

County Cavan Joint Policing Committee Strategy

2017 – 2022



Comhchoiste Póilíneacht Chontae an Chabháin

County Cavan Joint Policing Committee

Chairperson's Foreword

Seo an plean stráitéiseach agus na haidhmeanna atá beartaithe ag Comhchoiste Póilíneacht Chontae an Chabháin go ceann sé bliain eile.

Our Strategic Plan sets out the objectives of the County Cavan Joint Policing Committee for the coming six years. The proposals set out herein are the result of wide ranging discussion amongst members of the JPC, formal public consultation and engagement with relevant services in the County and Region.

I want to particularly acknowledge the work of Grainne Boyle of Cavan County Council and Inspector Nial McKiernan of An Garda Síochána in turning the feedback from all interested parties into this clear, concise and informative document.

The ongoing positive engagement by public representatives, community representatives, officials from Cavan County Council and An Garda Síochána through the JPC ensures that this Plan is both ambitious and realistic.

It is important to acknowledge that whilst the JPC offers a forum to engage, question and suggest, it is not a decision making body. This document sets out what we hope to achieve in coming years but decisions on the resources needed to allow the local Gardai continue to make communities safer, to allow other relevant agencies educate road users, build healthy communities, make us aware of the dangers of drug use and assisting those who want to break from the cycle of crime and dependence are determined elsewhere.

Many more convictions will ensue from the welcomed re-establishment of a dedicated Garda Regional Drug Unit but existing services do not have the wherewithal to provide counselling and support so that those apprehended do not simply remain part of a problem to be dealt with by the criminal justice system.

No State Service can succeed without the general support of and engagement with the public. The desire of local communities to protect the vulnerable, prevent crime and assist the Gardai apprehend criminals can be seen in the work of Community

Alert and other community groups. Assistance to such groups to provide security equipment to older people and the support now becoming available for CCTV systems are very welcome but none of this can replace the visible and approachable presence of the Gardai.

This plan sets out how all relevant agencies, organisations and communities can work in partnership to educate the public, promote safety and reduce crime thus making our County a welcoming, secure, safe and healthy place in which to live, work in and visit. I trust we will all dedicate ourselves to the achievement of these objectives over the coming years.

Is pléan cuimseach beácht é seo a leagann amach go sóiléir an dóigh gur féidir le gach rannphairtí comhoibriú le cinntiú go mbeidh ár gContae níos sábháilte ar achán dóigh.



John Paul Fater

Chief Superintendent's Foreword

As Chief Superintendent of the Cavan Monaghan Division I am fully committed to full participation in achieving the objectives of the County Cavan Joint Policing Committee strategic plan for the coming six years.

The development of this ambitious and realistic plan has evolved over the past number of months through positive engagement by public representatives, community representatives, officials from Cavan County Council and An Garda Síochána.

As Divisional Officer, it is my priority that all members of An Garda Síochána in the Cavan/Monaghan Division work with the communities we serve to provide an open, transparent and effective policing service.

County Cavan Joint Policing Committee six-year strategic plan has been developed to meet the needs of the urban and rural communities in County Cavan and the Garda Policing Plan for 2017 and the forthcoming years. It will meet the needs and Policing challenges that arise with the cross-border mobility of organised crime gangs in this region.

An Garda Síochána will continue to work with all the stakeholders regarding Roads Policing in County Cavan. This is to ensure compliance with Road Traffic Legislation and a reduction in Fatal and Serious Injury Traffic Collisions.

I have re-established the dedicated Divisional Drugs Unit for Cavan Monaghan to tackle the drug issues facing both counties from a law enforcement perspective. I am also conscious of the external community supports required in the Cavan area regarding drug and alcohol addiction and I aim to support the other stakeholders in counteracting this issue.

I welcome the proposed County Cavan community initiatives such as:

- The roll out of Crime Prevention Ambassadors to provide support to protect the older and vulnerable members of our community.
- The introduction of Community based CCTV systems to aid in the prevention and detection of crime in County Cavan.

I look forward to fully assisting in the implementation of the County Cavan Joint Policing Committee strategic plan.



Christopher Mangan
Chief Superintendent

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Glossary of Terms

JPC	Joint Policing Committee
AGS	An Garda Síochána
CCC	Cavan County Council
RDTF	Regional Drugs Task Force
DDU	Divisional Drugs Unit
HSE	Health Service Executive
CDAF	Cavan Drugs & Alcohol Forum
CDA Trust Ltd.	Cavan Drugs Awareness Trust Ltd.
OPC	Older People's Council
VIS	Volunteering Information Service
PPN	Public Participation Network
RSA	Road Safety Authority
CSP	Cavan Sports Partnership
HaPAI	Healthy and Positive Ageing Initiative
LEADER	Liaisons Entre Actions de Development de l'Économie Rurale
MD	Municipal District
PEACE	PEACE IV European cross border funding programme
LECP	Local Economic and Community Plan
LCDC	Local Community Development Committee
CSO	Central Statistics Office
CCTV	Closed Circuit Television
ETB	Education & Training Board
GVSO	Divisional Garda Victim Support Office

1 Introduction

1.1 Background

Cavan Joint Policing Committee was established on the 31st May 2010 as a result of the Garda Síochána Act 2005. Joint Policing Committees were introduced under the Garda Síochána Act 2005 as a mechanism for identifying and addressing policing issues where adopting a partnership approach between An Garda Síochána, the Local Authority and the community is desirable to achieve a favourable outcome.

The main function of the Cavan Joint Policing Committees (JPC) is:

‘to serve as a forum for consultations, discussions and recommendations on matters affecting the policing of the local authority’s administrative area’.

JPCs represent a collaborative approach between local authorities, An Garda Síochána and the community & voluntary sector in supporting policing and enhancing community safety. Key specific functions of the JPC, as cited in section 36(2) of the Garda Síochána Act are:

- a) Keep under review:
 - (i) the levels and patterns of crime, disorder and anti social behaviour in that area (including the patterns and levels of misuse of alcohol and drugs, and
 - (ii) the factors underlying and contributing to the levels of crime, disorder and anti social behaviour in the area.
- b) Advise the County Council 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.
- c) Arrange and host public meetings concerning matters affecting the policing of the County Council’s administrative area.
- d) Establish, in consultation with the local Garda superintendent, as the JPC 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.

The matters to be considered by the County Cavan JPC include traffic, vandalism, anti-social behaviour, underage drinking, litter, casual trading, planning for events attracting large crowds, community based crime prevention initiatives, Garda Divisional Plans and relevant County Council initiatives.

1.2 Joint Policing Six Year Strategic Plan

The business of a JPC cannot be progressed by simply having an exchange of views on relevant Gardaí or local authority reports. It is imperative that local issues are addressed collectively and strategically and in this regard each JPC must have a Strategic Plan which focuses on achieving co-ordinated actions to support enhanced policing and crime prevention. This Strategic Plan serves as a statement of the JPC'S intentions in regard to the manner in which it will address the relevant issues in accordance with its functions as set out in Section 36(2) Garda Síochána Act. It is produced in accordance with the guidance issued by the Department of Justice & Equality and the Department of the Environment, Community & Local Government. In line with these guidelines, the Strategic Plan has been designed to link in with the Local Economic and Community Plan (LECP) for the County, which has been developed through the Cavan Local Community Development Committee (LCDC).

1.3 County Cavan Joint Policing Committee (JPC)

County Cavan JPC is made up of twenty eight members:

- Garda Officers nominated by the Garda Commissioner (2)
- Elected Representatives Members of Cavan County Council (13)
- Oireachtas Elected Members for the Area (5)
- Local Authority Officials (2)
- Community Representatives (6)

A list of the full membership of the County Cavan JPC can be found in Appendix A.

2. Background to Co. Cavan – Statistical Overview

2.1 Profile of Co. Cavan – Socio Economic Analysis

The Cavan Local Community Development Committee (LCDC) produced a Socio Economic Profile of County Cavan and this has been reviewed for areas of disadvantage, high unemployment, age dependency and other demographic factors which may indicate that an area is more vulnerable to crime.

Key statistics of relevance to the work of the County Cavan JPC include:

Population

- The population of the county grew by 14.3% between 2006 and 2011, nearly twice the growth rate for the State 8.2%. The population of the Border Region grew by 9.9% in the same period.
- The estimated border population in April 2015 was 496,000 (CSO).
- Net outward migration for the country fell to 11,600 in 2015. Regional or county level data are not available, but this national drop in outward migration is likely to be reflected at county level.
- Cavan is a predominately rural county with 70% of the population living in rural areas and very small settlements. This is in stark contrast to the State, where the majority of people (62%) live in urban areas.
- Almost a quarter (23.5%) of Cavan's population are children (aged 0-14 years) and 12.11% of people are aged 65 years and over.
- Cavan has an age dependency ratio of 55%, higher than the State (49.3%) or Border region (54.37%) figure. This high dependency rate points to the importance of providing services for the 0-14 and the over 65 age groups.
- The old age dependency rate (18.8%) is also higher than the national average (CSO, 2011).

Employment

- The current number of persons signing on the live register in County Cavan at the end of February 2017 was 4,533.
- Census 2011 recorded that the number of unemployed was 7,331 or 21.2% of the total labour force, an increase of 4,810 compared to the 2006 census data.
- Male unemployment accounted for 65% of all those unemployed in the county in 2011.

Education

- Census 2011 found that of those aged 15 years and over whose full-time education had ceased, 20.6% were educated to at most primary level only; a further 57.3% attained second level while 22.2% were educated to third level. Cavan compares less favourably to the State or the Region for third level education. Nationally 30.6% of the population has third level education, while in the Border Region the figure is 24.6%.
- Nationally, the adult population with primary education only decreased by 2.9% between 2006 and 2011 (leaving it at 16% for 2011). The rate for County Cavan fell from 25.6% in 2006, to 20.6% in 2011. However, this is still 5 points higher than the national average.

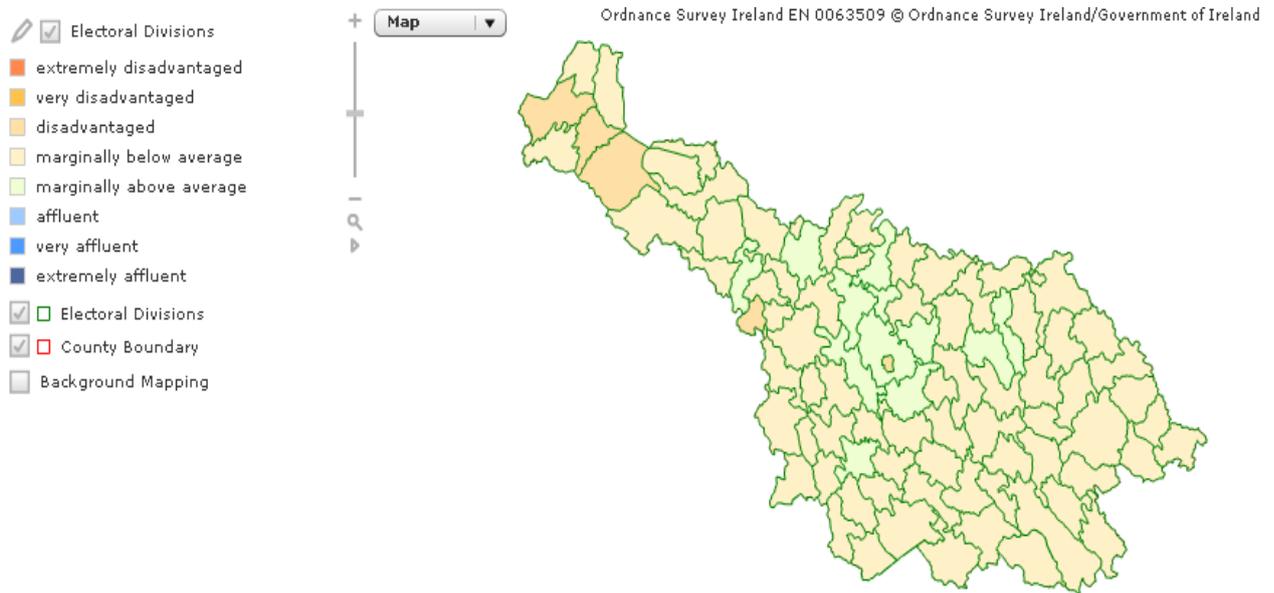
Poverty and Social Inclusion

- The absolute deprivation score in Cavan dropped from -2.8 to -11.0 (between the 2006 and 2011 Censuses), representing a drop of 8.2 compared to a nationwide drop of 6.5.¹
- Cavan is the eighth most disadvantaged local authority area in Ireland.
- There are 21 electoral divisions in the county containing “small areas” classified as ‘Disadvantaged’ or ‘Very Disadvantaged’. The total population of these areas is 9,096 persons.

¹ The Pobal HP Deprivation Index is a method of measuring the relative affluence or disadvantage of a particular geographical area using data compiled from various censuses. A scoring is given to the area based on a national average of zero and ranging from approximately -35 (being the most disadvantaged) to +35 (being the most affluent). The 2012 index was developed by Haase and Pratschke based on the 2011 Census data. (Pobal)

- The most disadvantaged electoral divisions within the County are Drumakeever/Derrynananta (-16.8), Derrylahan (-12.8), Cavan Urban (-11.8), Killinagh/Teebane (-11.7) and Doogary (-10.2), all displayed below in Map 1. These five electoral divisions fall into the 'Disadvantaged' category. All other electoral divisions are, at the most, marginally below the national average.

Map 1: Pobal HP Deprivation Index (Haase & Pratschke, 2012) Relative Deprivation Score 2011



- Levels of disposable income in Cavan are below the national level. In 2012 disposable income per person living in County Cavan was €17,023 compared to a national average of €19,468 (CSO regional quality of life).
- According to Census 2011, 12% of the county's population (8,830) are categorised as being foreign national.
- County Cavan had the biggest percentage increase in its Traveller population (where Traveller numbers rose by 114%) between 2006 and 2011, with 453 Travellers recorded to be living within the County in 2011. However, Cavan has a low number of Travellers in its population compared to other counties overall.

- 11.9% of County Cavan's population have been classified as having a disability according to 2011 Census; this compares with the State average of 13%.
- For 2011 the total number of carers in Cavan stood at 2,933, representing 4% of the County's population.

2.2 Garda Crime Statistics for County Cavan 2016

Table 1: An Garda Síochána crime incidents over the period 1/1/2016 to 31/12/2016 - All Categories

Sub Districts	Assault (Minor)	Assault (Harm)	Burglary	Criminal Damage	Domestic Violence	Drugs (Sec 3)	Drugs (Sec 15)	Drugs (Sec 17)	Fraud	Public Order	Robbery	Sexual
Cavan	98	53	89	122	85	81	18	1	35	240	4	21
Belturbet	14	10	20	19	19	6	0	1	5	20	1	4
Ballyconnell	3	6	4	14	8	1	1	-	2	26	-	2
Blacklion	1	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	2
Swanlinbar	3	1	2	3	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
Dowra	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-
Killeshandra	1	-	6	2	3	1	-	-	2	-	-	3
Kilnaleck	8	3	27	11	8	-	-	-	2	7	1	2
Ballinagh	8	4	11	6	3	3	-	1	5	13	-	1
Arva	3	5	12	5	1	2	-	1	1	27	-	1
Total	139	82	175	183	128	93	19	4	55	336	6	36
Bailieboro	18	4	25	30	23	7	-	-	15	37	-	2
Kingscourt	16	4	14	18	13	7	-	-	-	18	2	6
Shercock	5	-	4	3	3	1	-	-	-	1	-	1

Sub Districts	Assault (Minor)	Assault (Harm)	Burglary	Criminal Damage	Domestic Violence	Drugs (Sec 3)	Drugs (Sec 15)	Drugs (Sec 17)	Fraud	Public Order	Robbery	Sexual
Virginia	13	6	19	12	21	9	-	1	3	34	1	2
Cootehill	25	3	10	20	13	8	-	1	-	26	-	2
Mullagh	5	-	5	3	11	1	-	-	-	3	-	-
Ballyjamesduff	8	5	5	13	10	11	1	1	2	31	-	-
Total	90	22	82	99	94	44	1	3	22	150	3	13
Total for County Cavan	229	161	256	282	222	137	20	4	77	486	9	49

The most common offence in 2016 was public order offence (486), followed by Assault (Minor) (229), Criminal damage (282), Burglary (256), Domestic Violence (222) and Drugs (161). In Cavan Town alone there were 240 public order offences in 2016.

It should be noted that the number of reported domestic violence incidents reported within the county is quite high (222) and there are limited services or forums existing within the county to tackle this issue. The closure of the women's shelter previously run through Tearmann Domestic Abuse Service within the county results in there being nowhere currently for women or children experiencing domestic violence to go to, the nearest place available is in County Monaghan.

Table 2: An Garda Síochána Crime Incidents over the period 1/1/2016 to 31/12/2016 - Theft

Sub Districts	Theft (From Shop)	Theft (other)	Theft (from MPV)	Theft (From Person)
Cavan	160	90	51	5
Belturbet	10	24	6	-
Ballyconnell	13	3	2	-
Blacklion	-	4	3	1
Swanlinbar	-	-	2	-
Dowra	-	-	-	-
Killeshandra	1	3	-	-
Kilnaleck	-	7	1	-
Ballinagh	-	3	2	-
Arva	1	3	1	-
Total	185	137	68	6
Bailieboro	11	22	5	-
Kingscourt	6	10	9	-
Shercock	1	4	6	-
Virginia	6	25	2	-
Cootehill	8	23	12	-
Mullagh	1	6	3	1
Ballyjamesduff	2	27	2	1
Total	35	117	39	2
Total for County Cavan	220	254	107	8

Table 3: An Garda Síochána Crime Incidents over the period 1/1/2016 to 31/12/2016- Traffic figures

Sub Districts	Traffic Collision (Fatal)	Traffic Collision (Material Damage)	Traffic Collision (Non Serious Injury)	Traffic Collision (Serious Injury)	Dangerous Driving	Drink Driver	Vehicles Detained
Cavan	-	268	39	3	47	70	170
Belturbet	-	19	10	1	20	15	25
Ballyconnell	-	40	5	-	9	6	12
Blacklion	-	5	2	-	-	1	-
Swanlinbar	-	6	-	-	1	2	4
Dowra	-	3	1	-	1	-	1
Killeshandra	-	8	1	-	11	3	3
Kilnaleck	-	28	6	-	18	15	16
Ballinagh	-	29	6	-	25	12	24
Arva	-	17	1	-	7	8	16
Total	0	423	71	4	139	132	271
Bailieboro	-	32	2	1	13	16	24
Kingscourt	-	28	3	-	5	8	27
Shercock	-	8	3	2	3	2	4

Sub Districts	Traffic Collision (Fatal)	Traffic Collision (Material Damage)	Traffic Collision (Non Serious Injury)	Traffic Collision (Serious Injury)	Dangerous Driving	Drink Driver	Vehicles Detained
Virginia	2	48	5	4	13	22	61
Cootehill	1	32	5	-	13	12	26
Mullagh	-	10	2	1	3	2	9
Ballyjamesduff	1	34	9	1	17	10	32
<i>Total</i>	4	192	29	9	67	72	183
<i>Total for County Cavan</i>	4	405	100	11	206	204	454

There were four Fatal Traffic Collisions in 2016 and these all occurred within the Bailieborough District Division, (Cootehill 1, Ballyjamesduff 1 and Virginia 2). There were 204 Drink Driving Offences in total over 2016 and the majority of these were in the Cavan Division.

Table 4: Crime trends from 2012 to 2016

Offence	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012
Burglary	256	339	215	200	282
Agg. Burglary	3	4	5	5	4
Robbery	9	14	9	4	2
Theft - Other	254	340	249	216	245
Theft – M.P.V	107	88	135	86	85
Theft-Person	8	8	10	10	15
Theft-Shop	220	226	184	142	179
Assault Minor	229	208	168	156	206
Assault Harm	161	88	78	82	80
Murder	4	0	0	3	2
Criminal Damage	291	299	252	246	284
Public Order	486	445	402	558	748
Sexual Offences	49	37	28	32	32
Drugs	161	160	130	125	172

Table 4 compares Gardaí crime statistics over the years 2012 to 2016. Public order offences have dropped quite significantly from 2012 to 2014, however they seem to be on the rise again from 2014 to 2016. Drug offences have been fairly consistent over the years but saw a drop in the number of offences both in 2013 and 2014. Theft from shops has been consistently on the increase from 2013 onwards, with a slight drop off in 2016.

2.3 Anti-Social Behaviour Statistics – Cavan County Council

Anti-social behaviour is defined by the Housing Act 2009 as:

‘Any behaviour which causes or is likely to cause any significant or persistent danger, injury, damage, loss or fear to any person living, working or otherwise lawfully in or in the vicinity of a housing authority under the Housing Acts 1966 to 2002, or a housing estate in which the house is situated and without prejudice to the forgoing includes violence, threats, intimidation, coercion, harassment or serious obstruction to any person’

Anti-social behaviour covers a broad range of complaints, some of a minor nature usually resolved with mediation and engagement, while others are of a more serious nature and require more radical means of resolution. Examples of anti social behaviour are intimidation, abusive or threatening behaviour and vandalism. When it occurs it has significant adverse impact on the quality of life of local authority tenants and can destabilise a local community.

Cavan County Council recognises that anti-social behaviour can have an adverse effect on the quality of life of tenants and the Council is committed to the prevention and elimination of anti-social behaviour in its estates.

Table 5 displays all levels of complaints received and dealt with by Cavan County Council over 2016 and as can be seen anti-social behaviour in the form of ‘Drinking parties with Disturbances’ makes up the most common complaints received over 2016.

Table 5: Nature and number of Anti-Social Complaints received by Cavan County Council in 2016

Nature of the Complaint	No. Of Complaints
Accumulation of domestic waste	4
Backyard burning	1
Drinking parties with disturbances	10
Undeclared lodgers	3
Dogs related	3
Drugs related	4
Harassment/Threats/Intimidation	4
Absent tenant	2
Youth related	4
Total	35

3. Strategic Context

It is essential that the JPC has a strategic vision for its work so that issues arising can be dealt with in a consistent and properly co-ordinated matter. This section lays out the national, regional and local policy context within which the Cavan County JPC Strategic Plan will operate.

3.1 Local Economic Community Plan (LECP)

The JPC guidelines state that the six year Strategic Plan should link with the Local Economic Community Plan (LECP) developed through the Local Community Development Committee (LCDC) for the County. In doing this it should derive its strategic objectives from this plan, of which the JPC considers that it can add significantly to collective efforts in the attainment of those objectives.

The LECP serves as the primary strategy guiding development for a County. Accordingly, a summary of the strategic framework of the Cavan LECP is outlined below, which will provide the strategic context for the work of the JPC.

LECP Vision

“that Cavan 2021 will be a place that we can be proud of; a place where people can have a good quality of life; a better place to live, to work and to enjoy.”

LECP High Level Goals

Twelve high level integrated goals were included within the Cavan LECP, eight related to Enterprise Development and four related to Community Development. These goals will frame the future economic and community development within the county.

For the purposes of developing the JPC Strategic Plan the following LECP objectives were taken into consideration. These objectives relate to those most relevant to the work of the County Cavan JPC.

Goal 9: We will support the ongoing development of safe, active and empowered communities.

Objective 9.3: Develop measures to enhance safety and security at local level.

- a) Develop and implement a JPC plan following a research and consultation process.
- b) Set up new and support existing community crime prevention and safety initiatives across the County. For example, Community Alert / Neighbourhood Watch Schemes, 'Lend a Hand' Initiatives.

Goal 10: We will focus on developing the health and wellbeing of our communities.

Objective 10.1: Improve the health outcomes for all sectors of the community.

- a) Work in partnership to develop and implement a local Suicide Prevention Action Plan.

Objective 10.3: Develop an integrated, targeted response at a local level to reduce levels of drug and alcohol use among adults and young people.

- a) Support the implementation of the National Substance Misuse Strategy and the Regional Drugs Task Force plan at a local level.
- b) Establish an Alcohol and Drugs Forum for the County.

Goal 11: We will promote social inclusion and address disadvantage.

Objective 11.1: Opportunities for the promotion of social inclusion and integration, reducing the isolation and marginalisation of specific communities within the county.

- c) Support measures to address racism and discrimination within the county and promote integration.

The work of the County Cavan JPC will play a key role in the fulfilment of the LECP's vision statement for the County, with particular relevance to 'a place where people can have a good quality of life' through its specific remit in improving the safety and quality of life by the prevention of crime, disorder and anti social behaviour within the County.

3.2 An Garda Síochána Annual Policing Plan 2017 for the Cavan & Monaghan Division

The An Garda Síochána Annual Policing Plan for 2017 focuses on delivering in five main policing areas:

- (1) National and International Security
- (2) Confronting Crime
- (3) Roads Policing
- (4) Community Engagement
- (5) Organisational Development and Capacity Improvement.

The key priorities identified in the National Policing Plan are reflected in the Cavan/Monaghan Division Plan but adapted to meet the needs of the urban and rural communities in Counties Cavan and Monaghan and the Policing challenges that arise with the cross-border mobility of organised crime gangs and dissident criminals.

4. Strategy Development Process

4.1 County Cavan JPC Strategic Priorities

The strategy developed by the County Cavan JPC takes into account the high level LECP objectives as well as other relevant objectives contained within the County Cavan Garda Annual Plan 2017 for the Cavan Division and the feedback from the JPC consultation process.

The JPC strategy outlines general objectives, so that the JPC can be flexible to adapt to changing priorities and good practice over the next six years.

The key priority areas agreed to be focused on by the County JPC over the six years of the strategy are:

1. Drugs & Alcohol Misuse
2. Build Community Relations & Engagement
3. Improved Communications
4. Improved Safety & Policing
5. Road Safety

4.2 Consultation Process Undertaken by Cavan JPC for the Development of the Strategic Plan

In developing the County Cavan JPC Strategic Plan the Cavan JPC undertook a consultation process which consisted of hosting consultation workshops and inviting written submissions from Community/Text Alert Groups operating within the County.

- **Consultations Workshops**

The County Cavan JPC hosted two facilitated consultative workshops:

- Friday 21st October 2016 – with JPC members to gather their priorities and input for the Strategic Plan. This took place at the offices of Cavan County Council.

- Tuesday 6th December 2016 – with members of the public to get their input to the Strategic Plan. This took place at the JPC public meeting in the Cavan Crystal Hotel.

Method Used:

- With JPC Committee Members

To gather the JPC members' views, the meeting attendees were divided into smaller groups to identify their priority areas and goals for inclusion in the Strategic Plan and what they felt were the required actions to achieve those goals.

- With Members of the Public

To gather the views and input of the members of the public, a summary of the topics identified by the JPC members was presented to them and they were invited, in smaller groups, to share their views and suggestions on these topics or to add additional topics which they felt should be included.

On both of the workshops, there was strong engagement by both members of the JPC and members of the public around the topics to be included in the JPC Strategic Plan. The members of the public concurred with the suggested topics put forward by the JPC members expanding on the topics to include issues which they felt were of importance.

At the public meeting, the two topics that generated greatest discussion and contribution were Drug & Alcohol Abuse and Road Safety.

Output from the Consultative Workshops – Themes Identified

At the workshops, there were some themes that came through on many of the priority areas proposed to be included in the Strategic Plan. The themes included:

- **Education** – the role of educating different target groups was prevalent in many priority areas – from educating the general public, to drivers, to young people, to the elderly, etc.
- **Enforcement** – a number of the actions recommended related to targeted enforcement of the law to address specific issues. This also raised the concern of the need for the JPC to support a drive for more Garda resources.

- **Engagement** – there was a desire to achieve greater engagement with the public to help address many the priority areas raised. This included the role of outward communication (e.g. text alerts) as well as having more involvement with the public and within communities.
- **Co-ordination** – there was a strong sense across some of the priority areas that the JPC could, through the strategy, help bring a more coordinated approach to addressing several the issues. This included building collaboration between agencies, reducing duplication, and extending collaboration to neighbouring counties where relevant.

- **Invite for Written Submissions**

Further to the above consultation methods used all the Community Alert Groups within County Cavan were provided with a further opportunity to put forward their views in December 2016. All groups were written to and asked to put forward a written submission for the plan. Please see Appendix B to see a list of those groups who put forward a submission.

4.3 Other Consultation Sources

Feedback from other relevant recent consultation events were also taken into consideration:

- **Community Alert Groups Networking Meeting 2016**

A meeting was held on the 14th September 2016, hosted by Muntir na Tire with support from the Cavan JPC. The meeting was used as an opportunity to seek feedback on issues for consideration for the County Cavan JPC Strategic Plan.

Issues raised at the meeting included:

- The need for more Community CCTV Schemes.
- A review of how the Text Alert Messaging Scheme is operating within the Cavan Division and a call for improvement to be made.
- Improvements to the Senior Alerts Scheme.

- The need to address the fear of crime.
- **Report from the Consultation Workshop on a Regional Response to Drugs and Alcohol Issues in County Cavan**

As a precursor to the establishment of the Drugs & Alcohol Forum a consultation session took place on the 30th November 2015 with key stakeholders involved in tackling the issues of drugs and alcohol misuse within the County. The following were some of the key issues which were raised during this consultation session.

- A lack of transport to connect people to existing services
- A lack of residential treatment options
- A lack of knowledge of service pathways/consistent interagency working
- Supports needed for the 16 – 25 year old group out of work and education
- Supports for parents
- Additional out of hours activities needed for the 10 – 15 age group
- Issues in relation to accessing crisis services
- Referral to alcohol/drug education programmes through the courts
- **HaPAI - The Healthy and Positive Ageing Initiative - Report on County Cavan**

This was a national study carried out in 2016 and under it, 500 older people over the age of 55 from all across County Cavan were independently surveyed on a range of issues. Some of the survey findings were of relevance to this strategy, these include:

- The majority of older people surveyed in Cavan feel safe in their communities but 12% have had an experience that left them concerned for their own safety.
- 20% of women do not feel safe out and about at night.
- 32% of older people found Garda services difficult to access.

5 Strategic Plan

The plan is laid out below in table format and includes a list of ‘Strategic Objectives’ some of which are derived from the Local Economic and Community Plan 2016 - 2021. It also includes relevant objectives and actions derived from ‘An Garda Síochána Annual Policing Plan 2017 for the Cavan & Monaghan Division’ and those objectives which were identified as priorities during the JPC consultation process. The actions are colour coded to reflect which of the four themes they fall under.

Activity planned within this strategy is designed to have ‘SMART’ objectives; this means that they are specific, measurable, achievable, realistic and time bound.

Education

Enforcement

Engagement

Co-ordination

Strategic Objectives	Actions to Achieve Objective	Lead Agency/ Key Partners	Timeframe	Anticipated Outcomes	Performance Indicators
<p>1. Drugs & Alcohol Misuse</p> <p>Reduce the demand for drugs and alcohol through a combination of education and</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Education <p>1.1 Support increased engagement between HSE, Gardaí and Education providers to build a constructive substance misuse educational programme into the secondary school curriculum.</p>	<p>Lead: An Garda Síochána</p> <p>Support: RDTF, HSE, ETB, Cavan Drugs & Alcohol Forum, CDA Trust Ltd., Muntir na Tire, Local Schools</p>	Short Term	<p>Increased awareness amongst young people around the dangers of substance misuse.</p> <p>Reduce demand for drugs and alcohol.</p>	<p>No. of schools targeted.</p> <p>No. of students who have received the training.</p>

Strategic Objectives	Actions to Achieve Objective	Lead Agency/ Key Partners	Timeframe	Anticipated Outcomes	Performance Indicators
enforcement.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Enforcement 1.2 Establishment of the new Divisional Drugs Unit (DDU).	Lead: An Garda Síochána	Short Term	Reduction in drug related crime	DDU established and operations commenced
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Engagement 1.3 Research and identify easier ways to report issues to Gardaí regarding drugs and alcohol.	Lead: An Garda Síochána	Medium Term	Increased reporting to the Gardaí in relation to drug	Research complete and methods identified.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Coordination 1.4 Support the implementation of the National Substance Misuse Strategy and the new Regional Drugs Task Force (RDTF) plan at a local level.	Lead: RDTF Support: An Garda Síochána, Cavan County Council	Ongoing	Develop initiatives that specifically accord with the plans	Regional Drugs Task Force Plan in place and being implemented
	1.5 Support the Cavan Drugs & Alcohol Forum in the provision of information and creating awareness.	Lead: CDAF	Ongoing	Reduction in drug use locally and more information on supports available	No. of initiatives supported.

Strategic Objectives	Actions to Achieve Objective	Lead Agency/ Key Partners	Timeframe	Anticipated Outcomes	Performance Indicators
2. Build Community Relations and Engagement Increase community engagement and involvement in providing safer communities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Engagement 2.1 Support the rollout of community safety initiatives such as the Crime Prevention Ambassadors Initiative, Theft Stop Scheme with appropriate community partners.	Lead: An Garda Síochána Support: Muintir na Tíre, Older People's Council, JPC, An Garda Síochána, Older People's Council, Volunteer Information Service, PPN	Ongoing	Increased coverage of community safety programmes so communities are equipped to deal with crime prevention	No. of initiatives per annum
	2.2 Help older people protect themselves from crime by increasing engagement with the Crime Prevention Unit, assignment of a Garda Officer to engage with the Older People's Council and provide presentations to older people's groups. - Update the Older People's Register			Improved public satisfaction, particularly amongst older people and a reduced fear of crime	Garda Appointed No. of presentations to older people's groups Older people's register updated
	2.3 Carry out more community based activities such as Garda Station Open Days.			One Open Day held in each District per annum.	
	2.4 Engage in relevant community based activities e.g. family			No. of community events attended	

Strategic Objectives	Actions to Achieve Objective	Lead Agency/ Key Partners	Timeframe	Anticipated Outcomes	Performance Indicators	
	fun/sports days, community festivals, men's sheds events etc.					
	2.5 Hold a local event for the National Property Recovery day on an annual basis.				Attendance at National Property Recovery Day	
	2.6 Support the newly established Town Teams set up through Cavan County Council by ensuring that there is relevant appropriate crime prevention and safety initiatives included within the Town Teams Programmes.	Lead: Cavan County Council				At least one crime prevention/safety initiative action included within each Town Team Programme
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Coordination 2.7 Establish a Community Relations and Engagement Sub-Group under the JPC to oversee this objective.	Lead: JPC	Short-term	More co-ordinated approach to this work.	New JPC Sub-group to be established.	
2.8 Support Community Alert as a community crime prevention and reduction initiative for rural areas, operating as a partnership between the local community, An Garda Síochána and Muntir na Tire. - Garda appointed to each	Lead: Muintir na Tire Support: JPC, An Garda Síochána, Cavan County Council	Ongoing	Functioning Community Alert/ Neighbourhood Watch covering all areas of County Cavan.	Maintain the number of existing community alert groups annually over the life of the strategy.		

Strategic Objectives	Actions to Achieve Objective	Lead Agency/ Key Partners	Timeframe	Anticipated Outcomes	Performance Indicators
	Community Alert Group.				
	<p>2.9 Host an annual meeting of all the Community Alert/Text Alert Groups within the County and encourage opportunities for cross county and cross border co-operation with Community Alert/Text Alert groups within these areas.</p>				Annual meeting held
	<p>2.10 Develop Text Alert as a one way communication channel between An Garda Síochána and the community and work towards achieving full county coverage of the Text Alert Scheme.</p>				Number of new Text Alert Groups set up per annum.
	<p>2.11 Conduct an audit of current agencies providing community safety and crime prevention education and support services and co-ordinate to reduce duplication.</p>	<p>Lead: JPC – Community Relationship & Engagement Sub Group</p> <p>Support: Cavan County Council, An Garda Síochána</p>	Short-Term	Have a coordinated approach to community safety education and support services across the county.	Audit completed

Strategic Objectives	Actions to Achieve Objective	Lead Agency/ Key Partners	Timeframe	Anticipated Outcomes	Performance Indicators
3. Improved Communications	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 3.1 Adopt, publish and launch the County Cavan JPC six year strategic plan. 3.2 Raise awareness of the County Cavan JPC, its purpose and its relevance for the public through CCC social media sources, press releases and notices of meetings. Produce one annual newsletter for the JPC. 3.3 In accordance with JPC Guidelines, host an annual JPC Public Meeting. 	<p>Lead: JPC</p> <p>Support: An Garda Síochána, Cavan County Council</p>	Ongoing	Increased awareness and knowledge of the JPC	<p>Plan adopted and launched</p> <p>No. of press releases</p> <p>No. of social media hits</p> <p>No. of notices of meetings</p> <p>Newsletter produced.</p> <p>One public meeting held per annum</p>
	3.4 Explore the increased use of the Text Alert Service to include all crime prevention advice / measures and important public information.	Lead: An Garda Síochána	Medium Term	Improved communications between An Garda Síochána and the public.	Increased usage of Text Alert Scheme

Strategic Objectives	Actions to Achieve Objective	Lead Agency/ Key Partners	Timeframe	Anticipated Outcomes	Performance Indicators
	<p>3.5 Support and develop the JPC Linkage Group as a thematic subgroup of the PPN to discuss and develop policy.</p> <p>Linkage group to support PPN representatives on the JPC. The JPC will use the PPN as a key method to communicate with the Community & Voluntary Sector.</p>	<p>Lead: PPN</p> <p>Support: JPC</p>	Short Term	The PPN's JPC Linkage Group to be utilised as a key communications medium with the Community and Voluntary Sector.	<p>Establishment of the PPN/JPC Linkage Group.</p> <p>Quarterly meetings held per annum</p> <p>No. of initiatives supported.</p>
	<p>• Coordination</p> <p>3.6 Implement the Garda Communications Strategy to improve communications to the public. More use of social media to alert the public and online community to cyber crimes and scams.</p>	<p>Lead: An Garda Síochána</p> <p>Support: JPC, Cavan County Council</p>	Ongoing	<p>Improved communications between An Garda Síochána and the public.</p> <p>Improved public confidence and trust.</p>	<p>Implement Garda Communication Strategy.</p> <p>Number of media briefings, press releases from the Divisions to the local media etc.</p> <p>Increased use of the Divisional Facebook page.</p>
	<p>3.7 JPC members will be represented on relevant committees to ensure effective collaboration and cross communication between the JPC and these committees, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Cavan Traveller Inter-agency 	<p>Lead: JPC Members</p>	Ongoing	Increased collaboration and cross-communication between the	No. of relevant committees members are represented

Strategic Objectives	Actions to Achieve Objective	Lead Agency/ Key Partners	Timeframe	Anticipated Outcomes	Performance Indicators
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Committee - Cavan Age Friendly Alliance - Local Community Development Committee (LCDC) - Cavan Drugs & Alcohol Forum - Cavan Suicide Prevention Steering Committee - Roads Safety Committee 			various committees	
4. Improved Safety and Policing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enforcement <p>4.1 High visibility policing to tackle public disorder and anti-social behaviour and increase presence of gardaí across County Cavan, particularly areas that are isolated and are vulnerable to crime.</p>	Lead: An Garda Síochána	Ongoing	Greater policing presence within our communities	No. of high visibility patrols
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Engagement <p>4.2 Enhance services to victims of crime and promote the newly established Divisional Garda Victim Support Office (GVSO).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - GVSO will raise awareness by informing victims about relevant State funded victims support organisations. - Strengthen communications with all victims of crime. - Assess and provide those most in need with suitable Garda 	Lead: An Garda Síochána	Medium Term	Have a professional follow-up service in place for victims of crime.	Number of individuals supported through the Divisional GVSO per annum.

Strategic Objectives	Actions to Achieve Objective	Lead Agency/ Key Partners	Timeframe	Anticipated Outcomes	Performance Indicators
	Services.				
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Co-ordination <p>4.3 Cavan County Council to use An Garda Síochána's Crime Prevention through Environmental Design Guidelines.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Also encourage and support wider usage amongst architects and planning consultants. 	<p>Lead: Cavan County Council (Housing, Roads and Planning)</p> <p>Support: An Garda Síochána</p>	Long Term		<p>Training day organised for relevant staff members</p> <p>No. of projects/upgrades implemented using this process</p>
	<p>4.4 Promote the installation of CCTV systems in key areas.</p> <p>4.5 Promote coordination of police forces north and south of the border.</p>	<p>Lead: An Garda Síochána</p> <p>Support: JPC, Cavan County Council</p>	<p>Long Term</p> <p>Long Term</p>	<p>Increased collaboration across county borders</p>	<p>No. of CCTV installations and systems upgrades.</p> <p>No. of meetings/initiatives held between policing forces north and south of the border.</p>

Strategic Objectives	Actions to Achieve Objective	Lead Agency/ Key Partners	Timeframe	Anticipated Outcomes	Performance Indicators
5 Road Safety Make roads in the county safer for all road users.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Education 5.1 Continue the delivery of Garda School Education Programmes such as 'Are you too young to die' and 'Beep Beep Day' Programme to pre-school children.	Lead: An Garda Síochána	Ongoing	Reduction in the number of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Road deaths - Collisions - Related injuries Reduce incidents of speeding.	No. of Schools within the County to receive training
	5.2 Delivery of RSA's 'Wrecked' programme to secondary schools. Delivery of "Simon and Friends", "Seatbelt Sherriff" and "HiGlo Silver" to primary schools.	Lead: Road Safety Authority	Ongoing		No. of Schools within the County to receive training
	5.3 Cycle safety training & rules of the road (Sports Partnership/Bike Week)	Lead: Cavan Sports Partnership	Ongoing	Increased awareness around safe cycling	No. of Schools to receive the training No. of students to participate in the training
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Enforcement 5.4 Increase compliance with legislation.	Lead: An Garda Síochána Support: Cavan County Council, Road Safety	Ongoing	Increased compliance with legislation.	Road offence statistics

Strategic Objectives	Actions to Achieve Objective	Lead Agency/ Key Partners	Timeframe	Anticipated Outcomes	Performance Indicators
	<p>5.5 Increase the use of Automatic Number Plate Recognition (ANPR) technology for roads policing and as an investigation tool.</p>	<p>Authority</p>	<p>Long Term</p>	<p>More access to ANPR technology to track and target criminals and road offenders.</p>	<p>Number of detections resulting from ANPR.</p>
	<p>5.6 High visibility checkpoints and signage.</p>				<p>No. of checkpoints</p>
	<p>5.7 Remove posters blocking roundabouts and junctions.</p>	<p>Lead: Cavan County Council Support: An Garda Síochána, Road Safety Authority</p>	<p>Long Term</p>		<p>No. of speed reductions measures/pedestrian crossings put in at local schools</p>
	<p>5.8 Continue to review speed limits across the county with a particular emphasis on housing estates and villages.</p>				
	<p>5.9 Install speed reduction measures/pedestrian crossings at schools within the county where such a need is identified.</p>				
<p>5.10 Improvement to pedestrian facilities as part of Cavan Town's 'Active Travel Towns' Programme.</p>					

Strategic Objectives	Actions to Achieve Objective	Lead Agency/ Key Partners	Timeframe	Anticipated Outcomes	Performance Indicators
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coordination 				
	<p>5.11 Continue the provision of the Collision Prevention Programme.</p> <p>5.12 Continue and support the work of the Garda Multi-Agency Road Operations.</p>	<p>Lead: An Garda Síochána</p> <p>Support: Members of the Multi-Agency Road Operation Group</p>	Ongoing	<p>Reduction in the number of –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Road deaths - Collisions - Related injuries <p>Reduce incidents of speeding.</p>	<p>No. of Meetings held</p> <p>No. of initiatives undertaken.</p>
	<p>5.13 Support the roll out of the County Cavan Road Safety Plan.</p>	<p>Lead: Cavan County Council, Road Safety Committee</p>			Plan produced in 2017 and implementation commenced

6. Implementation, Monitoring and Evaluation

6.1 Taking the Strategy Forward – Implementation

There are currently a number of funding opportunities available under programmes such as Peace IV, LEADER and the Community Based CCTV Programme. The Cavan JPC will be supportive of organisations and communities to explore the possibilities of availing of these funding sources to ensure the full implementation of this plan.

The JPC will be required to produce annual programmes of work to bring their six year strategic plan to fruition. The following steps will need to be considered in order to achieve successful implementation:

- Identification of champions to oversee and deliver on actions.
- The creation of JPC sub committees/and or key partners as deemed appropriate, to advance the activities of the committee.

6.2 Monitoring & Evaluation

Regular JPC meetings will be held to monitor progress on specific actions outlined in the strategy. An annual progress report on the overall implementation of the six year strategy will be produced and a full evaluation of the plan will be carried out at the end of the six years.

APPENDICIES

Appendix A

Full list of the County Cavan JPC Membership

Elected Representatives

Cllr. Sarah O'Reilly

Cllr. Shane O'Reilly

Cllr. Clifford Kelly

Cllr. Fergal Curtin

Cllr. John Paul Feeley

Cllr. Winston Bennett

Cllr. Carmel Brady

Cllr. Peter Mc Vitty

Cllr. Paddy Smith

Cllr. Madeline Argue

Cllr. Damian Brady

Cllr. Noel O'Connell

Cllr. Paddy Mc Donald

Community Representatives

Brian Mc Dermott – Cavan Public Participation Network (PPN)

Noleen Brady – Community Alert

Vanessa Clarke – Muntir na Tire

Ashling Tobin – Garda 365 Project

Bob Gilbert – Older People's Forum / Age Friendly Alliance

Frank Mc Dermott – Shercock Rural Development

Cavan County Council

Tommy Ryan, Chief Executive

Eoin Doyle, Director of Services

An Garda Síochána

Chief Superintendent Christopher Mangan

Superintendent James Coen

Oireachtas Members

Deputy Brendan Smith

Senator Joe O' Reilly

Senator Diarmuid Wilson

Deputy Niamh Smyth

Appendix B

Community Alert Groups who submitted written submission for consideration under the JPC Strategic Plan

- Drumlane, Milltown Community Text Alety
- Carrickane Residents Association and Text Alert

