



AN GARDA SÍOCHÁNA POLICING PLAN 2010 Division of Laois/Offaly



FOREWORD



Following on from successes in 2009, the Laois/Offaly Policing Plan 2010 sets out strategic priorities for the first year of our Strategy Statement 2010 – 2012 and includes the priorities determined for An Garda Síochána by the Minister for Justice, Equality and Law Reform under Section 20 of the Garda Síochána Act 2005.

At the heart of the Strategy Statement are four core values:

Honesty - Being honest and ethical and adhering to the principles of fairness and justice

Accountability - Accepting individual responsibility and ensuring public accountability

Respect - Having respect for people, their Human Rights and their needs

Professionalism - Providing a professional policing service to all communities

In preparing and publishing this annual policing plan, we have sought the views of the community and other partners, in order that their priorities and concerns are at the core of our plan. In presenting this plan, I am aware of the changed economic circumstances which face us. I firmly believe that sound management, coupled with prudence in all areas of finance, will be vitally important in delivering the key actions in this plan.

It is only through ongoing dialogue and consultation that we can build lasting relationships which contribute to a shared understanding of the issues affecting communities and the people who live and work there. An Garda Síochána, in Laois / Offaly Division has a long established tradition of working closely with communities. The community must remain at the core of everything that we do, because they are our greatest ally in detecting and preventing crime and in safeguarding the people we serve. Maintaining close relationships with communities is a key indicator of the effectiveness of our Divisional Force. We recognise that the concerns of the community are An Garda Síochána's concerns, that their needs are our needs.

This plan details the ways in which we will maintain our focus on, and commitment to, our core activity which is the prevention and detection of crime. All of the resources available to us will be used effectively and efficiently towards meeting this overall objective, from Gardaí on the beat and working in local units, to our specialist units, our national support services and our civilian support staff. We will proactively target people who are committing crimes of any nature. Through consultation with Joint Policing Committees (JPCs) and local communities we will maintain a strong focus on anti-social behaviour and public disorder, which greatly affect the quality of life in our communities.

Following successes in 2009, we will ensure, through the use of enforcement measures, (education and the promotion of a partnership based approach) that our roads are safe for all road users. We are dedicated to achieving a significant reduction in the incidence of fatal and serious collisions. All areas of activity will be informed by a focus on intelligence led operations, high visibility patrolling and a commitment to utilising our available resources to the greatest effect to deliver the best possible outcomes.

The overall aim of this Divisional Plan is to improve the quality of service we provide for all the people in this Division. In building on the relationship we have with the Community, we aim to further maintain and strengthen the beneficial partnerships already forged with statutory, community and business groups for the betterment of the Community.

Our vision is of excellent people delivering policing excellence. To this end, all new initiatives and projects will be developed in line with the fundamental principles of the Strategy.

_____ Chief Superintendent

(Francis Moore)

VISION

*`Excellent people delivering
policing excellence`*

MISSION

Working with Communities to Protect and Serve

VALUES

Honesty - Being honest and ethical and adhering to the principles of fairness and justice

Accountability - Accepting individual responsibility and ensuring public accountability

Respect - Having respect for people, their Human Rights and their needs

Professionalism - Providing a professional policing service to all

Priorities for An Garda Síochána for 2010 Determined by the Minister for Justice, Equality and Law Reform

Background

The function of the Garda Síochána under section 7 of the Garda Síochána Act 2005 is to provide policing and security services for the State with the objective of:

- (a) preserving peace and public order,
- (b) protecting life and property
- (c) vindicating the human rights of each individual
- (d) protecting the security of the State,
- (e) preventing crime
- (f) bringing criminals to justice, including by detecting and investigating crime,
- (g) regulating and controlling road traffic and improving road safety;

and carrying out such other functions conferred by law, including those relating to immigration.

In producing his policing plan the Garda Commissioner is required to have regard to the priorities of the Minister for Justice, Equality and Law Reform and to the Garda Strategy Statement. The Commissioner is also required to have regard to relevant Government policy. This includes the provisions of the Programme for Government and the specific Government strategies in relation to drugs, youth justice, victims of crime, road safety, and on domestic and sexual violence.

Priorities for 2010

The Minister has determined the following matters as priorities for the Garda Síochána for 2010, in accordance with Section 20 of the Garda Síochána Act 2005.

Security

To protect the State and the people against terrorism in all its forms.

Crime

To combat serious crime, in particular organised crime.

Policing Communities

To achieve the maximum levels of safety for local communities.

Customer Service

To complete and implement a Garda Charter which will improve the Garda response to calls for service and which will contain commitments on the level of community policing service which the public can expect from Gardaí.

Roads Policing

To police the roads, in particular to reduce the number of deaths and serious injuries arising from collisions.

Human Trafficking

To prevent and detect human trafficking and to protect victims.

Ensuring our Nation's Security

Ensuring our national security is a core commitment for An Garda Síochána. This goal demonstrates our unwavering focus on guarding national security and in playing an active role in strengthening international security. We are fully committed to maintaining a secure nation for all our communities

Key actions	This will be achieved by	Performance Indicators	Process Owner	Outcome
Identify and analyse any threat to national and international security and respond appropriately	Utilising our analysis and intelligence gathering capability to identify any threats to national and international security	No terrorist attacks occurring within the State	Divisional Officer	Monthly confidential report to be submitted.
Enhance our capability to respond to national and international security threats	Continued interaction, and information exchanges, with International Security and Police Agencies	Intelligence led operations targeted at groups and individuals involved in subversive and terrorist activity Enhanced intelligence gathering	Each District Officer Detective Inspector Boyle.	
Break any association between subversive, terrorist and organised crime gangs	Utilising all available legislation, including recently enacted law, to target groups and individuals involved in subversive, terrorist and serious criminal activity	Intelligence led operations targeted at associations between subversive, terrorist and organised crime	Inspector Mooney Portlaoise	Weekly reports to Crime & Security in relation to Prison Visits. Review of Standing Orders for Prison Escorts
Maintain and develop An Garda Síochána's Major Emergency Plans / Capabilities	Continued interaction between An Garda Síochána and State and Private Agencies to develop Major Emergency Management capabilities	Continue to carry out risk assessments for National Major Emergency plans	Divisional Officer. Inspector Prendergast Tullamore	Divisional Officer to chair Regional Steering Group Chair of the Regional Working Group Major Emergency (Table-Top) Exercise to be held in the Division 2010

Confronting Crime

In achieving this goal, An Garda Síochána will continue to confront crime in all its forms. Our aim, in reducing crime and the fear of crime, is to ensure that people feel safe in their homes and in their communities

Key actions	This will be achieved by	Performance Indicators	Process Owner	Outcome
<p>Tackle organised crime by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identifying, profiling and targeting organised crime gangs Targeting drug trafficking and low level street dealing Identifying and targeting assets which are the proceeds of crime Targeting human trafficking networks <p>Target high volume property crime and crimes against the person, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Crimes involving prohibited weapons Domestic violence incidents 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Intelligence led operations against groups and individuals Full utilisation of the Garda Síochána Analysis Service to identify emerging trends, crime hotspots and enabling the effective, and focused, deployment of resources Working in partnership with international law enforcement agencies to identify and target human trafficking networks Effective use of available resources <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increased crime prevention and reduction activities 	<p>Focused intelligence led operations against organised crime networks that pose the greatest threat</p> <p>Property crime reduced (Target-7)</p>	<p>Each District Officer</p> <p>D/Inspector Boyle</p> <p>Each Detective Sergeant</p> <p>Each District Officer</p> <p>D/Inspector Boyle</p> <p>Each Detective Sergeant</p>	<p>Criminal Elements involved in Organised Crime and Brothel Keeping will continue to receive Garda Attention</p> <p><u>Target -7</u></p> <p>Uniform / D/Branch/ Traffic to Visit vulnerable premises (post Offices, Banks , other Financial Institutions and cash premises) in the course of their duty with Post Offices to receive particular attention on Tuesday's and Friday 's.</p> <p>Increase number of Checkpoints (inc Mandatory Alcohol Testing {M.A.T.}) to stop and collate the movement of travelling criminals.</p> <p>Increase use of intelligence to target known suspects through the Criminal Intelligence Officers (C.I.O.)</p> <p>Divisional Crime Management Team to meet on the last Friday of every month to develop a strategy to reduce the number of</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Active engagement with the community to deal with the threat posed by crime • Working in partnership with relevant stakeholders and providing investigative support where appropriate 	<p>Increased detections for property related crime (Target 8)</p> <p>Crimes against the person reduced (Target 9)</p>	<p>Each District Officer D/Inspector Boyle Each Detective Sergeant</p> <p>Each District Officer D/Inspector Boyle Each Detective Sergeant</p>	<p>Burglaries and Robberies in the Division.</p> <p><u>Target -8</u> 100% attendance at training in Investigative Interviewing of Witnesses & Suspects. All prisoners detained to be Photographed and Fingerprinted and a weekly return submitted to Divisional Officer, in line with instructions issued.</p> <p><u>Target 9</u> Ongoing liaison with Vintners to regulate the movement of patrons at peak times and on-going review of premises with Extension Orders.</p> <p>Increase foot patrols in high risk areas (Operation Encounter)</p> <p>On going liaison with local County / Town Councils, through the J.P.C's to improve the regulation of licensed fast-food outlets.</p>
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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Crimes of a sexual nature <p>Enhance organisational capability in managing the risks associated with sex offenders</p> <p>Support the Forensic Science Laboratory in the development of the DNA database</p> <p>Deliver appropriate training in the management and investigation of crime</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consultation with key stakeholders, and relevant agencies, to enhance the services provided to the victims of domestic violence and sexual crimes <p>Risk assess all persons subject to the provisions of the Sex Offenders Act 2001</p> <p>Ensure effective structures and processes are in place to progress its development</p> <p>Progress the development and delivery of appropriate training programmes by the Crime Training Faculty</p>	<p>Increased detections for crimes against the person(Target 10)</p> <p>All persons subject to the provisions of the Sexual Offenders Act 2001 risk assessed (Target 11)</p> <p>Structures developed in consultation with Forensic Science Laboratory Crime management and investigative capability enhanced</p>	<p>Each District Officer D/Inspector Boyle</p> <p>Each Detective Sergeant</p> <p>Insp Mooney (Laois) Insp Murray (Offaly)</p>	<p><u>Target 10</u> Increase number of persons to be trained in XRY phone analysis.</p> <p>Divisional Public Order Unit Training (Q1 of 2010) All Assaults Causing Harm to be discussed at Weekly Performance & Accountability Meeting</p> <p><u>Target 11</u> Monthly report to be submitted outlining details of all Registered Sex Offenders Assessed/ to be Assessed.</p>
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Effective Roads Policing

An Garda Síochána is committed to making our roads safer and improving the behaviour of all road users. We are dedicated to achieving a reduction in the incidence of fatal and serious collisions on our roads during the lifetime of this Strategy. We will develop and implement initiatives which deny the use of our roads for criminal activity.

Key actions	This will be achieved by	Performance Indicators	Process Owner	Outcome
<p>Intelligence led enforcement of Road Traffic and Road Transport Legislation</p> <p>Develop a cohesive approach to road safety campaigns</p> <p>Increase roads policing capability in An Garda Síochána to deny the use of our roads for criminal activity</p>	<p>Continuing to deliver high visibility enforcement by targeting dangerous road user behaviour and:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Determining the incidents of breaches of Road Transport legislation using available data • Full utilisation of detection equipment and enabling technology • Deployment of safety cameras at collision prone zones <p>Availing of all opportunities to highlight the importance of safe road use through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Targeted media campaigns during high risk periods and at major events • The delivery of Road Safety education, in association with the Road Safety Authority, to schools and colleges • Cooperation with relevant stakeholders, including consulting with Local Authorities during collision investigations <p>Denying the use of our roads for criminal activity by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conducting intelligence led checkpoints and patrols • The continued development of the Automated Number Plate Recognition System • Increasing levels and quality of intelligence • Provision of appropriate resources and training to ensure effective roads policing 	<p>Deaths and serious injuries reduced (Target 14)</p> <p>Deployment of safety cameras at collision prone zones completed.</p> <p>Targets, appropriate to An Garda Síochána, as set out in the Road Safety Strategy 2007-2012 achieved in the following areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased compliance with speed limits • Increased compliance with drink driving legislation • Increased seatbelt wearing <p>Roads Policing manual completed</p>	<p>Each District Officer</p> <p>Inspector Cashen (Traffic)</p> <p>Sergeant I/C Traffic Portlaoise and Tullamore</p>	<p><u>Target 14</u></p> <p>Reduce the Number of Fatal & Serious Injury collisions (Combined for 2009 = 27) by,</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Greater visibility on all Major Roads at Bank Holidays & on days when major sporting events are taking place. <p>Improved enforcement in Collision Prone Zones.</p> <p>Increase number of M.A.T Checkpoints.</p> <p>More effective and frequent use of speed detection vehicle (R.O.B.O.T).</p> <p>More effective use of Automated Number Plate Recognition (A.N.P.R.) equipment.</p> <p>District Collision Prevention Teams to meet every quarter to consider road safety issues and make proposals to the N.R.A and County Councils.</p> <p>Road safety talk “it won’t happen to me” to be delivered to all transition year students.</p> <p>Strong enforcement policy against “Boy Racers”.</p>

Ensuring a Peaceful Community

An Garda Síochána recognises the need to engage directly with communities to understand and respond to their concerns and to ensure a peaceful and safe environment for everyone. Working with our communities will enhance public confidence in our service by improving feelings of safety in the community.

Key actions:	This will be achieved by:	Performance Indicators	Process Owner	Outcome
<p>Reduce public disorder, assaults and criminal damage</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identifying and proactively targeting local 'hot spots' A faster response to reports of public disorder and anti-social behaviour Adopting a low tolerance stance to alcohol and drug-related anti-social behaviour and youth crime The introduction of a youth crime case management system An increase in the use of Behaviour Warnings and Civil Orders (Anti Social Behaviour Orders). Consultation with relevant stakeholders on key issues and problems 	<p>Public disorder reduced (Target 18)</p> <p>Assaults reduced (Target 19 as at Target 9)</p> <p>Criminal damage reduced (Target 20)</p> <p>Youth crime case management system introduced in all Garda divisions</p>	<p>Divisional Officer</p> <p>Each District Officer</p> <p>Each Inspector</p> <p>Divisional Officer</p> <p>Each District Officer</p> <p>Each Inspector</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Target 18</u></p> <p>Ongoing liaison with Vintners Federation of Ireland to regulate the movement of patrons at peak times. (one per Quarter in each District)</p> <p>Increase foot patrols in high risk areas (Operation Encounter)</p> <p>On going liaison with local County / Town Councils, through the J.P.C's to improve the regulation of licensed fast-food outlets and Improve Street lighting.</p> <p>Improved use of CCTV in Portlaoise and Tullamore</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>Target 20</u></p> <p>Greater Management of night time economy.</p> <p>More crime prevention advice to persons on the dangers of leaving valuables on display in Mechanically Propelled Vehicles (M.P.V's).</p> <p>Business Watch Gardaí to visit vulnerable premises and offer advice on leaving high value items on display during the hours of darkness.</p> <p>Daily analyses of Criminal Damage incidents to ensure all are properly recorded.</p>
<p>Improved understanding and responsiveness to community needs</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Adopting a community policing approach in partnership with relevant external stakeholders, including local communities, to reduce incidents of public disorder and anti social behaviour 	<p>The 'Feelings of Safety' in communities increased</p>		

Working with Communities

This goal acknowledges that a community based approach is a priority for An Garda Síochána, in order to build and maintain trust and confidence in the Garda service.

We will deliver a service that recognises the diverse needs and priorities of all the people and communities in Ireland.

Key actions:	This will be achieved by:	Performance Indicators	Process Owner	Outcome
Work with and support all sections of our community	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Delivery of the National Model of Community Policing • Implementation of Garda Diversity Strategy • Implementation of the Strategy for Older People • Implementation of the Garda Youth and Children Strategy 	<p>National Model of Community Policing delivered</p> <p>Garda Diversity Strategy implemented</p>	<p>Divisional Officer</p> <p>Each District Officer</p> <p>Each Inspector</p>	<p>Community Policing Personnel to be allocated to specific Estates/ Areas where anti-social behaviour is prevalent</p> <p>An open 'Diversity Day' to be held in each District Headquarters by 31/12/2010</p> <p>Ethnic Liaison Officers to continue building relationships at local level</p>
Develop a Garda charter		<p>Strategy for Older People implemented</p> <p>The Garda Youth and Children Strategy implemented</p>		<p>Register of Elderly / vulnerable to be established in each District</p>
A partnership approach to solving community problems	Playing an active role in the operation of Joint Policing Committees and working in partnership with community groups	<p>Garda Charter developed and implementation commenced</p> <p>Participation in all established Joint Policing Committees</p>	<p>Divisional Officer</p> <p>Each District Officer</p> <p>Each Inspector</p>	<p>Community Policing Gardaí and Gardaí with a Community Policing role will actively engage with Community Groups in solving anti-social behaviour and other problems within the community</p>
Engaging with and supporting victims of crime	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assessing and reviewing the 'letters to crime victims' process • Review victim support mechanisms • Launch, and commence implementation of, the Garda Charter for crime victims 	<p>Recommendations of the review of 'letters to crime victims' implemented</p> <p>Policy developed and implementation commenced to enhance victim support mechanisms</p> <p>Garda Charter for Crime Victims launched and implementation commenced)</p>		<p>In conjunction with letters to victims of crime, Injured Parties to be informed in writing when a suspect is made amenable for crime.</p> <p>Investigating member to re-visit elderly /vulnerable victims of crime, offer help ,support and crime prevention advice where needed.</p>

