



AN GARDA SÍOCHÁNA
ANNUAL REPORT
2018



HIGHLIGHTS OF THE YEAR



1,183

new personnel
joined

12,717

Garda personnel
trained in Code of
Ethics by year end

258

returned to the
frontline from
administration duties

6,500

responded to
Cultural Audit

AN GARDA SÍOCHÁNA AT A GLANCE

2018 was another challenging year for An Garda Síochána, but also a positive one. An Garda Síochána can look back with pride on its own role not only in ensuring public safety throughout the country during the last year, but also the vital role the organisation has played through its history and continues to play every day in keeping people safe.

While the last decade has been very difficult for An Garda Síochána, this year saw further investment by Government in the service and many changes for the better. We continue to do things differently. This Annual Report is testament to this. Produced with input from the Policing Authority, it clearly sets out where we met targets, partially achieved them or did not achieve them. In cases where we did not fully achieve our aims, we will address them under our 2019 Policing Plan.

Contents

Highlights of the year	i
An Garda Síochána at a glance	1
Commissioner's foreword	2
Overview of the Policing Plan	4
National Policing	6
National Security & Intelligence	14
Community Safety	18
Cross-Organisation Services	26
Statistics	42

416

firearms seized

€28m

drugs seized by
Drugs and Organised
Crime Bureau
(DOCB)

11%

fall in burglaries

89%

public trust in
An Garda Síochána
in Q4

COMMISSIONER'S FOREWORD



“As Mr. Justice Charleton said, our foremost obligation is not to An Garda Síochána, but to society.”

2018 was another challenging, but ultimately positive year for An Garda Síochána.

For many of the positives, tribute is due to Acting Commissioner Dónall Ó Cualáin who retired after 35 years of dedicated service.

Since I swore the Garda Oath and became Commissioner in September 2018, I have been struck by the dedication and determination of Garda members, staff and reserves to keeping people safe.

Their great work can be seen throughout this Annual Report. From significant drug seizures, to on-going reductions in burglaries, to initiatives to educate people about protecting themselves from crime, to positively engaging daily with communities throughout the country.

The results of this great work are demonstrated by the Garda Public Attitudes Survey.

It found that by the end of 2018, the victimisation rate had fallen to 4.5% - the lowest level since 2015; just 16% of people believed local crime to be a major problem; 80% were satisfied with the Garda service to their community, and 89% trusted An Garda Síochána. There are very few police services around the world that can match that.

In addition, 2018 saw the lowest ever level of road deaths. One death on our roads is one too many, but this was a significant achievement. The challenge now is for An Garda Síochána, our road safety partners, and the public to work together to reduce road deaths further.

An Garda Síochána's critical role in securing the State was also evident from major seizures of weaponry that degraded the capability of dissident groups, convictions for terrorism offences, and large-scale preparations for potential terrorist incidents. Such work would not have been possible without close co-operation and information sharing with our international law enforcement partners globally, but most particularly with the Police Service of Northern Ireland (PSNI).

A large amount of work was also undertaken with the PSNI and other law enforcement partners to examine and mitigate the potential impact on policing and security from Brexit.

There were also many positive developments organisationally. These included:

- Over 1,000 people joined An Garda Síochána bringing new skills and expertise to the organisation, and helping to increase our visibility in communities.

Commissioner's foreword - continued

- In addition, 250 Garda members working in administrative roles were added to the front-line.
- Supervisory ranks were increased, particularly at Sergeant and Inspector ranks.
- The organisation's largest ever training programme was delivered to embed the Code of Ethics.
- Stations were refurbished and new state-of-the-art Galway Regional Headquarters and Kevin Street Divisional Headquarters opened.

There were, of course, challenges.

An Garda Síochána is a growing organisation and operates in a rapidly changing environment with new crime trends always emerging. In addition, we are implementing significant changes to how the organisation is structured and operates, and the necessary IT systems, people and processes to successfully support those changes.

This has meant the organisation is under strain in a number of areas such as accommodation, training capacity, bringing in skilled resources, and introducing new ICT systems. These issues resulted in many Policing Plan targets being only partially or not achieved in 2018.

We started to address these issues in 2018 and this will continue in 2019. This work was aided by the publication during the year of three very important reports for the future of An Garda Síochána - the Garda Cultural Audit, the Third Interim Report of Justice Charleton, and the Commission on the Future of Policing in Ireland.

The Cultural Audit was a landmark survey of Garda personnel with over 6,500 responding to it. This level of response demonstrates how passionately our people feel about our culture, its positives and how it can be improved.

The findings from the Cultural Audit are being used to address a number of issues affecting our people such as the Garda uniform, discipline procedures, the promotion process, and better communication between all ranks and grades.

In his report, Mr. Justice Peter Charleton found many major flaws and failings in how the organisation operates. While Mr. Justice Charleton in his report praised many Garda personnel for their dedication to public service, he pointed out matters where individually and collectively An Garda Síochána did not meet the high standards the public rightly expects of us. This cannot and will not continue.

As Mr. Justice Charleton said, our foremost obligation is not to An Garda Síochána, but to society.

Fundamentally it is about our culture and behaviours. I have stressed from my first day as Commissioner the importance of all Garda personnel performing their duties to the highest standards professionally and ethically to deliver a police and security service that protects the people of Ireland, particularly the vulnerable.

The Commission on the Future of Policing in Ireland provides a pathway to An Garda Síochána to delivering such a service.

The implementation plan for the Commission's report will deliver specific improvement such as:

- More Gardaí working on the front-line.
- Gardaí working when and where they are needed most.
- Digital management of investigations.
- Community-focused policing services meeting local needs.
- Better investigations at local level of domestic and sexual violence.
- Enhanced focus on human rights in delivery of policing.

It is also very welcome that the Commission's report recognised that An Garda Síochána is not solely responsible for policing issues. As emphasised in the report, there is a requirement for joint agency responses to a range of issues such as youth crime, recidivism, child abuse and human trafficking. We look forward to working with colleagues across a range of State agencies and departments to deliver such responses.

Of course, we already co-operate with a range of oversight bodies such as the Department of Justice & Equality, the Policing Authority, the Oireachtas Justice Committee, the Garda Síochána Ombudsman Commission, and the Garda Inspectorate, as well as a wide range of State agencies and non-governmental organisations. I would like to thank them for working with us in a spirit of partnership.

An Garda Síochána's primary function is to keep people safe. This should be done through delivery of an efficient, effective and ethical police and security service. Significant progress towards this goal was made in 2018 and I am confident that 2019 will see further improvements in the service we provide to the public and the State.

Drew Harris
Garda Commissioner

OVERVIEW OF THE 2018 POLICING PLAN

Progress at a glance

Achieved

1b	Human Resources Operating Model
2a	Recruit 800 Gardaí
5	Roster and Duty Management
6	Court Presenters
9b	PALF (Data Quality Goal)
12a	Appoint DP Officer/Unit
13	Centralised Inc. Classification
15a	PULSE Inc. Recording (Process)
15b	PULSE Inc. Rec. (Monitoring)
15c	PULSE Domestic Abuse m/o
15d	PULSE 'Detected' Incidents
17a	Ident. Cultural Audit Issues
18c	Gifts and Hospitality Policy
20	Policy Ownership Matrix
21	Inspection and Review IT
23a	Risk Registers
23b	Sharing Risk Data
24	Prevention of Terrorist Acts
26a	Training in 8 MEM Regions
26b	Emergency Planning Task Force
27b	Critical & Firearms Incident Cmd.
28	International Security Fora
29a	Schengen information Sharing
29c	Mobile Immigration Data
29d	Advance Passenger Information
30	Scanning Security Environment
32	National Cyber Security Desk
33	CJ (Victims of Crime) Act 2017
35a	Div. Protective Services Units
35c	Facilitating SORAM Workshops
36b	Reporting/Detection of Sex Offences
37a	Domestic Abuse Interventions
37b	Reporting of Domestic Abuse
37c	Domestic Abuse Call-Backs

Achieved - continued

38a	Trafficking in Human Beings Training
38b	Identification of victims of THB
39a	Possession/Dist. of Child Pornography
39b	Child Victims of Sexual Abuse
40a	Safeguarding Statement
40b	PULSE Automated Children First
40c	Integrate PULSE/TUSLA NCCIS
42b	Maintain Inc. Level (Burglary)
44c	Fraud Prevention Camp.
44d	Anti-Corruption & Bribery
44e	Corruption/Bribery Conf. Phone Line
44f	Increase in Money Laundering Inv.
45a	Reports to PA on OCGs per Quarter
45d	Increase Detections (Firearms)
45e	European Arrest Warrants Executed
46	Detection Rates Narrative
50	Roads Policing Operations Plan
52	Road Safety Nat. Media Strat.
54a	Geographic Segmentation CP Areas
56a	New Garda Website
56b	Social Media Engagement
59b	Diversity Training
60	J-ARC Recommendations
61	SAOR Implementation
62a	Juvenile Diversion Action Plan
62b	Implement Plan (see 62a)

For full details on delivery of individual initiatives in the 2018 Policing Plan, please visit www.garda.ie

Overview of the 2018 Policing Plan - continued

Partially Achieved

1a	Human Resources Strategy
2b	Recruit 500 Staff
3	Re-assignment of Gardaí
4	Divisional Policing Model
7	Computer Aided Dispatch
8	Investigation Management System
9a	PALF (Individual Reviews)
11	Appoint Chief Data Officer
12b	DP Impact Assessment Plan
16	Enterprise Content Mgt.
18a	Ethics Strategy
18b	Phase 1 of Ethics Training
19	Strategic Planning F/W
25	Financial Intelligence to A/C S&I
27a	Specialist Firearms Procedures
29b	Prüm Information Exchange
31c	Forensic Computer Examination
35b	Domestic Abuse/Sex Crime Risk Ass.
45b	Dev. of Matrix to assess OCGs
47	Enhanced GoAML Function
48	Crowe Horwath Action Plan
49a	Divisional Roads Policing Units
49b	Roads Policing Personnel

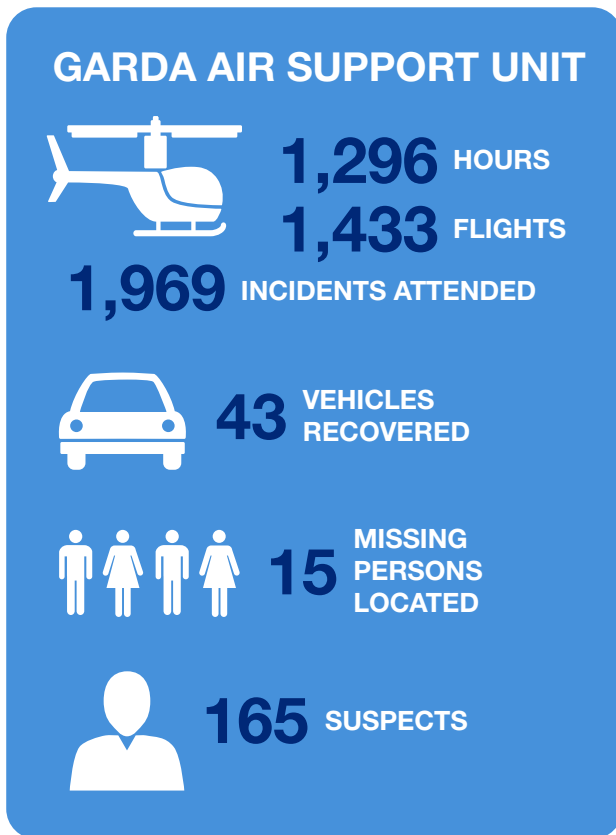
Not Yet Achieved

2c	Recruit 500 Garda Reserve Members
10	PMDS Training Commenced
14	GISCB Service Levels
17b	Cultural Audit Strategy
22	Costing the Policing Plan
23c	Gov. Assurance Framework
31a	GCCB Intelligence Function
31b	Cyber Forensic Exam. Units

Not Yet Achieved - continued

34a	Defining Hate Crime
34b	Proc. to Record Hate Crime
34c	Rpt. Hate Crime Campaign
36a	Domestic Homicide Review
36c	Domestic Abuse Interventions
41a	Crime Prevention Officer Procedures
41b	Crime Prevention Mobile Application
42a	Maintain Det. Rate (Assault)
42c	Maintain Det. Rate (Burglary)
42d	Maintain Inc. Level (Robbery)
42e	Maintain Det. Rate (Robbery)
43	Decrease Inc. Level (Assault)
44a	GNECB Regional Liaison
44b	N. Fraud Prevention Office
45c	Increase Detections (S/S Ctrl. Drugs)
51	Multi-Agency Checkpoints
53a	Key Lifesaver Offences
53b	Decrease Road Fatalities
53c	Decrease Serious Injuries
54b	Com. Pol. Personnel Allocation Plan
55a	Garda Reserve Strategy
55b	Garda Reserve Integration
57	Crime Prevention (Vulnerable People)
58a	Plan to Attract Diverse Groups
58b	Implement Plan (see 59a)
58c	ID Barriers to Diverse Groups
59a	Diversity & Inclusion Strategy
63	Major Event Mgt. Review

NATIONAL POLICING



“Gardaí work in many different ways to fight and target crime nationwide. Specialist units such as the Garda National Economic Crime Bureau (GNECB) and the Drugs and Organised Crime Bureau (DOCB) all have a significant part to play in ensuring the safety of communities around the country.”

The National Criminal Intelligence Unit (NCIU)

The NCIU links directly with national and local investigation units to identify, disrupt and dismantle organised crime groups throughout the State, piecing together multiple strands of information to enhance the intelligence picture.

The Office of the National Criminal Intelligence Officer (NCIO)

The NICO liaises with other Criminal Intelligence Officers within An Garda Síochána and provides a line of communication for them to ensure the immediate notification of information and intelligence on incidents. The NCIO is the single point of contact for Criminal Intelligence Officers and other Gardaí within the Security & Intelligence section in all non-subversive intelligence matters.

National Policing - continued

The Garda National Drugs & Organised Crime Bureau (GNDOCB)

Summary of Seizures by GNDOCB in 2018

Category	2018	Total since March 2015
Illicit Drugs	€28,158,570	€146,958,010
Firearms	23 and 122 rounds of ammunition	91 Firearms & 3016 rounds of ammunition
Cash	€2,796,073	€8,317,583
Arrests for drug trafficking, money laundering, possession of firearms and kindred offences	191	518
Threat to Life Operations	13	59*

* including SCTF arrests.

* includes drug seizures and arrests from Controlled Delivery operations carried out in conjunction with Customs & Revenue Service.

* 59 Threat to Life Operations since the murder of David Byrne at the Regency Hotel on 5 February 2016.

The statistics provided relate only to operations conducted involving the Garda National Drugs & Organised Crime Bureau. The statistics do not include seizures by drugs units and Divisions across the country.

Operation Thor

Since our national anti-burglary operation, Operation Thor, began in November 2015 up to 31 December 2018, it has resulted in:



9,200 arrests
177,460 checkpoints



41,588 (-35%) Residential Burglary Incidents
15,481 (-23%) Non-Residential Burglary Incidents

Garda National Protective Services Bureau (GNPSB)

Missing Persons - Operation Runabay

Operation Runabay was launched by the Missing Persons Unit in January 2017 and continued in 2018. Its purpose is to identify the bodies of persons located on the western coastal area of Great Britain who may have been reported missing in Ireland. Operation Runabay involves ongoing liaison between An Garda Síochána, the UK's National Crime Agency and North Wales Police, as well as other UK Constabularies.

Since the establishment of Operation Runabay, ten missing people have been identified using comparative analysis with familial DNA. Some historical missing person cases were resolved, notably one where a person was reported missing circa October 1985. Following a two-year investigation carried out by the Missing Persons Unit with assistance from the missing person's family and North Wales Police, familial DNA was used to identify remains exhumed from a cemetery in Holyhead. The remains of the deceased person were returned to his family in August 2018.

Missing Persons

Number of missing persons reports*	9,808
Number missing at year end	54

* 25 April 2018 to 25 April 2019.

Divisional Protective Services Units

Six new Divisional Protective Services Units (DPSUs) went live in six Garda Divisions in the first week of January 2019 - DMR South Central, Kerry, Kilkenny, Galway, Waterford and Limerick.

This added to the already established units in DMR West, Clondalkin, Louth and Cork City, and brought the number of DSPUs to 10.

National Policing - continued

Operation Ketch

Operation Ketch is an intelligence-led operation proactively targeting suspects who possess, import and distribute child abuse material on the Internet.

The year-long operation, which was coordinated by the Online Child Exploitation Unit (OnCE) at GNPSB incorporated a total of 137 searches under warrant with 137 targets identified.

Victims Identification Unit

During 2018, the GNPSB Victim Identification Unit identified 56 children who were the victim of online exploitation.

Child Sexual Abuse Reporting (CSAR) Line

In 2018, 76 calls were made to the CSAR line. The CSAR line is a freephone number - 1800 555 222 - for reporting child sexual abuse. Established in 2017, the phone line is an important pathway for persons who are unable to report such abuses to their local Garda station.

Human Trafficking

In 2018, 64 victims of human trafficking were identified, while in 2017, 51 victims of human trafficking were identified. This represents a 25 per cent increase in the total number of victims of human trafficking identified from 2017 to 2018.

In relation to human trafficking offences, reported crimes are provided for 2017 and 2018 only. From 2018 onwards, the figures provided do not include offences pursuant to Section 3(2) Child Trafficking and Pornography Act 1998 as amended. Consequently, any comparison of 2018 with previous years is not a comparison on a like for like basis.

Garda National Economic Crime Bureau (GNECB)

Successful investigations and prosecutions

In 2018, GNECB conducted a number of complex investigations that resulted in prosecutions, convictions and seizures. These included:

Conviction of Mr. David Drumm - The former CEO of Anglo Irish Bank, Mr. David Drumm, was sentenced to six years following a five month trial and a comprehensive nine year investigation by GNECB. Mr. Drumm was found guilty of Conspiracy to Defraud and of False Accounting in relation to fraudulent transactions totalling €7.2bn, which took place in 2008 between Anglo Irish Bank and Irish Life & Permanent.

Operation Joggle - Coordinated search operation by GNECB of 15 premises across Dublin, Louth, Meath, Kildare and Laois into the suspected international money laundering activities of a West-African organised criminal network believed to be responsible for laundering approximately €15m through Irish bank accounts over the previous three years.

Launch of Bribery and Corruption Confidential Line

To encourage the reporting of potential incidents of bribery and corruption, the Garda Anti-Corruption Unit introduced a confidential reporting line in late September.

The reporting line received 33 calls into its first three months of operation.

The Bribery and Corruption Confidential Reporting Line number is 1800 40 60 80.

National Policing - continued

Garda National Cyber Crime Bureau (GNCCB)

New and Closed Cases

Of the new requests for assistance during 2018, the top five categories by volume were:

- Child Pornography Enquiries - 248 Cases
- Theft and Fraud Enquiries - 83 Cases
- Child Exploitation / Grooming - 31 Cases
- Data Retrieval - 30 Cases
- Sexual Assault / Rape - 19 Cases

Expert Support Provided to Investigations

GNCCB worked with a wide-range of sections and units during the year to provide technical support to investigations and court cases.

This included:

Operation Ketch - 112 requests for assistance with over 330 exhibits submitted for analysis.

Operation Myriad - Over 50 exhibits were examined to assist this Economic Crime Bureau operation targeting an organised crime group involved in various types of fraud, money laundering and forgery.

Investigations into child exploitation - GNCCB assisted in several cases during the year where individuals were successfully prosecuted on charges such as child exploitation, and possession and distribution of child abuse material.

Serious Crime Investigations - GNCCB provided assistance to operational units and where required, prioritised the forensic examination of exhibits in relation to murder, organised criminal gangs, missing persons, terrorism, and other serious investigations in 2018.

Case Backlog

The GNCCB case backlog, while reduced in recent years, continues to be a critical priority for GNCCB management. The backlog did not reduce significantly in 2018 despite the adoption of robust methods.

The backlog was 493 cases at the end of 2018.

This represented a marginal decrease over the course of the year.

Of the 493 cases in the backlog, 146 (30%) cases have commenced examination but are not yet finalised. The age profile of cases was reduced from end 2017 to end 2018. At the end of 2017, the backlog spanned six years. At the end of 2018, the age profile of cases spanned five years. In 2018, a new case management facility was developed that allows for early intervention and escalation of issues.

In addition, the introduction of Regional Cybercrime Units with forensic capability in 2019 will help reduce the backlog.

Criminal Assets Bureau (CAB)

One of the main focuses for CAB during 2018 was associates of major organised crime gangs (OCGs). Particular emphasis was placed on targeting the lower level tiers of criminals in addition to more serious crime gangs in an effort to disrupt the progression of individuals within these gangs.

During the year, CAB targeted OCGs and individuals involved in a wide range of crimes including robberies, stolen vehicles, the sale and supply of controlled drugs, the sale of encrypted devices to criminal groups, international mail fraud scam, and fuel and tobacco smuggling.

The type of assets targeted by CAB during the year included cash, cryptocurrency, money held in bank and post office accounts, high value jewellery, motor vehicles, and residential properties.

During 2018, CAB trained an additional 99 local Divisional Asset Profilers bringing the total number of trained local Divisional Asset Profilers to 358.

Full details of the activities of the CAB during 2018 will be published in its annual report.

National Policing - continued

Garda National Immigration Bureau (GNIB)

Operational Activity

GNIB continued to strengthen working relationships with domestic and international counterparts relating to security, management and protection of our borders, and in the investigation of all immigration related matters within the State.

An example of a multi agency operation involving GNIB, UK authorities, the Department of Social Protection and the Work Place Relations Commission was conducted in 2018. Two vehicles stolen in the UK were recovered and two individuals were arrested. Twelve EU Treaty Rights applications were identified for further action.

The Department of Social Protection informed GNIB this operation accounted for a saving of €75,000 to the Exchequer. An additional four companies suspected of facilitating a fraudulent economic footprint in Ireland and associated with 65 residency permissions have been identified and are the subject of ongoing investigation.



Operation Vantage

This intelligence-led operation targets individuals and groups engaged in sham marriages.

The number of marriage notifications for Pakistani, Indian and Bangladeshi first party nationals has consistently fallen over the last four years since the inception of Operation Vantage. These three nationalities accounted for 915 first party marriage notifications in 2015. By 2018, this had fallen to 129.

Continued engagement and close co-operation between GNIB and the General Registrar's Office (GRO) continued. As part of this, a more efficient exchange of information between Operation Vantage and the GRO was established. This resulted in a further 34 investigations actioned by the unit in 2018.

Since Operation Vantage's inception, 1,260 investigation reports and alerts have been forwarded to the Irish Naturalisation and Immigration Service (INIS) where marriages of convenience and/or fraud have been identified in applications for residency cards. Operation Vantage investigations have now reached a combined refusal or revocation rate of 94%.

Removal and Refusal of Individuals in 2018

Deported	101
Deemed Deported	97
Transfers	13
EU Removals	66
Other Removals	14
Total	291
Those with Criminal Convictions	98
2018 Refusal Figures	
Total	4779

Mobile Accessibility

GNIB provided Garda Immigration Officers with access to mobile immigration data including GNIB IS, PULSE and Interpol FIND. This enabled Immigration Officers at ports of entry, ports and border crossings to check live data on travel documents that may have been reported stolen, lost or revoked.

National Policing - continued

Garda National Bureau of Criminal Investigation (GNBCI)

Stolen Motor Vehicle Investigation Unit (SMVIU)

In 2018, SMVIU undertook 70 searches under warrant and issued 19 criminal intelligence bulletins on suspects and crime trends.

Seventy four vehicles, machines and caravans were recovered by the unit with an approximate value of €1,679,000. The unit also assisted in identifying 79 stolen items seized by other Garda members including vehicles, machines, motorbikes trailers and tractors to an approximate value of €1,061,000 giving a total value of approximately €2.74 million.

SMVIU arrested 21 people as part of operations. Fifteen files were forwarded to the office of the Director of Public Prosecutions (DPP) during 2018 and 10 circuit court convictions were registered in cases taken by members of SMVIU.

SMVIU also gave assistance to a number of investigations within Serious Crime Operations from CAB and GNDOCB into the activities of an organised crime gang. SMVIU also identified vehicles for investigations into homicide, cash-in-transit robbery, shooting incidents and a pipe bomb incident.

Intellectual Property Crime Unit (IPCU)

IPCU conducted an investigation into illicit IPTV (Internet Protocol television) streaming services. Through financial analysis conducted by the unit, approximately 50 retailers of illicit IPTV streaming services were identified in English speaking countries worldwide.

In addition to these retailers, a US-based organisation has been identified as being the wholesaler of this illicit product and is involved in supplying the streaming product to the supply chain above these retailers.

Operation Aphrodite is a Europol effort to combat the epidemic spread of the sale of counterfeit and copyrighted products on social media platforms. In Ireland, the operation targeted the online sale and advertising (including through social media) of illicit television products. Fourteen searches were conducted and 880 illicit streaming devices and stolen electronic equipment seized. Files are being prepared for the DPP.

IPCU received a Special Commendation Award from the Anti-Counterfeit Group, a UK-based organisation representing the intellectual property rights of over 3,000 international brands. It was the first time that An Garda Síochána had received such awards.

Extradition Unit

The Extradition Unit executed the following during the year:

	2018	2017
Incoming arrest warrants executed	127	117
Fugitives returned to Ireland	61	55
Fugitives returned to other jurisdictions	62	48

Significant extraditions to Ireland included individuals wanted for fraud/theft, murder, child abuse material, and human trafficking.

Major extraditions from Ireland included an individual wanted in the US for drug offences using the dark Web, and another individual wanted in the UK for murder, sexual offences and arson.

Significant arrests were made in relation to murders and sexual offences.



National Policing - continued

Operational Support Services

Garda Air Support Unit (GASU)

Case Study

On 21 March, a Garda helicopter deployed to a large fire in progress at a hotel in Ballymun in Dublin. The helicopter established overhead the scene and liaised with other emergency agencies present. The helicopter relayed live aerial pictures to the Fire Service personnel present via a downlink system. This enabled fire crews to identify hot-spots and potential secondary fires in the building. The helicopter crew was also tasked by scene commanders to attempt to locate any persons who may be trapped within the building or on its roof. Fortunately, no persons were found to be trapped. The Garda helicopter provided illumination at the scene to assist emergency services and public information announcements through the on board public address system.

Garda Dog Unit

The Garda Dog Unit was involved in over 1,648 searches during 2018. These included searches for missing persons, drugs, firearms and explosive substances as well as for stolen property and other items of significance in criminal investigations.

Case Study

In July 2018, a Dog Unit member responded to a call of a suspected burglar being detained by homeowners and neighbours. The suspect was making violent threats against the homeowners and was involved in a struggle with the neighbours. The Garda dog made her presence known and immediately identified the suspect as a threat. The suspect was warned that force may be used if he did not immediately comply. So effective was the presence of the dog that this violent male immediately surrendered himself and became compliant. The burglar subsequently pleaded guilty to the offence of burglary in the Circuit Court.

Garda Mounted Unit

The typical deployments attended by the unit are primarily crime prevention based. They also cover public order, crowd control, VIP protection, ceremonial duties e.g. St. Patrick's Day Parade, and the visit of Pope Benedict.

They also deployed to assist in crime prevention high visibility patrols as part of Operation Thor and night time patrols to help deal with public order incidents in major cities.



National Policing - continued

Garda Water Unit

During 2018, the Garda Water Unit conducted humanitarian missing person searches and recovered ten bodies.

The unit also assisted in searches for firearms and other weapons in connection with the investigation of serious crime, and both video and still underwater photography was provided to investigating officers to support these operations.

Security searches and confined space searches were conducted by the Garda Water Unit in advance of visiting dignitaries at marine locations.

Assistance was provided to Garda members investigating the theft of boats, engines and other marine equipment, and the unit's extensive network of European marine police contacts proved invaluable during the investigation of these crimes.

Case Study

In January 2018, while three members of the Garda Water Unit were engaged on another missing person search at Bray, Co. Wicklow, they responded to a report of a male seen entering the water at Bray Harbour. On arrival at the scene, they located the casualty in the water who was semi submerged and unresponsive. They recovered the casualty to Bray Harbour and treated him for hypothermia while also requesting medical assistance from the Coastguard. The casualty was removed to Tallaght Hospital by Coastguard Helicopter where he made a full recovery.

National Public Order Unit (NPOU)

In 2018, the NPOU assisted in weekend crime prevention hi-visibility patrols in parts of Dublin City Centre where there is a frequency of public order incidents. In 2018, the NPOU in the Dublin Metropolitan Region recorded 1,222 pro-active crime prevention patrols.

The operation and command of the NPOU continues to be the subject of review and development.

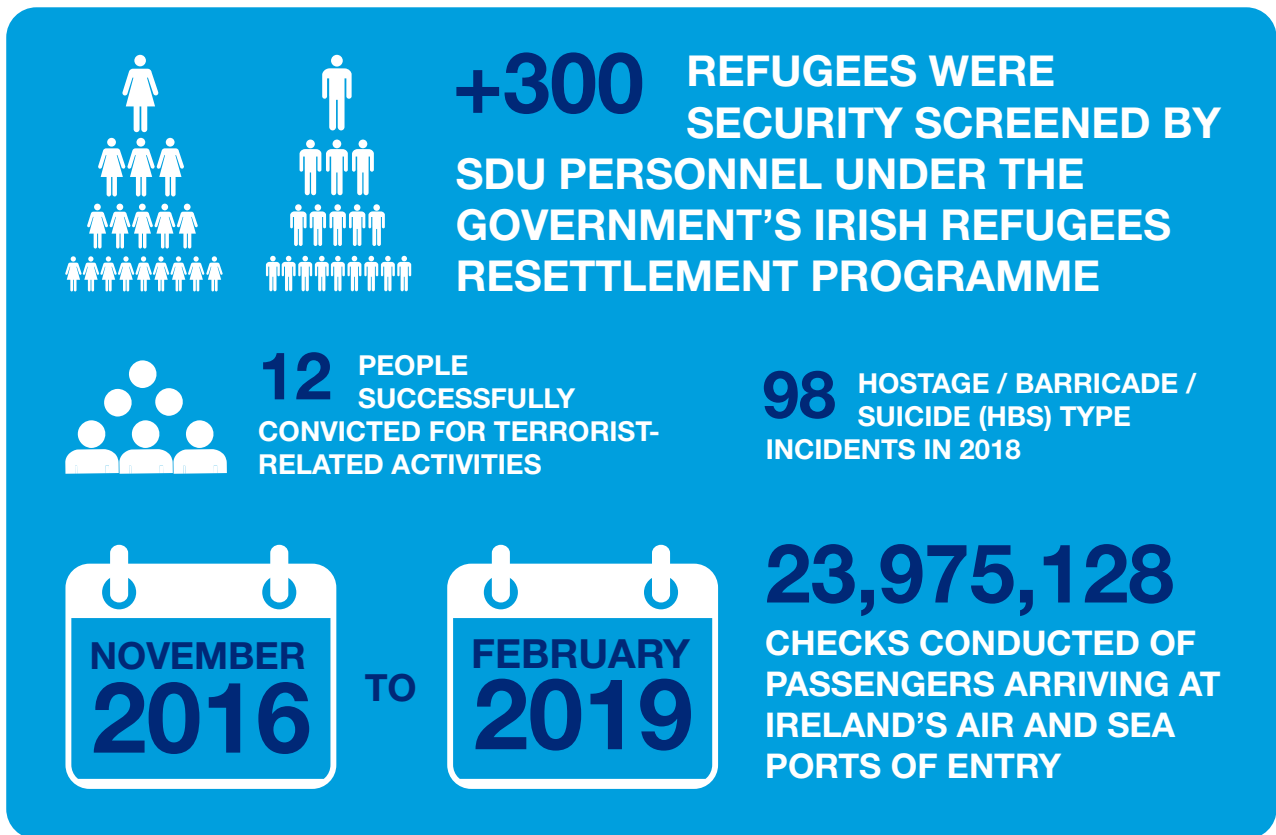
In 2018, the NPOU continued to take on board learning arising from An Garda Síochána reports conducted on the response of An Garda Síochána to two public order incidents. These reports are 'The review of the serious public order incident at An Cosán, Tallaght, Dublin 24, in November 2014' and; 'Lessons Learned Examination - Policing the Execution of a High Court Order on North Fredrick Street on 11 September 2018'.

The shortcomings identified in these reports, together with the learnings, will be addressed and incorporated into the Public Order Incident Command Policy and related procedure.

An Garda Síochána also liaised with the Garda Síochána Inspectorate who were requested by the Policing Authority in October 2018, to examine the effectiveness of the policing of public order situations. It is expected that the results of this examination will be completed in 2019.



NATIONAL SECURITY & INTELLIGENCE



“The role of Security and Intelligence is to identify and analyse the threat to the State from terrorists and organised crime gangs. The section supports operational units by providing intelligence leads relative to both areas.”

Security and Intelligence

An Garda Síochána continued to take a proactive and strategic approach to criminal activity and national security to meet an increasing variety of challenges. These challenges were met by the application of threat countermeasures.

Through the work of the Security and Intelligence section, Ireland provides a safe and secure environment for its residents and businesses.

The threat level in this jurisdiction of “moderate” remained unchanged from 2017, indicating “an attack is possible but not likely”. The level of threat is kept under constant review by An Garda Síochána. All appropriate measures will be taken commensurate with the prevailing threat environment.

An Garda Síochána continued to cooperate closely with our European Union and international counterparts in sharing intelligence and responding to threats.

National Security & Intelligence - continued

Special Detective Unit (SDU)

SDU played a pivotal role in providing security for the official visit of HRH Prince Charles in June, the official visit by the Duke and Duchess of Sussex in July, and the Papal visit in August.

More than 300 refugees were security screened by SDU personnel to facilitate resettlement in Ireland under the Government's Irish Refugees Resettlement Programme.

SDU also worked closely with the Garda National Immigration Bureau and the Garda National Economic Crime Bureau in respect of terrorist financing.

In addition, a number of anti-terrorist operations, both national and international, were successfully pursued. As a result of these intelligence-led operations, a number of firearms and a significant amount of ammunition was seized.

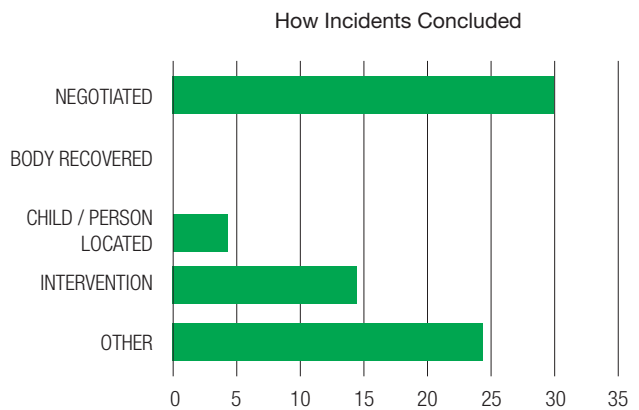
In addition, SDU successfully convicted twelve persons before the Special Criminal Court for terrorist-related activities in 2018.

These included the longest trial in the history of the Special Criminal Court, which saw three people convicted of IRA membership. This trial also saw the first convictions in the history of the State for the offence of knowingly assisting the activities of the IRA.

Special Tactics and Operations Command (STOC)

National Negotiation Unit

The National Negotiation Unit (NNU) dealt with a record 98 hostage/barricade/suicide (HBS) type incidents in 2018. Over 60% of the incidents related to mental health and over 24% related to criminal matters.



'Other' in the main covers incidents where the matter had been resolved by first responders before the arrival of negotiators.

The NNU also assisted the Department of Foreign Affairs & Trade (DFAT) by holding scenario-based exercises for newly appointed Ambassadors and Heads of Missions. Members of NNU also travelled at the request of DFAT to countries in South America and Europe to provide advice and guidance to Embassy personnel, as well as Irish citizens in duress.



National Security & Intelligence - continued

Emergency Response Unit (ERU)

ERU had close protection responsibility for four Royal visits and a Papal visit in 2018 all of which passed without incident.

ERU was deployed nationally on a number of high profile operations and assisted colleagues in CAB, National Surveillance Unit (NSU), SDU, and DOCB.

These included:

- February: ERU assisted CAB in significant searches of addresses and premises belonging to members and known associates of the major organised crime gangs, resulting in the seizure of cash, jewellery and vehicles amongst other assets believed to be proceeds of criminal activity.
- September: ERU was involved in the arrest of dissident terrorists and the seizure of firearms and ammunition during an operation in Co. Longford in support of the Special Detective Unit.
- October: ERU and members of the NNU were involved in the successful resolution of a prolonged barricaded incident in Dublin, which led to the arrest of a subject who had been threatening self-harm, and the seizure of a handgun and silencer.

ERU also contributed to and participated in the Atlas Common Challenge exercise which was the biggest exercise undertaken by specialist intervention units. This event took place across seven regions in the EU. A series of exercises tested the operational readiness for a terrorist incident.

Armed Support Unit (ASU)

The ASU operated from 11 centres in 2018 with the newest centre in the DMR. During the year, ASU were involved in a number of planned and spontaneous operations where response times are continuously being monitored and reviewed.

ASU provided a high visibility presence for the Papal visit in addition to cordoning strategically to offer public protection and reassurance. ASU also provided reassurance for uniformed Gardáí at major events including St Patricks Day parades and Dublin City marathon as well as a number of sporting events across the country.

ASU also assisted ERU on a number of operations in an overt capacity by providing cordons where necessary and were involved in several training exercises.

Liaison and Protection

Multi-Agency Terrorism Exercise

An Garda Síochána led the largest ever multiagency exercise - Operation Barracuda - to test response capabilities in the event of a terrorist attack. In planning since December 2017, Operation Barracuda took place in November 2018 in DCU.

This live exercise was aimed at testing the capabilities and interoperability of An Garda Síochána, the Principal Response Agencies under the Major Emergency Management framework and the Defence Forces in the event of a terrorist attack.

Over 100 people and media representatives observed the exercise. There was positive feedback from the observers and the exercise received significant media coverage.

Interpol FIND

The Fixed Interpol Network Database (FIND) makes it possible for An Garda Síochána and Irish Naturalisation and Immigration Service Officers to query accurate information on stolen/lost travel documents in real-time, 24-7.

From November 2016 to February 2019, 23,975,128 checks were conducted of passengers arriving at Ireland's air and sea ports of entry.

Interpol European Regional Conference - Dublin

Each year, Interpol organises a conference of 41 member countries from its European zone. There are also invited representatives from groups such as the Organisation for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE), Council of Europe, European Commission, and Europol.

The 2018 Interpol European Regional Conference was hosted by An Garda Síochána in Dublin with a total of 229 delegates and observers attending the conference.

Conference topics included the security situation in Europe; technology and innovation; border management issues; cyber-crime; drug issues; counter terrorism; emerging crime trends, and Interpol governance issues.

During the conference, Assistant Commissioner Michael O'Sullivan, Security and Intelligence was elected as a new member of the Interpol European Committee. Assistant Commissioner O'Sullivan became the first member of An Garda Síochána to become an elected officer of Interpol. He will contribute to the work of the European Committee in regard to the Interpol mandate.

National Security & Intelligence - continued

Europol

As part of the Europol network, An Garda Síochána supported a number of European Joint Action Days in the following areas:

- Cyber-attacks
- Payment card fraud
- Firearms trafficking
- Virtual currencies
- Illegal immigration
- Human trafficking
- Cocaine trafficking

An Garda Síochána also inputted into Europol's Organised Crime Threat Assessment, the Internet Organised Crime Threat Assessment, and reports on the Terrorist Situation within the European Union.

International Coordination Unit (ICU)

In 2018, the ICU continued to oversee the National Internal Security Fund (ISF) Project within An Garda Síochána with specific focus on projects that addressed policing and security priorities.

In 2018, the ICU successfully coordinated a consortium of EU Member States' police services and the Europol Counter Terrorism Centre (ECTC) in a project aimed at achieving enhanced cooperation between member states in the area of counter terrorism.

The ICU is responsible for facilitating study visits / visits of officers from European and international police services. During 2018, the ICU assisted delegates and students from Germany, Poland and Australia.

Schengen Information System II (SIS II)

SIS II is a highly efficient large-scale information system that supports law enforcement cooperation across the EU and associated member states.

Once connected to SIS II, An Garda Síochána will be able to access and create alerts (on persons, vehicles and objects) entered on the system and to manage and record information transmitted in connection to alerts between other member states' SIRENE Bureaux (national contact points).

It will mean that information in respect of certain categories of wanted persons (European Arrest Warrant), missing persons, persons involved in serious crime / terrorism and stolen property, may be exchanged between the law enforcement agencies of those countries accessing SIS II.

Policy and procedures are currently being drafted, and a full training and communications programme is being developed which will be rolled out during 2019. The go live date for connection to SIS II is expected in Q1 2020.

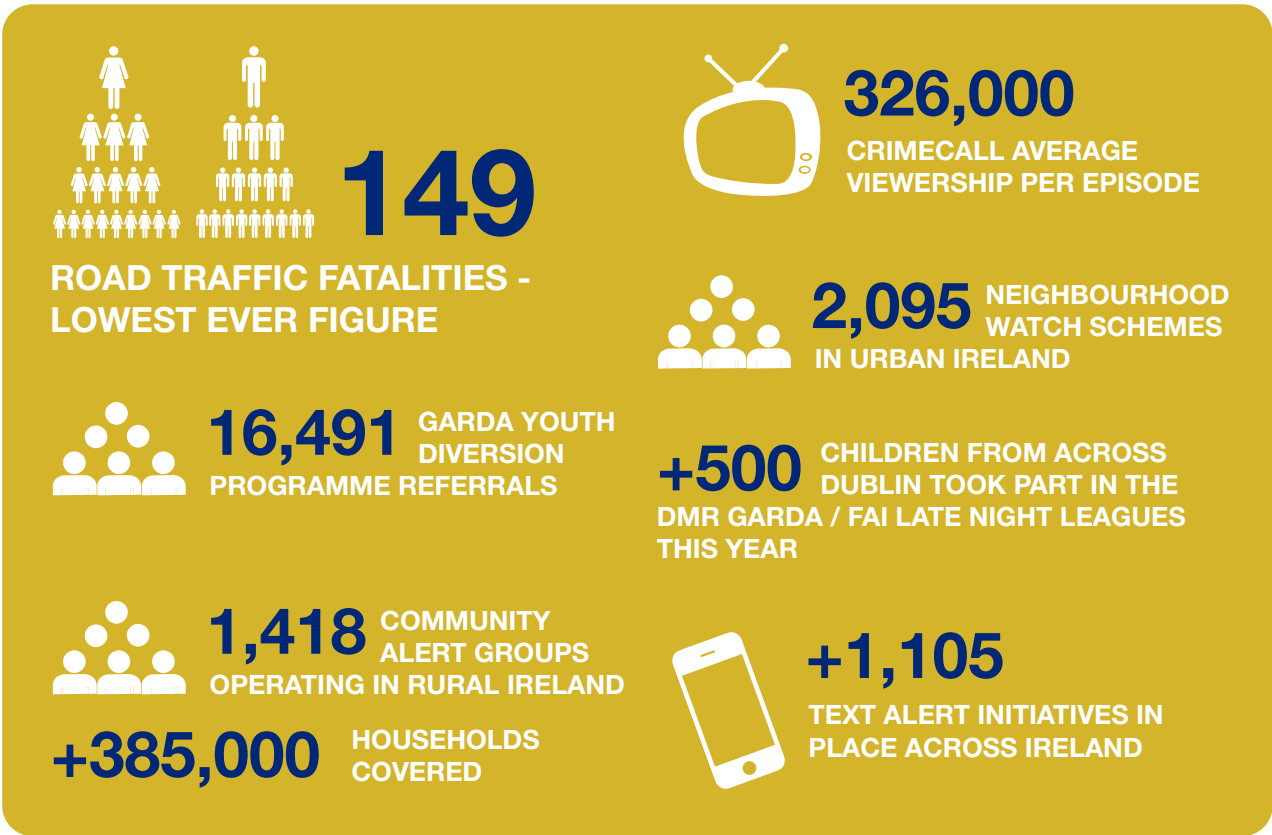
Garda Síochána Analysis Service (GSAS)

GSAS supported a range of crime prevention programmes and operational activity in 2018. These were targeted at helping reduce crimes against the person, crimes against property, and supporting serious crime investigations. Additionally, analysis was conducted to support roads policing, helping reduce serious injuries and fatalities on Irish roads.

The Garda Research Unit continued to provide support to the organisation through the evaluation of national initiatives (such as Sex Offender Risk Assessment & Management (SORAM)) and identifying good practice to inform the development of national strategies.



COMMUNITY SAFETY



“Interactions with the communities we serve are at the heart of what An Garda Síochaná does, and provides the cornerstone for the work we do on a daily basis around the country. In this section, you will find out more about how we engage with, and work for, the people we serve.”

Garda Bureau of Community Engagement (GBCE)

Crime Prevention Campaigns

A number of campaigns were undertaken during the year to provide important personal safety and crime prevention advice on key crimes.

During 2018, campaigns were run on burglary prevention, public assaults, online safety, bicycle theft, staying safe when on a night out, and safe use of quad bikes / scramblers.

These campaigns were promoted through traditional media, social media, Garda.ie, locally through leaflet drops and exhibition stands, and through our presence at major events such as the Ploughing Championship and Bloom.

Community Safety - continued

Crimecall

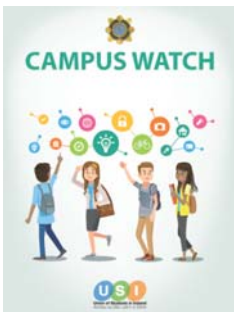
In 2018, Crimecall continued to reach a significant audience with an average viewership per episode of 326,000. The programme continued to play an important role in tackling and preventing crime, and in assisting in high profile investigations such as murders, aggravated burglaries, sexual assaults and missing persons.

Campus Watch

There are over 50 Campus Watch Schemes in place to assist third-level students with their personal safety.

A number of information campaigns were run during the year on key crimes including drug awareness, online safety, sexual assault, anti-social behaviour and fraud.

The Campus Watch booklet, which contains such advice, was made available in a number of additional languages - Mandarin, Spanish and Arabic.



Supporting Local Garda Open Days

During 2018 the Garda National Community Policing Unit (NCPU) supported the Community Policing Units at Ashbourne and Irishtown in establishing their very first Garda Station Open Days by proffering advice, information and the development of bespoke posters to help advertise their events locally and on social media. In addition, custom-made Garda colouring pages were also developed by the Garda National Community Policing Unit for these open days to assist with Garda youth engagement on the day.

European Union Crime Prevention Network 'Best Practice in Crime Prevention'

EUCPN is the European Union Crime Prevention Network. It aims to promote crime prevention knowledge and best practices among the EU Member States.

The NCPU delivered a presentation on the merits of An Garda Síochána's Use Your Brain, Not Your Fists anti-assault campaign at the EUCPN meeting in Austria in December 2018. The campaign was well received amongst the European delegates.

Joint Agency Response to Crime (J-ARC)

In September, the National Conference of J-ARC presented findings and recommendations for the initial three J-ARC pilot programmes; ACER3 Kevin Street & Tallaght, Strive, and Bridge: Change Works.

The independent evaluators discussed the findings and provided positive insight into the recommendations made.

J-ARC won the People Skills and Organisation Development category at the 2018 Civil Service Excellence and Innovation Awards.



Community Safety - continued

Garda/FAI Late Night League Finals 2018

Over 500 children from across Dublin took place in the DMR Garda/FAI Late Night Leagues this year with 300 participating in the finals in December.

The Late Night Leagues is a combined partnership with An Garda Síochána, FAI, local authorities, and Dublin Bus. Each year the league aims to reduce anti-social behaviour and other crime by providing local soccer pitches for youths to play on, on Friday nights between 7-9pm.

Crime Prevention through Environmental Design

During 2018, the Garda National Crime Prevention Unit delivered a training workshop to local authority practitioners including planners, architects, and engineers to create awareness of how environmental design in developing housing and streetscapes can aid crime prevention.

Two similar workshops were also delivered in partnership with the Housing Agency, which also brought the training to planners and developers in the private sector, as well as approved housing bodies and the HSE.

Policing Europe Conference

In May 2018, Assistant Commissioner, Dublin Metropolitan Region, hosted a two-day conference of senior police officers from over 35 European countries on how to prevent and respond to critical incidents.

Human Rights, Equality Diversion & Inclusion

Strategic Human Rights Advisory Committee (SHRAC)

Following the publication of the report of the Commission on the Future of Policing in Ireland, the Commissioner decided to re-establish SHRAC.

SHRAC will be chaired by the Commissioner and its membership will include external and internal representatives such as Amnesty International Ireland, Human Rights Specialist Ruth Fitzgerald, the Department of Justice and Equality, the Policing Authority, the Garda Inspectorate, the Irish Human Rights and Equality Commission, and the Garda Síochána Ombudsman Commission.

The initial meeting of SHRAC took place in March 2019.

Diversity Consultation Day - December 2018

The Garda National Diversity & Integration Unit (GNDIU) held a Consultation Day in December with key stakeholders from academic, governmental and civic society groups on revising the Garda Diversity & Integration Strategy, which is due to be completed in 2019. The strategy will include an updated definition, policy and procedures in respect of hate crime.

Over 40 people attended and feedback was very positive on the engagement process.



Community Safety - continued

Diversity Training

An Garda Síochána continued to deliver diversity training to its members in 2018 with the support and assistance from members of diverse and minority backgrounds.

This training included:

Campus Watch: Diversity module delivered by GNDIU to 166 community Garda members.

United Nations and OSCE Training Course: One day diversity module delivered by Sergeant Dave McInerney, PhD, GNDIU to twenty course participants planning to embark on foreign service in Cyprus and Kosovo.

ELO/LGBT Officer two day training courses: held in Store Street, Mountjoy, Clontarf, Limerick, Cork and Balbriggan.

Level 3 Interview training: delivered by GNDIU on request of the Garda College - (8 Courses).

Specialist Interview training: delivered by GNDIU on request of the Garda College - (2 Courses).

Command and Control Diversity Module: delivered by GNDIU.

Partnership Development

Presenting to Annual National Conference of Ahmadiyya Muslim Community on topic of Anti-Discrimination, in conjunction with Ms. Ruth Coppinger, TD.

Presenting to West Dublin Muslim Community on topic of 'Intolerance and Islamophobia' in conjunction with Mr. Tomi Reichental (Holocaust survivor Bergen-Belsen Camp).

Intercepting and quelling Traveller public order issues in Cork Division through GNDIU, Traveller Mediators and local front-line members.

Intercepting and quelling Traveller conflict issues in Carlow Division through GNDIU, Traveller Mediators and local front-line members.

Presenting at National Traveller and Roma Steering Committee on Traveller/Roma/Garda relations.

Presenting at Nigerian Ireland Igbo Association re: Policing of hate crime in Ireland - award made to GNDIU and local ELOs in relation to positive relations building.



Community Safety - continued

Sensitised Service Provision

Advising Social Workers on methods to adopt in seeking to prevent suspected cases of forced marriage and female genital mutilation.

Engaging with **Muslim youth** and taking steps to prevent extremism and radicalisation.

Daily **monitoring of reported hate crime** throughout 2018 - supporting investigating members - reassuring victims in particular cases.

Prevention of hate crime against members of the **transgender community**.

Providing a **confidential service** to victims of all forms of hate crime.

Sergeant Dave McInerney presented at the 20th National Anniversary of the Little People of Ireland Conference in November 2018 on the topic of challenging hate crime.

Engaging with black youth in Tallaght, Clondalkin, Blanchardstown and Balbriggan, and follow-up joint patrols with black community leaders and 'C' District ELOs on St. Patrick's Day and St. Stephen's Day in 'B', 'C' and 'D' District - with the aim of preventing disturbance of public order.

GNDIU Representation at High Level Meetings

Attended the 6th meeting of the EU High Level Group on **Combating Racism, Xenophobia, and other forms of Intolerance** held in Vienna on 16-17 October 2018.

Presentation delivered on **Human Rights and Anti-Discriminatory Policing Techniques** on request of the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade in December 2018 on the occasion of the 70th Anniversary of the United Nations Declaration of Human Rights.

The Garda Youth Diversion Programme

The aim of the Diversion Programme is to prevent children entering the criminal justice system by using diversion as an alternative to court and to divert children from committing further offences. Where a child comes to the notice of An Garda Síochána because of their criminal or anti-social activity, the statutory obligation mandates that they must be considered for diversion.

Diversion Programme 2018		
Referrals	16,491	18% decrease from 2017
Individual Children Referred	8,561 Incidents	19% decrease from 2017

Statistics are subject to review by Garda Síochána Analysis Service and the Section 44 Monitoring Committee appointed to monitor the effectiveness of the Diversion Programme.

Garda Examination of the Youth Referral Process

During 2018, an extensive examination of the youth referral process under the Youth Diversion Programme was undertaken by a Garda investigation team headed by a Detective Superintendent and reporting to an Assistant Commissioner.

The interim findings of the review were published in January 2019. The review found that between July 2010 and July 2017, 2,492 individuals and 988 individual organisations who were victims of crime did not see their cases progressed properly. There were 3,489 children associated with these referrals not appropriately progressed.

Each of the victims, including the children, are receiving a written apology from An Garda Síochána and offers of support. Victims of serious crimes are receiving a personal visit. The matter of individual accountability of the 3,230 serving Garda members associated with the (not appropriately progressed referrals) is being examined by their Divisional Officers on a case-by-case basis.

Community Safety - continued

Garda National Joint Policing Committees Monitoring Office

Joint Policing Committees continued to provide an important forum supporting crime prevention and ensuring that the organisation continues to develop and change in response to community needs at local level.

The office carried out its functions in consultation with stakeholders in 2018 to monitor Joint Policing Committees. Eleven Joint Policing Committee meetings were attended in 2018 to this end.

Roads Policing

Establishment of Roads Policing Units

A key element of the work of the new Roads Policing Unit is to deny criminals the use of the roads network. In addition to focusing on the lifesaver offences of speeding, seatbelts, mobile phones and driving under the influence, there is a significant focus on crime prevention and crime detection.

During 2018, 146 Gardaí were appointed to Roads Policing across the country to supplement the existing Roads Policing Units. At the end of 2018, the personnel attached to Roads Policing was 744. Further new appointments are planned in 2019, 2020 and 2021.

The Roads Policing Units perform high visibility patrols and 2018 saw the provision of a number of new vehicles including 20 SUVs.



Targeting Key Lifesaver Offences

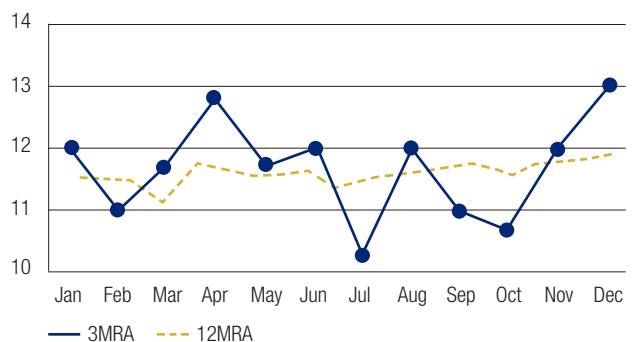
While there was a welcome decrease in road deaths in 2018 compared to 2017, 149 people tragically lost their lives compared to 156 in 2017. This represents a 4% decrease in fatalities and is the lowest road fatality figure since records began in 1959. This downward trend is most encouraging, but a lot more needs to be done to meet the 2013-2020 Government Road Safety Strategy figure of a maximum of 124 road deaths per annum. One road death is one too many.

To address the key factors that contribute most significantly to the causes of fatal and serious injury collisions, An Garda Síochána focused enforcement on a number of key “lifesaver” offences:

- Speeding
- Driving while intoxicated, from either alcohol or other intoxicants (DWI)
- The use of seat belts - front and rear
- The use of mobile phones while driving

	2017	2018	Change	% Change
Fatalities	156	149	-7	-4%
Fatal collisions	141	142	1	1%

Fatal Collisions Trend in 2018



3MRA = 3 Month Rolling Average, 12MRA = 12 Month Rolling Average.

Community Safety - continued

Fatalities by road user type are as follows:

Road User Fatalities	2017	2018
Driver	65	61
Passenger	26	20
Pedestrian	31	42
Pedal cyclist	14	9
Motorcyclist	19	15
Pillion Passenger	1	0
Total	156	147

Key Lifesaver Offences

There were many enforcement operations carried out throughout the year with the aim of detecting errant drivers and changing road user behaviour. The number of intoxicated driving incidents were slightly above 2017 figures and the number of incidents involving drugs also increased.

	2017	2018	Change	% Change
Driving while intoxicated incidents	7,766	7,802	36	0%
MIT checkpoints	76,592	64,932	-11,660	-15%
Speeding	147,874	135,639	-12,235	-8%
Seatbelts	11,034	11,541	507	5%
Mobile Phones	28,400	30,978	2,578	9%



Community Safety - continued

Examples of Road Safety Operations

- There were two national “Slow Down” days where high visibility speed enforcement activities on national, primary and secondary routes were supported by a media campaign to encourage all drivers to reduce speed. Regular media updates were given throughout the day highlighting compliance and detections, plus additional media interviews.
- TISPOL’s Project EDWARD (European Day without a Road Death) took place on 19 September 2018. This is a significant pan-European event delivered in Ireland by An Garda Síochána in association with the Road Safety Authority. There were no road deaths in Ireland on the day.
- The Christmas and New Year intoxicated driving campaign was heavily publicised across all media platforms with further significant coverage in relation to speeding. There were regular media updates and messages throughout the entire campaign. Although the vast majority of drivers were compliant and safe in their driving, there were over 1,000 drivers arrested on suspicion of intoxicated driving, some significantly so.

Public Awareness Activity

- There were many educational interventions and initiatives carried out throughout the country, to raise the road safety awareness of all road users, but in particular that of vulnerable road users such as pedestrians, cyclists and motorcyclists.
- The Road Safety Unit attended a number of mass audience events including the Young Scientist Exhibition to educate and engage with future road users, and the National Ploughing Championship to inform the farming community about driving licence requirements in relation to agricultural use. Visitors to the Garda stand were also shown the benefits of the Garda Traffic app in enforcing roads legislation.
- The Traffic Watch segment on the highly watched Crimecall programme is a long-standing element of each episode and during the year was used to highlight road safety in relation to motorcycling; motorway driving; vulnerable road users and visibility; intoxicated driving; extreme weather; safety belts, and speeding.

Media Campaigns

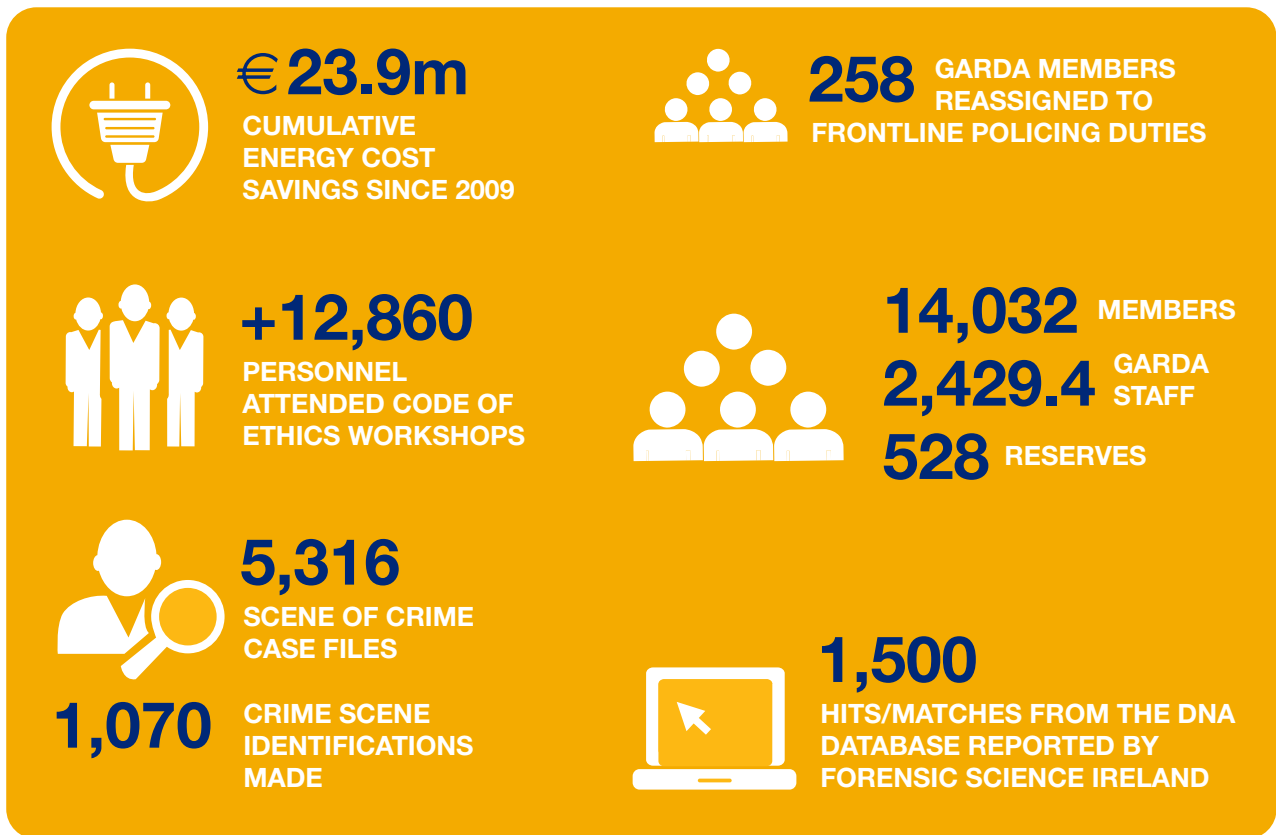
The following media campaigns were conducted by An Garda Síochána in conjunction with the Road Safety Authority:

- St Patrick’s Weekend - Intoxicated Driving
- Easter Weekend - Drink and drug Driving
- May Bank Holiday - Motorcycle Safety
- June Bank Holiday - Pedestrian Safety
- August Bank Holiday- Fatigue
- October Bank Holiday -Vulnerable Road Users
- Christmas - Driving Under the Influence

There were also joint releases on topics such as motorcycle safety, child safety, and scramblers.



CROSS-ORGANISATION SERVICES



“The daily work of Gardaí around the country is carried out in conjunction with, and the assistance of, a large number of support services. This section details the work of these units, from the work of the Strategic Transformation Office driving the change programme, to the Garda College training new recruits.”

Justice Reform

In September 2018, the report of the Commission on the Future of Policing in Ireland was published. The report provides An Garda Síochána and other stakeholders with a roadmap on how to improve the delivery of policing in Ireland.

Following this, Garda management began assessing how best to deliver the Commission’s recommendations and in December 2018, the implementation plan based on the Commission’s report was announced by the Minister for Justice and Equality.

Commenting on this plan, A Policing Service for the Future, Commissioner Harris said that it will bring many benefits to the public, the State and Garda personnel.

For the public - a more localised police service that can better respond to their needs, greater visibility of Gardaí, improved service for victims, and a human-rights focused service that treats everyone with respect and integrity.

Cross-Organisation Services - continued

For Our People - a new uniform, up-to-date technology, more efficient systems, a new Divisional Policing Model, better Garda buildings, more engagement by management, better support for those who want to bring forward issues, and enhanced learning and development.

For the State - a secure and safe Ireland that is well-equipped and trained to deal with emerging threats and incidents.

An Garda Síochána's focus in 2019 will be on delivering its commitments under A Policing Service for the Future and working in partnership with other stakeholders on initiatives requiring multi-agency responses. Progress on these will be reported regularly to Government and the High Level Implementation Group for the plan.

Code of Ethics

The Code of Ethics sets out the guiding principles to inform the actions of all personnel within the Garda organisation.

To embed the Code of Ethics, the largest training programme in the history of the organisation is being undertaken.

In 2018, ethics workshops were delivered nationwide for all members of An Garda Síochána, Garda staff and reserve Gardaí. As of December 2018, over 12,860 personnel attended these workshops. Of those, over 8,510 have signed confirming their commitment to the Code of Ethics. All of senior management have signed the declaration.

Commissioner Harris repeatedly stated internally and externally, the importance of personnel signing the Code of Ethics and that only those who have signed the Code can be considered for promotion. The Commissioner also engaged with the Garda associations on their support for the Code of Ethics.

In November 2018, the Garda Ethics and Culture Bureau was established. It is responsible for embedding the Code of Ethics and cultural change in An Garda Síochána.

The Bureau is overseeing promotion of the Code of Ethics, which to date has included the ethics workshops, posters in stations and offices across the organisation, e-mail notifications, distribution of information material, and the development of a Code of Ethics video for internal and external use.

The Cultural Audit of An Garda Síochána was conducted in the last quarter of 2017 by PwC and published in May 2018.

Following this, senior management from Superintendents / Assistant Principal level and up met to discuss the findings of the Audit.

In addition, Principal Officers / Chief Superintendents held two-way briefings with personnel in their respective areas on the Cultural Audit. These 'town hall' style briefings were to demonstrate ownership of the findings and a commitment to addressing them. In tandem, the Bureau is currently developing staff cultural engagement proposals to reform the organisation's culture. Under A Policing Service for the Future, the approved initiatives will be piloted in Quarter 3, 2019, with full implementation in Quarter 4, 2019.

Policing Authority Liaison Office

An Garda Síochána representatives attended 28 Policing Authority Committee meetings during the year to provide updates regarding embedding the Code of Ethics; the Policing Plan 2018; the implementation of the Modernisation and Renewal Programme; Garda reviews into issues such as homicide classification and the youth referral process, and various other areas.

The Commissioner and senior leadership also attended 11 monthly Policing Authority meetings, five of which were held in public.

The Policing Authority Liaison Office co-ordinated over 70 further meetings between both organisations and approximately 68 visits by the Authority to various Garda specialist sections and stations. The office also processed over 150 requests from the Policing Authority for information and reports during the year.



Cross-Organisation Services - continued



KEY 2018 MRP ACHIEVEMENTS

The **Modernisation and Renewal Programme** made significant progress in 2018. Below are some key achievements:

<p>COURT PRESENTERS Designated Sergeants presenting non-contested cases has been rolled out across all Divisions.</p>	 	<p>CODE OF ETHICS 76.8% of personnel have attended workshops to help embed the Code of Ethics.</p>
<p>MOBILITY Pilot in Limerick Division and evaluation complete, future deployment approach in development.</p>	 	<p>CULTURAL AUDIT Cultural audit complete and published. Garda Ethics and Culture Bureau established.</p>
<p>PALF 67% of members trained to use the new Performance, Accountability and Learning Framework.</p>	 	<p>UNIFORM Pilot of new uniform extended in three locations, incorporating members' feedback on its design.</p>
<p>RDMS Online Roster & Duty Management System deployed in the D.M.R. East Division.</p>	 	<p>DPM The Divisional Policing Model is centralising administrative functions across the four pilot Divisions.</p>
<p>CAD As part of national rollout, Computer Aided Dispatch is now deployed in the Eastern Region.</p>	 	<p>ECM Enterprise Content Management to create and manage electronic content expanded to several Specialist Sections.</p>
<p>WORKFORCE MODERNISATION 258 Garda members reassigned to frontline policing duties.</p>	 	<p>IMS eLearning and classroom training for the Investigation Management System commenced for Phase 1 locations.</p>

In September 2018, the Modernisation and Renewal Programme was superseded by the recommendations of the Commission on the Future of Policing in Ireland. For the rest of 2018, An Garda Síochána was focused on delivering on those recommendations.

Cross-Organisation Services - continued

Garda Risk Management Unit

By the end of 2018, more than 1,700 members of An Garda Síochána had received training interventions from the Garda Risk Management Unit.

Compliance rates from Divisions and Regions in relation to submitting quarterly updated risk registers have remained consistently high throughout 2018 with compliance for Quarter 3, 2018 reaching 91%.

Garda Professional Standards Unit (GPSU)

During 2018, GPSU completed a Divisional examination in the South Eastern Region together with reviews of three Garda Divisions.

Thematic reports were published in respect of Presumptive Drug Testing within An Garda Síochána and certain aspects of the Criminal Justice (Forensic Evidence and DNA Database System) Act, 2014. These thematic reports have identified areas for improvement in line with policies and procedures for An Garda Síochána.

In March 2018, GPSU underwent external assessment by the Excellence Ireland Quality Association (EIQA) and were awarded the Q Mark for Quality Management Systems.

Garda Internal Audit Service (GIAS)

During 2018:

- The staff number in GIAS increased from 12 to 15 and sanction has been received to further increase staff levels to 16. The additional resources provided allowed for an increase in audit activity in 2018.
- A new Charter was signed with the Garda Commissioner.
- The Head of Internal Audit now reports directly to the Garda Commissioner/Accounting Officer rather than to the Deputy Commissioner Governance and Strategy.
- The Head of Internal Audit briefed the Garda Executive quarterly.
- A strategic leadership approach has been adopted that ensures the full scope of the audit remit is being fulfilled and strategic risks prioritised.

It is planned that the focus of GIAS audits will move to more strategic audit work on key drivers of performance effecting the delivery of policing services to the public.

Internal Affairs

New Local Intervention initiative to resolve service level complaints

During the first half of 2018 a pilot scheme for resolving service level issues, known as Local Intervention, was run in the DMR South Central Division, in conjunction with Internal Affairs and the Garda Síochána Ombudsman Commission (GSOC).

The Local Intervention process was managed by a nominated Inspector. 88% of cases referred to the Inspector by GSOC for Local Intervention were successfully resolved. Indications are that many complainants are satisfied, once genuine efforts are made to listen to their complaint, solve their problem or clarify any misunderstanding that may have led to the making of the complaint.

The Local Intervention initiative commenced in the South Eastern Region in November 2018. It is anticipated that the initiative will be further extended throughout the country in 2019.

Internal Affairs - Discipline

During 2018, a total of 107 members were found in breach of discipline following internal discipline investigations under the Garda Síochána (Discipline) Regulations 2007.

These members received a combination of monetary sanctions, cautions, warnings and reprimands. The total monetary penalties imposed on members was €13,695. In addition, a temporary reduction in pay of three weeks was imposed on one member and two weeks pay on another.

There were two members of An Garda Síochána dismissed during 2018 under Regulation 39 of the Garda Síochána (Discipline) Regulations 2007, as amended.

This figure does not relate to members of the Garda Reserve and Probationer Gardaí, who are dealt with under the Garda Síochána (Admission and Appointments) (Amendment) Regulations 2001/2006.

Thirty seven members were on suspension at the end of the year.

Cross-Organisation Services - continued

Internal Affairs - Complaints

During the year, GSOC notified An Garda Síochána of 1,337 complaints made by members of the public against Gardaí which were deemed admissible by GSOC. Of these, 761 were forwarded by GSOC to the Garda Commissioner for investigation, in accordance with Section 94, Garda Síochána Act, 2005, as amended.

An Garda Síochána referred 38 incidents to the Garda Síochána Ombudsman Commission, in accordance with Section 102 of the Act.

Internal Affairs - Compensation

Processing of all applications for compensation, made by members and ex-members of An Garda Síochána, to the Department of Justice and Equality pursuant to the Garda Síochána (Compensation) Acts 1941/45.

- 151 new claims received in 2018.
- 132 cases awarded in the High Court.
- €6,093,444 has been paid to date in the High Court.

Finance

The overall financial position at the end of December 2018 recorded a total net expenditure of €1,595 million, €7 million less than the revised Annual Budget of €1,602 million, which included a supplementary estimate of €59 million. The balance of €7m is divided between a surrender balance of €3.4m, which was returned to the Central Exchequer, and a deferred capital expenditure of €3.6m, which was carried over to 2019 to meet capital commitments.

	Original Budget €m	Supple. Estimate €m	Revised Budget €m	Provisional Outturn €m	Variance €m
Pay plus Overtime	1,081	46	1,127	1,120	-7
Superannuation	341	-2	339	337	-2
Non Pay Current Expenditure	168	32	200	206	6
Capital Expenditure	61		61	58	-3
Gross Total	1,651	76	1,727	1,721	-6
Less Appropriation in Aid	108	17	125	126	1
Net Total	1,543	59	1,602	1,595	-7

Deferred capital is excluded from budget and outturn figures.



Energy Management



€23.9m

cumulative energy cost savings since 2009



25.4%

saving with a reduction of 4 million KWH in 2018

The energy management team was also the winner of the Green Procurement Project of the Year and the Overall Excellence in Procurement at the National Procurement Awards 2018. It was also a Facilities Management Awards 2018 winner of Excellence in Sustainability and Green Awards Public Sector finalist.

Cross-Organisation Services - continued

Procurement

In 2018 a total of:

- 23 (4 EU Journal and 19 on eTenders) tenders published by An Garda Síochána.
- 36 (4 EU Journal and 32 on eTenders) Contracts Awarded.
- 14 - Contracts awarded following mini competitions from OGP Framework Agreements.
- 8 - Contract Activations completed from existing OGP Single Supplier Frameworks.
- 14 - Contracts put in place with the support of OGP (OGP published contract notices and award notice on behalf of AGS).

Estate Management

Kevin Street and Galway Garda Stations

Two new Garda stations at Kevin St, Dublin (Divisional HQ Station) and Galway (Regional/Divisional HQ) were completed in 2018.

These projects represent a major modernisation of Garda infrastructure.

Garda Security and Crime Operations Centre - Military Road, Dublin

Part 9 planning permission for a new Security and Crime Operations Centre, located on Military Road, Dublin was granted in August 2018. The Military Road facility will replace the Garda facility at Harcourt Square and will accommodate a number of Garda Units/Bureaus from the Special Crime Operations and Security and Intelligences branches. The construction of the Military Road complex will commence in 2019.

Public Private Partnership Garda Programme

The development of three new Garda stations by way of Public Private Partnership was advanced in 2018 with sites secured for three new Garda stations at Macroom, Co. Cork, Clonmel, Co. Tipperary and Sligo.

Programme for Government commitment to reopen six Garda stations on a pilot basis

The programme to reopen six Garda stations on a pilot basis progressed significantly in 2018. Donard Garda Station in Wicklow reopened in December 2018 and it is planned that Ballinspittle, Rush, Stepside, Bawnboy and Leighlinbridge Garda Stations will be reopened in 2019.

Garda Station Projects

In 2018, significant refurbishments were completed at Tralee, Henry St. (Limerick) and Ballinasloe Garda Stations. The development of a new Garda station and Immigration Facility at Transaer House in Dublin Airport was commenced with a completion date of Q1, 2019.

Works to provide a new Garda station at Glanmire Co. Cork commenced in 2018, with a completion date in 2019. The major refurbishment project of Athlone Garda Station commenced in 2018, with a completion date of 2019. The major refurbishment of Fitzgibbon Street Garda Station, Dublin began in 2018. These works are expected to be completed in 2020. Works to increase the accommodation capacity were commenced at Ashtowngate, Dublin 7 and Garda HQ in 2018. These works will be completed in Q1, 2019.

The Government decision to increase the Garda workforce to 21,000 by 2021 has already created accommodation pressures in relation to the capacity of Garda estate portfolio to accommodate the additional number of Garda members and staff. As numbers increase, the pressure will become more severe, given the long lead time for the provision of additional accommodation.



Cross-Organisation Services - continued

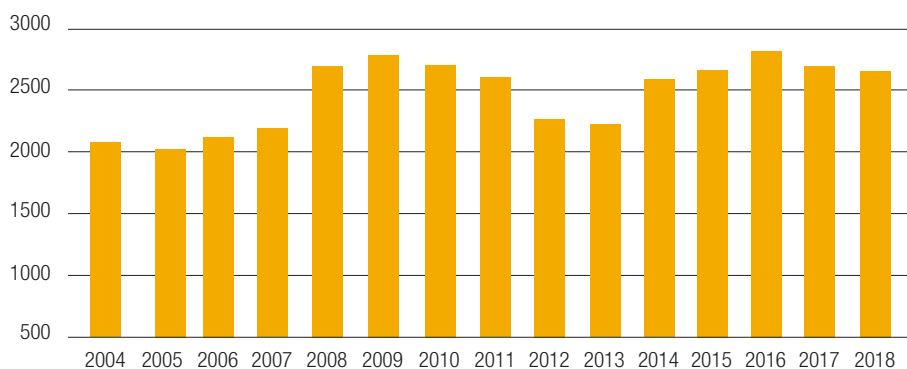
Fleet Management

During 2018, 301 vehicles were acquired and allocated by An Garda Síochána and 315 vehicles were decommissioned due to reaching end of life or being beyond economic repair.

Fleet Data 2018

	Cars	Vans	Motorcycles	4x4's	Other	Total
Vehicle Allocations 2018	152	77	12	21	39	301
Vehicles Decommissioned 2018	237	46	8	14	10	315
Garda Fleet as at 31/12/2018	1893	490	129	106	147	2765

Fleet Size 2004/2018: Fleet Strength 2004 - 2018 + 37.5%



Cross-Organisation Services - continued

Staffing Level at 31 December 2018

As at 31 December 2018	
Members	14,032
Garda Staff	2,429.4 (working time equivalent)
Reserve	528

Garda staff recruited by grade in 2018

Position	Amount Recruited
CO	255
EO	88
HEO	22
AP	10
PO	4
Other	16
Total	395

Garda Staff Recruitment 2018

During 2018, work continued on the recruitment of Garda staff to meet the target for staffing in An Garda Síochána as set out in the Government decision of July 2016.

A major focus was given to the assignment of Garda staff into offices to facilitate the freeing up of Garda members to frontline operational duties. Under this process, over 250 Garda members returned to operational duties in 2018.

Garda and Garda Staff Sickness Absence Section

Sick Leave - Garda Members

Year	FTE STRENGTH averaged across the year	Average No. of Days Lost Per Sworn Member Due to Ordinary Illness and Injury on Duty	% Change Year on Year of Average Days Lost per Sworn Member	No. days lost due to Ordinary Illness	% Change Year on Year Ordinary Illness	No. days lost due to Injury on Duty	% Change Year on Year Injury on Duty	Total number of days recorded	% Change Year on Year Total number of days recorded
2013	13,243	17.91	6.54%	198,975	2%	38,249	15%	237,224	4%
2014	12,927	13.62	-23.95%	139,937	-30%	36,145	-6%	176,082	-26%
2015	12,805	12.32	-9.5%	112,999.5	-19%	44,864.5	24%	157,864	-10%
2016	12,855	12.76	-3.6%	113,865.5	0.8%	50,215	12%	164,080.5	4%
2017	13,281.5	13.3	4.2%	122,242	7.4%	54,317.5	8.2%	176,559.5	7.6%
2018	13,843.5	14.7	10.5%	139,895.5	14.4%	62,996.5	15.97%	202,892	14.9%

The total No. of Sick Days recorded on SAMS, are the number of calendar days that staff are absent and may include weekends and rest days.

Sick Leave Statistics for 2013 as recorded on SAMS and reported at 03.02.2014.

Sick Leave Statistics for 2014 as recorded on SAMS and reported at 04.02.2015.

Sick Leave Statistics for 2015 as recorded on SAMS and reported at 03.02.2016.

Sick Leave Statistics for 2016 as recorded on SAMS and reported at 01.02.2017.

Sick Leave Statistics for 2017 as recorded on SAMS and reported at 06.02.2018.

Sick Leave Statistics for 2018 as recorded on SAMS and reported at 05.02.2019.

Cross-Organisation Services - continued

Sick Leave - Garda Staff

Year	FTE Civilian Members averaged across the year	Average No. of Days Lost Per Civilian Member Due to Illness	% Change Year on Year of Average Days Lost per Civilian Member	Total number of days recorded*	% Change Year on Year
2013	2039.77	12.35	N/A	25,193	N/A
2014	2042.36	12.11	-1.94%	24,741	-1.8%
2015	2090.4	12.09	-0.17	25,267	2.1%
2016	2071.66	12.41	2.64%	25,716	1.8%
2017	2193.72	11.88	-4.27%	26,054	1.3%
2018	2361.64	11.83	-4.20%	27,941	7.2%

* The total No. of days recorded on PeopleSoft (HRMS) shows the actual working days lost. The figures shown are for Garda Civilian Staff excluding part-time cleaners and service attendants. Weekends and adjustments for employees on work-sharing patterns are discounted.

Sick Leave Statistics for 2013 as recorded on HRMS and reported at 03.02.2014.

Sick Leave Statistics for 2014 as recorded on HRMS and reported at 04.02.2015.

Sick Leave Statistics for 2015 as recorded on HRMS and reported at 03.02.2016.

Sick Leave Statistics for 2016 as recorded on HRMS and reported at 01.02.2017.

Sick Leave Statistics for 2017 as recorded on HRMS and reported at 06.02.2018.

Sick Leave Statistics for 2018 as recorded on HRMS and reported at 05.02.2019.

Competitions Office

In 2017, the promotion competitions for the ranks of Sergeant and Inspector were advertised. Interviews commenced in November 2017 and finalised in November 2018.

Garda to Sergeant promotion competition:

- 1508 initial applicants.
- 425 deemed successful and placed on a panel.

Sergeant to Inspector promotion competition:

- 462 initial applications.
- 209 deemed successful and placed on a panel.

Employee Assistance Service

Additional Staff

In September 2018 following a competition, seven additional Employee Assistance Officers (EAOs) were appointed to the Employee Assistance Service. This has increased the staff to a total of 16 and will enhance the service provided to An Garda Síochána. Each EAO has been assigned to a designated area and will be involved in the delivery of a proactive health and wellbeing programme throughout the organisation.

Inspire - 24/7 Helpline and Counselling Service

A total of 398 personnel used the counselling service in 2018 resulting in 2,254 face-to-face counselling sessions.

Mental Health First Aid, 2 Day Training Course

In 2018, 88 Garda members and Garda staff were trained by Mental Health First Aid Ireland. Mental health first aid is the initial help given to someone who is developing a mental health problem or who is in a mental health crisis. The first aid is given until appropriate professional support is received or until the crisis is resolved.



Cross-Organisation Services - continued

Peer Supporter Training Course

Forty eight members of An Garda Síochána received the three day Peer Supporter Training Course. This training is the first line of support afforded to members following traumatic events.

Critical Incident Stress Management (CISM) De-briefing and Self-care Interventions

A CISM is a welfare intervention used in the aftermath of a traumatic incident. A number of such interventions were organised and delivered throughout the country in the aftermath of critical incidents such as suicide, fatal road traffic collisions, and murder.

Garda Reserve

The Garda Reserve continued to play an important role in supporting community policing. Individually and collectively, Garda Reserves have brought new skills and perspectives to the organisation, as well as diversity.

However, as pointed out by the Commission on the Future of Policing in Ireland, a truly effective Garda Reserve depends on commitment on the part of a Garda Reserve and for reserves to be truly valued throughout the organisation. The Commission found that a lack of structure, training, and clear roles and responsibilities has meant the Garda Reserve programme has not met its full potential.

Following the publication of the Commission's report in September, a new strategy for the Garda Reserves started to be developed by Assistant Commissioner, Community Engagement and Public Safety. It is expected that the strategy will be completed by the end of Q2, 2019.

In addition, significant progress was made in the recruitment of 100 additional reserves. It is anticipated that 100 prospective reserves will begin training before the end of March 2019.

Overseas Office

UN Peacekeeping mission in Cyprus

An Garda Síochána has participated in the United Nations Peacekeeping Force in Cyprus (UNFICYP) mission since 1993. The role of the peace-keepers is to attempt to resolve conflict, to restore law and order, to ensure civil rights, and to implement the mission mandate.

The 25th Irish Garda contingent is currently deployed to this mission with a total of 12 personnel - six male and six female.

EULEX mission in Kosovo

During 2018, An Garda Síochána had seven personnel deployed to the European Union Rule of Law mission (EULEX Kosovo).

In 2018, An Garda Síochána personnel were assigned to the Executive Division as Serious Crime Investigators in the Organised Crime Investigation Unit & War Crimes Investigation Unit.

The current mission mandate is due to expire in June 2020. In December 2018, a reconfiguration process for international peacekeepers took place in-mission, reducing the number of international peacekeepers and to provide more of a monitoring role to the local police.

Overseas medal presentation

In November 2018, the Garda Commissioner presented overseas service medals to 12 members of An Garda Síochána who served with the United Nations Mission in Cyprus and four members who served with the European Union Mission EULEX Kosovo during 2017/2018.

Recognition for service

Deeds of Bravery

There were 13 incidents nominated for Deeds of Bravery received from Comhairle na Míre Gaile in 2018.

Eighteen members of An Garda Síochána were presented with awards that included Certificates of Bravery and Letters of Commendation.

Cross-Organisation Services - continued

Health & Safety

Safety Performance in 2018

In 2018, the number of personnel recorded as having suffered an occupational injury was 582 compared to 667 in 2017 and 696 in 2016. While the majority of these injuries were of low severity, An Garda Síochána continues to focus on reducing risks that give rise to injurious incidents. The most common causes of occupational injuries are assaults, road traffic collisions, and slips, trips and falls. Reducing occupational injuries continues to be a key focus for An Garda Síochána.

Probationer Allocation

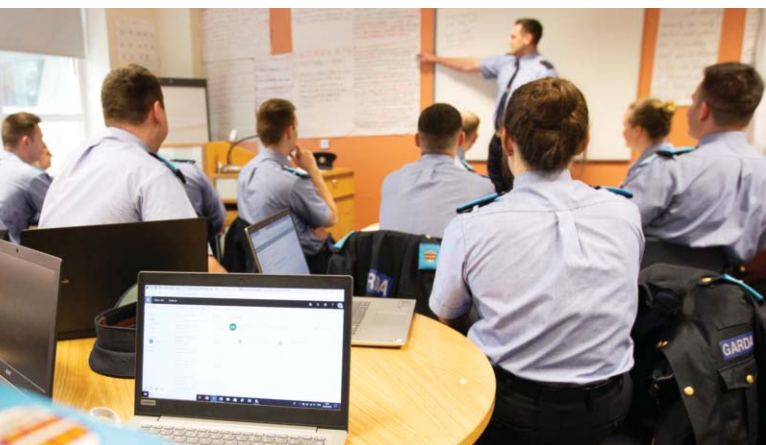
From 2015 to 2018, a total of 2,345 Probationer Gardaí were attested and allocated. In 2018:

- 342 New Transfer Applications processed
- 1,522 Transfers Completed
- 788 Probationer Gardaí Allocated

Secondments

The secondment of members of An Garda Síochána to the Department of Employment Affairs and Social Protection (DEASP) continued with sixteen Gardaí seconded in 2018. This co-operation between An Garda Síochána and DEASP leads to an increase in the detection and prosecution of social welfare fraud leading to increased exchequer savings for the State.

In 2018, there were also five members of An Garda Síochána on secondment to the Garda Síochána Ombudsman Commission.



Garda College

Foundation Training/BA in Applied Policing

- 799 Trainee Gardaí commenced Phase I of their training in 2018.
- 407 Trainee Gardaí who commenced Phase I of their training in 2017 continued on into 2018.
- 789 Gardaí were attested during 2018.
- 789 Probationer Gardaí commenced Phase II of their training in 2018.
- 938 Probationer Gardaí commenced Phase III of their training in 2018.
- 307 Probationer Gardaí were conferred with the BA in Applied Policing in 2018.

Programme	Participants	Training Hours
BA in Applied Policing	2,066	2,698,920
Continuous Professional Development	23,612	127,211
Promotion Development Training Programmes	478	13,927
Crime and Operational Skills	15,361	260,561
Total Training Hours		3,100,619
Trainee Gardaí attested in 2018	789	
Probationer Gardaí conferred with a BA in Applied Policing in 2018	307	

Leadership, Management and Professional Development

Leadership and Management Development (LMD)

The LMD Section provided 1,685 places in development programmes for Garda officers and staff in 2018.

Continuous Professional Development (CPD)

More than 18,156 National CPD Training Initiatives were provided during 2018.

Cross-Organisation Services - continued

Information and Communications Technology (ICT)

ICT Key Deployments

ICT supported and introduced a number of deployments in the live environment in 2018. These included a number of initiatives under the Modernisation and Renewal Programme (MRP) and internal projects.

- Garda National Immigration Bureau (GNIB) EURP
- Enterprise Mobility Management
- PULSE Upgrades
- Property & Exhibits Management System (PEMS2)
- Enterprise Content Management (ECM)
- Investigations Management System (IMS)
- Roster & Duty Management System (RDMS)
- PRÜM
- Schengen Information System II (SISII)
- Automation of the Data Exchange Process (ADEP)
- Removable Storage Device Management
- Windows 10 rollout

Hardware Projects

Hardware



+ 972 new desktops

+ 325 new laptops

+ 4,812 speaker bars rolled out nationwide throughout 2018, as required under the Code of Ethics and eLearning

Digital Services and Innovation

The ACTIVE Mobility programme, which is an initiative under the Modernisation and Renewal Programme, delivered a successful pilot of smart devices in Limerick.

This mobile data station allows Garda members to be more visible in the community, bringing the station right into the heart of the community

The Apps to date include Mail, Calendar, access to the Garda Portal and a Traffic App. The Traffic App has the capabilities to allow users to securely access data in PULSE to enable: vehicle search; driving licence details; and all traffic offence codes.

IT Service Desk Activities 2018



67,000 tickets logged

66,200 calls received

2.4m emails blocked

96% first time fix rate

Regionalisation of Control Rooms

Garda ICT completed the merger of the Eastern Region into the Dublin Metropolitan Regional Control Room in order to ensure that 999/112 calls made to An Garda Síochána are handled efficiently and the appropriate resources are dispatched. Work also commenced on the merging of the Northern and Western Regions into a single emergency control room. This was completed in Q1, 2019.

Digital Forensics

Telecommunications rolled out a major upgrade to the mobile device examination systems deployed at Divisional level and national specialist units.

This provided increased mobile device support and the introduction of an advanced decoding capability which allowed the trained divisional examiners complete more extensive examinations at a local level.

An additional 90 CCTV review systems for the examination and processing of evidential CCTV footage were deployed in 2018. These increased CCTV review systems to 145.

Rural Network Connectivity

61 non-networked stations were connected to Garda Information Systems and PULSE.

Cross-Organisation Services - continued

Garda National Technical Bureau (GNTB)

In 2018, GNTB teams provided scientific support and technical expertise to 706 requests, including Full Team Call Out attendance at the scenes of 50 murders/suspicious deaths. These figures do not include the general case submissions to each of the expert sections.

Ballistics Section

In 2018, there were 653 cases submitted to the Ballistics Section for examination, a slight decrease on 2017.

It continued to invest significant time and resources and played a key role in investigating criminality related to high profile gangland feuding. This included homicides and substantial firearms and ammunition seizures.

There were 12 links/identifications made at the Ballistics Comparison and Identification Laboratory during 2018. Identifications are constrained by criminal trends of one use firearms and disposal following shooting incidents. In September 2018, a PPS-43 sub machine gun recovered during searches in Longford was connected by the Ballistics Section to a shooting incident in Finglas in 2015.

Photography Section

In 2018, the section assisted with 85 callouts for the Technical Bureau and almost 130 EvoFIT interviews with victims of, or witnesses to, crime. Overall, the number of photographs printed by the section remained the same as 2017 with approximately 138,000 produced. The vast majority of these were used for court presentation and by Garda investigation teams.

Documents and Handwriting Section

The Document & Handwriting Section received 789 cases for examination in 2018.

Mapping Section

Due to advances in modern technology such as CCTV, GPS tracking and mobile phone evidence investigations are getting more and more complex. As a result, the Mapping Section has experienced an increase in the volume of work required in preparing mapping exhibits for court.

Fingerprint Section



5,316 scene of crime case files
1,070 crime scene identifications made

Identifications made in homicide and other suspicious death cases were made by fingerprint experts who themselves examined these crime scenes while operating as part of multi-disciplined Garda National Technical Bureau Crime Scene Teams.

The Fingerprint Section continued to provide an expert ten-print comparison and identification service both to An Garda Síochána and other government agencies such as INIS and IPO. Over 10,000 sets of prints were received from An Garda Síochána and in excess of 80,000 such sets of fingerprints were received from other government agencies and processed by the section during 2018.

National Forensic Co-ordination Office

National DNA Database System



43,000+ Sample Reference Numbers generated since 2015



1,500 hits/matches from the DNA Database reported by Forensic Science Ireland

The DNA Database System is a vital intelligence source which continues to identify suspects and connect crime scene stains nationwide. Forensic Science Ireland have reported in excess of 1,500 hits/matches from the DNA Database System to date, many of which have greatly assisted with ongoing investigations resulting in successful convictions. The DNA Database System has also assisted in the identification of 14 missing persons (13 national and one international) and one unknown deceased person whose remains were discovered in 2007.

Cross-Organisation Services - continued

Forensic Liaison Office

The Forensic Liaison Office (FLO) is the central area responsible for return of exhibits from the Technical Bureau and Forensic Science Ireland to Divisional and District Exhibit Liaison Officers and Customs Officers, post examination at Garda National Technical Bureau and Forensic Science Ireland.

FLO is also responsible for the destruction of all drugs seized by An Garda Síochána and Customs Officers nationwide.

In 2018, 14,178 drugs cases were submitted to FLO for destruction and 13,397 drugs cases were destroyed in four drug destruction runs, weighing 5.4 tonnes.

Legal Directorate

In addition to overall organisational responsibility for Crime Legal, Human Rights and Civil Legal, the Executive Director, Legal is responsible for direct legal advice to the Garda Executive on a wide range of civil and criminal legal issues.

The most significant of which in 2018 were generated by;

- Servicing the Disclosures Tribunal
- Employment law issues
- The development of our working relationship with the Policing Authority, dealing inter alia with the transmission of information to the Authority
- Brexit preparedness
- Data quality
- A review of the Protected Disclosures Policy.

Crime Legal

Legal Section

Operational legal advice and liaison with key justice partners in the Office of the Attorney General and Director of Public Prosecutions. This unit is staffed by a team of qualified solicitors and barristers. The Legal Section dealt with 910 distinct requests for advice including over 660 new files in 2018.

Mutual Legal Assistance Section

Providing advice and support to investigators across An Garda Síochána requesting outgoing mutual legal assistance necessary to progress criminal investigations. The unit additionally coordinates and manages the progression of incoming mutual legal assistance requests received by the Central Authority at the Department of Justice and Equality. The workload of this unit has increased in recent years with 1,014 new requests progressed in 2018.

Firearms Policy Unit

The Commissioner's guidelines, which set out in practical terms, guidance on how the complex area of firearms legislation should be applied, were updated by the Commissioner in September 2018 and were made available to the public on Garda.ie.

In 2018, there were just under 200,000 licensed firearms in the State, primarily licensed for reasons such as vermin control, hunting and target shooting.

Administration Section

This office provides a central point of contact for a wide range of justice partners from the Prison Service, the Parole Board, mental health reviews, dealing with Departmental requests for information, Hague Convention requests, and Maintenance Act enquiries. In 2018, it dealt with 586 new individual requests.

Legacy Section

This new section was established to support and coordinate the response of An Garda Síochána to enquiries linked to legacy matters received from investigating authorities in Northern Ireland and Great Britain. The workload of this unit is expected to expand in 2019 as legislation progresses through the Oireachtas.



Cross-Organisation Services - continued

Human Rights Section

This new section was created to support An Garda Síochána in discharging its obligations under Section 42 of the Irish Human Rights and Equality Act 2014, and providing human rights legal advice and equality screening of policies and decisions. New staff have been allocated and further staff will be added. Governance of the Human Rights section will be supported by the Strategic Human Rights Advisory Committee (SHRAC). (See also Community Safety chapter).

Civil Legal

This section manages all civil litigation instituted against the Commissioner and provides legal advice to senior managers relating to civil legal matters.

It dealt with 760 new matters in 2018. Examples of the types of cases defended on behalf of the Garda Commissioner included; Judicial Reviews, Personal Injuries Litigation, Defamation and Tort Actions, and Third Party Discovery.

Data Protection Unit

An Garda Síochána became subject to the Police & Criminal Justice Data Protection Directive (LED) and the European Union General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) from May, 2018.

In order to ensure compliance with LED and GDPR requirements, An Garda Síochána appointed a Data Protection Officer (DPO) and established a new Data Protection Unit.

As part of this initiative, a new IT solution was introduced to enable the effective and efficient management of data protection within An Garda Síochána. In addition, a record of processing activities, as required under the LED and GDPR, was developed.

Freedom of Information (FOI) Office

In 2018, the Freedom of Information Office received 497 requests, incorporating a total of 957 questions. The majority of these requests were submitted by journalists (188), and members of the public (204). The remaining requests were submitted by clients/employees (45), academics (16), solicitors (27), members of the Oireachtas (7), business/interest groups (8), and public representatives (2).

Of the 497 requests received by the FOI Office in 2018, all were acknowledged within the specified 10 working day limit. However, out of the 484 decisions that were issued, 17 were issued past their due date.

Garda Information Services Centre (GISC)

In 2018, An Garda Síochána successfully completed a phased process to centralise incident creation on PULSE to GISC by expanding this scheme to the Dublin Metropolitan Region. However, GISC was unable to meet its target of answering 80% of calls presented to it within 20 seconds by year-end, achieving instead 61%. Recruitment of staff to address this issue is ongoing with a view to achieving this goal in 2019.

Garda National Vetting Bureau (GNVB)

2018 saw the highest number of vetting applications ever received at the Bureau. The figure of 520,656 vetting disclosures represents a 4.75% increase on 2017. In 2018, the GNVB successfully met with and sustained its target of 85% of vetting applications processed within five working days.

In addition, the Garda National Vetting Bureau established a new Compliance Unit to ensure good vetting governance, achieved significant progress in processing specified information cases, and contributed to the development of two major European Criminal Records Information Systems projects.

Cross-Organisation Services - continued

Promoting the Irish Language

Recruitment

An Garda Síochána's recruitment policy was altered in 2013 to include an Irish language stream. The stream ensures that 10% of available positions are set aside for candidates who are fluent in the language and who meet all other requirements.

Training and Awareness

Irish language training is compulsory for all Garda recruits completing training in the Garda College with presentations provided on aspects such as language awareness and rights. A Gaeltacht Programme has been in operation since 2011 and offers members the chance to participate in Irish language courses, specifically designed for the organisation, in Gaeltachtaí around the country.

New Policy for Gaeltacht Stations

An Garda Síochána has given An Coimisinéir Teanga and Gaeltacht communities a commitment that steps will be taken to ensure that members serving in Gaeltacht stations will be able to carry out their duties confidently and effectively through the medium of Irish. The organisation is in the process of finalising a new Allocations Policy for Gaeltacht stations.

Communications

During 2018, the Office of Corporate Communications implemented a wide-range of campaigns, press events and media briefings to provide the public with crime prevention and public safety advice, appeal for information to aid investigations, and highlight great work by the organisation.

A new website for An Garda Síochána was introduced in February 2018, providing easier access for the public to a wide range of information in relation to the organisation.



A number of public information/awareness campaigns were run including:

- A wide-range of public safety communications for the Papal visit.
- Bike safety campaign with RSA.
- A partnership with Facebook to enhance coverage of a Child Rescue Ireland (CRI) alert.
- Advice on how to prevent workplace theft - Secure It, Keep It.

To provide public re-assurance through highlighting the training undertaken by the Emergency Response Unit, media were invited to a major hostage training exercise. This resulted in widespread coverage across TV, print, online and radio.

To coincide with the first time Garda Students took the Garda oath in public, the graduation ceremony was broadcast on Facebook Live reaching over 89,000 people.

The first ever Regional press office was established in the Southern Region. Further Regional press offices will be established as suitable civilian personnel are appointed.

An Garda Síochána's social media following, which is the largest in the public sector, grew to over 862,000 by the end of December, an annual increase of 13%. Engagement levels significantly exceeded industry standards. Six new Divisional/Regional Facebook pages were added during the year; Donegal, DMR, Laois/Offaly, Louth, Sligo/Leitrim, and Western Region.

2018 STATISTICS



“In the following section we present annual data from the previous three year strategy period of 2013-2015 combined with the 2016-2018 data from the current strategy period.”

In the following section we present annual data from the three year strategy period of 2016 to 2018 compared to the 2013 to 2015 strategy period. Comparing across strategy periods provides a richer context with clearer trends than a simple year on year comparison.

It should be noted that the data, if nothing else is stated, was extracted from the PULSE system in February 2019. The data is thus operational and subject to change.

2018 Statistics - continued

Recorded Incidents of Burglary

2013-2015 average: 2171 incidents per month.
2016-2018 average: 1485 incidents per month.

Difference between the 2017 and 2018 results:
-2093 incidents (-11%).

Comment: The 2016 reduction coincides with Operation Thor.

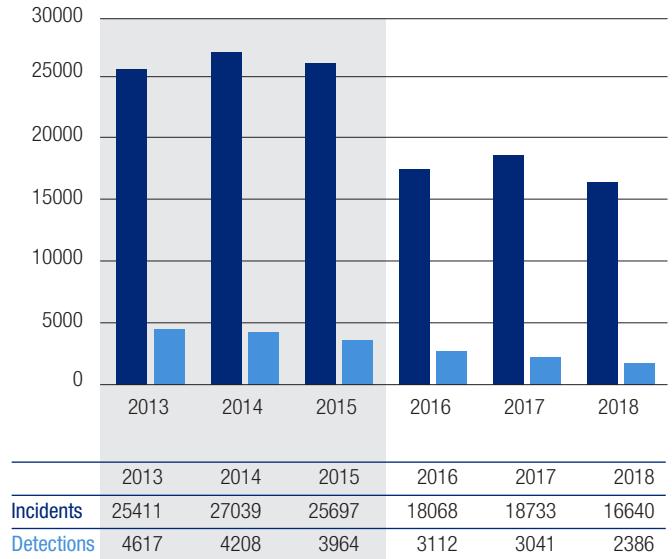
Burglary Incidents Marked as Detected*

2013-2015 average: 355 Detections per month.
2016-2018 average: 237 Detections per month.

Source: Operational PULSE Data ICCS Types: 0711, 0712.

* The introduction of PULSE 7.3 on 25 February 2018, with new processes being introduced as to how incidents are recorded as detected on PULSE, has affected detection figures. Detections data from before and after the PULSE upgrade cannot be safely compared.

Burglary



2013-15 Strategy Period

2016-18 Strategy Period

Recorded Incidents of Robbery

2013-2015 average: 222 incidents per month.
2016-2018 average: 187 incidents per month.

Difference between the 2017 and 2018 results:
+248 incidents (+11%).

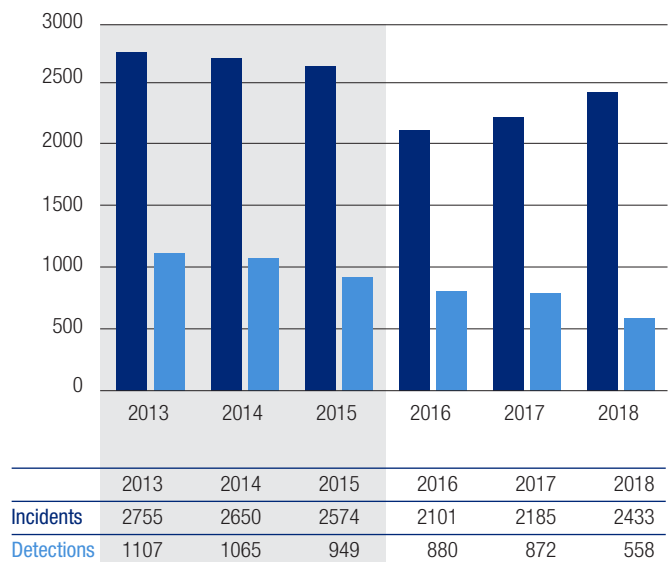
Robbery Incidents Marked as Detected*

2013-2015 average: 87 Detections per month.
2016-2018 average: 64 Detections per month.

Source: Operational PULSE Data ICCS Types: 0611, 0612, 0613, 0621, 0631.

* The introduction of PULSE 7.3 on 25 February 2018, with new processes being introduced as to how incidents are recorded as detected on PULSE, has affected detection figures. Detections data from before and after the PULSE upgrade cannot be safely compared.

Robbery



2013-15 Strategy Period

2016-18 Strategy Period

2018 Statistics - continued

Recorded Incidents of Assault

2013-2015 average: 1261 incidents per month.
2016-2018 average: 1510 incidents per month.

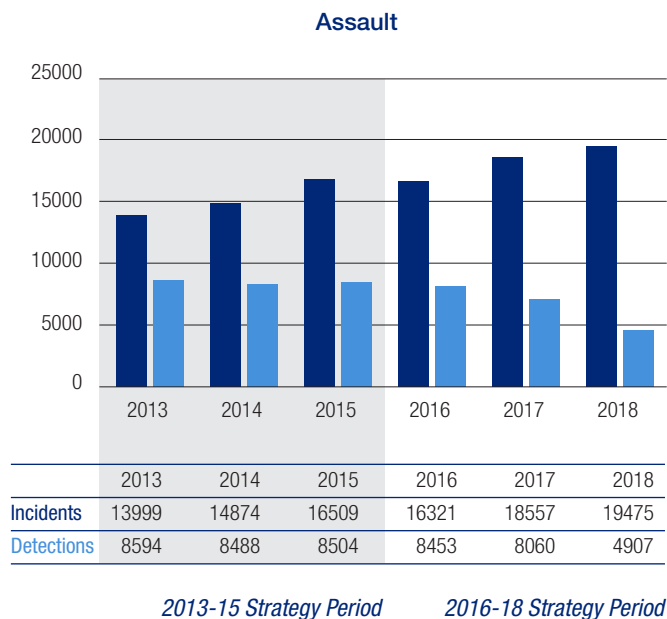
Difference between the 2017 and 2018 results:
+918 incidents (+5%).

Assault Incidents Marked as Detected*

2013-2015 average: 711 Detections per month.
2016-2018 average: 595 Detections per month.

Source: Operational PULSE Data ICCS Types: 0311, 0312, 0321, 0324, 0331, 0332, 0333, 0334, 0335.

* The introduction of PULSE 7.3 on 25 February 2018, with new processes being introduced as to how incidents are recorded as detected on PULSE, has affected detection figures. Detections data from before and after the PULSE upgrade cannot be safely compared.



Recorded Incidents of Sexual Crime

2013-2015 average: 181 incidents per month.
2016-2018 average: 242 incidents per month.

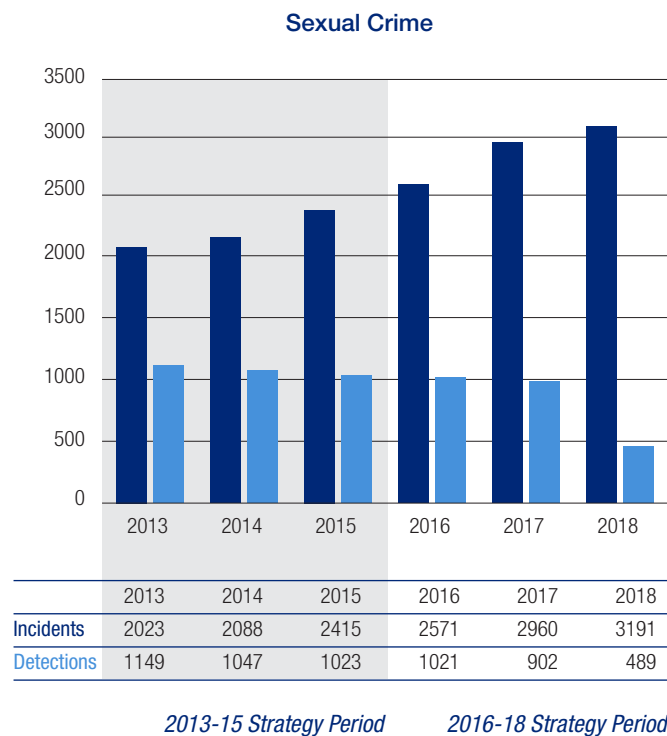
Difference between the 2017 and 2018 results:
+231 incidents (+8%).

Sexual Crime Incidents Marked as Detected*

2013-2015 average: 89 Detections per month.
2016-2018 average: 67 Detections per month.

Source: Operational PULSE Data ICCS Subgroup: 021, 023

* The introduction of PULSE 7.3 on 25 February 2018, with new processes being introduced as to how incidents are recorded as detected on PULSE, has affected detection figures. Detections data from before and after the PULSE upgrade cannot be safely compared.



2018 Statistics - continued

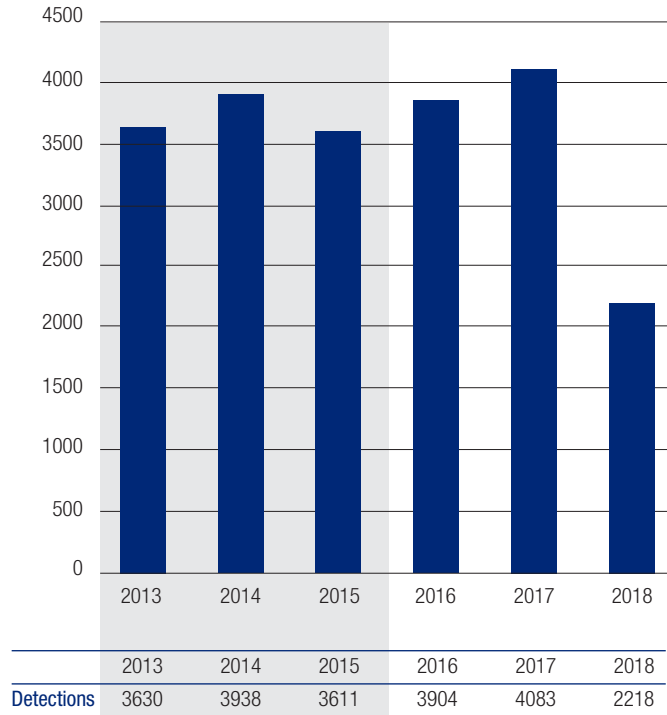
Incidents of Sale and Supply of Drugs Marked as Detected*

2013-2015 average: 311 incidents per month.
 2016-2018 average: 285 incidents per month.

Source: Operational PULSE Data ICCS Types: 1011, 1012, 1021.

* The introduction of PULSE 7.3 on 25 February 2018, with new processes being introduced as to how incidents are recorded as detected on PULSE, has affected detection figures. Detections data from before and after the PULSE upgrade cannot be safely compared.

Detected Sale and Supply of Drugs



2013-15 Strategy Period

2016-18 Strategy Period

Incidents of Hate Crime

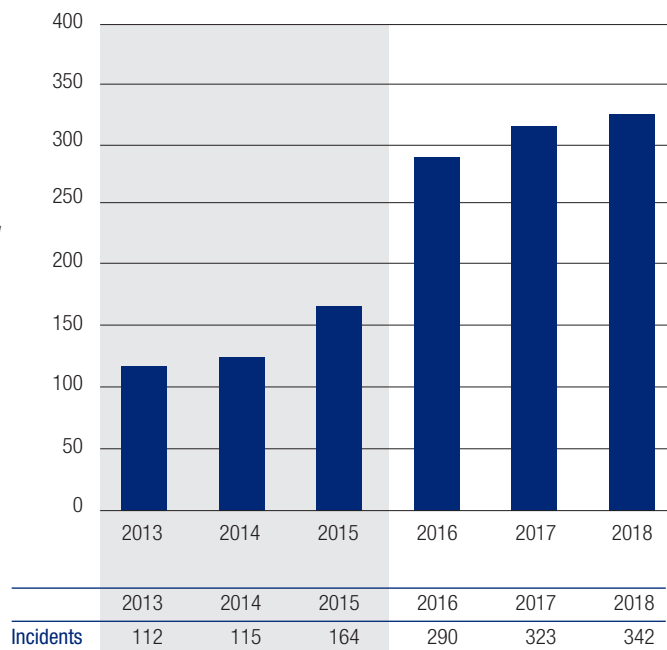
2013-2015 average: 11 incidents per month.
 2016-2018 average: 27 incidents per month.

Difference between the 2017 and 2018 results:
 +19 (+6%).

Comment: This type is seen as potentially underreported and an increase is seen as a "desirable correction".

Source: Operational PULSE Data
 Incidents marked with the MO: Ageism, Anti-Disability, Gender Related, Homophobia, Anti-Muslim, Racism, Anti-Roma, Sectarian, Anti-Semitism, Transphobia, Anti-Traveller.

Incidents of Hate Crime



2013-15 Strategy Period

2016-18 Strategy Period

2018 Statistics - continued

Recorded Incidents of Domestic Abuse

2013-2015 average: 1214 incidents per month.
 2016-2018 average: 1753 incidents per month.

Difference between the 2017 and 2018 results:
 +1951 (+9%).

Comment: This type is seen as potentially underreported and an increase is seen as a "desirable correction". It should also be noted that this data contains both crime and non-crime figures. Not all non-crime incidents were included in figures published in 2017, thus there are discrepancies between publications.

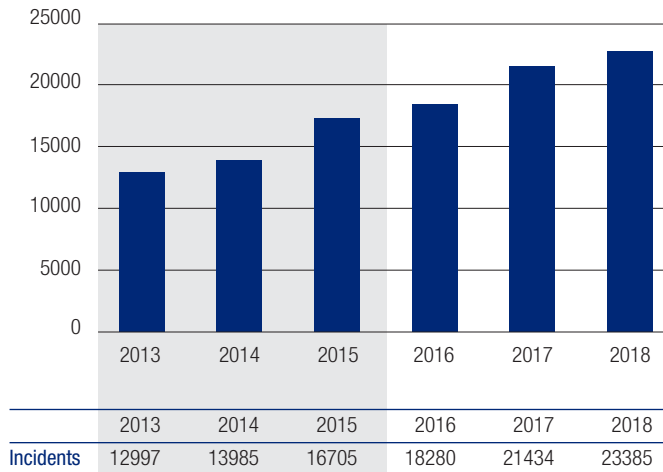
Source: Operational PULSE Data

ICCS Type: 1551

Non-Crime Type: Domestic Dispute - No Offence Disclosed

Other: Incidents with the MO Domestic Abuse / Domestic Violence

Incidents of Domestic Abuse



2013-15 Strategy Period

2016-18 Strategy Period

Traffic Collisions - Fatalities

2013-2015 average: 15 fatalities per month.
 2016-2018 average: 14 fatalities per month.

Difference between the 2017 and 2018 results:
 -9 (-6%).

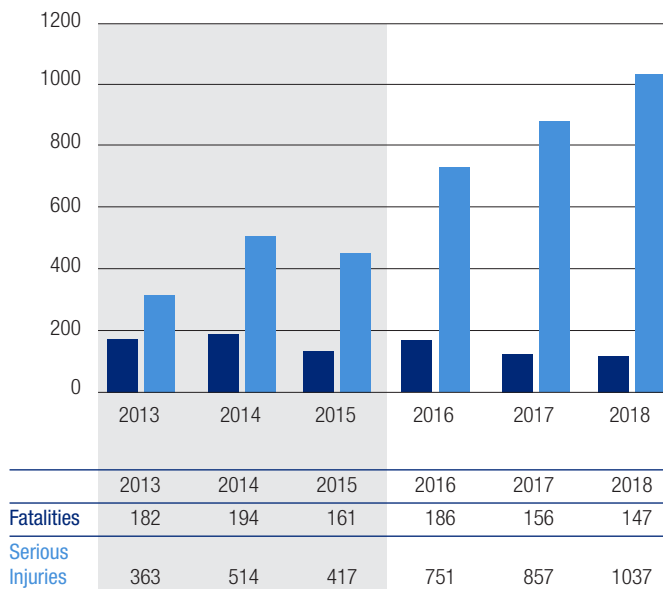
Traffic Collisions - Serious Injuries

2013-2015 average: 36 serious injuries per month.
 2016-2018 average: 74 serious injuries per month.

Difference between the 2017 and 2018 results:
 +180 (+21%).

Source: Operational PULSE Data.

Traffic Collisions F&SI



2013-15 Strategy Period

2016-18 Strategy Period

2018 Statistics - continued

Traffic Life Saver Offences

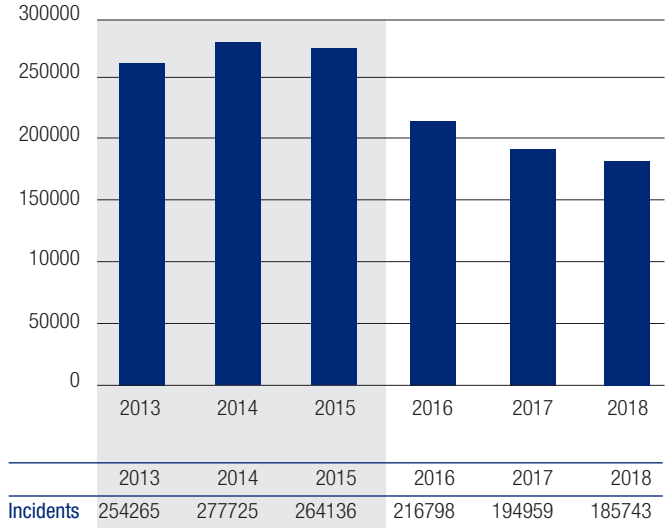
2013-2015 average: 22115 incidents per month.
2016-2018 average: 16597 incidents per month.

Difference between the 2017 and 2018 results:
-9216 (-5%).

Comment: Reduced availability of automated speed monitoring equipment affects the results.

*Source: Operational PULSE and FCPS Data.
ICCS Type: 0412, 0413.
FCPS Types: Speeding (Intercept & Non-Intercept),
Seatbelt, Mobile Phone.*

Traffic Life Saver Offences



2013-15 Strategy Period

2016-18 Strategy Period

Behaviour Warnings & Contracts (ASBO)

2013-2015 average: 105 warnings & contracts per month.
2016-2018 average: 100 warnings & contracts per month.

Difference between the 2017 and 2018 results:
+51 (+4%).

Comment: In the period 2013-2018 there are nine Good Behaviour Contracts recorded.

Behaviour Orders (ASBO)

2013-2015 average: 3 Orders per month.
2016-2018 average: 3 Orders per month.

Difference between the 2017 and 2018 results:
+9 (+50%).

*Source: Operational PULSE Data.
PULSE Types: Behaviour Warnings (Children),
Behaviour Orders (Children), Behaviour Warnings (Adults),
Good Behaviour Contracts, Civil Orders (Adults),
ASBO (Only) Offences.*

Behaviour Warnings and Orders (ASBO)



2013-15 Strategy Period

2016-18 Strategy Period

2018 Statistics - continued

Removal of a Child to Safety (Section 12 Child Care Act)

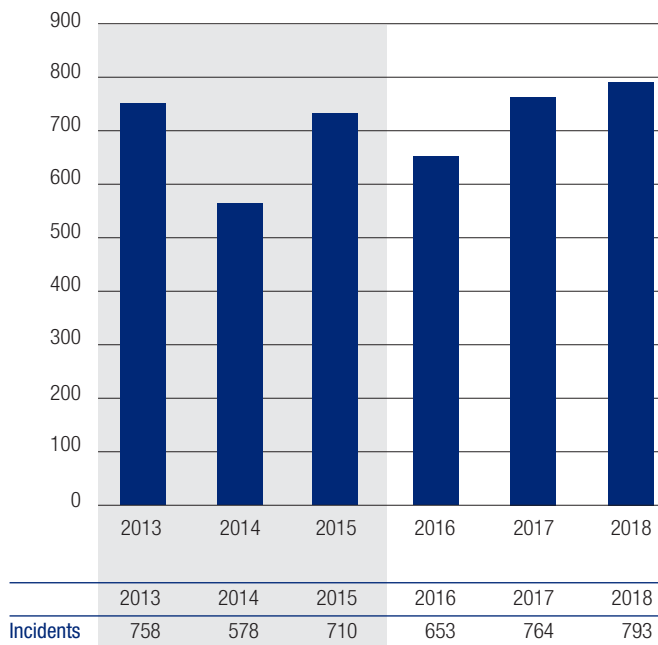
2013-2015 average: 57 incidents per month.
2016-2018 average: 61 incidents per month.

Difference between the 2017 and 2018 results:
+29 (+4%).

Source: Operational PULSE.

PULSE Type: Section 12 Child Care Act Invoked.

Section 12 Child Care Act Invoked



2013-15 Strategy Period

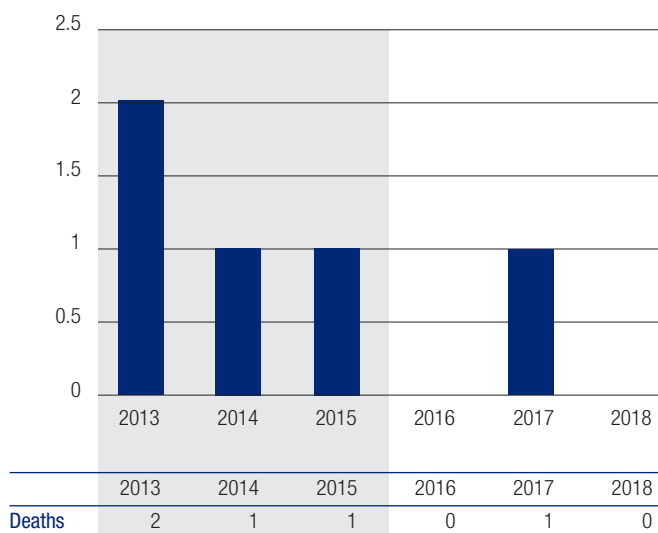
2016-18 Strategy Period

Deaths in Garda Custody

2013-2015 average: 1.3 deaths per year.
2016-2018 average: 0.3 deaths per year.

Source: An Garda Síochána Internal Affairs.

Deaths in Garda Custody



2013-15 Strategy Period

2016-18 Strategy Period

2018 Statistics - continued

Garda Only Drug Seizures 2018

Quantities of drugs tabulated in the table below are provided by Forensic Science Ireland on the basis of records maintained by the laboratory relating to quantities of drugs analysed at the laboratory.

All figures are provisional, operational and subject to change as of 08/02/2019.

Garda Drug Seizures 2018			
Category	grams/mls/Plant	Tbls/Sqr/Caps	Value
Anabolic Steroids	32	956	€574
Benzodiazepine	26,711	912,327	€1,622,036
Cannabis Herb	380,147	440	€7,602,950
Cannabis Plants*	7,186		€5,748,481
Cannabis Resin	179,127		€1,074,762
Cathinones	5,843	11,710	€292,165
Cocaine	91,047	2	€6,373,261
Diamorphine	38,714	2	€5,419,892
Hallucinogen	11,208	470	€180,411
Mixing agents	39,772	291	€19,886
New Psychoactive Substances	300	-	€14,995
Opioids Other	1,814	3	€363
Phenethylamine**	30,486	102,350	€2,241,542
Piperazine	-	-	-
Sleeping Tablet	10,095	45,347	€90,694
Solvent	2,370	12	€2,370
Synthetic Cannabinoid	616	-	€12,312
TOTAL	-	-	€30,696,694

* Cannabis plants are calculated based on figures recorded on PULSE as not all plants seized are routinely sent to the FSL.

** Phenethylamines include ecstasy (MDMA) and other similar related drugs.

2018 Statistics - continued

Section 25 Garda Síochána Act 2005 Ministerial Directives

Under Section 25(1) of the Garda Síochána Act, 2005 - following the approval of the Government, the Minister for Justice and Equality may issue to the Garda Commissioner, written directives concerning any matter relating to An Garda Síochána. In 2018, there were no Ministerial Directives issued.

Section 41 Garda Síochána Act 2005

Under Section 41 of the Garda Síochána Act, 2005, the Garda Commissioner provides information to the Minister for Justice and Equality on matters relating to significant developments on the policing or security of the State. In 2018, there were two reports made by the Garda Commissioner's Office.

Section 22 of the Protected Disclosures Act 2014

Under Section 22 of the Protected Disclosure Act 2014, each public body is required to publish an annual report setting out the number of Protected Disclosures received in the preceding year and the action taken (if any). This report must not result in persons making disclosures being identifiable.

This annual report of An Garda Síochána covers the period from 1 January 2018 to 31 December 2018.

There have been two (2) Protected Disclosures made to An Garda Síochána in the period covered by this report. Two (2) are currently under investigation.





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