

An Garda Síochána



Occupational Health and Safety Policy Statement

I recognise that the management of safety, health and welfare is of fundamental importance in continually improving the service that we provide, as quality of service is intrinsically linked to the provision of a safe work environment and operation of safe systems. In striving to continually improve quality and safety, I recognise and accept my responsibilities for safety, health and welfare.

I am committed to minimising risk to the health and safety of employees, student Gardaí, Garda Reservists and the public who are affected by our activities, having regard to the functions of An Garda Síochána, and to preventing accidents and ill health arising in our activities in so far as is reasonably practicable. To achieve this we will comply with the requirements of the Safety, Health and Welfare at Work Act 2005, subordinate regulations and the Fire Services Act 1981/2003.

I will ensure, so far as reasonably practicable, the safety, health and welfare at work of all employees, student Gardaí and members of the Garda Reserve in An Garda Síochána. This responsibility is in turn delegated to and shared by Deputy Commissioners, Chief Administrative Officer, each Assistant Commissioner, each Executive Director, all Chief Superintendents, Superintendents in charge of Units/Sections where there is no Chief Superintendent appointed, Director of Communications, Civilian HR Director, Head of Garda Analysis Service, Head of Garda Internal Audit Section, Head of Legal Affairs, Head of the Garda Information Services Centre, Head of Accommodation and Chief Medical Officer. The responsibility will be delegated to the appropriate grade/rank where there is a vacancy in any of the above positions.

All delegated responsibilities are clearly set out under An Garda Síochána safety policies and workplace safety statements in compliance with section 8(2) of the Safety, Health and Welfare at Work Act 2005. The detailed policies and guidance documents are available on the Garda Portal. An Garda Síochána's aim is to achieve compliance, assess risks, eliminate, minimise and manage risk in an acceptable fashion in so far as is reasonably practicable. In addition, Garda employees have a significant role to play in looking after their own safety and to co-operate fully and actively work towards the successful implementation of this policy. All persons who discharge statutory safety roles on behalf of An Garda Síochána will be afforded the full co-operation of every person within An Garda Síochána at all times.

Each of the above delegated managers is responsible and accountable for:

- Proactively managing and conducting occupational health and safety in the areas and activities under their control.
- Achieving compliance with An Garda Síochána's safety policy and the Safety, Health and Welfare at Work regulations that govern their work and that of the Garda employees under their control.
- Ensuring, in so far as is reasonably practicable the safety, health and welfare of Garda employees and the public who are affected by our activities.
- Providing adequate financial and other resources for the above in so far as is reasonably practicable.
- Ensuring the terms of the safety statement in each workplace are brought to the attention of all employees and other persons who may be affected by it.

Managers at all levels of the organisation will be responsible and accountable for visible and proactive leadership in implementing this policy.


 _____ COMMISSIONER
 Nóirín O'Sullivan

27th April, 2015

Ráiteas Misin/Mission Statement:

Ag obair le Pobail chun iad a chosaint agus chun freastal orthu/Working with Communities to Protect and Serve