

County Kildare Joint Policing Committee

Minutes of County Kildare Joint Policing Committee Monday 16th February 2015 Council Chamber Kildare County Council.

Present:

Cllr Pádraig McEvoy	Chairperson
Peter Carey	Chief Executive KCC
Superintendent Ian Lackey	Garda Síochána
Peter Minnock	Director of Services
Cllr Fintan Brett	
Cllr Ivan Keatley	
Cllr Willie Crowley	
Cllr. Paul Ward	
Cllr. James Lawless	
Cllr. Frank O'Rourke	
Cllr. Tim Durkan	
Cllr. Anne Breen	
Cllr Martin Miley	
Cllr. Aoife Breslin	
Cllr. Ide Cussen	
Cllr. Willie Crowley	
Cllr. Mark Lynch	
Cllr. Anthony Larkin	
Deputy Catherine Murphy	
Deputy Emmet Stagg	
Deputy Sean O' Fearghail	
Siobhan O'Rourke	Comhairle na nOg
Alice Corbett	Engage Kildare (Interim)
Conor O'Leary	Muintir na Tire
Stephen Joyce	SW Regional Drugs Task Force
Mairin Hyland	Celbridge Community Council

Apologies:

Deputy Jack Wall	
Emma Berney	Children's Services Committee

In attendance:

George Perry	SEO, Housing
Sinead Fitzpatrick	AO, Housing, Community & Cultural Services
Sgt Garry Madden	Naas Garda Station

Item 1 – Welcome and introductions

Chairperson of the former JPC, Cllr Pádraig McEvoy, welcomed all to the first meeting of the County Kildare JPC. Following the constitution of the new local authority, Kildare County Council has established a new County JPC in conjunction with the local Garda management. The committee will be governed by the revised guidelines (2014) which emerged from the 2012 review process. The most significant changes to the guidelines reflect both the new local government arrangements and a strengthening of the strategic and collaborative functioning within each committee.

Item 2 – Formal Nomination of the Community Representatives

The following community representations were formally nominated and elected to the committee, proposed by Cllr. Breen, seconded by Cllr. Keatley.

- Engage Kildare (Kildare Age Friendly Programme)
- Muintir na Tire
- Celbridge Community Council
- South West Regional Drugs Task Force
- Comhairle na nOg
- Children Services Committee

Item 3 - Presentation on the role and operation of JPC's

Patrick M Conway of the Garda National Joint Policing Committees Monitoring Office provided a comprehensive overview of the background, role and future operation of the County Joint Policing Committee. In the course of the presentation he cited Kildare and the work of the previous JPC as being an example of good practice and effective working. The importance of keeping the JPC focused on strategic issues was highlighted. The responsibility of the JPC to develop a communication strategy was also highlighted and the opportunity to refresh the website, which was considered a very good example at national level

Item 5 – Presentation on the National Policing Plan

Superintendent Ian Lackey provided a presentation on the National Policing Plan (attached), the policing plan operates on a 3 year cycle and the district and divisional plans feed into it. Currently Kildare is preparing their Divisional Plan and submissions are invited in relation to the needs of the county.

Issues relating to declining Garda numbers in Kildare were raised by the committee; there is a high level of concern that Kildare remains the lowest resourced county in terms of policing per capita. TD's agreed to continue to raise the matter at national

level and will meet with Gardai locally with a view to meeting the Minister to raise the concerns.

Item 6 – County Kildare JPC Strategic Plan

Sinead Fitzpatrick gave a presentation on the 6 year strategic plan which JPC's are required to prepare. Objectives should be linked to the LCDC plan and be strategic. Following a public call to community organisations Sinead provided an overview of the key issues emerging (attached) which should be considered in the context of preparing the strategic plan.

Following the presentation a discussion was held on next steps in preparing the plan, it was proposed that each municipal district feed into the process and that the LCDC consultation process should complement the preparation of this plan.

It was proposed that the next meeting would be structured to inform the preparation of the Strategic Plan and the JPC sub-committees that would focus on the associated work programme.

Item 7 – Question and Answers

Until the committee is formally established questions from the public were not requested. Any referrals received have been forwarded to the relevant person separately.

Item 8 - Election of Chairperson and Vice Chairperson

Martin Miley was elected chairperson of the County Joint Policing Committee, proposed by Cllr. Lawless, seconded by Cllr. Brett. Cllr Aoife Breslin was nominated vice chairperson proposed by Cllr. Breen, seconded by Cllr. Keatley.

The work of the previous JPC and the chairperson Pádraig McEvoy was acknowledged.

This concluded the business of the meeting.