

Cavan Joint Policing Committee

Review of 2017 Activity



Launch of JPC Strategy

The Cavan JPC strategy was launched in May 2017. This six year plan will ensure that that the Joint Policing Committee takes a strategic and collaborative approach to policing issues in County Cavan. It sets out how all agencies and communities can work in

partnership to make sure our county is a welcoming, secure and safe place.

The JPC also developed an Annual Work Plan for 2017 to support the implementation of actions.

Themes

The strategy's four themes were generated from public consultation. Activity is categorised as:

- Education
- Enforcement
- Engagement
- Co-ordination

Community Alert Groups support from Muintir na Tire

Muintir na Tire provided ongoing support to Community Alert groups during 2017. This included support for governance and funding applications. They promoted the Seniors Alert programme and associated changes. Text Alert is subject to ongoing review with significant improvements in text issue and delivery.

They recruited volunteers to work as Crime Prevention Ambassadors during the year. Twenty one volunteers participated in training. A review of the project is almost complete. It is recommended that community groups apply to deliver the project locally using the Station Register of Vulnerable Persons as the target cohort annually. A network will be formalised in Cavan in 2018. Muintir na Tire held its annual meeting for Community Alert groups in December 2017.

CCTV Schemes

The Department of Justice has a grant scheme for Community CCTV schemes.

A number of communities in County Cavan are interested in setting up CCTV schemes for their local areas. The JPC established a subgroup to support communities in September 2017. The JPC produced an information leaflet to support communities through the process.



Eligibility for Grants and the Application Process

- The Department of Justice and Equality has a funding scheme for Community CCTV Schemes.
- Up to €40,000 can be accessed for the capital costs of installing equipment to eligible community groups.
- The grant can fund a maximum of 60% of costs of the scheme, so match funding is required.
- There is significant paperwork involved in the application.
- The scheme is not for private/commercial applicants
- Consortiums may apply that include private interest
- Applicant community groups need to sign up to the local authority policy on DATA PROTECTION.
- They need letters of support from the Joint Policing Committee and local authority.



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DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE AND EQUALITY

Property Marking Machine

CAVAN COUNTY COUNCIL TO PURCHASE MACHINE

Cavan County Council is purchasing a Property Marking Machine, which can punch your EIRCODE or other identifying information onto household or farm property. Lawnmowers, garden tools, bicycles, plastics, carbon fibre golf clubs can be marked. Eircode engraving is recommended to trace lost or stolen items back to their household. This initiative is supported by the JPC and An Garda Síochána. Property marking was used effectively in a West Cork initiative where the community had problems with the theft of outboard engines.



Sgt Ken Coughlan gave a property marking demonstration to Cavan JPC in June 2017.

Drugs and Alcohol Task Force

During 2017, the North East Regional Drug & Alcohol Task Force provided support to various structures such as the Children & Young People's Services Committee, Bounceback Youth Service, Cavan Drug and Alcohol Forum, Strengthening Families Programme, Service User Meetings, and Cavan Drug Awareness. SAOR training was delivered to 45 individuals.

The new national drugs strategy, 'Reducing Harm, Supporting Recovery' was launched in 2017.



Garda Station Open Days

An Garda Síochána held a number of open days in their stations. One was held in Bailieborough in December 2016 and another in Cavan in September 2017.

Garda Vehicles, mounted unit, armed support unit and dog unit were present on the day, along with members of Cavan Fire Service, who displayed a fire engine.

The purpose of these open days is to improve engagement with the public and give people of all ages the chance to meet local Gardaí and get an extensive tour of the station.



Motion to Introduce a CCTV scheme for Rural Dwellers

A motion was passed at a meeting of Cavan Joint Policing Committee on 24th November 2017 to propose to the Minister of Justice and Equality the introduction of a grant scheme to support CCTV schemes for the agricultural community and rural dwellers. This motion was proposed by Cllr Shane P O'Reilly and seconded by Cllr Fergal Curtin.

Rural communities and in particular farming communities in Cavan are concerned about crime and such a scheme would support them to protect their homes.

Public Participation Network Linkage Group

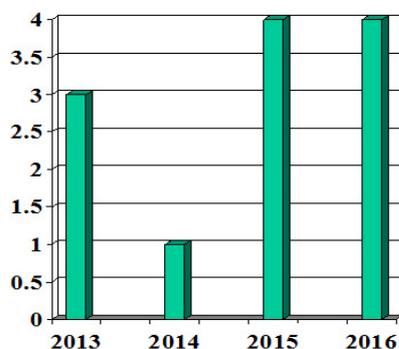
PPN feedback sessions on policing and drug issues took place in July and November 2017. Issues raised by PPN members included the need for Community Liaison Officers for the Gardaí, increased visibility of walking Garda patrols, recruitment of administrative staff to free Gardaí up for policing work, and greater advertising of the Garda confidential number to address fear of reporting in relation to drug crime.

Road Policing and Road Safety

In January 2017, Traffic Inspector Kevin Gavigan presented an overview of traffic data to the JPC. Topics covered:

- Driving under the influence of intoxicants
- Enforcement of Road Traffic Legislation
- Life saver offences
- Drink Driving
- Speed
- Mobile Phones
- Seat belts
- Ongoing Operations Regarding Traffic
- Initiatives on Road Safety for 2017

County Cavan Fatal Collisions 2013-2016



In 2014 there were 787 mobile phone offences in the Cavan Monaghan Division. This had increased to 823 in 2016.

Public Education

An Garda Síochána deliver a Schools Programme and Roadshows. This activity included Transition Year Road Safety awareness day “Are you too young to die?” They are involved in Beep Beep Day for pre-school children.

Speed Vans

Speed Detection vehicles are able to operate Day / Night . The vehicle is deployed locally by the Divisional Traffic Inspector at collision prone locations.



Road Safety Authority

The Road Safety Authority visited 48 locations in Cavan during 2017. These were mainly National Schools but also included Youthreach Centres, playschools and road safety initiatives set up by An Garda Síochána.

 Road Safety Education Service

Website www.rsa.ie

Road Safety



Cavan County Council issued over 400 Hi-Vis jackets at the Taste of Cavan to help support road safety.

This JPC Review newsletter was prepared by Gladys P. Brady, Cavan Institute, February 2018