

An Garda Síochána



Annual Policing Plan 2013

Laois / Offaly Division

Foreword

The 2013 Laois/Offaly Annual Policing Plan is the first step towards the implementation of the Garda Síochána Strategy Statement 2013 – 2015, and incorporates the priorities determined for An Garda Síochána by the Minister for Justice and Equality, and will be achieved through four strategic goals:

- Securing our Nation
- Proactive Policing Operations
- Ensuring Safe Communities
- Delivering a Professional Service

In line with all public sector organisations, An Garda Síochána is operating under budgetary constraints. The challenge which faces all members of An Garda Síochána is to maintain the delivery of effective policing services while simultaneously engaging in a fundamental organisational renewal programme. We will maintain our focus on the development of a highly professional organisation to ensure that members of the community receive an excellent policing service.

Once again, the local communities remain at the forefront of our programme. We are committed to maintaining and deepening the long established relationship An Garda Síochána has with all members of the community. This will be achieved through or continued work as community based/partnership approach within the Laois/Offaly Division.

This plan reiterates our unrelenting commitment to our primary objective of prevention and detection of crime to ensure that people feel safe in their homes, on our roads and in our communities. All of the resources available in the Laois/Offaly Division will be used effectively and efficiently towards meeting this overall objective. We will proactively confront crime in all its forms, through the use of intelligence technology and the deployment of resources to meet operational demands.

Road Safety remains an issue of paramount importance. We are dedicated to achieving a significant reduction in the incidence of fatal and serious collisions on our roads coupled with working tirelessly to improve the behaviour of all road users, and deny the use of our roads for criminal activity.

All areas of Garda activity in the Laois/Offaly Division will be informed by a commitment to intelligence-led operations; high visibility patrolling; and by utilising all our available resources to the greatest effect to deliver the best possible outcomes.

The cornerstone of our operation is our work with communities to identify their greatest needs and to maximise our impact on their safety and security. As we implement this plan in 2013, we remain committed to delivering the highest standards of professional policing for the benefit of the community as a whole.

John B Scanlan

John B Scanlan
Chief Superintendent

Policing Priorities for An Garda Síochána for 2013

Determined by the Minister for Justice and Equality

The Minister, under the provisions of section 20 of the Garda Síochána Act 2005, has determined the following matters as priorities for the Garda Síochána for 2013.

Security

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

Crime

To combat serious crime in all its forms, in particular violent crime, organised crime including human trafficking, and white collar crime

Policing Communities

To provide a policing service which meets the needs of local communities, tackles antisocial behaviour and burglary and supports the needs of victims of crime, treats them with dignity and keeps them informed about the progress of cases relevant to them

Roads Policing

To continue to reduce the number of deaths and serious injuries on our roads arising from collisions

Domestic and Sexual Violence

To prevent domestic, sexual and gender-based violence and to effectively tackle such violence when it occurs

Efficient use of resources

To maximise efficiencies in resource allocation and deployment of personnel, while maintaining professional policing standards across the Force

Goal One: Securing Our Nation

Ensuring our National Security is a key priority for An Garda Síochána. We are committed to maintaining national security and will continue our role in safeguarding international security

Initiative	This will be achieved by	Performance Indicators	Process Owner	Outcome
Targeted operations against terrorist and extremist groups, including dissident republican	An Garda Síochána will continue to improve its intelligence capabilities. On the basis of this intelligence, An Garda Síochána will target threats from terrorist, extremist and organised crime groups with links to terrorist groups	National security maintained through targeted operations in the Laois/Offaly Division	Each Chief Superintendent, Inspector SIO <i>Operation Obair</i>	A Secure State
Targeted operations against organised criminal activity, involving terrorist groups	An Garda Síochána will continue to share relevant intelligence with international partners. Information will also be analysed from partner agencies about threats to Ireland’s own security	Garda major emergency plans updated and major emergency exercises conducted in the Laois/Offaly Division	Each Superintendent	Active Role in International Security
Continued exchange of information and intelligence with appropriate domestic and international agencies	An Garda Síochána will work with relevant agencies to ensure that, in the event of major emergencies, the organisation has the capability to respond effectively at a national and local level		Each Superintendent	Active Role in International Security
Enhanced level of readiness for major emergencies	An Garda Síochána will actively manage the security arrangements for all EU Presidency related events occurring in Ireland	EU Presidency security maintained, in relation to any events occurring within the Laois/Offaly Division		

Goal Two: Proactive Policing Operations

An Garda Síochána is committed to protecting the public from serious harm. Working with our partners we will develop targeted policing operations to reduce crime and ensure safety on our roads

Initiative	This will be achieved by	Performance Indicators	Process Owner	Outcome
Information-led policing operations to combat crime	Successful information led interventions, based on intelligence and analysis, will be used to generate reductions in crime			
Continue to target property crime and persistent offenders	<p>Target the most prolific offenders involved in property crime</p> <p>Target property incidents such as robberies and aggravated burglaries that use threats of violence</p>	Reduced property crime and increased detection rates in the Laois/Offaly Division	<p>Each Superintendent</p> <p>Inspector SIO <i>Operation Obair</i></p>	Reduced crime
Use all available means to deny criminals the use of our roads for criminal activity	An Garda Síochána will use intelligence and technology to target and disrupt individuals and groups using the roads networks for criminal purposes. This will contribute to the overall reductions in crime and improve road safety			

Goal Two: Proactive Policing Operations

An Garda Síochána is committed to protecting the public from serious harm. Working with our partners we will develop targeted policing operations to reduce crime and ensure safety on our roads

Initiative	This will be achieved by	Performance Indicators	Process Owner	Outcome
<p>Actively address all forms of Violent Crime</p> <p>Work with all our partners to help prevent and reduce the threat posed by crime</p>	<p>An Garda Síochána will continue to work to reduce violent crime through strong enforcement and prevention strategies</p> <p>An Garda Síochána will strive to ensure that individuals feel confident that they can report sexual offences and/or domestic violence and that the organisation will pursue the investigation of these offences with vigour</p> <p>Two national media events completed with the aim of increasing public awareness of An Garda Síochána’s policy relating to the investigation of incidents of sexual abuse, crimes against children or incidents of domestic violence</p> <p>An Garda Síochána will seek to work effectively with all national and local groups (such as Joint Policing Committees, community and businesses organisations) to prevent and reduce the threat posed by crime</p>	<p>Violent crime reduced and detections increased in the Laois/Offaly Division</p> <p>Garda Policy on Domestic and Sexual Violence reviewed in the Laois/Offaly Division</p> <p>Participation in Media campaigns, where requested in the Laois/Offaly Division</p> <p>Increase feelings of safety in communities in the Laois/Offaly Division</p>	<p>Each Superintendent Laois/Offaly</p> <p>Inspector SIO <i>Operation Obair</i></p> <p>Each Superintendent Laois/Offaly</p> <p>Each Superintendent Laois/Offaly</p> <p>Each Superintendent Laois/Offaly</p>	<p align="center">Reduce Crime</p>

Goal Two: Proactive Policing Operations

An Garda Síochána is committed to protecting the public from serious harm. Working with our partners we will develop targeted policing operations to reduce crime and ensure safety on our roads

Initiative	This will be achieved by	Performance Indicators	Process Owner	Outcome
Target organised crime, human and drug trafficking networks	The identification and targeting of organised crime groups, whose activities have such a negative impact on communities across the country (for example, trading in drugs, illegal goods, and human trafficking for the purpose of sexual and labour exploitation)	Organised crime groups within the Laois/Offaly Division targeted and disrupted	Each Superintendent Laois/Offaly Inspector SIO <i>Operation Obair</i>	Reduce Crime
Effective investigation of those who engage in white collar and financial crime	An Garda Síochána will work in conjunction with relevant partner agencies and institutions to identify and investigate groups and individuals involved in white collar/financial crime	Targeted operations against individuals, groups or organisations engaging in white collar / financial crime within the Laois/Offaly Division	Each Superintendent Laois/Offaly Inspector SIO <i>Operation Obair</i>	

Goal Two: Proactive Policing Operations

An Garda Síochána is committed to protecting the public from serious harm. Working with our partners we will develop targeted policing operations to reduce crime and ensure safety on our roads

Initiative	This will be achieved by	Performance Indicators	Process Owner	Outcome
<p>Work in partnership with other agencies to successfully enforce our roads policing strategy</p> <p>Targeted traffic enforcement to reduce deaths and serious injuries on our roads and to challenge dangerous road user behaviour</p>	<p>Actions appropriate to An Garda Síochána as set out in the Government Road Safety Strategy 2013-2020 will be achieved</p> <p>An Garda Síochána will use targeted enforcement, based on intelligence and analysis, as well as education and prevention programmes to reduce serious injuries and fatalities</p> <p>The development and implementation of a Roads Policing Plan</p>	<p>Actions appropriate to An Garda Síochána, as set out in the Government Road Safety Strategy 2013 – 2020 achieved in the Laois/Offaly Division</p> <p>Reduced fatalities and serious injuries through High Visibility Policing by all uniform operational personnel in the Laois/Offaly Division</p> <p>Increased compliance with Road Traffic legislation through enhanced visibility and community engagement in the Laois/Offaly Division</p> <p>Roads Policing Operations Plan implemented in each District in the Laois/Offaly Division</p>	<p>Each Superintendent Laois/Offaly</p> <p>Each Superintendent Laois/Offaly</p> <p>Each Superintendent Laois/Offaly</p>	<p align="center">Safer Roads</p>

<p align="center">Goal Three: Ensuring Safe Communities</p> <p align="center">An Garda Síochána acknowledges the importance of community based policing. Working in partnership with communities we will continue to tackle the behaviours that affect our communities' quality of life.</p>				
Initiative	This will be achieved by	Performance Indicators	Process Owner	Outcome
<p>Active community engagement to develop appropriate policing strategies that meet the needs and priorities of communities</p> <p>Support and protect vulnerable and diverse sections of our communities through community policing and proactive engagement</p> <p>Continue to support victims of crime and improve the services available to them</p> <p>Continue to foster positive relationships with children and young people to promote their personal and community safety</p>	<p>In order to ensure active community engagement, An Garda Síochána will continue to engage with all community groups and Joint Policing Committees. The existing model of community policing will be adapted to meet local needs</p> <p>An Garda Síochána will ensure that victims of crime are kept updated. We will also continue to review our policies and practices in order to ensure that the best available police service is given to victims of crime</p> <p>An Garda Síochána will ensure delivery of the Garda Schools programme and use a range of other approaches, from youth groups through to social media, to engage with young people</p>	<p>Increased feelings of safety in communities in each Division through enhanced visibility and engagement</p> <p>Increased levels of confidence and satisfaction in An Garda Síochána amongst victims of crime</p> <p>Enhanced engagement with children and young people in the Laois/Offaly Division</p>	<p>Each Superintendent Laois/Offaly</p>	<p align="center">Safe Homes</p>

Goal Three: Ensuring Safe Communities

An Garda Síochána acknowledges the importance of community based policing. Working in partnership with communities we will continue to tackle the behaviours that affect our communities' quality of life.

Initiative	This will be achieved by	Performance Indicators	Process Owner	Outcome
Targeted local crime reduction and prevention initiatives	An Garda Síochána will develop local crime reduction programmes in conjunction with all stakeholders thereby contributing to increased feelings of safety in the community	Increased feelings of safety in each District in the Laois/Offaly Division	Each Superintendent Laois/Offaly	Safe Communities
Working in partnership, we will continue to tackle public disorder and anti social behaviour that will affect a community's quality of life	Working with relevant communities and business groups we will seek to continue reducing public disorder and tackle anti-social behaviour	Reduced public order incidents	Each Superintendent Laois/Offaly	
Provision of a visible and responsive policing service	An Garda Síochána will use new work systems, innovative analysis and technology (such as new command and dispatch centres) in order to ensure that the organisation responds as quickly as possible to emergency calls	Participation in CAD Project to establish New regional command and dispatch centres operational	Each Superintendent Laois/Offaly	

Goal Four: Delivering a Professional Service				
An Garda Síochána will continue to use all available resources efficiently to ensure the delivery of a professional policing service				
Initiative	This will be achieved by	Performance Indicators	Process Owner	Outcome
Develop new approaches to policing aimed at sustaining service delivery in line with our budget and resources	An Garda Síochána will develop new structures and processes that ensure we can maintain our policing capability with reducing resources	Participation in establishing New structures and processes piloted with a view to testing their effectiveness in delivering policing	Each Superintendent Laois/Offaly	Best Use of Resources
	An Garda Síochána will proactively engage with staff associations and trade unions on all key change and development programmes	Regular constructive engagement under the Partnership Framework with staff associations and trade unions		
	Restructure the organisation to best meet the challenges of criminal activity and public demands	As part of the restructuring of the organisation we will complete a District and Station rationalisation programme	Station rationalisation programme completed in the Laois/Offaly Division	
Maintain and develop the knowledge and skills of our people to ensure we are capable of tackling crime and meeting the needs of our communities	An Garda Síochána will identify the development and welfare needs of our people and, where possible, deliver new and innovative approaches to meet these needs	Participation in establishing Alternative approaches to training (for example, on-line training, pre-learning) developed and implemented	Each Superintendent Laois/Offaly	

Goal Four: Delivering a Professional Service				
An Garda Síochána will continue to use all available resources efficiently to ensure the delivery of a professional policing service				
Initiative	This will be achieved by	Performance Indicators	Process Owner	Outcome
Continue to enhance our organisation's performance and accountability systems	We will review the outcome of the pilot Performance, Accountability and Learning Framework and commence implementation for all members within the organisation Completion of Garda Professional Standards planned examinations and Garda Internal Audit inspections	Participation in National implementation of the Performance and Accountability and Learning Framework commenced Garda Professional Standards Unit and Garda Internal Audit Section scheduled work plans completed	Each Superintendent Laois/Offaly	Enhanced Service Delivery
Harness technology and information to generate efficiencies in the delivery of a policing service	The organisation will continue to review and implement technology that can support the work of the organisation in a more efficient manner	New technology implemented to support the Garda organisation		
Reduce the organisation's cost base by exploring shared service opportunities across the public service	The organisation will proactively participate in relevant and compatible public sector shared service initiatives in line with government policy	Active participation in public sector shared service initiatives		

District and Station Rationalisation

Table D - lists (3) Garda Station closures.

Table D: Listing of One Hundred (100) Garda Stations proposed for closure				
No	Region	Division	Current District	Station
93	Eastern	Laois/Offaly	Portlaoise	Ballacolla
94	Eastern	Laois/Offaly	Birr	Shannonbridge
95	Eastern	Laois/Offaly	Portlaoise	Ballinakill