

**Comhairle Chontae Chill Mhantáin**

**MINUTES OF MEETING OF THE  
WICKLOW COUNTY COUNCIL JOINT POLICING COMMITTEE  
HELD ZOOM ON  
MONDAY 1<sup>ST</sup> FEBRUARY, 2021.**

**PRESENT:**

**MEMBERS OF WICKLOW COUNTY COUNCIL**

COUNCILLORS IRENE WINTERS, VINCENT BLAKE, AVRIL CRONIN, TOM FORTUNE, DERMOT O'BRIEN, TOMMY ANNESLEY, GERRY WALSH (CHAIR), MAGS CREAN, SHAY CULLEN, GERRY O'NEILL, PAUL O'BRIEN, PAT KENNEDY (CATHAOIRLEACH) PEIR LEONARD, JOE BEHAN AND ERIKA DOYLE

**OIREACHTAS MEMBERS:**

DEPUTY STEVEN MATTHEWS

**REPRESENTATIVES FROM COMMUNITY & VOLUNTARY SECTOR**

MS. ANNE HALPIN, MS. LIZ FERRIS, MR. STEPHEN KEARON, MR. CONOR O'LEARY AND MR. JAMES DUNNE.

**GARDA REPRESENTATIVES**

CHIEF SUPERINTENDENT DENIS FERRY, SUPERINTENDENT SORCHA FITZPATRICK, SUPERINTENDENT DECLAN MCCARTHY AND SUPERINTENDENT ANTHONY FARRELL

**OFFICIALS WICKLOW COUNTY COUNCIL**

MR. FRANK CURRAN, CHIEF EXECUTIVE  
MS. LORRAINE GALLAGHER, DIRECTOR OF SERVICES  
MS. GILLIAN LANG, ASSISTANT STAFF OFFICER

**OTHERS**

MS. MAEVE SHANLEY, EAST COAST REGIONAL DRUGS AND ALCOHOL TASK FORCE

**APOLOGIES**

MINISTER STEPHEN DONNELLY, TD  
MINISTER STEPHEN HARRIS T.D.  
DEPUTY JENNIFER WHITMORE  
DEPUTY JOHN BRADY  
MR. GODFREY O'BYRNE  
MS. CHARLOTTE BYRNE

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The meeting commenced with a roll call.

1. Confirmation of minutes of meeting held on Monday the 7<sup>th</sup> September, 2020.

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It was proposed by Councillor Vincent Blake, seconded by Councillor Tommy Annesley and agreed to confirm the minutes of meeting held on Monday the 7<sup>th</sup> of September, 2020.

### **2. Confirmation of minutes of remote meeting held on Monday the 11<sup>th</sup> of November, 2020.**

It was proposed by Councillor Tom Fortune, seconded by Councillor Avril Cronin and agreed to confirm the minutes of remote meeting held on Monday the 11<sup>th</sup> November, 2020.

### **4. Update - Covid 19 (Gardai and Wicklow County Council).**

It was agreed to hear this item first as the Chief Executive had another meeting to attend.

Chief Executive of Wicklow County Council, Mr. Frank Curran gave a power point presentation on the Wicklow County Council Covid 19 response covering the following areas:

- Protecting Our People
  - Management Team
  - Working from Home
  - Social Distancing
- Supporting Our Communities
  - Community Form
  - Business Supports
  - Town Centres
- Delivering Our Services
  - Housing and Community
  - Infrastructure and Economic
  - Political and Organisational Structures

The committee noted the presentation and the CE responded to queries raised.

### **3. To receive a presentation from Chief Superintendent Denis Ferry: Overview of Policing Achievements 12 months ended 31<sup>st</sup> December, 2020.**

- 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

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- 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
- Other issues.

Following the presentation the Committee expressed views and raised queries which were responded to in detail by the Chief Superintendent.

### **5. For noting – Circular RW 18 of 2020 LA16 Collision Reports and evaluation procedure (as circulated)**

Ms. Lorraine Gallagher, Director of Services advised that the Circular set out the procedure in relation to LA16 collision reporting and evaluation procedures which is a process used to collect data at collision sites where a fatality has occurred or collisions that are likely to become fatal. She advised that there was a procedure in place whereby the Gardai liaise with the LA which involves the Gardai informing the Senior Engineer of the Roads Department when a collision occurs and arrangements are made for an area engineer and a member of the investigating team to visit the collision site as soon as possible. The Department has undertaken a review of the LA16 reporting procedure which involves the steps set out in the Circular letter, and which will also involve an oversight role for the JPC which is also set out on the CL. This matter will appear as an item on the JPC agenda to facilitate progress reporting and monitoring. At the end of each year the number of LA 16 forms submitted will be compared and discussed at JPC meeting. This was noted by the committee.

### **6. Updated: Municipal District Policing Committees – year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December, 2020.**

The committee noted the reports circulated by the following MDs. Greystones, Wicklow, Arklow, Baltinglass and Bray. It was also noted that Municipal District Policing Plan committees are chaired by the Cathaoirelach of the relevant MD, terms of reference have been signed off and agreed. The Committees are set up to implement the objectives of the Garda Policing Plan and the Wicklow County Council Joint Policing Committee strategic Plan. It is open to any member of the committee to attend any of the policing plan committee meetings, which are held quarterly.

### **7. To note: Ethics – Local Government Act, 2001, Circular LG2/2015 – Non elected members of committees.**

Ms. Lorraine Gallagher advised the meeting of the obligations under the ethics framework for non elected members of the committee. The committee was advised that while there was no requirement for members of JPC to complete forms annually, they were still subject to the code of conduct under the Local Government Act, 2001. This was noted by the Committee.

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### 8. To agree a schedule of meetings for 2021.

PROPOSED SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS 2021			
February	Monday 1ST	10.00 a.m.	Ordinary Meeting to be held by zoom
April/May			Public meeting being covid dependent – propose ordinary meeting 10 <sup>th</sup> May, 2021.
September	Monday 6th	10.00 a.m.	Ordinary meeting
December		10.00 a.m.	Ordinary meeting

A schedule of meetings for 2021 was circulated to the members and agreed. Having regard to current Covid 19 restrictions it was noted that no public meetings will be undertaken, it was therefore agreed to meet again on 10<sup>th</sup> May, 2021 at 10.00 a.m.

### 9. Any other business.

Councillor Gerry Walsh, Chair, asked the Chief Superintendent is there was an issue with resources at the training college in Templemore. The Chief Superintendent advised that while there was not, some gardai on probation who came out early to respond to Covid 19 would have to return at some point to complete their training. This was noted.

CCTV for Blessington welcomed however concern expressed in relation to the number of cameras which will be included.

Notice of motion on Wicklow County Council Agenda raised and which received the support of the Committee.

*"That Wicklow County Council writes to the Ministers for Justice, Finance and Public Expenditure to make provisions where drug and drug trafficking monies confiscated under the Proceeds of Crime Legislation be redirected from central coffers back into local addiction services, youth organisations, and community initiatives to combat the effect of addiction on our communities, and that the necessary legislation is changed as a matter of urgency to allow this vital funding support to happen".*

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

SIGNED: \_\_\_\_\_  
COUNCILLOR GERRY WALSH  
CHAIR.

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

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