

County Mayo Joint Policing Committee (JPC)



Strategic Plan 2016-2021

October 2016

Introduction

A Joint Policing Committee (JPC) is a body established under the Garda Síochána Act 2005 to serve as a forum where local authority representatives, Oireachtas members and community and voluntary interests, together with senior Garda Officers responsible for the policing of the county, consult, discuss and make recommendations on matters affecting the policing of the county. Through the work of the JPC all parties have the opportunity to contribute to the improved safety and quality of life of the community.

Following a review of the operation of JPC's, revised guidelines governing the operation of Joint Policing Committees were issued by the Department of Justice and Equality in August 2014. The County Mayo JPC was established in May 2015 with the following membership:

- 14 MCC Elected members
- 5 Oireachtas members
- 2 Local Authority officials
- 2 Garda officers nominated by the Garda Commissioner
- 5 Community/voluntary sector representatives

The Joint Policing Committee meets at regular intervals, generally four times per year. These meetings are open to the public and the Media. The work of the JPC is overseen by a Steering Group, including the JPC Chairman, a representative of the Gardai, and the Chief Executive of Mayo County Council. It is essential that JPC's take a strategic approach to their work so that issues arising can be dealt with in an considered and properly coordinated manner. Conversely, the business of a JPC cannot be progressed by simply having an exchange of views on relevant Garda or Local Authority reports. It is imperative that local issues are addressed collectively and strategically and in this regard each JPC must have strategic plans which are focused on achieving coordinated actions to support enhanced policing and crime prevention. In that context this draft Strategic Action Plan has been developed.

This Strategic Plan takes cognisance of the Garda Policing Plans for Mayo and the priorities highlighted by the national Policing Plan. The JPC objectives are also derived from the LCDC's Local Community Plan.

The JPC is a forum for discussion and a means of building confidence and trust, bringing communities together in a way in which all participants feel comfortable. It is intended that the JPC should engage with local community groups to the greatest degree possible as these groups are an important resource in tackling many of the issues addressed by the JPC.

Strategic Plan

At the heart of all our activity is a wish to improve the quality of life for the people of Mayo, both as individuals and communities. While it is not within the gift of the JPC to carry out some of the activities which are necessary to underpin the quality of life of the people of Co. Mayo, the work of the JPC certainly has an important role to play.

For instance, whilst it might not be the direct remit of the JPC to drive economic development in the county, its work around combatting vandalism would make a direct contribution to the attractiveness of an area to investors.

Hence, the work of the JPC underpins the work of the Local Community Development Committee, the County Council and others in developing the economic, social and cultural potential of the county and its people.

The mission of Co Mayo JPC is:

***“To ensure a safe and secure environment
for all the people of the county”***

Our Strategic Priorities

Drawing on the work carried out to date by the JPC and the organisations it links into, the following four priority areas have been chosen by the JPC to become the focus of activity during the lifetime of this JPC:

- Promotion
- Crime Drugs and Public Order
- Community Engagement
- Road Safety

The Actions we propose to take are outlined below. They were chosen on the basis of the potential each had for benefiting from adopting a collaborative approach. The aim is that the work of the JPC will add value to the work each organisation is doing separately, and that these actions will be additional to the core activities of each organisation. This strategy shall be reviewed annually and used to draw up the annual work plan for the county.

**County Mayo Joint Policing Committee
Draft Strategic Plan**

Strategic Goal	Objectives	Key Action	Partners	Sub Committee Responsible	Timescale
Promotion	1. Promoting the concept of the JPC's.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Promoting JPC's through the Media e.g. Press releases, radio interviews. - Supporting the Community Representatives in promoting the work of the JPC - To engage with Topical Speakers to address the JPC on matters of interest e.g. Crime Prevention, Justice Policy, Community Supports and Positive Mental Health etc. 	Local Authority An Garda Síochána Community Reps	JPC Steering group or All	Ongoing

Strategic Goal	Objectives	Key Action	Partners	Sub Committee Responsible	Timescale
Crime, Drugs & Public Order	2. To monitor and review serious crime, drug supply and public order in Co Mayo.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Provide security for vital installations such as Knock Airport and the Gas terminal site. - Support the revival of the Neighbourhood watch and Community Alert schemes in the county. (Joint action) - Support the development of a community text scheme among communities. (Joint action) - Provision of policing service to all ethnic groups. - To engage with Western Regional Drugs Task Force to highlight dangers of substance abuse to a youth audience. - Support for tackling of antisocial behaviour. - To explore and research an anti-social proofing model in design of public/open spaces. - Examine the current situation in relation to CCTV (fixed and mobile) and their effectiveness. 	Local Authority An Garda Síochána Community Sector	Crime, Drugs & Public Order Sub Committee	Annually

Strategic Goal	Objectives	Key Action	Partners	Sub Committee Responsible	Timescale
Community Engagement	3. To encourage collective community initiatives which nurture a sense of community and promote the role for the Gardaí in the community.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - To encourage and support positive initiatives for young people, e.g. Children Services Committee, Mayo Comhairle na nÓg, Youth Services, Foroige - Support the revival of the Neighbourhood watch, Community Alert schemes and the development of a community text scheme among communities. (Joint action) - Intergeneration initiatives to be developed in conjunction with the Age Friendly County Initiative, such as the 121digital programme. 	Local Authority An Garda Síochána Schools	Community Engagement Sub Committee	Annually

Strategic Goal	Objectives	Key Action	Partners	Sub Committee Responsible	Timescale
Road Safety	4. To reduce the incidence of fatal and serious injuries from road collisions and to improve road safety in Co Mayo.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Pedestrian Safety & Bicycle Safety Initiatives - Promotion of drink driving campaigns in the county - Promotion of “Gosafe Speed Vans” and reduced speeding campaigns in the county - Design of street lighting - Hedge maintenance 	Local Authority Road Safety Officer An Garda Síochána Community Sector	Traffic Sub Committee	Annually