

## County Kildare Joint Policing Committee

Minutes of County Kildare Joint Policing Committee  
Áras Chill Dara – Council Chamber  
Monday 12th March 2018

### Members Present:

Cllr. Martin Miley Jnr.  
Cllr Aoife Breslin  
Chief Superintendent Brian M Sutton  
Superintendent Declan McCarthy  
Peter Carey  
Sonya Kavanagh  
Cllr Pdraig McEvoy  
Cllr. Fintan Brett  
Cllr. Carmel Kelly  
Cllr. Anne Breen  
Cllr. Anthony Larkin  
Cllr. Tim Durkan  
Cllr Ivan Keatley  
Cllr Íde Cussen  
Dep. Fiona O' Loughlin  
Dep. Martin Heydon  
Conor O' Leary  
Steven Joyce  
Emma Berney  
Monica Byrne  
Sean Darcy  
Patrick Balfe

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. Committee  
Kildare Older Persons Council  
Celbridge Community Council  
Public Participation Network

### In attendance:

Superintendent Martin Walker  
Superintendent Gerard Wall  
Inspector Oliver Henry  
Inspector Paul Dolan  
Sergeant Eoin Phibbs  
Det. Chief Supt. Patrick Clavin  
Inspector Tom Lynch  
Ann Marie Conneely  
Jacinta McPartlin  
Eileen Doyle

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### Apologies:

Deputy Frank O' Rourke  
Deputy Catherine Murphy  
Deputy James Lawless  
Cllr. Mark Lynch

### **Item 1 – Minutes of the JPC meeting dated 4th December 2017**

The minutes from the last JPC meeting held on 4th December 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. Presentation from Detective Chief Superintendent Patrick Clavin, Criminal Assets Bureau on "Understanding how CAB links with the local Gardaí through the use of trained asset profilers"**

Detective Chief Superintendent Patrick Clavin gave a presentation to the committee members in which he outlined the nature of CAB and what it does to tackle organised crime. He emphasised that the organisation is not a branch of the Gardaí but does have Garda members operating within it. It was set up in 1996 as an independent agency and it has a number of different organisations linked into it. Some of the agencies whose personnel work within or alongside CAB include the Revenue Commissioners, Customs and Excise, the Department of Justice and the Gardaí. All of the people involved in it bring the respective powers they have to it and CAB is an agency that works to target criminals and works to take their assets from them. Chief Supt. Clavin said the resources are in place for CAB to do its job but commented that having elected members and the community in general working in tandem with it enables the organisation to be more efficient. He encouraged people to tip off the organisation about people they suspect might be involved in criminal activity and he highlighted the fact that those who do forward the information will not be required to give evidence. He also made reference to legislative changes that took place in 2016 with the publication of the Proceeds of Crime (Amendment) Bill which reduced the threshold value of property that can be pursued by CAB from €13,000 to €5,000. Chief Superintendent Clavin also said that the Government made a commitment to look at how the courts can better engage with CAB going forward.

The questions from the members focused on amongst others, on how the new GDPR would affect the work of CAB, the powers of CAB to seize assets from abroad and the reassurance that complaints from members of the public would be strictly treated as anonymous.

The Chairperson thanks Detective Chief Superintendent Clavin and Inspector Tom Lynch for the presentation.

### **Item 4 - Policing Report**

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

Garda Resources; While Garda numbers in Kildare are now at the highest since 2009, there is still a need to balance the numbers of new Gardaí with experienced members of the force. Discussion focused on the recruitment timeline for new sergeants as Chief Superintendent Sutton wants to increase the number of sergeants in the county.

Burglaries; Chief Superintendent Sutton again stressed the need for the public to be vigilant for their property.

Road Traffic Offences: The committee members were informed that the numbers for driving/ in charge of a vehicle while over the legal Alcohol limit and also while under the influence of drugs are on the increase.

The Chairperson thanked Chief Superintendent Brian M Sutton for his presentation.

#### **Item 5 - Approval of - County Kildare Joint Policing Committee Annual Report 2017**

This item was deferred until the June meeting.

#### **Item 6 – Presentation from Community CCTV Sub-Committee**

Sonya Kavanagh informed the committee members that the Policy on Community Based CCTV Schemes was adopted by the JPC at the September 2017 meeting and since then she has been made aware of national issues surrounding the CCTV schemes that will need to be worked out. She is awaiting the outcome of these and will revert to the committee at the June meeting with a further update.

The Chairperson thanked Sonya for the update.

**Item 7 - Motion referred from the January meeting of Kildare County Council:  
The Council requests the JPC to provide the members with detailed Protocol Report in respect of the following emergency situations that arise:**

**(a) When domestic violence is reported to the station, including and excluding where children are present:**

**(b) Report to the station that a person is suicidal:**

**The report to include what contact phone numbers are displayed in the station, made available to the persons presenting and briefing to front office staff.**

(a) Superintendent Declan McCarthy advised the committee members that the full protocol on the Domestic Abuse/Violence material is contained on the Garda website:

<https://www.garda.ie/en/Crime/Domestic-abuse/>

<https://www.garda.ie/en/Crime/Domestic-Abuse-intervention-Policy-2017.pdf>



Superintendent McCarthy responded to the committee members questions and stated that all garda are engaged in continuous professional development training and that Kildare Gardaí have a good working relationship with Teach Tearmain and are very aware of the seriousness of domestic violence.

(b) Inspector Paul Dolan informed that committee members that while no policy exists within the Justice Acts the Gardaí use their initiative under good practise and if the matter cannot be dealt with by referral to the HSE, a case can be dealt with under the powers of the Mental Health Acts and Gardaí can use the powers of arrest to refer the matter to a mental health facility, this can only be done with the sign off by a Doctor.

Superintendent McCarthy stated that all phone numbers are contained in information leaflets at the front counter of stations and is available to both Gardaí and persons attending at the counter in these circumstances. Superintendent Walker commended the positive work done under the HSE/ the National Office for Suicide Prevention initiative "MOJO" which is a powerful tool in empowerment for mental health and wellbeing.

The Chairperson thanked Superintendent McCarthy and Inspector Dolan for their reports.

#### **Item 8 - Any other Business**

Peter Carey stated that he wished to acknowledge the excellent co-operation of the Gardaí, the HSE and KCC during the recent severe weather alert. This was a sharing of resources at a difficult time and the Chairperson stated that he also wished to be associated with these sentiments.

#### **Item 9 - Date of Next Meeting.**

The date of the next meeting will be Monday 11th June 2018 .

The meeting concluded.