

**ANNUAL REPORT**

**ON THE OPERATION OF THE**

**WATERFORD CITY & COUNTY JOINT**

**POLICING COMMITTEE (JPC)**

**FOR YEAR ENDING 31<sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER 2016**

## **Introduction**

This document constitutes the Annual Report of the Waterford City & County Joint Policing Committee (JPC) for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2016

The report has been prepared in the context of the Joint Policing Committee Amended Guidelines 2014 jointly issued by the Minister for Justice and Equality and the Minister for Environment, Community and Local Government and in specific accordance with Section 36(5) of the Garda Síochána Act 2005.

## **Background**

Legislation: Section 36 (1) of the Garda Síochána Act 2005 provides for the establishment of Joint Policing Committees to serve as a forum for consultations, discussions and recommendations on matters affecting the policing of the local authority's administrative area.

## **Functions of a JPC**

The functions of JPCs set out in section 36(2) of the Garda Síochána Act, state the following:

“The Joint Policing Committee's function is to serve as a forum for consultations, discussions and recommendations on matters affecting the policing of the local authority's administrative area, and in particular to –

(a) keep under review -

(i) the levels and patterns of crime, disorder and anti-social behaviour in that area (including the patterns and levels of misuse of alcohol and drugs), and

(ii) the factors underlying and contributing to the levels of crime, disorder and anti-social behaviour in the area,

(b) advise the local authority concerned and the Garda Síochána on how they might best perform their functions having regard to the need to do everything feasible to improve the safety and quality of life and to prevent crime, disorder and anti-social behaviour within the area,

(c) arrange and host public meetings concerning matters affecting the policing of the local authority's administrative area,

(d) establish, in consultation with the local Garda superintendent, as the committee considers necessary within specific neighbourhoods of the area, local policing fora to discuss and make recommendations to the committee concerning matters that it is to keep under review under paragraph (a) or on which it is to advise under paragraph (b), in so far as those matters affect their neighbourhoods, and

Section 37(1) also provides:

“A local authority shall, in performing its functions, have regard to the importance of taking steps to prevent crime, disorder and anti-social behaviour within its area of responsibility.”

## JPC Membership

The Waterford City & County JPC comprising of 32 members drawn from the Waterford City and County administrative areas as follows:

Name	Organisation/ Sector
Cllr. John Carey, <i>Chair</i>	Waterford City & County Council
Cllr. James Tobin	Waterford City & County Council
Cllr. John O'Leary	Waterford City & County Council
Cllr. Jason Murphy	Waterford City & County Council
Cllr. Eddie Mulligan	Waterford City & County Council
Cllr. Mary Roche	Waterford City & County Council
Cllr. Cha O'Neill	Waterford City & County Council
Cllr. Joe Kelly	Waterford City & County Council
Cllr. Breda Brennan	Waterford City & County Council
Cllr. Siobhan Whelan	Waterford City & County Council
Cllr. Pat Fitzgerald	Waterford City & County Council
Cllr. Pat Nugent	Waterford City & County Council
Cllr. Declan Doocey	Waterford City & County Council
Cllr. Sean Power	Waterford City & County Council
Cllr. John Pratt	Waterford City & County Council
Mr. Michael J. Walsh	PPN Representative
Mr. John Devlin	PPN Representative
Ms. Rosemary Kennedy	PPN Representative
Ms. Breda Halligan	PPN Representative
Mr. Criostoir O Faolain	PPN Representative
Mr. Claire O' Neill	PPN Representative
Mr. Donal Murphy	PPN Representative
Chief Superintendent Pat Murphy	An Garda Síochána
Superintendent Chris Delaney	An Garda Síochána
Mr. Michael Walsh, CEO	Waterford City & County Council
Mr. Ivan Grimes	Waterford City & County Council
Mary Butler TD	Oireachtas Member
David Cullinane TD	Oireachtas Member
John Deasy TD	Oireachtas Member
John Halligan TD	Oireachtas Member
Senator Paudie Coffey	Oireachtas Member
Senator Grace O'Sullivan	Oireachtas Member

## **Progress / Achievements in 2016**

- 4 No. JPC statutory meetings held in 2016:
  - 18<sup>th</sup> January 2016;
  - 11<sup>th</sup> April 2016;
  - 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2016;
  - 5<sup>th</sup> December 2016;
- Workshop held on developing Strategic Plan in December 2016
- Promoted Waterford Restorative Practice Network to wider community

## **Monitoring of Levels and Patterns of Crime**

An Garda Síochána provided detailed quarterly statistical reports to Waterford City & County JPC which kept under review, and responded as appropriate, to the levels and patterns of crime, disorder and anti-social behaviour in Waterford City and County (including the patterns and levels of misuse of alcohol and drugs).

## **Public Meeting**

A full public meeting was held in the Large Room, City Hall on the 18<sup>th</sup> January 2016. The theme of the public meeting was “*Community Safety Networking*”. The focus of this meeting was on issues like community safety networks, neighbourhood watch, text alert and community resilience. The JPC public meeting was well attended and excellent feedback received from the public.

## **Drafting of a Six-Year Joint Policing Committee Strategy 2017-2022**

A JPC strategy sub-group was formed with eight of its thirty members. This sub-group is tasked with preparing a six year draft plan 2017-2022 and reporting back to the full JPC. The members of this sub-group are appropriate representation from Elected Members, An Garda Síochána and the PPN. It is envisaged that this sub-group will complete its work in mid-year 2017.

## **Community Safety Networks**

A working group was set up to engage with the PPN to provide a county-wide approach to proving community safety networks across the county.

**COLETTE O' BRIEN, STAFF OFFICER  
WATERFORD CITY & COUNTY COUNCIL**

**DATE: 30 MARCH 2017**