

Galway City Joint Policing Committee



4 YEAR STRATEGIC PLAN 2017 – 2020



Galway City Community Network
Líonra Pobail Chathair Na Gallimhe





4 YEAR STRATEGIC PLAN 2017 – 2020



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Chairman's Foreword

It is my privilege to launch the first Joint Policing Committee Strategic Plan. The Joint Policing Committee is an evolving committee as best practice is developed nationally.

With improvements delivered locally it is clear that its role as a driver of community safety initiatives will continue to grow in coming years.

THE FOUR STRATEGIC GOALS IDENTIFIED IN THIS STRATEGY ARE:

- To Promote the Safety of all Road Users in Galway City
- To Enhance Community Safety Responses in Galway City with a view to crime prevention
- To reduce and prevent anti-social behaviour in Galway City
- To Support Community Engagement Models of best practice in Galway City

This strategy will be delivered through annual JPC plans, which will identify actions therefore leading to observable outcomes. There will be clear reporting on the progress of the strategic plan with inter agency collaborative working where required.

I would like to thank everybody involved in the development of the strategic plan. This includes the staff of Galway City Council, An Garda Síochána and the Galway City Community Network representatives.

I would also like to thank my fellow JPC members who came forward to Chair the individual JPC Sub committees and also the members of those sub committees whose contributions were invaluable in the development of the strategy.

To those sub committees, I say "the real work begins now" and I would encourage you to continue your association with this group to ensure that the strategic objectives are advanced.

I look forward to overseeing the implementation of the strategy and I am confident that Galway City and its citizens will benefit significantly from this initiative.

Clr Mike Cubbard

Chairman Galway City Joint Policing Committee

Background to the Galway City Joint Policing Committee

“Joint policing committees will provide arenas where the Garda Síochána and local authorities can co-operate and work together to address local policing and other issues.”

The statutory basis for the establishment of Joint Policing Committees (JPCs) is set out in section 35 of the An Garda Síochána Act 2005. It provides for the establishment of the sets out membership of the committees to be made up of councillors, An Garda Síochána, Oireachtas members and community representatives.

The functions of joint Policing Committees are set out in the Act. Section 36(2) states that...

“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 –

Keep under review

- (i) The levels and patterns of crime, disorder and antisocial behaviour in that area (including the patterns and levels of misuse of alcohol and drugs)
- (ii) The factors underlying and contributing to the levels of crime, disorder and anti-social behaviour in the area
- (a) 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

- (b) Arrange and host public meetings concerning matters affecting the policing of the local authority’s administrative area
- (c) 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
- (d) Co-ordinate the activities of local policing fora established under paragraph (d) or otherwise”

Historically the responsibility for the Joint Policing Committees nationally rested between the Department of Justice and the Department of Housing, Planning, Community and Local Government. The new Policing Authority has general powers relating to the establishment and maintenance of joint policing committees.

In 2007 the then Minister for Justice, Equality and Law Reform, Mr. Michael McDowell consulted with the then Minister for the Environment, Heritage and Local Government, Mr. Dick Roche, to develop JPC guidelines.

Revised Guidelines

In August 2014, the Minister for Justice and Equality in consultation with the Minister for the Environment, Community and Local Government, issued revised guidelines for the operation of each JPC, following a review carried out in 2012.

Important changes noted in the preface to the Amended Guidelines include:

- The requirement for Committees to develop a six year and annual strategic plans and to report on their implementation in Annual Plans
- The number of community representatives was increased and
- The need for a proper communication strategy to support interaction with local communities and effective and efficient coordination with other local structure.

The revised guidelines increased the number of members on the Galway City JPC to twenty three members

- 11 local authority elected members
- 3 members of the Oireachtas
- 2 members of An Garda Síochána
- 5 Community representatives
- 2 local authority officials. The Chief Executive, being an ex-officio member and one other nominated by the Chief Executive

POLICING AUTHORITY AND THE JPC

The Policing Authority has been established under the Garda Síochána (Policing Authority and Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 2015 and confers on the Authority general powers relating to the establishment and maintenance of joint policing committees by local authorities and the Garda Commissioner, which has previously been held by the Department of Justice and Equality.

It provides that the Authority shall issue from time to time guidelines for the operation of JPCs. Current guidelines remain in place until such time as they are amended.

Implementation of the Strategy

Strategic Aims

The strategic aims outlined in the Plan will be prioritised by the JPC and annual plans will be developed with the JPC membership for the implementation of the different aspects of the strategy.

A system of periodic reporting and overview of the delivery of the annual plans by the JPC membership will be developed to drive the strategy forward.

Joint Policing Committee Four Year Strategic Plan Galway City Council 2017 – 2020

STRATEGIC GOAL 1

To Promote the Safety of All Road Users in Galway City

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE 1.1

Ensure effective speed controls are in place in the city

SUMMARY OF INDICATIVE ACTIONS TO BE PURSUED IN RELATION TO EACH OBJECTIVE	PRIORITISE S/M/L	LEAD/AGENCY KEY PARTNERS	ANTICIPATED OUTCOMES
Carry out an assessment of the effectiveness of existing speed ramps in housing estates within the city and make appropriate proposals/recommendations	S	GCC/AGS	Optimum speed control
Examine speed limits in housing estates	S	GCC	Optimum speed control
Examine traffic management safety systems in the vicinity of schools	M	GCC/AGS	Safer environment near schools

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE 1.2

Promote alternative to the car transport systems

SUMMARY OF INDICATIVE ACTIONS TO BE PURSUED IN RELATION TO EACH OBJECTIVE	PRIORITISE S/M/L	LEAD/AGENCY KEY PARTNERS	ANTICIPATED OUTCOMES
Review the existing legislation in relation to horse-drawn vehicles/sulkies on public roads	M	JPC Sub Committee	Improved legislation
Carry out review of non-motorised passenger transport bye-laws	S	GCC/AGS	Efficient Bye-laws

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE 1.3

Promote safe use of roads

SUMMARY OF INDICATIVE ACTIONS TO BE PURSUED IN RELATION TO EACH OBJECTIVE	PRIORITISE S/M/L	LEAD/AGENCY KEY PARTNERS	ANTICIPATED OUTCOMES
Support the implementation of the Road Safety Plan for Galway City and Count	S	JPC Sub Committee	Improved road usage
Carry out a review of parking control bye-laws	S	GCC	Optimum car parking
Examine Taxi issues locally including parking and Insurance	S	GCC	Improved public service transport
Explore opportunities of optimising signage across the city	S	JPC Sub Committee	Improved communication on signage

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE 1.4

Protect and support pedestrian, cyclists and people with disabilities

SUMMARY OF INDICATIVE ACTIONS TO BE PURSUED IN RELATION TO EACH OBJECTIVE	PRIORITISE S/M/L	LEAD/AGENCY KEY PARTNERS	ANTICIPATED OUTCOMES
Support the implementation of Walking & Cycling Strategy		JPC Sub Committee	More sustainable travel system

STRATEGIC GOAL 2

To Enhance Community Safety Responses in Galway City with a view to crime prevention

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE 2.1

Support the existing the safety networks

SUMMARY OF INDICATIVE ACTIONS TO BE PURSUED IN RELATION TO EACH OBJECTIVE	PRIORITISE S/M/L	LEAD/AGENCY KEY PARTNERS	ANTICIPATED OUTCOMES
Support the expansion of Neighbourhood Watch, Business Watch and similar schemes in the city	S	JPC Sub Committee	Improved Community Safety
Increase Awareness and Implementation of Crime Prevention measures	S	JPC Sub Committee	Improved Community Safety
Examine initiatives to promote Student safety e.g. DASH	S	JPC Sub Committee	Improved Student Safety

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE 2.2

Optimize the use of technology to ensure public safety

SUMMARY OF INDICATIVE ACTIONS TO BE PURSUED IN RELATION TO EACH OBJECTIVE	PRIORITISE S/M/L	LEAD/AGENCY KEY PARTNERS	ANTICIPATED OUTCOMES
Support the expansion of CCTV where appropriate including a mapping exercise to identify areas covered	M	GCC/AGS	Enhanced Community Safety

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE 2.3

Support networking with a view to reducing Drug Misuse

SUMMARY OF INDICATIVE ACTIONS TO BE PURSUED IN RELATION TO EACH OBJECTIVE	PRIORITISE S/M/L	LEAD/AGENCY KEY PARTNERS	ANTICIPATED OUTCOMES
Monitor health and safety practices in relation to drug paraphernalia in communities	S	JPC Sub Committee	Improved Community environment
Support work of Drugs Taskforce	M	JPC Sub Committee	Reduction in drug related issues

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE 2.4

Support networking with a view to addressing domestic and sexual violence

SUMMARY OF INDICATIVE ACTIONS TO BE PURSUED IN RELATION TO EACH OBJECTIVE	PRIORITISE S/M/L	LEAD/AGENCY KEY PARTNERS	ANTICIPATED OUTCOMES
Work with the LCDC to promote a coordinated approach to the protection of women against all forms of physical, emotional and sexual violence	M	JPC Sub Committee	Improved support structure for women
Identify and communicate the range of services and supports for victims of domestic violence and crimes. Produce information leaflet	S	JPC Sub Committee	Improved support structure for victims Better communication

STRATEGIC GOAL 3

To reduce & prevent anti-social behaviour in Galway City

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE 3.1

Support and monitor estate management strategies through the development of models of good practice

SUMMARY OF INDICATIVE ACTIONS TO BE PURSUED IN RELATION TO EACH OBJECTIVE	PRIORITISE S/M/L	LEAD/AGENCY KEY PARTNERS	ANTICIPATED OUTCOMES
To review the Draft Galway City Council Housing Department policy and make recommendations where appropriate	M	JPC Sub Committee	Improved estate management
Examine the safety and access in housing estates relative to antisocial behaviour	M	JPC Sub Committee	Improved estate management
Support Crime Prevention through environmental design of housing estates	M	JPC Sub Committee	Improved design of housing estates

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE 3.2

Protect the Cities public Spaces

SUMMARY OF INDICATIVE ACTIONS TO BE PURSUED IN RELATION TO EACH OBJECTIVE	PRIORITISE S/M/L	LEAD/AGENCY KEY PARTNERS	ANTICIPATED OUTCOMES
Develop an Anti-Social Behaviour Strategy for Galway	M	GCC, AGS, HSE West, GCCN, Student Unions	Improved living environment in Galway city
“To promote behaviour that facilitates the safe enjoyment of personal property and public spaces in Galway City through: information provision, education and identifying solutions to current issues.”	S	Private Rented Tenancies Board Comhairle na nÓg	
Produce a simple leaflet to inform people where and how to report anti-social behaviour eg for Council Housing, Parks, for Private Rentals, Gardaí	S	JPC Sub Committee	Improved communication
Consult with community groups and representatives of minority groups to inform the Strategy	S	JPC Sub Committee	Improved communication and public empowerment

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE 3.3

Promote Positive Behaviour

SUMMARY OF INDICATIVE ACTIONS TO BE PURSUED IN RELATION TO EACH OBJECTIVE	PRIORITISE S/M/L	LEAD/AGENCY KEY PARTNERS	ANTICIPATED OUTCOMES
Work in partnership with Agencies and Organisations to divert Children and Young People away from Anti-Social Behaviour	M	JPC Sub Committee	Reduced incidence of anti-social behaviour
Support Purple Flag initiative in Galway City	S	GCC/AGS	Safer environment for citizens
Increase Liaison with Student Unions, Colleges, Landlords and Residents to tackle Anti- Social Behaviour	S	JPC Sub Committee	Improved living environment in Galway City

STRATEGIC GOAL 4

Support Community Engagement models of best practise in Galway City

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE 4.1

Ensure information concerning local community policing is freely available to all people living in local communities

SUMMARY OF INDICATIVE ACTIONS TO BE PURSUED IN RELATION TO EACH OBJECTIVE	PRIORITISE S/M/L	LEAD/AGENCY KEY PARTNERS	ANTICIPATED OUTCOMES
Update the relevant Websites to ensure access to information	S	GCC	Improved communication
Develop JPC page on GCC Website	S	GCC	Increased awareness of JPC
Explore the development of an initiative to support Elderly and vulnerable people	M	JPC Sub Committee	Safer environment for elderly and vulnerable people

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE 4.2

Support Equality and Intercultural engagement

SUMMARY OF INDICATIVE ACTIONS TO BE PURSUED IN RELATION TO EACH OBJECTIVE	PRIORITISE S/M/L	LEAD/AGENCY KEY PARTNERS	ANTICIPATED OUTCOMES
Support the re-establishment of regular meetings between ethnic minorities and the Garda Ethnic Liaison Officers	S	AGS	Improved communication with Public

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE 4.3

Ensure effective information dissemination re the work of the JPC to local communities making it relevant, purposeful

SUMMARY OF INDICATIVE ACTIONS TO BE PURSUED IN RELATION TO EACH OBJECTIVE	PRIORITISE S/M/L	LEAD/AGENCY KEY PARTNERS	ANTICIPATED OUTCOMES
Hold at least one JPC meeting in each of the local communities during the lifetime of the plan	S	JPC Committee	Improved engagement with Communities

Appendix 1

Membership of Galway City Joint Policing Committee

Cllr Billy Cameron
 Cllr Pdraig Conneely
 Cllr Mike Cubbard
 Cllr Frank Fahy
 Cllr Mairead Farrell
 Cllr Peter Keane
 Cllr Mark Lohan
 Cllr Donal Lyons
 Cllr Declan McDonnell
 Cllr Niall McNelis
 Cllr Terry O'Flaherty

Deputy Sean Kyne
 Senator Trevor Ó Clochartaigh
 Chief Superintendent Tom Curley
 Mr Thomas Connell
 Mr Joseph Loughnane
 Mr Tommy Flaherty
 Mr Brendan McGrath
 Ms Irene Murphy
 Mr John Rabbitte
 Superintendent Marie Skehill

Appendix 2

JPC Sub Committee Membership

Strategic Objectives 1 To Promote the Safety of All Road Users in Galway City

1. Cllr Declan McDonnell
2. Cllr Frank Fahy
3. Mr John Rabbitte (Chairperson)
4. Mr Simon Comer
5. Supt Noel Kelly and Supt Ernie White
6. Mr Jim Molly
7. Deputy Seán Kyne

Strategic Objectives 2 To Enhance Community Safety Responses in Galway City

1. Mr Tommy Flaherty
2. Cllr Donal Lyons
3. Cllr Mike Cubbard (Chairperson)
4. Sgt Pat Flanagan
5. Ms Julie Molloy

Strategic Objectives 3 To reduce & prevent anti-social behaviour in Galway City

1. Ms Irene Murphy
2. Cllr Terry O'Flaherty
3. Cllr Peter Keane
4. Cllr Niall McNelis (Chairperson)
5. Sgt Pat Flanagan
6. Mr Edward Conlon
7. Senator Trevor O'Clochartaigh

Strategic Objectives 4 To devise & support Community Engagement models of practise in Galway City

1. Cllr Mairead Farrell (Chairperson)
2. Ms Margaret O'Riada
 and Mr Tommy Flaherty
3. Sgt Peadar Ryan
4. Mr Michael Forde

Appendix 3

Extract from the Joint Policing Committees Guidelines

JPC WORK PLANS

Each JPC must make strategic work plans which link with other appropriate plans and strategies. In this regard each JPC must put in place a six year plan linked to the relevant objectives in the Local Economic and Community (LECP) Plan of the local authority. An annual work plan which, as well as linking to the LECP plan, must include relevant objectives from the Garda Annual Policing Plan(s) applying to the local authority area.

JPC plans should be confined to a limited number of strategic objectives to facilitate appropriate monitoring and review.

JPCs plans should focus on areas which cooperative and collaborative actions can add most value to the existing work of relevant stakeholders. It is important that plans set specific and measurable objectives, identify lead individuals or agencies as well as others responsible for contributing to relevant actions, include relevant resource allocation and set out defined timescales. In addition to including key objectives derived from the LECP and Annual Policing Plans as set out above, consideration should be given to linking JPC plans to appropriate elements of other local authority or Garda strategies (e.g. accommodation plans or particular crime prevention initiatives)

Drugs Task Force Plans relevant to the area other issues which the JPC considers to be important for crime prevention, policing and public safety (including road safety) in the area.

Strategic actions to enhance communications with the public and to ensure adequate communication with other local fora (e.g. Drugs Task Forces, local policing fora, Community Alert and Neighbourhood Watch, Groups, and other relevant local fora) to prevent duplication and support coordinated action.

Annual work plans should include consideration of how JPCs can enhance overall efforts to address key issues affecting community life, including

- Crime Prevention
- Anti-social behaviour and street crime
- Misuse of drugs and related crime
- Support for crime victims, including those affected by domestic violence

In addition, work plans must prioritise objectives and highlight at least three strategic priorities. Templates for the JPC six year and annual work plans have been devised and it is hoped that these will assist committees in their work.

JPCs should use the templates provided but are free to include other relevant information in their plans if they so wish.



Galway City Joint Policing Committee

