



AN TÚDARÁS PÓILÍNEACHTA POLICING AUTHORITY

Policing Authority appoints an Assistant Commissioner in the Garda Síochána.

The Policing Authority is pleased to announce that it has appointed Chief Superintendent Barry O Brien to the rank of Assistant Commissioner of the Garda Síochána. This is the third senior appointment that the Authority has made since the commencement of its statutory appointment functions on 1 January 2017.

The appointment is made following a selection competition that involved a three-staged process, conducted in accordance with the statutory framework and the Authority's Statement of Practice.

09/05/2017

ENDS

Notes for Editors

Biography of Assistant Commissioner Barry O Brien

Assistant Commissioner Barry O Brien joined an Garda Síochána in 1982. He has served in Coolock, The Crime Task Force, Garda Headquarters, Longford, The Garda National Drugs Unit, Donnybrook and Castlebar. Currently he is Divisional Officer for the D.M.R. Northern Division.

He has headed a number of portfolios including Head of the Garda S.M.I Review Team and was chair of the National Drugs Strategy Team N.D.S.T. . Assistant Commissioner O Brien was Operational Commander for the Europa Cup Final and the O.S.C.E. International Security Conference. He was the Officer in charge of the investigation into allegations of abuse at the Áras Attracta Care facility, Swinford Co. May and the murder of David Byrne at the Regency Hotel Drumcondra.

Assistant Commissioner O Brien holds an M.B.A. from UCD Michael Smurfit Graduate Business School. He is married with three children and is a native of Raheny, Dublin.

Policing Authority Selection Process

The Authority's functions under section 13 of the Garda Síochána Act 2005 relating to appointments to the ranks of Assistant Commissioner, Chief Superintendent and Superintendent were commenced with effect from 1 January 2017. The Assistant Commissioner competition was announced on the Policing Authority

website on 25th January 2017. Officers with at least two years at the rank of Inspector were eligible to apply.

The selection process was conducted by a Selection Board appointed by the Authority, which included an external Chair. Applications were shortlisted and preliminary interviews took place between the 6th and 10th March. Final competitive interviews were held on 21st March. When the selection process concluded, the Authority established a Panel of candidates, for appointment in the order of merit determined by the Selection Board, if and when positions in the Assistant Commissioner rank fall to be filled.

Future competitions

A selection competition to appoint a person(s) to the rank of Chief Superintendent in the Garda Síochána is currently underway. A further competition for the rank of Superintendent will be held in the coming months.