



Comhchoiste Póilínachta - Contae Chiarraí
County Kerry - Joint Policing Committee



J.P.C. Meeting – May 2024- Members Questions & Issues



Comhchoiste Póilíneachta - Contae Chiarraí County Kerry - Joint Policing Committee



Road Safety Issues:

Ref	Raised by	What is your question or issue?	Agency	Answer
1	Cllr. Mikey Sheehy	<p>In relation to Derryquay National School;</p> <p>1. Will AGS begin periodic speed checks at school drop off and collection times.</p> <p>2. Will AGS consider this location for mobile average speed radars when they are rolled out, as advised at our last JPC meeting.</p> <p>3. Can KCC review the current signage system and road markings at this location. Even though there are robust measures in place, they are not have the desired effect.</p>	<p>AGS</p> <p>AGS</p> <p>KCC</p>	<p>1. In line with the Garda Commissioners recent direction in respect of Road Traffic Enforcement, members stationed in Castlegregory and Dingle along with members of the RPU have been specifically detailed to carry out speed checks and other such checkpoints outside the Derry quay National School at the pertinent times and this will continue going into the future.</p> <p>2. The road where the Derryquay National School is located, the N86 is already a designated Go-Safe location. When considering nominations for Fixed Speed Camera locations, an extensive analysis of collisions on the road network where speed was a contributory factor will be undertaken and if this location fits that criteria then it will be considered as a potential location. In the short term, I will liaise with Go Safe and request that this location is monitored on a more regular basis.</p> <p>3. The existing Derryquay School has been in existence since 1910 and built, as was common then, adjacent to the public road. The school management was granted planning to refurb and extend the school in 2002 and in 2006, Kerry County Council carried out significant horizontal realignment roadworks in the vicinity of the school to enhance road safety. This involved moving the main N86 road Northwards, utilising the old Tralee - Dingle railway line, allowing for a set down area outside the school and a ghost island in the centre of the road to prevent overtaking. Road safety enhancements were implemented in the form of warning signage, road markings including rumble strips, SLOW SCHOOL AHEAD, red asphalt surfacing along with school flashing lights, and an intermittent 60 kph speed limit (2 steps down from the default 100 kph limit as recommended) operational and enforceable during the designated times, 200 meters either side of the school on the N86.</p> <p>To further enhance safety, the school management was granted further planning permission in 2011 for an off road staff car park and car set-down area with a one way in and out system. A condition of planning stipulated the area outside the school wall would not be used for set-down/parking. Evidence indicates that cars and even the school bus utilise the area outside the school wall for setting down purposes rather than using the safer option of the off-road set down area inside the wall and away from the road and passing traffic. From a road infrastructure point of view, there are no further road markings and signage measures that can be introduced. KCC will review the speed limit at the location as part of its county wide speed limit review in 2024. Meanwhile, it would be beneficial if the board of management would reinforce the road safety message to the parents in relation to pupil drop offs and pick ups and remind them of the need to use the off-road facilities provided by the school.</p>



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Crime Prevention & Community Policing Issues:

Ref	Raised by	What is your question or issue?	Agency	Answer
1	Cllr. Tom Barry	<p>Can I please get an update on the Ballyduff policing forum.</p> <p>This was seen as a necessary initiative to support residents in the village and was welcomed by Better Ballyduff, Buds family resource center, Banemore residents groups (who agreed to chair the committee), Gardai, youth services, and NEWKD.</p> <p>The Committee has not met since pre covid.</p>	Both	<p>Due to COVID-19 the Ballyduff Local Policing Forum was not in a position to hold meetings since 2019 when work to establish it was originally undertaken. The Fora resumed in 2023 holding an informal meeting on June 13th at Ballyduff. The meeting was attended by a Sergeant and Garda from the Listowel Community Engagement Area.</p> <p>AGS are fully supportive of the Ballyduff Local Policing Forum and its transition to the Local CSF's in the coming year.</p> <p>Support for the Forum and review of its terms are down for discussion at next meeting of the Community Cohesion sub-committee. We note that Ballyspillane LPF had its first meeting in some time recently.</p> <p>Based on the expected CSP guidelines to be issued shortly, the existing LPF's can transition into Local CSF's in the change from JPC's to CSP's and will have the administrative supports of the full time coordinator & support staff.</p>
2	Cllr. Tom Barry	<p>How many Gardai members do we currently have in the county, also how many members retired or left the force in the past twelve months and how many new Gardai have we received in Kerry in that period?.</p>	AGS	<p>The current strength of sworn Garda Personnel in the Kerry Division is 334 compared to 342 in January 2023. This is a reduction of 8.</p> <p>During the period 17 sworn members retired and 3 resigned.</p> <p>Though there has been a slight decrease of sworn Garda personnel in the period, it should be noted that since 2013 the Divisional strength has increased by 34 (12%). In addition, the Divisional Operating Model has increased our capacity to perform frontline policing duties as a direct result of the allocation of an additional 21 civilian Garda Support Personnel.</p>