



An Garda Síochána

Policy Document

ANTI-CORRUPTION POLICY

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Approved by	Garda Executive
Introduced by	HQ Directive 15 / 2021
Policy Owner	Assistant Commissioner, Governance & Accountability

Purpose

Public confidence in An Garda Síochána depends on all Garda Personnel demonstrating the highest level of personal and professional standards of behaviour at all times.

The aims of this Policy and its related documents are to prevent corruption, protect the reputation and integrity of An Garda Síochána and maintain public confidence in the quality of the policing service provided.

The implementation of this Policy will ensure the highest standards of conduct and behaviour are promoted and maintained by Garda Personnel. This Policy will promote integrity and professionalism across the Organisation and also support the achievement of our mission - *'Keeping People Safe'*.

Scope

This document and all associated documentation applies to members of An Garda Síochána (including Garda Reserves), Garda Staff, and to Police Officers from the Police Service of Northern Ireland (PSNI) seconded to An Garda Síochána in accordance with [Section 53, Garda Síochána Act 2005](#).

Policy Statement

An Garda Síochána is committed to a culture centred on the [Code of Ethics for the Garda Síochána](#). The Organisations values of Honesty, Accountability, Respect, Professionalism and Empathy have been subsumed by and built upon in the Code of Ethics.

An Garda Síochána will not tolerate corruption in the delivery of policing services. Those who knowingly engage in corrupt and improper practice will be pursued, using all options available, including criminal and disciplinary processes.

Having reviewed international best Policing practice An Garda Síochána has developed the following definition of Corruption:

Corruption - is the abuse of a position of trust in order to gain an undue advantage. Corruption includes the abuse of power by an individual, for private and/or organisational gain, favour, advancement or reward and/or that is inconsistent with the proper practice of an individual's office, employment or responsibilities.

Corruption in a policing context can manifest itself in a variety of ways and at any level of the Organisation. An Garda Síochána has an obligation to protect people from the risks and effects of corrupt behaviour. It undermines the ability of An Garda Síochána to police Communities in a professional, impartial and ethical way.

The Garda Anti-Corruption Unit will support our people, our Organisation and the Public by keeping Garda Personnel safe from vulnerability to corruption. This will be achieved by continuing to build on An Garda Síochána's tradition of policing with integrity.

The Garda Anti-Corruption Unit will promote organisational integrity and professionalism through the prevention, identification, and where necessary, the investigation of corruption. An Garda Síochána is

committed to supporting an environment where Garda Personnel feel safe and confident to report any form of corruption.

Details on how to report corruption in the strictest confidence can be obtained at '[How to Report Corruption in An Garda Síochána](#)' which is on the [Garda Anti-Corruption Unit Team Page](#) on the Garda Portal.

Where corruption is identified it will be dealt with proportionately and effectively. Those who knowingly engage in corrupt and improper practices will be pursued, using all available criminal and or disciplinary sanctions, as appropriate.

Compliance

Compliance with this Policy and its associated documents is mandatory for all Garda Personnel.

Related Documents

1. [An Garda Síochána Code, Volume I](#)
2. [An Garda Síochána \(Finance\) Code, Volume II](#)
3. [Civil Service Circular 19/2016 - Civil Service Disciplinary Code](#)
4. [Civil Service Code of Standards and Behaviour](#)
5. [Code of Ethics for the Garda Síochána](#)
6. [Criminal Justice \(Corruption Offences\) Act 2018](#)
7. [Data Protection Act, 2018](#)
8. [Data Protection Code of Practice for An Garda Síochána](#)
9. [\(EU\) General Data Protection Regulation \(GDPR\) \(\(EU\) 2016/679\)](#)
10. [Garda College Academic Regulations and Procedures 2018](#)
11. [Garda Síochána Act, 2005, as amended](#)
12. [Garda Síochána \(Discipline\) Regulations, 2007, as amended](#)
13. [Garda Trainee and Probationer Handbook](#)
14. [HQ Directive 32/2018 - Acceptance of Gifts, Hospitality and Sponsorship](#)
15. [HQ Directive No. 002/2014 - Anti-Fraud Policy](#)
16. [HQ Directive No. 159/2008 – Notes on Disciplinary Procedures under the Garda Síochána \(Discipline\) Regulations, 2007](#)
17. [HQ Directive No. 19/2019 – Human Rights Framework](#)
18. [HQ Directive No. 37/2019 – Garda Decision Making Model \(GDMM\)](#)
19. [HQ Directive No. 72/2014 – Protected Disclosures Act 2014](#)
20. [Misuse of Drugs Act, 1977/84 as amended](#)
21. [Professional Boundaries & Abuse of Power for Sexual Gain Policy](#)
22. [Safety, Health & Welfare at Work Act 2005](#)
23. [S.I. 470/2013 Garda Síochána \(Admissions and Appointments\) Regulations 2013](#)
24. [Standards in Public Office Act, 2001](#)
25. [Substance Misuse \(Controlled Drugs\) Policy](#)
26. [The Ethics Acts \(Ethics in Public Office Act 1995 & 2001\)](#)
27. [The European Code of Police Ethics](#)

Legal & Human Rights Screening

This Policy has been Legal and Human Rights screened in terms of the respective obligations placed on An Garda Síochána for the subject area concerned.

Ethical Standards & Commitments

Every person working in An Garda Síochána must observe and adhere to the standards and commitments set out in the Code of Ethics for the Garda Síochána and uphold and promote this Code throughout the Organisation.

Policy & Procedure Review

This Policy and associated documents will be reviewed twelve (12) months from its date of effect and every three (3) years thereafter.

Disclaimer

This document is not intended to, nor does it represent legal advice to be relied upon in respect of the subject matter contained herein. This document should not be used as a substitute for professional legal advice.

Policy & Procedure Document Feedback

The Policy and Governance Co-ordination Unit maintains a Policy Issues Log. Where there are potential issues regarding the implementation of the processes set out in this document, please forward an outline of same through the relevant Divisional Office to the Section mailbox policy.governance@garda.ie. Divisional submissions will be recorded in the Policy Issues Log and forwarded to the Policy Owner for whatever action deemed necessary.

(Please note that where there is an urgent issue arising regarding the implementation of this Policy document, it should be clearly flagged as urgent/important and also reported directly to First Line Supervisors/Managers to ensure it is addressed).

General Data Protection Regulations/Directive 2016/680/EU and Criminal Justice Authorities Directive.

Personal data shall only be processed for the purposes specified in this policy and within a clearly defined lawful basis under the EU General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) ((EU) 2016/679) and the Data Protection Acts 1988/2018. All necessary measures will be put in place to ensure personal data is kept safe and secure. Only authorised personnel shall have access to personal data. Only relevant personal data will be processed and will not be retained for longer than is necessary.