station: This project continues to progress well and remains on track.

	2026 Allocation €'000	Expenditure/Receipts end July 2026 €'000	Remaining Aug-Dec 2026 €'000	Remaining
Gross Total	2,741,171	1,545,209	1,195,962	44%
Appropriation in Aid (receipts)	-121,750	-95,542	-26,208	22%
Deferred Capital	17,310	17,310	0	0%

PEOPLE AND DEVELOPMENT



The Strength of Garda Personnel

As at 31 July 2026, the Garda member strength stood at 14,725 and the Garda Staff strength stood at 3,723. A full breakdown by rank, grade and gender is outlined below.

Garda Member Strengths as of 31 July 2026

Rank	As of 31 July 2026	Male	%	Female	%	WTE
Commissioner	1	1	100	0	0	1
Deputy Commissioner	2	1	50	1	50	2
Assistant Commissioner	8	3	37.5	5	62.5	8
Chief Superintendent	47	40	85	7	15	47
Superintendent	163	130	80	33	20	163
Inspector	472	374	79	98	21	472
Sergeant	2,192	1,648	75	544	25	2,190.5
Garda	11,840	8,260	70	3,580	30	11,809.5
Total	14,725	10,457	71	4,268	29	14,693

Of which	As of 31 July 2026	Male	%	Female	%
Career Breaks (incl. ICB)	31	18	58	13	42
Work-sharing	32	1	3	31	97
Secondments (Overseas etc.)	47	33	70	14	30
Maternity Leave	35	0	0	35	100
Unpaid Maternity Leave	33	0	0	33	100
Paternity Leave	19	19	100	0	0
Available Strength	14,528	10,386	71	4,142	29

Garda Reserves Strength 31 July 2026	Total	Male	%	Female	%
	303	230	76	73	24

Compulsory Retirements from An Garda Síochána to 2035

The number of retirement exits below the rank of Commissioner will increase over the next 10 years, with the exception of 2027 and 2028. This reflects historical recruitment patterns and shows that there will be up to 1,579 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
AC, DC, & CR	0	0	2	0	0	2	1	1	3	2
CS	4	1	1	3	0	3	8	3	5	5
SU	5	1	3	3	7	10	12	10	16	8
IN	5	9	6	6	7	12	15	24	31	28
SG	7	13	17	18	29	36	53	62	79	88
GD	22	13	24	35	44	88	112	144	195	238
Grand Total	43	37	53	65	87	151	201	244	329	369

Please note that the data above captures actual compulsory retirements for members that will reach compulsory retirement age (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 August 2026, the total number of suspended Garda members is: 100, 9 female members and 91 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	3
Sergeant	13
Garda	72
Probationer Garda	11
Reserve Garda	1
Grand Total	100

CURRENT SUSPENSIONS & CORE ISSUES INVESTIGATED BY AGS & GSOC	
Suspension (Ended / Ongoing)	Ongoing
Main Reason	Total
Driving under Influence of Intoxicant	23
Other	11
Corruption/Criminal Association	7
Assault/Assault Causing Harm	8
Domestic Violence/Coercive Control	7
Theft/Forgery/Fraud/Dishonesty	12
Sexual Assault/Sexual Misconduct	18
Drugs/Drug Related	3
Disclosure of Information/Data Protection/Abuse of PULSE	11
Grand Total	100

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	25	17	10	4	31
* Section 17(4)B Criminal Justice (Corruption Offences) Act 2018 – Court Ordered					

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

Grade	Total	WTE	Male	%	Female	%
CCO	1	1	0	0	1	100
Executive Director	6	6	3	50	3	50
Director	4	4	2	50	2	50
PO	30	30	15	50	15	50
AP	126	126	59	46.8	67	53.2
HEO	260	258.5	104	40	156	60
AO	24	24	12	50	12	50
EO	948	940.3	342	36.1	606	63.9
CO	1,973	1,907.9	526	26.7	1,447	73.3
Total	3,372	3,297.7	1,063	31.5	2,309	68.5
	Total	WTE*	Male	%	Female	%
Professional/Technical	70	70	33	47.1	37	52.9
Administrative ***	3,372	3,297.7	1,063	31.5	2,309	68.5
Industrial/Non-Industrial	281	197	91	32.4	190	67.6
Total	3,723	3,564.7	1,187	31.9	2,536	68.1
Of which	Total	WTE*	Male	%	Female	%
Maternity Leave	26	26	0	0	26	100
Unpaid Maternity Leave	13	13	0	0	13	100
Paternity Leave	2	2	2	100	0	0
Available Total	3,682	3,523.7	1,185	32.18	2,497	67.82

* 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	%
	232	74.3	17	7	215	93

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

Career Breaks****	Total	WTE	Male	%	Female	%
	27	27	7	26	20	74

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

As of 31 July 2026, the total number of suspended Garda Staff is eight. 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 Influence of Intoxicant	1
Criminal charges	2
Misconduct in role	2
Disclosure of Information/Data Protection/Abuse of PULSE/breach of ICT policy	3
Grand Total	8

Crime Trends (July 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.

