

County Kildare Joint Policing Committee

Minutes of County Kildare Joint Policing Committee Áras Chill Dara – Council Chamber Monday 11th September 2017

Members Present:

Cllr. Martin Miley Jnr.
Cllr Aoife Breslin
Chief Superintendent Gerard Roche
Superintendent Declan McCarthy
Peter Carey
Sonya Kavanagh
Cllr. Fintan Brett
Cllr. Carmel Kelly
Cllr. Michael Coleman
Cllr. Anne Breen
Cllr. Anthony Larkin
Cllr. Morgan McCabe
Cllr Suzanne Doyle
Cllr Ivan Keatley
Cllr Íde Cussen
Dep. Fiona O' Loughlin
Dep. James Lawless
Dep. Catherine Murphy
Dep. Martin Heydon
Conor O' Leary
Steven Joyce
Emma Berney
Monica Byrne

Chairperson
Vice Chairperson
An Garda Síochána
An Garda Síochána
Chief Executive, KCC
Director of Services

Muintir Na Tire
SW Regional Drugs Task Force
Kildare Children & Young People's Ser. Comm.
Kildare Older Persons Council

In attendance:

Superintendent Martin Walker
Superintendent Gerard Wall
Inspector Oliver Henry
Inspector Mel Smyth
Inspector John Costello
Sergeant Eoin Phibbs
Sergeant Gavin Dunphy
Cllr Reada Cronin
Rebecca Moynihan
Eileen Doyle

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The Policing Authority
Community Section

Apologies:

Cllr. Pdraig McEvoy
Sean Darcy
Deputy Frank O' Rourke
Cllr. Mark Lynch

Item 1 – Minutes of the JPC meeting dated 29th May 2017

The minutes from the last JPC meeting held on 29th May 2017 were formally adopted as proposed by Councillor Breen and seconded by Councillor Brett.

Item 2 – Matters Arising

There were no matters arising.

Item 3- Policing Report

Chief Superintendent Roche presented the Policing Report (report attached). The report focused amongst other issues:

Garda Resources – Garda numbers in Kildare are at their highest since 2009 with more gardaí walking the streets and on checkpoints.

Crime Statistics – There is currently a 70% detection rate for robberies.

Property Offences – the incidences of property offences are up significantly since 2016. Chief Superintendent Roche reinstated the need to be vigilant in locking property and there has been a particular increase in theft from sheds.

Drugs – The value of drugs found in 2017 for personal use is up significantly from the 2016 value. There were 10 searches conducted under Operation Thor in the Naas District on the 8th and 9th September 2017 with similar operations being planned for other districts over the coming weeks.

Domestic Violence Incidents – there was a considerable increase to date in 2017 in the breach of Barring Orders, Interim Barring Orders, Safety Orders and Domestic Dispute/No Offence Disclosed.

Community policing and Community Engagement - to date there has been 36 engagements relating to SAP's (small areas of population) through the dedicated policing email address Kildare.community@garda.ie . There has been frequent direct contact from members of the public to their SAP liaison Garda or Community Policing Garda, i.e. through the widely publicised “SAP link” There has also been ongoing servicing of Community Policing, Business Watch, Neighbourhood Watch and Text Alert Schemes across the Division. The Garda Youth Awards 2017 in conjunction with Newbridge Silverware are due to be held on Friday 24th November 2017. The awards celebrate outstanding young people between the ages of 14 and 21 years.

Chief Superintendent Roche responded to questions from the Committee. Amongst which Deputy Fiona O' Loughlin complimented An Garda Síochána on their more proactive approach to domestic violence incidents. She stated that in her experience the level of such incidents is much higher than is being reported. In response Superintendent Roche stated that it has been their experience that there is a huge reluctance to engage in the prosecution process.

The Chairperson thanked Chief Superintendent Roche for the presentation.

Item 4 – Presentation from Community CCTV Sub-Committee

Inspector Oliver Henry and Sonya Kavanagh presented the Policy on Community Based CCTV Schemes. (copy attached)

Amongst the salient points presented were that a sub-committee made up of members drawn from the JPC was established. The terms of reference was to draft a policy that would guide and support communities preparing applications to develop Community CCTV schemes.

The Policy on Community Based CCTV Schemes was adopted as proposed by Councillor Aoife Breslin and seconded by Councillor Ivan Keatley

The Chairperson thanked Inspector Henry, Ms. Kavanagh and the CCTV Steering Group for their work on this policy.

Item 5 – Presentation from Ms. Emma Berney Kildare Children and Young People’s Services Committee. (CYPSC)

Ms Berney presented “*Working together to support children, young people and families in Kildare*” (copy attached)

Ms Berney explained the rationales of working together in either an inter-agency approach or in partnership. This is a common feature of local, regional and national policy and practise. Ms Berney went on to demonstrate examples of current good practise in Kildare CYPSC in action and explained the purpose of a Children and Young People’s Services Committee which is working towards 5 National Outcomes for Children and young people:

That children and young people:

1. Are active and healthy, with positive physical and mental wellbeing.
2. Are achieving full potential in all areas of learning & development.
3. Are safe & protected from harm.
4. Have economic security & opportunity.
5. Are connected, respected & contributing to their world.

Ms. Berney responded to questions from the committee who also complimented her on the presentation.

The Chairperson thanked Ms. Berney for her presentation

Item 6 – Date of next Meeting.

The next meeting will be the Annual Public Meeting, which this year will be held in a venue in the Naas Municipal District Area and will be held on Monday 4th December 2017.

The meeting concluded.