



Comhairle Contae Mhaigh Eo  
Mayo County Council



# MAYO JPC STRATEGIC PLAN

**2022 - 2027**

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It is my great privilege, as Chairperson of the Mayo Joint Policing Committee to launch this six-year Strategic Plan.

The Plan sets out our ambitions, our priorities and expected outcomes for the next six years. It will form the basis for our Annual Plans and it will impact on the Annual Policing Plans developed by An Garda Síochána.

The Plan challenges all of us serving on the JPC to act collectively and responsibly in addressing security and safety issues in our Community. Importantly, it also gives us the mechanisms to do so.

"Ar scáth a cheile a mhaireann na daoine", as the seanfhocal says and that is undeniably so in the case of the JPC where each sector works with the other sectors to tackle the important issues in a unified manner.

I would like to thank everybody involved in the development of this Strategic Plan including the staff of Mayo County Council, the Chief Superintendent and members of An Garda Síochána, my fellow Councillors and the Public Participation Network.

I look forward to seeing the Plan being implemented as I genuinely believe that it will have a lasting impact on the safety and security of the citizens of and visitors to Mayo for many years to come.

Gach rath ar an obair.

**Cllr. Al McDonnell, JPC Chair**



## INTRODUCTION

Joint Policing Committees are guided by a set of guidelines issued jointly by the Depts of Justice Equality & Law Reform and Environment, Community & Local Government. The guidelines were revised following the 2014 Local Elections, and the new guidelines focus on the achievement of actions and adding value to the work of the various partner organisations

The purpose of the guidelines is to set out in detail the functions, composition and operation of Joint Policing Committees in accordance with the Garda Síochána Act 2005. The Act (section 36) provides for the establishment of a JPC in each Local Authority administrative area. The purpose of the JPC is to provide a forum where a Local Authority and the senior Garda officers responsible for the policing of that area, with the participation of Oireachtas members, Elected members and community interests, can consult, discuss and make recommendations on matters affecting the policing of the County. It is intended that the JPCs are partnerships which are co-operative in nature and operate with the minimum of formality to identify, raise awareness of and find solutions for issues impacting on, or causing concerns for, the local community. Through the work of a JPC both partners – the Local Authority and An Garda Síochána - along with Oireachtas members and community interests have the opportunity to contribute to the improved safety and quality of life of the community. It is essential that the JPC takes a strategic approach to its work so that issues arising can be dealt with in a considered and properly coordinated manner.



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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 focussed on achieving coordinated actions to support enhanced policing and crime prevention. This Strategic Plan is produced in accordance with the guidance issued by the Department of Justice and the Department of the Housing, Planning & Local Government.

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## BACKGROUND

Mayo Joint Policing Committee was established as a result of the Garda Síochána Act 2005. Joint Policing Committees were introduced under the Garda Síochána Act 2005 as a mechanism for identifying and addressing policing issues where adopting a partnership approach between An Garda Síochána, the Local Authority and the community is desirable to achieve a favourable outcome.

The main function of the Mayo Joint Policing Committees (JPC) is:

‘to serve as a forum for consultations, discussions and recommendations on matters affecting the policing of the Local Authority’s administrative area’.

JPCs represent a collaborative approach between local authorities, An Garda Síochána and the community & voluntary sector in supporting policing and enhancing community safety. Key specific functions of the JPC, as cited in section 36(2) of the Garda Síochána Act are:

- a) Keep under review:
  - I. the levels and patterns of crime, disorder and anti-social behaviour in that area (including the patterns and levels of misuse of alcohol and drugs, and
  - II. the factors underlying and contributing to the levels of crime, disorder and anti social behaviour in the area.
- b) Advise the County Council and the Garda Síochána on how they might best perform their functions having regard to the need to do everything feasible to improve the safety and quality of life and to prevent crime, disorder and antisocial behaviour within the area.
- c) Arrange and host public meetings concerning matters affecting the policing of the County Council’s administrative area.



- d) Establish, in consultation with the local Garda superintendent, as the JPC considers necessary within specific neighbourhoods of the area, local policing fora to discuss and make recommendations to the committee concerning matters that it is to keep under review under paragraph (a) or on which it is to advise under paragraph (b), insofar as those matters affect their neighbourhoods,
- e) Co-ordinate the activities of local policing fora
- f) A Local Authority shall, in performing its functions, have regard to the importance of taking steps to prevent crime, disorder and anti-social behaviour within its area of responsibility.

The matters to be considered by the County Mayo JPC include community engagement, traffic and road safety, anti-social behaviour, public order, crime and drugs, community-based crime prevention initiatives, Garda Divisional Plans and relevant County Council initiatives.

## STEERING COMMITTEE

Each JPC must establish a steering group, consisting of the chairperson of the JPC, a representative of An Garda Síochána and the Chief Executive of the local authority (or a person nominated by him or her). The function of the steering group will be to facilitate the efficient functioning of the JPC **and in particular to ensure that it retains a clear focus on strategic and collaborative action**. It will also arrange procedures for the appointment of any new or replacement members, draw up the agenda and arrange documentation for meetings, be the point of contact for cooperation and joint action with other JPCs and with any subcommittees of the JPC.



## JOINT POLICING COMMITTEE SIX YEAR STRATEGIC PLAN

The business of a JPC cannot be progressed by simply having an exchange of views on relevant Gardaí or Local Authority reports. It is imperative that local issues are addressed collectively and strategically and, in this regard, each JPC must have a Strategic Plan which focuses on achieving co-ordinated actions to support enhanced policing and crime prevention. This Strategic Plan serves as a statement of the JPC'S intentions in regard to the manner in which it will address the relevant issues in accordance with its functions as set out in Section 36(2) Garda Síochána Act. It is produced in accordance with the guidance issued by the Department of Justice & Equality and the Department of the Environment, Community & Local Government.

The main aim of Mayo's Joint Policing Committee (JPC) is to provide a forum where Mayo County Council and the senior Garda Officers responsible for the policing of Mayo, with the participation of the local Oireachtas and Elected Members and community interests, can consult, discuss and make recommendations on matters affecting policing in the county. For Mayo member is comprised as follows:

- 14 Elected Members of Mayo County Council;
- 6 Oireachtas Representatives;
- 4 Local Authority Officials (Chief Executive shall be an ex-officio member);
- 6 Senior Garda Officials;
- 6 community and voluntary sector representatives nominated by the PPN



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As provided for in the Guidelines, each JPC must prepare an Annual Work Plan and a 6-Year Strategic Plan. The inaugural plan covered the period 2016 - 2021 and this new Strategic Plan covering the period 2022 – 2027 builds on the works carried out through the inaugural plan and aims to strengthen and develop the role of the Joint Policing Committee in matters affecting the policing of Mayo County Council's administrative area.

The Six Year Strategic Plan is designed to link with the Local Economic and Community Plan for the County. Each year an Annual JPC Work Plan will be prepared which will include objectives derived from the Strategic Plan 2022 - 2027 and relevant Annual Policing Plans as prepared by An Garda Síochána.

The JPC Work Plan serves as a statement of our intentions with regard to the manner in which we will address the relevant issues in accordance with our functions as set out in Section 36(2) Garda Síochána Act, 2005 as shown above.

In seeking to achieve the objectives outlined in this Strategic Plan, we will strive to ensure that County Mayo is developed and enhanced in line with the mission statements of both Mayo County Council and An Garda Síochána.





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Mayo County Council Mission Statement

***“To promote the wellbeing and quality of life of our citizens and communities in Mayo and to enhance the attractiveness of the County as a place in which to live, work, visit, invest in and enjoy”***

An Garda Síochána Mission Statement

***“Keeping People Safe”***

**Councillor Al McDonnell  
Chairperson Mayo Joint Policing Committee**

**Kevin Kelly  
Chief Executive, Mayo County Council**

**Ray McMahon  
An Garda Síochána, Mayo Policing District**



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## MONITORING AND EVALUATION

Regular JPC meetings will be held to monitor progress on specific actions outlined in the strategy. An Action Plan will be drafted each year setting out actions to be delivered. The Annual progress report will detail the overall implementation of the five objectives and actions.

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Strategic Goal	Objectives		Supporting Actions	Led by	Sub - Committee	Timescale
Promotion of the JPC	Communication and promotion of greater awareness of the role of the Joint Policing Committee	1.1	Promotion of the JPC and it's purpose though Mayo County Council's website <a href="http://www.mayococo.ie">www.mayococo.ie</a> and AGS website <a href="http://garda.ie">garda.ie</a> , Mayo PPN and local media	AGS / MCC		Ongoing
		1.2	Develop a Communications Strategy to inform the general public and the community sector about the Joint Policing Committee, e.g. newspapers, local radio, social media, PPN newsletter and websites	AGS / MCC and sub-committee		Ongoing
		1.3	Facilitate JPC input to policy submissions as and when appropriate	MCC / JPC and sub-committee		
		1.4	In accordance with the JPC guidelines host a public JPC	MCC / AGS		Annually
		1.5	Support Community Representatives in promoting the work of the JPC	MCC / AGS		Annually
		1.6	Adopt, publish and launch the County Mayo JPC six year strategic plan.	MCC / AGS		Q2 2022



Strategic Goal	Objectives		Supporting Actions	Led by	Sub - Committee	Timescale
<b>Community Engagement</b>	<b>To encourage collective community initiatives which nurture a sense of community and promote the role of the Gardaí in the community</b>	<b>1.0</b>	Promote the awareness of reporting all incidents of crime	<b>AGS / MCC</b>	<b>Community Engagement</b>	<b>Ongoing</b>
		<b>1.1</b>	Develop and or support the rollout of community safety initiatives such as the, Neighbourhood Watch, Coastal Watch, Campus Watch, Business Watch, Community Alert and Community Text Scheme's	<b>AGS</b>	<b>Community Engagement</b>	<b>Ongoing</b>
		<b>1.2</b>	Promote awareness of the vulnerability of the elderly in the community particularly those living alone, ensuring that they are identified by local Gardaí who will engage with them providing reassurance.	<b>AGS / MCC / HSE / Age Friendly / OPC</b>	<b>Community Engagement</b>	<b>Ongoing</b>
		<b>1.3</b>	Consider initiatives to increase community interaction between elderly/vulnerable/those living alone and the Gardaí	<b>AGS / MCC / Age Friendly / OPC</b>	<b>Community Engagement</b>	<b>Ongoing</b>



Strategic Goal	Objectives		Supporting Actions	Led by	Sub - Committee	Timescale
<b>Community Engagement (cont.)</b>	<b>To encourage collective community initiatives which nurture a sense of community and promote the role of the Gardaí in the community</b>	<b>1.4</b>	Collaborate with partner agencies to identify risk and vulnerable in area's	<b>AGS / MCC / HSE / Age Friendly / OPC</b>	<b>Community Engagement</b>	<b>Ongoing</b>
		<b>1.5</b>	Promote internet safety among parents and teenagers, also general public.	<b>AGS / MCC</b>	<b>Community Engagement</b>	<b>Ongoing</b>

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Strategic Goal	Objectives		Supporting Actions	Led by	Sub - Committee	Timescale
Traffic and Road Safety	<p>Make roads in the County safer for all road users.</p> <p>To reduce the incidents of fatal and serious injuries from road collisions.</p>	1.0	Increase compliance and implementation of legislation	AGS	Traffic and Road Safety	
		1.1	Increase the use of Automatic Number Plate Recognition (ANPR) technology for roads policing and as an investigation tool.	AGS	Traffic and Road Safety	
		1.2	Continue to review speed limits across the county with a particular emphasis on housing estates and villages.	AGS / MCC	Traffic and Road Safety	
		1.3	Carry out review of collision prone zones in the County with AGS Roads Policing Unit, and relevant MCC technical staff	AGS / MCC	Traffic and Road Safety	
		1.4	Continue to support, develop and introduce Road Safety Education and Awareness initiatives in association with the RSA, MCC and Garda National Traffic Bureau	AGS / MCC	Traffic and Road Safety	



Strategic Goal	Objectives		Supporting Actions	Led by	Sub - Committee	Timescale
Traffic and Road Safety (cont.)	<p>Make roads in the County safer for all road users.</p> <p>To reduce the incidents of fatal and serious injuries from road collisions.</p>	1.5	Support Road Safety Education programmes with specific focus on pre-schools, primary schools, secondary schools and youth communities / programmes in the County	AGS / MCC / RSA / MSLETB	Traffic and Road Safety	
		1.6	Continue to encourage involvement with youth on promoting road safety, e.g. TikTok MicDrop	AGS / MCC / RSA	Traffic and Road Safety	
		1.7	Road User event for Age Friendly, advising on various elements of road safety for the 55+ profile.	MCC / Road Safety Officer / Age Friendly	Traffic and Road Safety	

\*MSLETB = Mayo Sligo Leitrim Education Training Board

\*RSA = Road Safety Officer



Strategic Goal	Objectives		Supporting Actions	Led by	Sub - Committee	Timescale
<b>Crime and Drugs</b>	<b>To monitor, review and report on crime and drugs</b>	1.1	To engage with Western Regional Drugs Task Force to highlight dangers of substance abuse to a youth audience	JPC	Crime and Drugs	
		1.2	Support public awareness campaign about crime prevention initiatives	AGS / MCC	Crime and Drugs	
		1.3	Support increased engagement between HSE, Gardaí and Education providers to build a constructive substance misuse educational programme into the secondary school curriculum	AGS, Schools, MSLETB, HSE	Crime and Drugs	
		1.4	Active engagement of community policing with local community groups including briefing of PPN on Crime Prevention initiatives by Crime Prevention Officer.	AGS / MCC / PPN	Crime and Drugs	
		1.5	Continue to target organised crimes groups through targeted activities	AGS	Crime and Drugs	
		1.6	Promote awareness of reporting all incidents of crime.		Crime and Drugs	

\* PPN – Public Participation Network





Strategic Goal	Objectives		Supporting Actions	Led by	Sub - Committee	Timescale
<b>Public Order and Anti-Social behaviour</b>		1.0	Ensure implementation of Anti-Social Behaviour Strategy in Council Housing Estates.	MCC / AGS	Public Order and Anti-Social behaviour	
		1.1	MCC and AGS to work in partnership to develop an inter-agency approach in managing and resolving repeated incidences of anti-social behaviour on estates	AGS / MCC	Public Order and Anti-Social behaviour	
		1.2	Support Neighbourhood watch and Community Alert schemes	AGS	Public Order and Anti-Social behaviour	
		1.3	Examine the situation in relation to CCTV (fixed and mobile, their effectiveness and who is responsible, how is the Data Controller etc	AGS / MCC	Public Order and Anti-Social behaviour	
		1.4	Support and or develop Neighbourhood watch, Community Alert Scheme and community text scheme's	AGS / MCC	Public Order and Anti-Social behaviour	



## Mayo JPC Membership

JPC Member	Organisation
Cllr. Al McDonnell	Mayo County Council
Cllr Christy Hyland	Mayo County Council
Cllr. Damien Ryan	Mayo County Council
Cllr Gerry Coyle	Mayo County Council
Cllr. John O'Hara	Mayo County Council
Cllr. Michael Kilcoyne	Mayo County Council
Cllr. Michael Loftus	Mayo County Council
Cllr. Neil Cruise	Mayo County Council
Cllr. Sean Carey	Mayo County Council
Cllr. John Caulfield	Mayo County Council
Cllr. Mark Duffy	Mayo County Council
Cllr. Michael Burke	Mayo County Council
Cllr. Ger Deere	Mayo County Council
Cllr. Tom Connolly	Mayo County Council
Dara Calleary, T.D	Oireachtas
Alan Dillon, T.D	Oireachtas
Rose Conway Walsh, T.D	Oireachtas
Michael Ring, T.D	Oireachtas
Senator Lisa Chambers	Oireachtas
Senator Paddy Burke	Oireachtas
Peter Duggan, Interim Chief Executive	Mayo County Council
Kevin Kelly, Chief Executive	Mayo County Council
Keelan Moran	Westport/Belmullet MD
Edith Geraghty	Mayo Travellers Support Group
Seamus Smyth	Ballina MD
Michael Larkin	Castlebar MD
Daniel Kabongo	SI (Migrant Rep)
Chief Superintendent Ray Mahon	Garda Síochána
Acting Chief Superintendent Joe Doherty	Garda Síochána
Tony Healy, Chief Superintendent	Garda Síochána
Joe McKenna, Superintendent	Garda Síochána



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