

## Kilkenny County Council – Joint Policing Committee

### Minutes of Meeting held on Thursday, 3<sup>rd</sup> November, 2016 at 3.00 p.m. in Council Chamber, County Hall, John Street, Kilkenny

**PRESENT:** Cllr. Patrick McKee, Chairman, Cllr. Tomás Breathnach, Cllr. Pat Dunphy, Cllr. David Fitzgerald, Cllr. Pat Fitzpatrick, Cllr. David Kennedy, Cllr. Melissa O’Neill, Cllr. Patrick, O’Neill, Cllr. Maurice Shortall, Mary Mescal, Breda McDonald, Mary Donnelly.

Chief Superintendent Dominic Hayes, Kilkenny Garda Station  
Superintendent Padraig Dunne, Kilkenny Garda Station  
Superintendent Derek Hughes, Thomastown Garda Station  
Detective Sergeant Seán O’Meara, Kilkenny Garda Station

Colette Byrne, Chief Executive, Kilkenny County Council  
Tim Butler, Director of Services, Kilkenny County Council  
Brian Tyrrell, Senior Executive Officer, Kilkenny County Council  
Catherine Cooney, Staff Officer, Kilkenny County Council  
Mr. Colin Keating, Co-Ordinator HSE Substance Misuse Services  
Mr. Tom King, Tenant Liaison Officer, Kilkenny County Council

**Apologies:** Cllr. Michael Doyle, Cllr. Eamon Aylward, Cllr. Fidelis Doherty, Cllr. Ger Frisby, Cllr. Joe Malone, Cllr. Michael McCarthy.

Cllr. Patrick McKee, Chairman - opened the meeting and welcomed all in attendance.

#### **Item No. 1: Confirmation of Minutes of Meeting held on 16<sup>th</sup> June, 2016.**

It was:

Proposed by: Cllr. Pat Fitzpatrick  
Seconded by: Cllr. Patrick O’Neill  
And Resolved:

“That the minutes as presented to the meeting are hereby adopted.”

#### **Item No. 2: Presentation by Colin Keating, Co-Ordinator HSE Substance Misuse Services.**

Mr. Colin Keating thanked the Members of the Committee for the opportunity to make a presentation to the Meeting and gave a presentation outlining the services provided by the HSE in relation to substance misuse which include counselling services, liaison nurses and community based drugs initiatives and outreach services.

All members expressed their appreciation to Mr. Keating for his very informative presentation and Mr. Keating responded to a number of comments and queries raised.

**Item No. 3: Presentation by Mr. Tom King, Tenant Liaison Officer, Kilkenny County Council.**

Mr. King made a brief presentation in relation to anti social behaviour issues in County Council Housing Estates including statistics on the numbers of complaints received and dealt with by the Housing Staff.

Following the presentation, Mr. King replied to questions put forward in relation to enforcement of anti social behaviour policy, dogs, unauthorised refuse disposal and stray horses.

**Item No. 4: The Policing Plan**

Detective Sergeant Seán O’Meara gave a presentation to the meeting on the Policing Plan for Kilkenny City and County which included the following:

- Strategy in relation to tackling crime.
- Statistics showing reduction in the overall incidents of crime in the period from 2013 to 2016.
- “Operation Storm”.
- Drugs Enforcement.

Members complimented Detective O’Meara on the very detailed and comprehensive presentation following which all Garda Representatives present responded to questions raised regarding:

- Bring community meetings to smaller towns and villages.
- Increase number of Gardaí on the streets.
- Request for figures for full year be presented at next JPC Meeting.
- Feedback to Victims of crime.
- Extra resources and technology available to Gardaí.
- Text Alert Scheme.

**Item No. 5: Update on Crime Statistics**

Chief Superintendent Dominic Hayes informed the meeting that the statistics show a decrease in overall incidents of crime in Kilkenny during 2016 on a number of different fronts and in particular in relation to the number of burglaries.

Chief Superintendent Hayes also highlighted the positive effect of the meetings being held by the Gardaí in the communities across the County and expressed his appreciation to the Elected Members for their support at these meetings.

Cllr. Patrick McKee thanked Superintendent Hayes for the update.

The meeting then concluded.