



Galway City Joint Policing Committee

Draft Annual Report 2023

Table of Contents

1.	Message from the Chairperson of Galway City Joint Policing Committee	3
2.	Message from Chief Superintendent, Galway Garda Division	4
3.	Legislative Framework	5
4.	JPC Annual Workplan 2023.....	5
5.	Meetings of the JPC 2023	6
6.	An Garda Síochána Statistics Report 2023	8
7.	The future of JPCs and the new Local Community Safety Partnerships	12
8.	JPC Membership 2023.....	13
9.	Joint Policing Sub-Committees - Membership (as at end of December 2023).....	14

1. Message from the Chairperson of Galway City Joint Policing Committee

As Chairperson of the Galway City Joint Policing Committee (JPC) I welcome the publication of the Annual Report for 2023. The report details the work of the Committee in delivering on its work during 2023.

The overarching aim of the Joint Policing Committee is to develop greater consultation, co-operation and synergy on policing and crime issues between An Garda Síochána, Galway City Council, elected local representatives and to facilitate the participation of the community and voluntary sectors in the committee. As with previous years, the Joint Policing Committee continued to take a strategic approach to its work in addressing local issues collectively and strategically. The Galway City JPC convened on four occasions during 2023. The JPC has tried to deliver initiatives that have a positive impact on our communities, such as discouraging anti-social behaviour, promoting road safety messages and initiatives, and continuing to support community safety and tackling organised and serious crime. I would like to thank the members of the JPC and its Sub Committees for their work during 2023. I want to acknowledge the important work of members of An Garda Síochána in laying their part in keeping our communities safe at this exceptionally challenging time. An Garda Síochána has established a very strong bond with communities and has become a central part of people's everyday lives. As an organisation it has adapted to change in order to serve the past and present needs of a national, unarmed police service, while also striving to provide a specialist response to prevent and detect crime.

I wish to record my appreciation to the An Garda Síochána team, led by Chief Superintendent Gerard Roche. I also want to acknowledge the excellent level of participation by the elected and community representatives on the Committee and to each Member of the JPC for their continuing support in fulfilling the role and purpose of the JPC and to Galway City Council for the administration of the Committee.

Councillor Níall McNelis

Chairperson of the Galway City Joint Policing Committee

2. Message from Chief Superintendent Gerard Roche, Galway Garda Division

As Chief Superintendent of the Galway Division, I would like to extend my sincere appreciation to Galway City Council, Community Representatives and Elected Local Officials in Galway City.

I want to acknowledge the co-operation and participation of all Joint Policing Committee Members in ensuring our city is a safe place for all.

I look forward to your continued co-operation in 2024.

Gerard Roche

Chief Superintendent

Galway Garda Division

3. Legislative Framework

The legislative framework for the establishment of Joint Policing Committees is set out in Section 36 of An Garda Síochána Act 2005 to serve as a forum for consultations, discussions and recommendations on matters affecting the policing of the Local Authority’s administrative area. JPCs operate under revised guidelines issued by the Policing Authority in 2022 after consultation with the Minister for Justice, the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage and the Garda Commissioner.

4. JPC Annual Workplan 2023

Promote the Safety of all Road Users in Galway City	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Road Accidents• Intoxicated Driving• Roads Policing– Life Saving Offences
Enhance Community Safety responses in Galway City	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Property Crime, Burglary
Reduce and Prevent Anti-Social Behaviour	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Assault• Public Order Offences
Support Community Engagement Models of Best Practice	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Misuse of Drugs

Monitoring of Levels and Patterns of Crime

An Garda Síochána provided detailed quarterly statistical reports to Galway City JPC on the levels and patterns of crime, disorder and anti-social behaviour in Galway city, which were kept under review and responded to as appropriate. The members were updated at each meeting of Garda activities across the city, including roads policing, public safety and community engagement, public order and anti-social issues as well as statistics on crime levels including burglaries, thefts, assaults and domestic incidents.

5. Meetings of the JPC 2023

Galway City JPC held 4 meetings in 2023 and all meetings were held online and in person, apart from the public meeting, which was in person only. The Public Meeting 2023 was held in the Ballinfoile/Castlegar Neighbourhood Centre and was a very successful meeting.

Dates of JPC Meetings 2023
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Monday 24th April 2023Monday 19th June 2023Monday 16th October 2023Monday 27th November 2023 (Public Meeting)
Issues/Topics discussed: <ul style="list-style-type: none">Neighbourhood WatchGardai Staff retentionIllegal parking and speedingCommunity PolicingCommunity EngagementBurglaries/TheftsDrug & Alcohol DrivingUse of mobile phone while drivingPolicing Authority Annual EventRed Eye Cameras & CCTVAnti-Social BehaviourDomestic ViolenceE-Scooters Legislation & the wearing of Hi-Viz & helmetsCar Insurance

Presentations received in 2023:

- Inspector Georgina Lohan gave a presentation outlining the role of the Community Coordinator Galway Garda Division including the role of the Community Coordinator Joanne O'Brien, the establishment of dedicated Community Policing Teams (CPTs) with each Community Policing Team responsible for a number of geographic Community Policing Areas (CPAs).
- Sharon Carroll, Environment Department, Galway City Council, gave a presentation in relation to unauthorised waste activity.
- Mr. Ruairi Lehmann, Tourism Officer with Galway City Council, gave an update on the St. Patrick's Day parade & festivities and the positive impact in terms of participation & attendance numbers in the city.
- Inspector Adrian Queeney, Galway Division Roads Policing Unit gave a presentation on Road Safety. Some of the main points highlighted were an increase in drug driving with on average one arrest per day for drink and drug driving.

6. An Garda Síochána Statistics Report 2023

Galway City - Year on year comparison	2022	2023	Difference	% Difference
Property Crime				
Burglary/ Buirgléireacht	113	123	10	9%
Theft from M.P.V./ Goid as Feithicil	174	138	-36	-21%
Theft from Person/ Goid Ó'n Duine	48	49	1	2%
Theft from Shop/ Goid as Siopa	804	1105	301	37%
Theft Other/ Goid eile	286	241	-45	-16%
Drugs/ Drugaí				
For Sale or Supply,/Le díol nó soláthar	93	111	18	19%
Simple Possession/ Seilbh shimplí	265	266	1	0%
Road Accidents/ Statisticí Timpistí Bóthair				
Fatal/ Marfach	3	3	0	
Serious Injury/ gortú tromchúiseach	14	16	2	
FCPN - Speeding / Bhrostú	5701	2996	-2705	-47%
No Insurance/ Gan Árachas	127	115	-12	-9%
Intoxicated Driving/ Tiomáint faoi thionchar alcóil nó drugaí	123	164	41	33%
MIT Checkpoints/ Seicphointí - Teist Alcóil Sainordaitheach	610	507	-103	-17%
FCPN - Parking Offences	818	634	-184	-22%
FCPN - Pedal Cycle Offences	48	29	-19	-40%
FCPN - Traffic Lights Driving Past	130	130	0	0%

*Data is provisional, operational and may be subject to change

Public Order Incidents				
Public Order Offences/ Coireanna Ord Poiblí	549	455	-94	-17%
Begging	36	27	-9	-25%
Assaults/ Ionsaithe				
Assault causing Harm/ Ionsaithe Ag déanamh dochar	143	136	-7	-5%
Minor Assault/ Mion-ionsaí	330	333	3	1%
Domestic Incidents/ Eactraí Intíre				
Breach of Barring Order, Safety Order and Protection Order Bearnaigh d'Orda Cosanta, Orda Cosaint agus Orda Sábháilte	65	65	0	0%
Domestic -No Offence Identified	454	485	31	7%
Sexual Assaults/ Ionsaithe Gnéasacha				
Rape of Male or Female/ Éigniú ar Fhear nó ar Bhean	22	28	6	27%
Sexual Assault (not aggravated) / Ionsaithe Gnéasacha	56	63	7	13%

*Data is provisional, operational and may be subject to change

Roads Policing

Collision Type	2022	2023
Traffic Collision FATAL / <u>Marfach</u>	3	3
Traffic Collision SERIOUS INJURY / <u>Gortú tromchúiseach</u>	14	16
Type	2022	2023
MIT Checkpoints / <u>Seicphointí - Teist Alcóil nó Drugaí Sainordaitheach</u>	610	507
Intoxicated Driving / <u>Tiomáint faoi thionchar alcóil nó drugaí (including Drug Driving)</u>	123 (23)	164 (52)

Ag Coinneáil Daoine Sábháilte - Keeping People Safe

Lifesaver Offences – year on year comparison



Mobile Phone
 +86% FCPNs
 (604 2023, 324 2022)



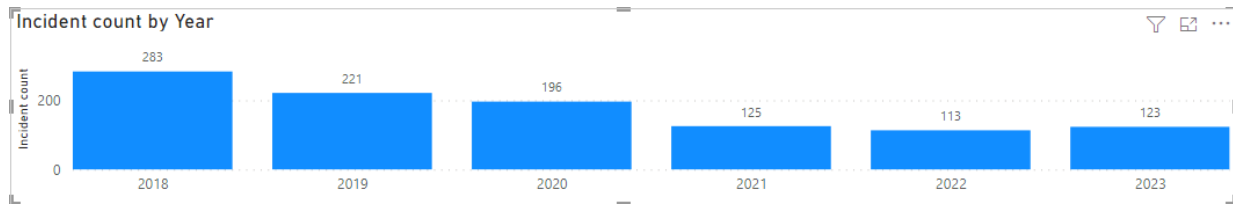
Seat Belt
 +34 FCPNs
 (160 2023, 126 2022)



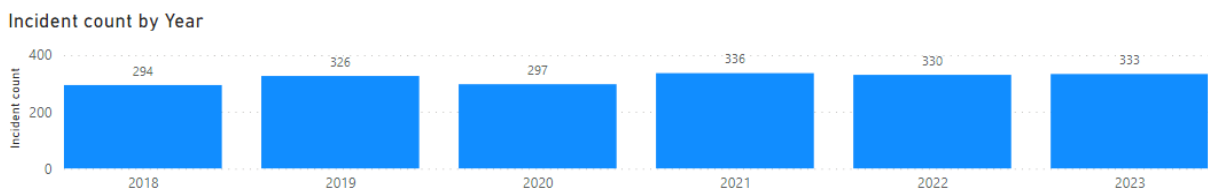
Speed
 -47% FCPNs
 (2,996 2023, 5,701 2022)

Ag Coinneáil Daoine Sábháilte - Keeping People Safe

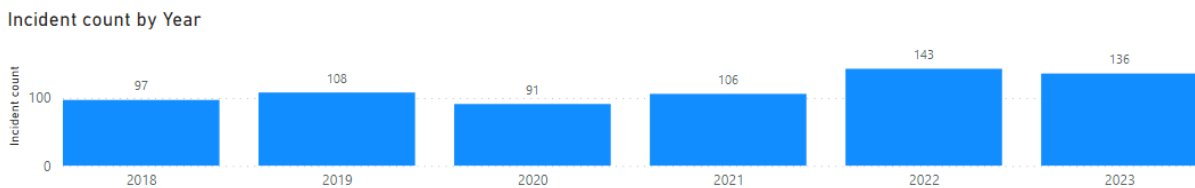
Property Crime – Burglary (Year on year comparison)



Assault Minor (Year on year comparison)



Assault Causing Harm (Year on year comparison)



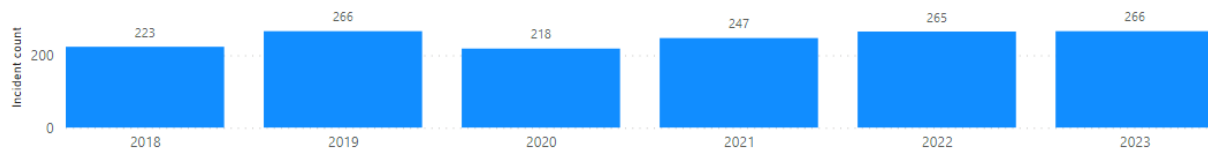
Public Order (Year on year comparison)

Incident count by Year



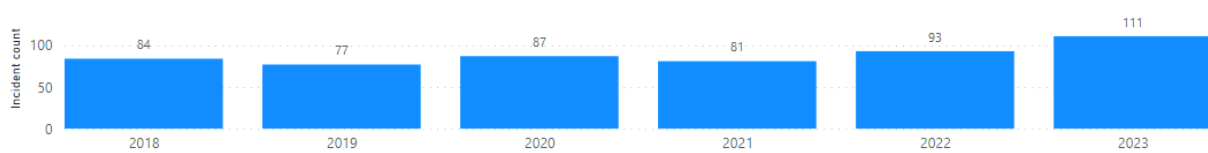
Possession of Drugs for Personal Use (Year on year comparison)

Incident count by Year



Possession of Drugs for Sale or Supply (Year on year comparison)

Incident count by Year



7. The Future of JPCs

The Policing, Security and Community Safety Act 2024 was signed into law by President Higgins on 7 February 2024 and it is envisaged that the new Local Community Safety Partnerships (LCSPs) structure will be rolled out in 2024. The new community safety strategy aims to ensure communities are safer and feel safer by making community safety a whole of Government responsibility and priority. The new LCSPs will be supported by a national governance structure to support the aim of repositioning community safety. Communities will be empowered to have a strong say in what actions are prioritised and will also have a key oversight role in ensuring those actions are followed through.

Joint Policing Committees have to date provided a dedicated forum to support consultation, cooperation and synergy on policing and crime issues between the Garda Síochána, local authority officials, elected representatives and the community and voluntary sectors. It is hoped that the new LCSPs will bring all relevant state services and the community together at local authority level and build on the work undertaken through Joint Policing Committees and supplement it by ensuring that all other relevant stakeholders necessary to constitute a more holistic forum for discussion, decisions and action on community priorities are present.

8. JPC Membership (December 2023)

Name of Committee Member	Organisation	Position Held
Cllr. Níall McNelis	Galway City Council	Chairperson
Cllr. Mike Cubbard	Galway City Council	Member
Cllr. Frank Fahy	Galway City Council	Member
Cllr. Donal Lyons	Galway City Council	Member
Cllr. Terry O'Flaherty	Galway City Council	Member
Cllr. Michael Crowe	Galway City Council	Member
Cllr. Eddie Hoare	Galway City Council	Member
Cllr. Noel Larkin	Galway City Council	Member
Cllr. Alan Cheevers	Galway City Council	Member
Cllr. Alan Curran	Galway City Council	Member
Cllr. Niall Murphy	Galway City Council	Member
Deputy Eamon O' Cúiv	Oireachtas	Member
Deputy Mairead Farrell TD	Oireachtas	Member
Senator Seán Kyne	Oireachtas	Member
Senator Pauline O'Reilly	Oireachtas	Member
Chief Supt. Gerard Roche	An Garda Síochána	Member
Supt Damien Flanagan	An Garda Síochána	Member
Inspector Brian Ryan	An Garda Síochána	Member
Sgt. Sinead Cunniffe	An Garda Síochána	Member
Sgt. Mick Walsh	An Garda Síochána	Member
Mr. Tommy Flaherty	Galway City Community Network (GCCN)	Member
Ms. Nicola Tierney	Galway City Community Network	Member
Mr. John Rabbitte	Galway City Community Network	Member
Mr. Cameron Keighron	Galway City Community Network	Member
Mr. John Cleary	Galway City Community Network	Member
Mr. Patricia Philbin	Galway City Council (Interim Chief Executive)	Member

9. Joint Policing Sub-Committees - Membership (December 2023)

Strategic Goal 1 To Promote the Safety of all Road Users in Galway City	Strategic Goal 2 To Enhance Community Safety Responses in Galway City with a view to crime prevention	Strategic Goal 3 To reduce and prevent anti-social behaviour in Galway City	Strategic Goal 4 To devise & support Community Engagement models of best practise in Galway City
Mr. John Rabbitte (Chairperson)	Cllr. Mike Cubbard (Chairperson)	Cllr. Niall McNelis (Chairperson)	Mr. Tommy Flaherty (Chairperson)
Cllr. Frank Fahy	Cllr. Donal Lyons	Cllr. Terry O'Flaherty	Cllr. Alan Curran
Cllr. Eddie Hoare	Mr. Cameron Keighron	Cllr. Noel Larkin	Cllr. Niall Murphy
Mr. John Cleary	Mr. Tommy Flaherty	Mr. John Rabbitte	Vusi Thabethe
Insp. Conor Madden	Srg. Michael Walsh	Mr. John Cleary	Mr. Nichola Tierney
Insp. Raymond Conway	Inspector Brian Ryan	Mr. Nichola Tierney	Mr. Cameron Keighron
Mr. Francis McEvoy		Inspector John Conway	Inspector Shane Birmingham
		Srg. Michael Walsh	Sergeant Dermot Hardiman
			Esther Osayimwen