

KERRY DIVISIONAL DRUG UNIT

JPC Presentation
10th May 2024



KERRY DIVISIONAL DRUG UNIT

- **2 Sergeants.**
- **Currently 1 Sergeant. Competition to replace Sergeant who was recently assigned another Portfolio currently in progress.**
- **10 Gardaí.**
- **Currently 7 Gardaí. 3 additional Garda members due to begin 40 week secondment in the Divisional Drugs Unit in the coming weeks.**

OPERATIONAL ACTIONS UNDERTAKEN IN 2023

- ▶ **217** Search Warrants executed resulting in drug detections
- ▶ **745** recorded searches of persons and/or vehicles
- ▶ 4 days of action – concentrated search operations on locations
- ▶ Divisional Drugs Unit has been assisted in operations by Local Crime and Uniform Units GNDOCB Criminal Assets Bureau, Armed Response Units, Garda Dog Units, Irish Army, Revenue Officials, Social Welfare Inspectors and An Post Investigations Section

DRUG SEIZURES 2023

- ▶ 493 Drug Seizures 2023
- ▶ 93 x Section 15 MDA - Sale and Supply.
- ▶ 400 x Section 3 MDA – Simple Possession.
- ▶ Cannabis & Cocaine continue to be most common

Total Estimated Value of Seizures, €600,514

*subject to formal analysis by FSI



BREAKDOWN OF SEIZURES - 2023

Of the drug detections in 2023 the following is the breakdown of controlled substances seized.


- ▶ Cannabis: 54%
- ▶ Cocaine: 43%
- ▶ Heroin: 1%
- ▶ Amphetamine: 0.8%
- ▶ Other 1.2%

SIGNIFICANT DETECTIONS IN 2023

- ▶ February – **31,000** Cannabis Seized North Kerry
- ▶ February - **€15,000** Cocaine Tralee Area
- ▶ March - **€15,000** Cannabis Tralee area
- ▶ May - **€65,000** cocaine in Tralee area
- ▶ July - **€16,870** Cocaine Seized in North Kerry
- ▶ September - **€42,000** seized in one search followed by **€7,000** worth of cannabis and **€5180** of cocaine in follow up search in Killarney area
- ▶ November - **€87,000** Cocaine Seized North Kerry area



OPERATIONAL ACTIONS UNDERTAKEN IN 2024 (TO DATE)

- ▶ **60** Search Warrants executed resulting in drug detections
 - ▶ **244** recorded searches of persons and/or vehicles
 - ▶ 1 day of action – North Kerry
 - ▶ Operation resulting in seizure of €1.1m Cannabis Limerick
 - ▶ Operation Resulting in seizure of €32m Crystal Meth in Cork Port.
- 

DRUG SEIZURES 2024

- ▶ **115** Drug Seizures 2024
- ▶ **15** x Section 15 MDA - Sale and Supply.
- ▶ **100** x Section 3 MDA – Simple Possession.

Total Value of Seizures, €33.5M

*subject to formal analysis by FSI


A decorative graphic consisting of several parallel white lines of varying lengths, slanted upwards from left to right, located in the bottom right corner of the slide.

SIGNIFICANT SEIZURES IN 2024

- ▶ January 24 – Seizure of Cocaine value **€32,200** Cash and two firearms in Mid Kerry Area
- ▶ January 24 – 2 Seizures of Cannabis value **€111,640** Kenmare area
- ▶ February 24 – Seizure of **€1.1M** Cannabis Abbeyfeale
- ▶ February 24 – Seizure of **€30,000** Cocaine Listowel area
- ▶ February 24 – Seizure of **€32 million** Crystal Meth @ Cork Port
- ▶ March 24 – Seizure of **€17,000** cocaine in Dingle area
- ▶ March 24 – Seizure of **€100,000** cannabis Listowel area



COMMUNITY INITIATIVES & PROACTIVE MEASURES 2023

- ▶ Presentations given to transitions year students during Station visits.
 - ▶ 3 drug awareness presentations given to MTU and Kerry Further Education
 - ▶ 6 secondary school visits with drug awareness presentations
 - ▶ Drug awareness presentation given to Hotel staff and Vintners
- 
- A decorative graphic consisting of several parallel white lines of varying lengths, slanted diagonally from the bottom right towards the top right, set against the blue background.

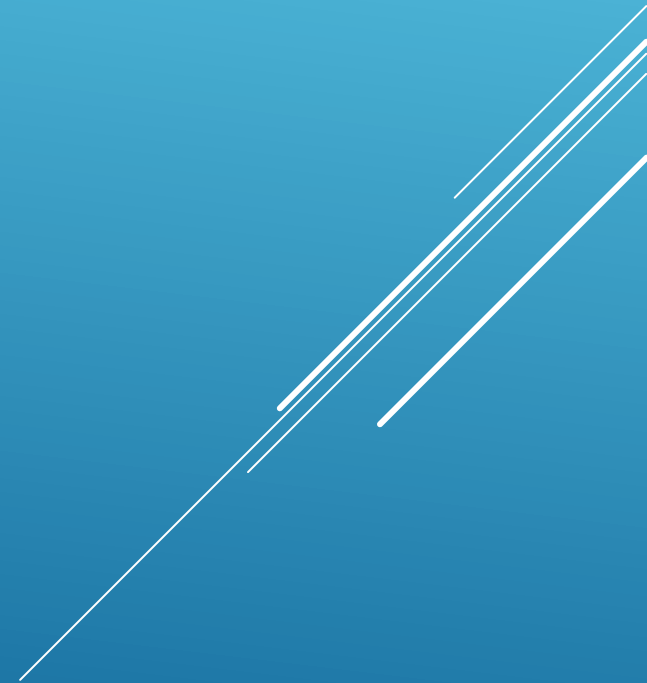
COMMUNITY INITIATIVES & PROACTIVE MEASURES 2024

- ▶ MARCH 2024 Churchill Gaa Club & MTU Joint Presentation Tralee
- ▶ MARCH 2024 Mountcoal Gaa Club, Listowel
- ▶ APRIL 2024 Dr Crokes Gaa Killarney
- ▶ MAY 2024 Kerry College Staff – 21ST May 2024 (Booked in for joint talk with Sgt Quirke CPO)
- ▶ Drug Unit working in conjunction with local Community Policing Units.

DRUG DRIVING KERRY DIVISION YTD 2024

- ▶ Over 1/3 of all Driving Under Influence incidents relate to Drug Driving. Increasing
- ▶ **50** Incidents of Drug Driving Incidents so far in 2024
- ▶ **30** incidents for same period in 2023
- ▶ **28** incidents for same period in 2022
- ▶ Drug Unit actively targeting Drug Drivers along with RPU (Roadside Testing)

DRUG INTIMIDATION




DRUG INTIMIDATION REPORTING PROGRAMME

- ▶ National Drug Strategy 2017-2025
- ▶ DRIVE Project:-
 - ▶ Drug Related Intimidation and Violence Engagement
 - ▶ Made up of a number of community and voluntary groups and other agencies, including representation from An Garda Síochána.
 - ▶ **DRIVE Interagency Groups** have now been developed and established in every local and Regional Drug & Alcohol Task Force area, nationally.

DRUG INTIMIDATION REPORTING PROGRAMME

- ▶ Liaison Inspector –
 - ▶ SPOC for persons wishing to report drug related threats.
- ▶ Role: -
 - ▶ Advising, guiding and supporting persons or families subject to intimidation and assisting the person or family on deciding on the course of action to be taken
 - ▶ Ensuring matters are investigated where appropriate
 - ▶ Liaise directly with the relevant District Officer and monitoring progress of investigations
 - ▶ Appoint liaison persons to work with families
 - ▶ Liaising with community groups
 - ▶ Carry out threat assessments

DRUG RELATED INTIMIDATION – KERRY DIVISION

- ▶ 20 reported cases since 2022
 - ▶ Likelihood of under reporting
 - ▶ Wide range of drug debts
 - ▶ Varying levels of threat
- 
- A decorative graphic consisting of several parallel white lines of varying lengths and orientations, located in the bottom right corner of the slide.

DRUG RELATED INTIMIDATION KERRY DIVISION

- ▶ Gardai will offer: -
 - ▶ Confidentiality.
 - ▶ Practical safety information.
 - ▶ Advice in relation to particular threats or instances of intimidation.
 - ▶ Provide information on appropriate drug support services for the individual in the family who is accruing drug debts.
 - ▶ Outline how to make a formal complaint, what is involved, what happens after and possible outcomes.

WHAT SUPPORTS CAN THE DRIVE CO-ORDINATOR OFFER ME?

A DRIVE Co-ordinator can:

- ▶ Listen to your experience of intimidation.
- ▶ Support you to explore your options in relation to payment, non payment and/or seeking help from Gardaí.
- ▶ Help you to engage with relevant drug & alcohol services.
- ▶ Provide you with information on the Drug Related Intimidation Reporting Programme.
- ▶ Help you to arrange a meeting with the nominated Inspector.

A DRIVE Co-ordinator cannot:

- ▶ Advise you on what to do. You are the person best placed to make any decisions relating to the issue.

CONTACTS

DRIVE Co-ordinator
087 768 2763

Family Co-ordinator
087 962 3670

HSE Cork & Kerry Drug & Alcohol services
021 489 0100 087 532 4268

For a full list of nominated Inspectors visit
www.driveproject.ie
or scan

DRIVE
Drug Related Intimidation Reporting Programme

This programme has been established by the Garda National Drugs Unit and the DRIVE project (Drug Related Intimidation & Violent Engagement). The purpose of this programme is to respond to the needs of those impacted by drug related intimidation.

DRIVE Co-ordinator
087 768 2763 driveproject.ie