

<p><b>MINUTES OF MEETING OF THE WICKLOW COUNTY COUNCIL JOINT POLICING COMMITTEE HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, COUNTY BUILDINGS, WICKLOW ON MONDAY 5<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER 2016</b></p>
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**PRESENT:****MEMBERS OF WICKLOW COUNTY COUNCIL**

COUNCILLOR JAMES RUTTLE, CHAIRMAN

COUNCILLORS VINCENT BLAKE, TOM FORTUNE, TOMMY ANNESLEY, GERRY WALSH, SHAY CULLEN, DAIRE NOLAN, GERRY O NEILL, GAIL DUNNE, MARY MCDONALD, JOE BEHAN AND MARY KAVANAGH.

**REPRESENTATIVES FROM COMMUNITY & VOLUNTARY SECTOR**

MR. SEAN MALONE, MS. ANN LYONS, MS. ANN HALPIN, MS. LIZ FERRIS, MS. EVELYN CAWLEY,

**GARDA REPRESENTATIVES**

CHIEF SUPERINTENDENT JOHN QUIRKE, SUPERINTENDENT PATRICK WARD, SUPERINTENDENT GERARD MCGRATH, SUPERINTENDANT PAUL HOGAN

**OFFICIALS WICKLOW COUNTY COUNCIL**

MR. BRYAN, CHIEF EXECUTIVE

MS. LORRAINE GALLAGHER, SENIOR EXECUTIVE OFFICER

**Also in attendance**

Ms. Sorcha Fitzpatrick, Inspector, An Garda Siochana

Ms. Ruth Graham, East Coast Regional Drugs Task Force

Representatives from the Policing Authority

At the outset of the meeting the Chairman welcomed Chief Superintendent John P Quirke to his first meeting of the Wicklow County Council JPC advising that he looked forward to working with him in the future. He also welcomed Superintendent Gerard McGrath as well two representatives from the Policing Authority present in the public gallery. He congratulated Inspector Sorcha Fitzpatrick on her recent promotion.

**1. Confirmation of minutes of meeting held on Monday 1<sup>ST</sup> February, 2016**

It was proposed by Mr. Sean Malone, seconded by Ms. Ann Halpin and agreed to confirm minutes of Joint Policing Committee meeting held on Monday 1<sup>st</sup> February 2016 as circulated.

**2. Matters arising from the minutes / actions agreed**

Matters arising from the minute/actions agreed are contained in the Agenda.

**3. Overview of Policing Achievements January – June 2016 – Presentation by Chief Superintendent John. P. Quirke**

Chief Superintendent John P. Quirke gave a power point presentation on the Wicklow Division 2016 YTD figures (difference and % change) covering the following areas:

- Property Crime – Divisional Overview
- Robbery of an Establishment/Institution
- Robbery from a person
- Aggravated Burglary
- Burglary (not aggravated)

- Theft from a person
- Theft from Vehicle
- Theft of other property
- Theft/Unauthorised taking of vehicle
- Theft/Unauthorised taking of pedal cycle
- Theft from shop
- Crimes against the person – divisional overview
- Rape of a male or female
- Assault causing harm
- Minor assault
- Criminal damage
- Public order and other social code offences
- Possession of drugs for personal use
- Possession of drugs for sale or supply
- Cultivation or manufacture of drugs
- Traffic – Divisional overview
- Road traffic collisions
- Driving under the influence

The Chair thanked the Chief Superintendent for the presentation and a discussion took place wherein a number of points and views were expressed. The committee collectively congratulated the work of An Gardaí Siochana and welcomed the reduction in crime contained in the stats as presented. It was agreed to circulate the presentation to the committee members.

**4. (a) To consider Wicklow County Council Joint Policing Committee Draft Six Year Strategic Plan, 2016-2020.**

L Gallagher reported as follows: Each County JPC, in consultation with relevant local structures, is required to develop a six year strategic plan. To commence the process a stakeholder workshop was held in early March, 2016, the purpose being to bring stakeholders together and contribute to the formation of the Plan. The role and work of the JPC was presented to the workshop as an over view and as the JPC is a collaborative committee, the importance of the JPC as a forum for consultation, discussion and recommendation on matters affecting Policing in Wicklow was highlighted. The feedback gathered from the workshop served as an additional consultative process to add to feedback collated to-date through the JPC public meetings.

The workshop was very well attended with fifty-three people present indicating the high level of interest sectors and geographical areas of the county. Participants were asked to consider issues and areas of concern under 4 thematic areas 1. Policing Communities, 2. Tackling Crime in Rural Areas, 3. Drug Prevention and 4. Communications, and to suggest ways to address these issues. She advised that it was proposed to formally launch the plan at the next public meeting due to be held in Roundwood following adoption by the plenary council at the October Council meeting.

It was proposed by Cllr. T. Fortune, seconded by Cllr. G. Dunne and agreed to adopt the plan and present to the plenary council.

**4. (b) To progress the work of the four working groups: (1) Policing Communities, (2) Tackling Crime in Rural Areas, (3) Drug Prevention and (4) Communications/Publicity, in the role of the JPC**

L. Gallagher advised as is set out in the 6 year strategic plan that four working groups had been set up i.e. (1) Policing Communities; (2) Tackling Crime in Rural Areas; (3) Drug Prevention; and (4) Communications/Publicity, in the role of the JPC.

She advised that these working groups would not impinge on, take over, or replace any of the excellent informal arrangements/forums/meetings etc, that are in place at present, and working very well between An Garda Síochána and the Local Authority for a long period of time. She also advised that it would be appropriate to invite from time to time a non committee member but relevant stakeholder to attend and contribute to the work of the working group. The Chief Superintendent advised that he would allocate appropriate garda resources to each of the working groups.

#### **5. Update: The Policing Authority**

L. Gallagher advised that the Policing Authority had been established on the 1<sup>st</sup> of January, 2016 and in relation to its role relevant to the Joint Policing Authority as follows:

- Issue guidelines to Local Authority's
- Convene meetings for JPC
- Receive Annual Report from JPC
- Establish criteria re: CCTV

The Chair welcomed again both representatives in the public gallery from the Policing Authority.

#### **6. To set date for public meeting Roundwood**

A provisional date of 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2016 at 8.00pm was set for the public meeting in Roundwood.

#### **7. Any other business**

L. Gallagher advised that the annual report for the year ended 2015 had been submitted to the Department in accordance with requirements.

Next meeting: In accordance with the meetings schedule it was agreed that the next meeting of the JPC would be held

**THIS CONCLUDED THE BUSINESS OF THE MEETING.**

**SIGNED:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**COUNCILLOR JAMES RUTTLE**  
**CHAIR**

**DATE:** \_\_\_\_\_