



An Garda Síochána

Policy Document

Driving Official Vehicles

Effective Date	24/07/2025
Version No.	0.1
Approved by	Garda Executive
Introduced by	HQ Directive 046/2025
Policy Owner	Assistant Commissioner, Community Engagement and Roads Policing

Purpose

The purpose of this Policy document and its accompanying Procedure document is to provide direction on driving official vehicles in An Garda Síochána in line with the Garda mission of 'keeping people safe'.

Compliance with this Policy and accompanying Procedure document is mandatory for all Garda personnel.

The fundamental aims of An Garda Síochána, in this regard, are to:

- Provide a structure and process for applying and prioritising applications to drive Garda vehicles.
- Deliver effective task-appropriate driver training to all personnel
- Ensuring that all Garda vehicles are fully roadworthy and checked routinely for defects
- Promote responsible use of Garda vehicles displaying best driving practices

An Garda Síochána is affiliated with the Emergency Services Driving Standard (ESDS) as administered by the Road Safety Authority (RSA).

Scope

This Policy and all associated documentation apply to all Garda personnel, including officers from the Police Service of Northern Ireland (PSNI) seconded to An Garda Síochána in accordance with Section 94, the Policing, Security and Community Safety Act 2024. It takes account of Driving Standards, the Authorisation to Drive application process, Vehicle Roadworthiness, Medical Requirements, Decision Making and Driving Safety.

Policy Statement

An Garda Síochána aims to effectively and efficiently manage how it delivers task appropriate driver training and promotes best driving practices.

This policy and accompanying procedure document aim to ensure consistent service delivery and maintenance of robust governance and performance across all aspect of driving official vehicles.

Compliance

Compliance with this Policy and accompanying associated document(s) is mandatory for all members of An Garda Síochána and Garda staff.

Related Documents

[HQ Directive 11/2024 Allegations of intoxicating driving involving members of An Garda Síochána](#)

[HQ Directive 16/2024 Call Handling and Incident response](#)

[HQ Directive 38/2020 Governance regarding the Use of Official Vehicles](#)

[Code of Ethics for the Garda Síochána](#)

[HQ Directive 37/2019 Garda Decision Making Model](#)

[HQ Directive 22/2016 Section 87 of the Road Traffic Act 2010, as amended](#)

[HQ Directive 54/2014 Duty to report breaches of the Road Traffic Acts](#)

[HQ Directive 99/2009 National Digital Radio Services Policy & Procedures](#)



Cancellations and Replacement of Existing Policy and associated document(s)

1. [HQ Directive 60/07](#)
2. [HQ Directive 44/2019](#)
3. [Garda Code 35.2, 35.11, 35.20, 35.21, 35.23, 35.24 \(4\),\(5\), 35.30, 35.32, 35.34, 35.35, 35.55, 35.64](#)

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 An Garda Síochána and uphold and promote this Code throughout the organisation.

Policy & Procedure Review

This Policy and associated documents will be reviewed 12 months from its date of effect and every three 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.