



May 2026

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



An Garda Síochána

Monthly Report for May 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, outlining the key aspects of the administration and operation of An Garda Síochána for the month of April 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

JUNE 2026

Commissioner's Message

I am pleased to present you with An Garda Síochána's monthly report which captures key updates for May 2026.

Recruitment and expanding our frontline workforce was a central focus this month, with the attestation of 193 new Gardaí on 1st May 2026. These 193 newly sworn Garda members have now taken on operational responsibilities across the four Garda regions, with 141 assigned to the Dublin Region; 27 assigned to the Eastern Region; 14 to the Southern Region and 11 to the North Western Region. They had been recruited as part of the 2024/2025 recruitment campaigns, through which our recruitment efforts created a strong pipeline of 632 Garda trainees who are at various stages of their training. The most recent Intake of Class 262, who began training on 4th May 2026, brought the number of Garda trainees that have entered the Garda College since recruitment recommenced in 2022 to a total of 2,700. Garda trainee intakes continue to enter the Garda College every 11 - 12 weeks.

Meanwhile, the Minister for Justice Home Affairs and Migration, Jim O'Callaghan TD, formally launched our latest Recruitment Campaign which went live on 11th May 2026 and ran until 3rd June 2026. The campaign, under the tagline 'It's A Job Worth Doing', highlighted the breadth of career paths in An Garda Síochána, while stressing that the role offers an active, varied working environment that goes beyond desk-based duties and supports the local community as part of daily work. A new element in this campaign is that candidates with a musical background are encouraged to apply, this aims to support interest among new recruits in the Garda Band, which is opening to new members. To promote the recruitment competition, a comprehensive promotional campaign, went live across online video, national and local print and radio, social media from Monday 11th May 2026.

The month of May is a very significant month in the Garda calendar as it is when we remember our fallen colleagues, and it was my privilege to attend our annual Garda Memorial Ceremony on 16th May 2026, held in the beautiful surroundings of Dubhlinn Gardens, Dublin Castle. It is an important day for An Garda Síochána as we remembered all those we have lost in service. We remembered their dedication and commitment to their duties as Gardaí, the pride they had in doing this important work, and their contribution to society, where they made a positive difference in people's lives. In particular, we remembered their sacrifice, and we joined together to support and meet with their loved ones, who bear the burden of their loss each and every day.

It was also fitting that in the same month some of the same Garda members were honoured in a different way at an event presenting them with Scott Medals for bravery. This ceremony took place on 22nd May 2026, and saw 12 Scott Medals awarded to 10 recipients, this included one Gold Medal, two silver medals (2 posthumously) and 9 Bronze Medals (3 posthumously). Among those receiving the highest honour An Garda Síochána can bestow, was Sergeant James Woods who received a Gold medal. Sergeant Woods displayed outstanding bravery, commitment and professionalism but tragically lost his life on 3 December 1923 while on duty in Scartaglin, Co. Kerry.

During the month of May 2026, two bank holiday road safety campaigns were initiated, the first running during the May Bank holiday period and the second during the June Bank Holiday period. The first extensive Roads Policing Operation ran from Thursday 30th April to Tuesday 5th May 2026. During this period, there were two fatalities and five serious injury collisions, while more than 3,950 drivers were detected for speeding during the operation, and 165 people were arrested for driving under the influence of an intoxicant (alcohol and drugs). Also of note, more than 300 drivers were detected for holding a mobile phone or not wearing a seatbelt.

Over the course of the June Bank Holiday campaign which ran from Thursday 28th May 2026 to Tuesday 2nd June 2026, more than 4,000 drivers were detected for speeding, a further 187 people were arrested for driving under the influence of an intoxicant (alcohol and drugs) and more than 400 drivers were detected for holding a mobile phone or not wearing a seatbelt.

An Garda Síochána and the Road Safety Authority continued to urge all road users to drive within the speed limit, always wear a seatbelt, never to use a mobile phone while driving and to keep distractions out of the vehicle and give full attention to the road.

On 15th May, 2026, An Garda Síochána launched Go Purple Day, creating awareness around domestic violence and highlighting our role in preventing and investigating offences and the supports available to victims. The campaign was shared across our social media channels and was further supported with an interview by Detective Sergeant Laura Sweeney from our National Domestic Abuse Unit on the Garda Podcast.

The 13th May, 2026 saw a re-launch of An Garda Síochána's Coastal Watch in the Southern Region in Castletownbere Co. Cork, which raises awareness and encourages those who live, work, or use our coastal areas, to report unusual activity to help prevent and detect crime.

Other engagements and activities during the month of May 2026 included An Garda Síochána hosting Ludgate 3 at Walter Scott House, Dublin. Ludgate 3 is an exercise to increase cross-border communication between the PSNI Cyber Crime Centre and the Garda National Cyber Crime Bureau which develops response contingency protocols for cyber-attacks. This was attended by Assistant Commissioner Angela Willis, Organised & Serious Crime, alongside members from An Garda Síochána Major Emergency Management Unit, National Crime Agency Liaison Officers, Homeland Security Investigations Liaison and the National Cyber Security Centre.

An Garda Síochána further hosted an international conference on counter terrorism policing, radicalisation and public safety. The conference gave us an opportunity to listen, discuss, collaborate and better prepare ourselves to keep our communities safe, while also affording an opportunity to strengthen our networks and partnerships in this area. Those who spoke at the event are at the forefront of counter terrorism and radicalisation in law enforcement, industry and academia.

Engagement with our partners in Iarnród Éireann, Transdev Ireland (Luas) operators and the National Transport Authority (NTA) saw us conduct a National Day of Engagement as part of Operation "Twin Tracks", on Wednesday 6th May 2026. Operation 'Twin Tracks' is an ongoing initiative which aims to prevent and detect anti-social behaviour on board public transport rail services.

Our first Operation Tara (National Garda Anti-Drugs Operation) National Conference was held on 5th May 2026. This two-day event focused on the significant strides made since Operation Tara was initiated in 2021 while also exploring opportunities to strengthen on-going policing activities in this area.

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 March 2026 and April 2026.

Use of Force Comparison – March 2026 / April 2026				
Category	Mar-26	Apr-26	Increase/ Decrease	% Change
Total UOF for Month	1,381	1,221	-160	-12%
Civilians Injured	18	22	4	22%
Garda Members Injured	20	25	5	25%
Pepper Spray Deployed	143	115	-28	-20%
Batons	36	20	-16	-44%
Handcuffs	1,214	1,083	-131	-11%
Anti-spit guard	0	1	1	-
Unarmed Restraint	178	178	0	0%
Taser	2	7	5	250%
Taser Pilot Group	0	1	1	-
Non-Pilot	2	6	4	200%
Less Lethal Firearm	0	1	1	-
Firearm	0	0	0	-
Gender Subject to Force - Male	1,022	932	-90	-9%
Gender Subject to Force - Female	140	132	-8	-6%
Drugs Involved	376	332	-44	-12%
Alcohol Involved	741	635	-106	-14%
Division with highest level UOF: DMR South Central	255	191	-64	-25%
Percentage of UOF Deployments occurring Friday, Saturday & Sunday	44.10%	44.40%	0.30%	

This is operational information which may be subject to change.

FINANCE

**Financial figures as at 30 April 2026**

An Garda Síochána has a gross expenditure budget of €2.74b for 2026 and net allocation of €2.62b. At the end of April 2026 total gross expenditure was €887.44m (32% of allocation) and receipts were €53.61m (44% 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 €843.37m which is €16.05m under budget profile of €859.42m, principally driven by EU Presidency spend delays and salaries.
- Capital Expenditure of €44.07m, is €12.01m under budget, driven by an underspend of €8.82m in the capital building programme, €5.91m in fleet, while there is an overspend in ICT of €1.52m and communications €1.11m.
- Appropriations in Aid is €53.61m, €9.95m over budget. This is driven by pay related receipts over budget by €3.0m and non-pay €6.95m.

	2026 Allocation €'000	Expenditure/Receipts end April 2026 €'000	Remaining May-Dec 2026 €'000	Remaining
Gross Total	2,741,171	887,440	1,853,731	68%
Appropriation in Aid (receipts)	-121,750	-53,612	-68,138	56%
Net Total	2,619,421	833,827	1,785,594	68%
Deferred Capital	17,310		17,310	100%

PEOPLE AND DEVELOPMENT



The Strength of Garda Personnel

As at 30th April 2026, the Garda member strength stood at 14,461 and the Garda Staff strength stood at 3,661. A full breakdown by rank, grade and gender is outlined below.

Garda Member Strengths as of 30th April 2026

Rank	As of 30 April 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	157	125	80	32	20	157
Inspector	474	377	80	97	20	474
Sergeant	2,195	1,648	75	547	25	2,193.5
Garda	11,577	8,091	70	3,486	30	11,544.5
Total	14,461	10,286	71	4,175	29	14,427

Of which	As of 30 April 2026	Male	%	Female	%
Career Breaks (incl. ICB)	32	21	65.6	11	34.4
Work-sharing	34	0.5	1.5	33.5	98.5
Secondments (Overseas etc.)	48	34	71	14	29
Maternity Leave	34	0	0	34	100
Unpaid Maternity Leave	30	0	0	30	100
Paternity Leave	13	13	100	0	0
Available Strength	14,270	10,217.5	71.6	4,052.5	28.4

As of 30 April 2026	<i>Total</i>	Male	%	Female	%
Garda	299	228	76	71	24
Reserves Strength					

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 1,633 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
DC, AC	0	0	2	0	0	2	1	1	3	1
CS	4	1	1	3	0	3	8	3	5	5
SU	5	1	2	4	7	10	11	10	15	10
IN	6	9	5	6	7	13	16	27	33	28
SG	10	14	17	18	29	37	53	64	80	88
GD	26	13	24	37	46	89	117	153	204	246
Total	51	38	51	68	89	154	206	258	340	378

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 1st June 2026, the total number of suspended Garda members is 104; 9 female members and 95 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	14
Garda	60
Probationer Garda	14
Reserve Garda	1
Grand Total	104

CURRENT SUSPENSIONS & CORE ISSUES INVESTIGATED BY AGS & GSOC	
Suspension (Ended / Ongoing)	Ongoing
Main Reason	Total
Driving under Influence of Intoxicant	22
Other	13
Corruption/Criminal Association	8
Assault/Assault Causing Harm	9
Domestic Violence/Coercive Control	9
Theft/Forgery/Fraud/Dishonesty	13
Sexual Assault/Sexual Misconduct	16
Drugs/Drug Related	3
Disclosure of Information/Data Protection/Abuse of PULSE	11
Grand Total	104

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	21	13	8*	2	23
*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 30 April 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	122	122	59	48.4	63	51.6
HEO	249	247.5	100	40.2	149	59.8
AO	23	23	12	52.2	11	47.8
EO	912	903.3	320	35.1	592	64.9
CO	1,964	1,897.4	518	26.4	1,446	73.6
Total	3,311	3,234.2	1,029	31.1	2,282	68.9
	Total	WTE*	Male	%	Female	%
Professional/Technical (including Chief Medical Officer)	70	70	33	47.1	37	52.9
Administrative ***	3,311	3234.2	1,029	31.1	2,282	68.9
Industrial/Non Industrial	280	192.7	93	33.2	187	66.8
Total	3,661	3,496.9	1,155	31.5	2,506	68.5
	Total	WTE*	Male	%	Female	%
Of which						
Maternity Leave	23	23	0	0	23	100
Unpaid Maternity Leave	13	13	0	0	13	100
Paternity Leave	0	0	0	0	0	0
Available Total	3,625	3,460.9	1,155	31.9	2,470	68.1

* 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	%
	292	76.8	18	6	274	94

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

Career Breaks****	Total	WTE	Male	%	Female	%
	31	31	11	35	20	65

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

As of 30th April 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	3
Misconduct in role	2
Disclosure of Information/Data Protection/Abuse of PULSE/breach of ICT policy	2
Grand Total	8

Crime Trends (April 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.



