



# ANNUAL REPORT OF AN GARDA SÍOCHÁNA 2008

The Mission of An Garda Síochána is to achieve the highest attainable level of

- Personal Protection •
- Community Commitment • State Security •





# LOOKING TO THE FUTURE

## Commissioner's Foreword — Looking to the Future



I am pleased to present the Annual Report for 2008, detailing the work of An Garda Síochána across all Divisions. The report outlines achievements in relation to our core commitments – the prevention and detection of crime, the protection of national security, and crucially, our day to day work in communities around Ireland.

An Garda Síochána is committed to working within communities to address the root causes of crime in order to deliver excellent policing across the State. Engaging with these communities offers the organisation a chance to promote public confidence in the work of the service and I am certain that this approach will yield strong crime prevention results in the future.

The presence of drugs in our communities continues to pose major challenges for society as a whole, and indeed for An Garda Síochána. The sustained and co-ordinated focus which has been a feature of the fight against drugs has yielded significant seizures and arrests by local and national units during 2008. In 2009, we will maintain our commitment against the supply reduction side, with a

constant emphasis on protecting the young and vulnerable, as well as the public as a whole, from the effects of this reprehensible activity which leaves nothing but damage and devastation in its wake.

This report highlights the work of Gardaí in their communities, as they fight against serious crime, work to reduce deaths and serious injuries on our roads, address the causes of anti-social behaviour and implement other initiatives which assist in building lasting and relevant connections with the people they serve.

An Garda Síochána is ready and willing to meet the challenges of policing as they manifest themselves in Ireland. Working in conjunction with the community, we are committed to maintaining a society which is safe and secure, to preventing and detecting crime and to serving the community.

**FACHTNA MURPHY**  
Commissioner of An Garda Síochána

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### New in 2008.....



Images of the new Garda Station in Irishtown which opened during 2008. Irishtown is one of the 703 Garda Stations in Ireland managed by the Housing Section, which is responsible for all aspects of the Garda Estate. Further projects completed by Housing in 2008 are listed on page 6.



# FIGHTING CRIME

## Particulars of Drugs Analysed during 2008

DRUG	Quantity	Cases
Cannabis	947849.73 grams	2,653
Cannabis resin	5,276,728.611 grams	3,465
Cannabis plants	3,529 plants	167
Heroin (Diamorphine)	209,605.430 grams	1,724
Ecstasy MDMA	100,635 tablets, 2 capsules, 1,144 grams	763
Ecstasy MDEA	0	0
Ketamine	25.267 grams, 88 tablets	15
Amphetamine	8,217.052 grams, 946 tablets	152
Cocaine	1,681,693 grams	1,427
Diazepam	125,270 tablets, 46 grams	181
Flunitrazepam (Rohypnol)	27 tablets	7
Flurazepam	120 capsules, 41 tablets	26
Temazepam	12,356 tablets, 3,701 grams	9
Alprazolam	4,041 tablets	42
Methadone	1,707 millilitres	9
Dihydrocodeine	114 tablets	10
Ephedrine	438 tablets, 0.7 grams	8
Methylamphetamine	4,632.942 grams	26
BZP	37,737 tablets, 72 capsules, 1,780.948 grams	224
LSD	159 units	17

## Criminal Assets Bureau

The Criminal Assets Bureau (CAB) took a number of actions to **target the proceeds of criminal conduct**. These actions covered a wide range of **Garda, Revenue and Social Welfare activities**. During 2008, CAB commenced **25 new cases under the Proceeds of Crime Acts** before the High Court. In addition, CAB has **continued to pursue persons involved in crime at all levels**.

In the course of 2008, €6,069,049 was paid over to the Minister for Finance. A further €2,539,709 was confiscated as a result of three Section 4 and nine Section 4A Orders made at the end of 2007 and during 2008.

CAB collected €5,891,498 in relation to **income from criminal conduct**. Under **Social Welfare legislation**, CAB made savings of €712,615 for all schemes and a total of €182,198 was recovered from overpayments made.

During 2008, CAB **trained an additional 57 Gardai as Divisional Assets Profilers**, which brought the number of Garda Profilers to 82.

### Orders obtained under the Proceeds of Crime Acts 1996/2005

Order	Number of Defendants	Number of Orders	Amount €	Amount STG £
Section 2	26	24	5,022,050.89	4,860.00
Section 3(1)	23	14	2,501,802.57	150,314.76
Section 3(3)	1	1	63,313.00	Nil
Section 4	7	2	785,246.17	Nil
Section 4A	22	11	2,017,214.20	Nil
Section 7	35	25	10,350,492.19	4,860.00

## DRIVING DOWN CRIME

When 2008 crime figures are compared to 2007, they show:

- A 42% **decrease** in homicide offences
- A 29% **decrease** in kidnapping and related offences
- An 8% **decrease** in fraud, deception and related offences

### Crime Policy and Administration

The Mutual Assistance Section has used the new procedures introduced in the Criminal Justice (Mutual Assistance) Act, 2008 to further enhance Irish cooperation in the international investigation of criminal matters.

The Firearms Policy Unit was established during 2008 to act as a central reference point in the organisation of this important policy area. The Unit liaises with the Department of Justice, Equality and Law Reform, Garda management and the various organisations involved in the firearms licensing process.

### Emergency Response Unit

The Emergency Response Unit (ERU) is under the remit of the Special Detective Unit. Its main role is to provide An Garda Síochána with a specialist firearms capability nationwide including intervention. It was involved in several high profile operations in 2008, in particular when members were deployed in Limerick in April during Operation Coronation. For the first time, a non-lethal conducted energy device, more commonly known as a TASER stun gun, was used by An

Garda Síochána to disarm an armed man.

The ERU is also responsible for firearms cover during barricaded incidents involving the use of firearms and it was deployed in a number of such incidents during 2008.

To support and improve the ERU's capability it is essential that it keeps in contact with its counterparts in similar intervention units in Europe. The unit is also involved in extensive training with its European counterparts.

### Special Detective Unit

The Special Detective Unit (SDU) is entrusted with maintaining State security and monitors persons who pose a threat to national or international security. The section is responsible for the investigation of subversive and terrorist crime, it provides armed back-up to uniformed personnel and specialised operations, including Anvil, and it ensures the protection of various dignitaries from within the jurisdiction, as well as those visiting the State from other countries.

During 2008, the SDU was involved in numerous investigations and operations



*Regional Support Units provide support to other units in the event of a critical incident.*

the importation of firearms and explosives from former Eastern Bloc countries by members of the Real IRA, resulting in the arrest of leading members of the Real IRA. The SDU continues to monitor various groups and individuals, both domestic and foreign, who are assessed as posing a threat to State security, or who are capable of carrying out a threat either in the State or abroad.

### Regional Support Units

Garda Regional Support Units (RSUs) went operational in the Southern Region on a pilot basis in September 2008. These second-tier firearms response units are available as a dedicated resource to provide support to other Garda units engaged in frontline policing in the event of a critical incident e.g. hostage situation or firearms incidents. RSU officers undergo training to a high level over a 13 week period, which includes instruction in critical incident response, negotiation techniques, entry methods, tactical driving, first aid and the use of less lethal options. These officers patrol as regular uniformed Gardai and carry out routine policing functions on a daily basis. In the event of an RSU being deployed to a critical incident, members will change into tactical dress and will have access to firearms. Ultimately, it is envisaged that an RSU will be established in each of the five Regions outside of the Dublin Metropolitan Region, i.e. Eastern, Southern, South Eastern, Western and Northern Regions.

related to terrorist activity, including:

- An investigation into the double murder and attempted murder of members of the Continuity IRA in Belfast. The PSNI provided assistance in the investigation, which led to a conviction of murder and attempted murder in the Special Criminal Court.
- Intelligence-led operations, resulting in the arrest and charging of more than 20 members of the INLA, for a range of offences including firearms and explosives offences and membership of an unlawful organisation.
- An international investigation relating to



# NATIONAL SUPPORT SERVICES

## Garda Síochána Analysis Service

During 2008, the Garda Síochána Analysis Service (GSAS), which was established in 2007, recruited 21 analysts. The new recruits attended intensive training at the Garda College in Templemore which comprised crime analysis techniques and analysis software packages. Since then the analysts have provided support to national units (e.g. National Support Services and Traffic) and Regional Assistant Commissioners through the analysis of crime at a local level.

The services the analysts provide include:

- Monthly crime assessments, which provide detailed information to national and local Garda management on crime patterns and trends.
- Analysis supporting day to day operational activity e.g., research into how particular crimes are committed and into the structure and organisation of criminal groups.

The feedback to date from members of the organisation who have received support from GSAS has been very positive.

Crime Policy and Administration section worked during the year to support and facilitate the establishment and ongoing development of GSAS.



GSAS analysts with (front row second left to second right) Mr. Gurchand Singh, Head of GSAS, Assistant Commissioner Eastern Region Dermot Jennings and Superintendent Pat McCabe.

## Automatic Fingerprint Identification System

The new Automatic Fingerprint Identification System (AFIS) was launched in 2007, marking the completion of Phase 1 of this project. Phase 2, which involves the integration of AFIS with the Garda National Immigration Bureau (GNIB), went live on a phased basis in 2008 in Dundalk, Portlaoise, Bandon, Mallow, Naas, Letterkenny,

Tralee, Henry Street, Roscommon, Waterford and Wexford Garda Stations. Some 2,285 fingerprints have been taken in these stations to date. The new system is at the cutting edge of fingerprint technology. It provides upgrades to the latest technology, improved algorithms, expert matching and third level detail.



In 2008 there was an increase of 91% in fingerprint identifications over 2007 due to the new AFIS.

## Serious Crime Review Team

The Serious Crime Review Team (SCRT) was set up in 2007. Its role is to carry out reviews of unsolved cases and identify new and potential investigative opportunities to be pursued. A review is not a re-investigation but it should be considered as an integral element of the investigation, designed to assist and support the Senior Investigating Officer. The SCRT concluded several reviews in 2008 including a review into the murder of Paul Ryan in Birr in 2003. As a result of this review, a suspect now stands charged in connection with this murder. The prosecution is being taken by the Detective Unit at Birr.

In May 2008, the SCRT, along with local

detectives from Granard, Longford, and Mullingar, was subsequently involved in a substantial search and examination operation in Coole, Co. Westmeath. The operation was instigated as part of the review of the murder of Brian McGrath at Coole in 1987. The teams were involved in the exhumation of a grave, the excavation and examination of a large area of private land and the search of a house. These actions provided valuable material which would later allow for the arrest and interview of two suspects. A man was subsequently charged with the murder of Brian McGrath 22 years after his death.

## Liaison & Protection

The Garda Technical Advisory Group (GTAG) has worked with An Post and a security company to develop hardware and secure systems to ensure a secure end-to-end cash delivery method of social welfare monies at selected post offices. This has resulted in significant changes to the security arrangements in place for the movement of monies to post offices, which will result in savings to An Garda Síochána of approximately €4.5 million per annum. The nationwide roll out of the scheme was completed in September 2008.

GTAG is also assisting both the financial institutions and the cash in transit service providers, under the chairmanship of the Irish Bankers' Federation, to source and implement an end-to-end cash delivery system, which will be used for ATM replenishment and collection and remittances, using ink/dye solutions. The project, which is scheduled for completion in April 2010, will result in savings of approximately €5 million annually.

## Garda Reserve

The Garda Reserve was provided for under the Garda Síochána Act 2005 and at year end 535 members have been recruited to its ranks. It is a voluntary, unpaid body, drawn from the community, whose purpose is to assist the full-time force in various policing duties. The Reserve is coordinated and managed by a Chief Superintendent and a Superintendent. Recruitment is undertaken on a continuous basis and is managed by the Public Appointments Service. The Programme for Government pledges to support the Garda Reserve and ensure that its strength reaches and is maintained at 10% of the Garda strength by 2012. At year end, there were 331 attested members in the Garda Reserve and 114 in training. 32 reserve members have joined An Garda Síochána as full-time members.

### From reservist to full time Garda by Garda Bevin Meaney

I have always wanted to become a member of An Garda Síochána because I feel that policing is an exciting job with unique demands. When I heard about the Garda Reserve I applied straight away and was accepted to begin training in January 2007.

The training programme consists of five phases, starting with an induction weekend at the Garda College, Templemore; followed by a minimum of 56 hours of legal instruction; role-play exercises; self defence and handcuff techniques. I also received 40 hours of 'on the job' training at Store Street Garda Station, in Dublin city centre.

Once I had been attested and graduated, I was transferred to the Bridewell Garda Station in Dublin. After about six months there, I decided that being a full-time Garda was the job for me, so I applied and luckily got accepted first time.

I started at the Garda College in August 2008 and I am currently on phase two in Pearse Street Garda Station. I absolutely love the job and I am learning so much. The Garda Reserve really benefited me, because everything I learned has stood to me and was a

great advantage in applying to be a full time Garda. Overall, I feel the experience of being a reservist was a great stepping stone and I highly recommend anyone who has an interest in policing, whether full-time or part-time, to consider applying for the Garda Reserve.



Garda Bevin Meaney knew a life as a Garda was for her after training to be a Reservist.

### Why I joined the Garda Reserve By Reserve Garda Liam Maher

I am a general manager for a logistics company and I was attested into An Garda Síochána as a member of the Garda Reserve in June 2007. I am currently stationed in the Bridewell Garda Station in Dublin.

I work as a reservist on Friday nights from 6pm to 10pm, or as late as 2am, depending on how busy it is. Mostly, I am out walking the beat and I find it very rewarding to serve the community as a reservist. I am very proud to wear the uniform of An Garda Síochána and fully appreciate the unique opportunity which has been afforded to me in becoming a reservist.

The members in the Bridewell have been very welcoming to me. Many of them have asked why I would give up my time to be a reservist, but for me the answer is very simple. We all undertake voluntary activities during our lives and this is my contribution right now. I've run sports teams, youth clubs and scouting groups. I was brought up in a society where people helped each other out and did not think twice about it and being a member of the Garda Reserve allows me to do that every week of the year.



## Expansion of Garda Mountain Bike Unit

The Minister for Justice, Equality and Law Reform, Mr. Dermot Ahern TD and Garda Commissioner, Mr. Fachtna Murphy, jointly launched the expansion of the Garda Mountain Bike Unit at Store Street Garda Station in July 2008.

The Garda Mountain Bike Unit was first established on a pilot basis in two Dublin Districts in April 2001. There are currently over 1,264 members trained and equipped for mountain bike duties nationwide, and there are

521 bikes operational in Garda stations throughout the country.

The Unit has proved extremely popular, with positive feedback received from both local communities and business groups. The expansion represents an increase of one third to the strength of the unit and sees a further 130 bikes allocated throughout the country, bringing the total to just over 500, with some stations receiving an allocation for the first time and establishing new Mountain Bike Units.



The launch of the expanded Garda Mountain Bike Unit in July 2008.

## Garda Band and Gloria Choir perform gala concert to mark beginning of Gay Pride celebrations

To mark the beginning of the Gay Pride celebrations, the Garda Band performed a gala concert with Gloria, the Gay and Lesbian Choir, in the National Concert Hall, Dublin, in June 2008.

This was the second time that Gloria and the Garda Band have joined forces for such an

event. The strong relationship which exists between An Garda Síochána and the gay community is a result of close partnership and cooperation over the past ten years and the concert offered a fitting opportunity to celebrate that relationship through music and song.



Members of Gloria visit with the Garda Commissioner and members of the Garda Band in June 2008.

## Crime Prevention Awareness Campaign

Crime statistics show that the common everyday crimes of burglary and theft account for around 80% of all crimes reported in Ireland. In the early part of 2008 there was an increase in these types of crimes. These incidents are largely opportunistic and An Garda Síochána believes that many of them can be prevented. In April 2008, a proactive campaign aimed at increasing public awareness of this issue was launched.

Assistant Commissioner Strategy and Taining, Louis Harkin launched the campaign on RTE's Crimercall programme. Garda information stands were set up at shopping centres throughout the country and local Superintendents gave radio and newspaper interviews to communicate the need for vigilance at all times. Some of the points they outlined included:

- Most burglaries are committed by opportunist thieves. Almost two out of three burglaries take place between 8am and 8pm. In a quarter of all burglaries, the thieves don't even have to use force as the house or building is unsecured.
- People become victims of crime when they least expect it e.g. at the gym, in a restaurant or while shopping. Thieves use

the fact that people are relaxed, concentrating on other matters or careless with their property to commit theft. Individuals should take care of personal property, leave valuables at home where possible and use cash machines during the day, rather than at night.

- Most car crime is opportunistic. In less than 30 seconds, a thief can shatter a car window, reach in, unlock the door, and remove any valuables in sight. Motorists should not leave anything on display in their cars – thieves steal first and think about value later. An Garda Síochána recommends that people take their belongings with them when leaving the car, or lock them in the boot before beginning their journey.
- An Garda Síochána encourages people to become active members of their local Neighbourhood Watch or Community Alert scheme, and to keep an eye out for older members of the community, especially those living alone.

For more crime prevention advice and details of local crime prevention officers, visit the Garda website [www.garda.ie](http://www.garda.ie).

## National Joint Policing Committees Monitoring Office

The pilot programme for the National Joint Policing Committee (JPC) Monitoring Office was completed during 2008. One of the important functions of the Office, which is based in the Garda Community Relations section, is to monitor Garda involvement in JPCs, which aim to develop greater consultation, cooperation and synergy on policing and crime issues between An Garda Síochána, local authorities and elected local representatives. They are made up of a Chairperson, a local authority representative, Garda Officers, local authority members, members of the Oireachtas for the area and community/voluntary sector representatives.

The functions of the National JPC Monitoring Office include:

- Coordinating and advising on policy development
- Providing information and literature
- Facilitating meetings and seminars
- Attending JPC meetings

New guidelines and a code of practice were issued to Garda management in September 2008. A series of seminars was held to prepare for the national roll-out organised by the National JPC Monitoring Office in each Region. The seminars aimed to enable Garda management to engage with their counterparts in local authorities. A fact sheet was provided to interested members of the public.

## Diversity Community Fair at Garda Síochána College

In April, the Garda College in Templemore hosted a Diversity Community Fair, to mark International Day Against Racism, which took place on March 21st 2008. A number of organisations, representing diverse and minority groups in Ireland, were invited to set up information stands as part of the event.

The purpose of the fair was to raise awareness and knowledge of diversity and related issues amongst newly recruited student Gardaí as part of the Learning and Development Programme.

The event was particularly timely as 2008 was designated the 'European Year of Intercultural Dialogue'.

## Gardaí lead off Dublin City Marathon for first time

It has been a tradition in many marathons across the world for the police to lead off the race, and An Garda Síochána was asked to undertake this honoured role for the first time in 2008 for the Lifestyle Sports-Adidas Dublin City Marathon. The marathon took place on October 27th 2008.

Garda Sergeant Mike Miley from the Garda Choir sang the National Anthem before the race started. A group of 30 members of the Garda Athletics Club then led off the race alongside the elite athletes, raising money for various charities.



# MANAGING OUR RESOURCES

## Civilian HR

### Achievements of the Civilianisation Programme in 2008 included:

- A number of high level civilian appointments were made during the year, including Executive Director of ICT (Mr. Liam Kidd) and Head of Legal Services (Ms Marie-Claire Maney).
- 21 Crime and Policing Analysts were appointed to the Garda Síochána Analysis Service (GSAS).
- Recruitment of 15 Telecommunications Technicians, a number of Professional Accountants and a number of Cartographers and Photographers.
- 285 new full-time equivalent Clerical Officers and 58 new Staff/Executive Officers assigned.

### Official Opening of Athlumney House, Navan, Co Meath

On 31st October 2008, the Minister for Justice, Equality and Law Reform, Mr. Dermot Ahern TD, officially opened Athlumney House in Navan, Co Meath. The Garda Civilian Human Resources Directorate and the newly created Meath Garda Divisional Office are both located in Athlumney House. Deputy Commissioner (Operations), Martin Callinan, attended the ceremony on behalf of the Commissioner and John Leamy, Chief Administrative Officer, and Assistant Commissioner Noirín O'Sullivan, HRM, also attended.



At the official opening of Athlumney House in Navan were: (from left) Mr. Alan Mulligan, Director Civilian HR, Mr. Michael Donnellan, Director Probation Services, Mr. Martin Callinan, Deputy Commissioner Operations, Mr. Dermot Ahern TD, Minister for Justice, Equality & Law Reform, Mr. Johnny Brady TD, Ms. Sandra Smith, Coroners Implementation Team.

## PSNI Exchanges

Under the auspices of the Intergovernmental Agreement on cross border police cooperation, enacted by the Garda Síochána (Police Cooperation) Act, 2003, 13 Gardaí took part in exchanges with the PSNI during 2008.

Training and educational exchanges have also taken place between the Garda College and the PSNI in a number of areas, including exchange of Teachers and Trainers; Senior Investigating Officers Course; Public Order Training; Firearms Instructors Course. In addition, a joint Diversity Training programme took place involving personnel from the Border Divisions of Donegal, Cavan/Monaghan, Louth/Meath and from the PSNI.

### Human Resource Allocation to An Garda Síochána

Recruitment and Allocation	
Trainee Gardaí recruited	926
Gardaí attested and allocated to stations	991

Garda Strength as of the 31st December 2008	
Sworn members	14,411
Trainee Gardaí	944
Total strength	15,355

Garda Reserve as of the 31st December 2008	
Sworn members	331
In training	114

Ethnic Recruitment	
Garda trainees recruited from non-Irish backgrounds	21
Garda reserve trainees recruited from non-Irish backgrounds	23

Garda Civilianisation Programme	
Full-time equivalent civilian staff 1st Jan 2008	1,687
Full-time equivalent civilian staff 31st Dec 2008	2,099
Increase	24%

Following from the competitions in 2007, there were 335 promotions during 2008.

## IT

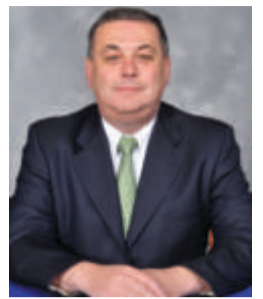
### PULSE Release 4.5 delivers Criminal Justice Interoperability Pilot Project

The Criminal Justice Interoperability Pilot Project (CJIPP) is a project for **data integration across the criminal justice sector**. The project aims to implement the electronic transfer of all summons applications from An Garda Síochána (PULSE) to the Courts Service Criminal Case Tracking System (CCTS) and the return of court hearing dates and court outcomes, bail and warrant records from CCTS to PULSE. The project is expected to deliver significant business benefits for An Garda Síochána and the Courts Service in terms of reducing the need for manual data entry and offering improvements in data quality. In its first three months in Autumn 2008 the project facilitated the electronic transfer of over 600,000 business documents between An Garda Síochána and the Courts Service.



Ms. Marie-Claire Maney was appointed Head of Legal Affairs in 2008

Mr. Liam Kidd who was appointed Executive Director ICT in 2008



### Portal

During 2008, a Garda Intranet (known as the Portal), was developed and deployed by the organisation. The Portal provides a range of information including directives from Garda Headquarters, press releases, information about missing persons, organisational information and key documents including the Garda Code and the Crime Investigation Techniques Manual. The Portal also hosts the organisation's knowledge management framework.

### Garda.ie Website

A significant re-development of An Garda Síochána's website, www.Garda.ie, took place during 2008 in conjunction with the office of the Director of Communications. The re-development included a review and revision of all functionality and content. The new website has a fresh and professional look and feel, and delivers a user-friendly internet presence that is appropriate for the organisation at present. The site is continually being developed in order to deliver additional services to the public and to further improve the presence of An Garda Síochána on the web.

## Finance

### Garda Fleet

A condition check system for Garda vehicles was introduced in 2008 which is in line with the parameters of the National Car Test (NCT) for civilian/regular vehicles. This system, although not legally required, is a further positive development to improve the effectiveness of the Garda fleet.

In 2008, An Garda Síochána contracted consultants to conduct a fleet profile and optimisation study. The final report was delivered in February 2009 and includes a profile of the optimum Garda fleet and a description of how efficiencies can be achieved.

### The composition of the Garda Fleet at the end of 2008 was as follows:

Cars	Vans	Motor-cycles	4 x 4 Vehicles	Multi-purpose vehicles	Total
1,965	324	254	111	106	2,760

At the end of 2008, 80% of the fleet was less than four years old.

The age profile of the fleet at the end of 2008 was as follows:

Under 1 Year	1 to 2 Years	2 to 3 Years	3 to 4 Years	4 to 6 Years	Over 6 Years
22%	28%	18%	12%	12%	8%

### Procurement

- The Garda Firearms Training System was installed at Garda College and at Garda Headquarters. The Garda Firearms Training System can be used on a 24 hour basis and provides more challenging and testing conditions for members.
- Specifications for the purchase of incapacitant spray for operational Gardaí were finalised in December 2008, following a consultation process between the Procurement Section and a Committee chaired by (then) Assistant

Commissioner Nacie Rice, the Chief Medical Officer and the Chief State Solicitor's Office. A Request for Tender document for the supply, delivery and disposal of 15,000 Incapacitant Spray Devices and pouches/holders was published in the Official Journal of the EU in December 2008.

### Housing

- New Garda stations were built at Ballymun, Irishtown, Claremorris and Leixlip.
- New facilities were provided for the Ballistics section at Garda Headquarters, at the Garda College and for the entrance to Garda Headquarters at the Phoenix Park.
- Extensions were completed at Mullingar, Granard, Gurrabraher and Dunmanway Garda Stations.
- Refurbishments were completed at Tullow, Youghal and Trim Garda Stations, at the Mapping Section and the ERU in Harcourt Square and at Crime and Security at Garda Headquarters.

### Internal Affairs

During 2008, a total of 129 members were found in breach of discipline under either the Garda Síochána (Discipline) Regulations 1989 or the Garda Síochána (Discipline) Regulations 2007. These members received a combination of monetary sanctions, cautions, warnings and reprimands. The total monetary penalties imposed on members was €53,558.11. A total of 13 members were on suspension at the end of the year.

These figures do not relate to members of the Garda Reserve and Probationer Gardaí, who had been dealt with under the Garda Síochána (Admission and Appointments) (Amendment) Regulations 2001/2006, nor to student Gardaí.

In addition, these figures do not relate to complaints dealt with by the Garda Síochána Ombudsman Commission.

There were no deaths in Garda custody in 2008.



Deputy Commissioner Nacie Rice was appointed on 17th September 2008. He is in charge of Strategy and Change Management.

## Legal Text Revision Unit

The Legal Text Revision Unit is based in the Garda College. The Unit's most significant achievement in 2008 was the revision of the Garda Síochána Guide 6th Edition. This review provides guidance on the enormous legislative provisions enacted since the previous edition (1991). It also deals with relevant case law issuing from the Superior Courts. This Guide is an essential support tool in the provision of effective and professional policing.



Garda Commissioner Fachtna Murphy with the Minister for Justice, Equality and Law Reform, Mr. Dermot Ahern TD, at the launch of the 7th Edition of the Garda Síochána Guide in June 2008.



## Delivering Safer Roads

An Garda Síochána is committed to significantly reducing the number of fatal and serious collisions on our roads and to improving road safety. Excessive or inappropriate speeding continues to be a significant contributory factor in road traffic collisions. As part of the Road Safety Strategy 2007 - 2012 and An Garda Síochána's strategic goals, the Garda National Traffic Bureau (GNTB) is bringing a targeted approach to speed enforcement. During 2008, the achievement of this goal was supported through significant investment in sophisticated equipment such as **Automatic Number Plate Recognition (ANPR) and Garda Mobile Speed Detection Vehicles.**

## Automatic Number Plate Recognition

In 2008, An Garda Síochána began to fit Automatic Number Plate Recognition (ANPR) systems to Garda Traffic Corps vehicles. This system is used in patrol cars by many police services worldwide. Systems can scan number plates at around one per second on cars travelling up to 160 kilometres per hour.

ANPR systems also include a speed detection capability. The video camera records evidence of speeding, and offences such as dangerous driving, crossing continuous white lines and breaking red lights.

One of the main benefits of the system is that the number plate recognition can run in the background while Gardaí are measuring speed or attending to other issues as

## Garda Mobile Speed Detection Vehicles

On September 22nd 2008, the Minister for Justice, Equality and Law Reform, Mr. Dermot Ahern TD, launched eight new Garda Mobile Speed Detection Vehicles. These vehicles feature digital enforcement technology which improves enforcement capability during both daylight hours and the hours of darkness. These vehicles are being deployed nationally with an emphasis on Collision Prone Zones. (These are sections of road which have a fatal and personal injury collision history, a full listing is available at [www.garda.ie](http://www.garda.ie)).

demands dictate.

On completion of a tour of duty or periodically, captured ANPR and video footage is transferred from the vehicle to stand-alone ANPR PCs which are positioned at a number of traffic locations throughout the country.



Automatic Number Plate Recognition systems make a significant contribution to the fight against serious and organised criminal activity.

## Road Fatalities Fall Again in 2008

The number of people who lost their lives on our roads fell once more in 2008, from 338 to 279, which represents 59 lives saved.

Analysis of these fatalities shows:

- The 16 - 30 year old age group is most at risk from road traffic related deaths, with 120 of the 279 killed in that category.
- The most dangerous times for fatal collisions were 8pm – 10pm (36), 8am to 10am (32) and 12pm – 2pm (30).
- The most dangerous days were Sunday (58), Thursday (41) and Monday (38).
- February was the worst month for fatalities with 32 deaths, followed by August (29) and June (27).
- Males accounted for 204 fatalities and females for 75.
- Drivers accounted for 131 of the road deaths, passengers accounted for 54 and pedestrians accounted for 48.

## Assistant Commissioner, Traffic, addresses International Conference on Road Safety

Assistant Commissioner, Traffic, Eddie Rock, joined with experts from Ireland, Europe and the USA to address over 200 delegates on 'European Road Safety Day' at an International Conference on Road Safety. The conference, which was hosted by the Road Safety Authority (RSA) in Croke Park in Dublin, and marked the first day of 'Irish Road Safety Week', which took place from October 13th to 19th 2008, was officially opened by Mr. Noel Ahern TD.



Pictured at the International Conference on Road Safety were (l-r): Mr. Noel Ahern, T.D., Minister of State, Department of Transport; Assistant Commissioner Eddie Rock; Mr. Gay Byrne, Chairman of the Road Safety Authority and Mr. Marco Popolizio, PIN Project Officer, European Transport Safety Council

## Launch of "On Wings" CD aimed at reducing speeding among young people

In June 2008, Assistant Commissioner, Traffic, Eddie Rock, launched the single "On Wings", which was recorded by Leanne Moore, winner of RTÉ's "You're a Star" programme. The song was written by 17 year old Jamie Bridgeman about his two cousins Robin O'Riordan and Leanne Miller, both aged 15 and from Limerick, who died as a result of a road traffic collision. Proceeds from the sale of the CD were donated to the charity Attention Deficit Disorder (ADD) Mid-West Support Group. The single reached No. 1 in the Irish charts.



Assistant Commissioner, Traffic, Eddie Rock launches the "On Wings" single.

## Changing Driver Behaviour

While the reduction in fatal collisions in 2008 was a very welcome development, there is no room for complacency, as figures indicate that there were 163,557 detections for speeding recorded against errant motorists during the year.

An Garda Síochána continues to appeal to all motorists to respect speed limits and to exercise greater personal responsibility for their driving behaviour, thereby protecting their own lives, and preserving the safety of their passengers and all other road users.

Inappropriate speed is the single greatest contributory factor in road deaths and serious injuries. Drivers are urged to slow down and to remember that, as a general rule, a 1km/h decrease in average speed results in a 2% reduction in minor injury collisions, a 3% reduction in serious injury collisions and a 4%

reduction in fatal collisions.

An Garda Síochána continues to introduce new enforcement technology which will be deployed in locations where there is the greatest propensity for speed related collisions and where it will have the greatest impact.

The increased personnel strength of An Garda Síochána, and in particular the Garda Traffic Corps, which now comprises close to 1,200 members, has provided an opportunity to introduce a number of significant changes in the area of speed enforcement. Visible Garda enforcement measures, such as the interception of errant motorists, are being augmented with the use of automated technology, in particular cameras, in order to achieve improved speed limit compliance amongst road users.

## Gardaí join forces to launch Christmas Anti-Drink Driving Campaign

In November 2008, An Garda Síochána supported the launch of the Road Safety Authority's (RSA) 2008 Christmas anti-drink driving campaign, in conjunction with the Commission for Taxi Regulation and Mature Enjoyment of Alcohol in Society (MEAS).

The campaign included TV and Radio advertising which was aimed at encouraging people to get home safely during the festive season by using taxis or hackneys. The campaign also highlighted the dangers of drink-driving following a night of socialising.

The event marked the start of An Garda Síochána's campaign to target drinking and driving over Christmas and the New Year. At the launch, which took place at Cork University Hospital, Assistant Commissioner, Traffic, Eddie Rock emphasised that enforcing drink driving legislation is a priority for Gardaí throughout the year.

An Garda Síochána's annual Christmas and New Year Road Safety Campaign ran for a six-week period from midnight on 24th November, 2008 to midnight on 4th January, 2009. The campaign included road safety enforcement operations in every region, consisting of high visibility patrols and mandatory alcohol testing checkpoints.



The launch of the Christmas Anti-Drink Driving Campaign in November 2008.



# REGIONAL REPORTS

## Dublin Metropolitan Region

### DMR West (Blanchardstown, Lucan and Clondalkin Garda Districts)

Lucan Garda Station held an **Intercultural Family Day** in September 2008, with over 1,600 people visiting the station. Garda Commissioner Fachtina Murphy and Assistant Commissioner Al McHugh attended the event. The Water Unit, the new Command and Control Unit, the Mounted Unit, the Dog Unit, the Air Support Unit and the Mountain Bike Unit were all in attendance. Guided tours of the station were available and visitors could also view a display from the Garda Historical Archives. The local radio station, Liffey Sound, broadcast from the Public Office for the afternoon. The day was a great success and a similar event is planned for 2009.

The annual **Finglas West Festival**, organised by the Finglas Against Drugs Committee, took place in July 2008. The aim of the festival, which was held at St. Joseph's and St. Kevin's schools, was to raise awareness of drugs issues. Activities included a soccer match between Gardaí and the Finglas Against Drugs Selection, and a talent contest.

### DMR South (Crumlin, Tallaght and Terenure Garda Districts)

In Rathmines, Community Gardaí Gerry Hogarty, Tracey Shanley and Brendan Byrnes organised a **Dinner Dance for Senior Citizens**. The party was attended by the Lord Mayor of Dublin, Councillor Eibhlín Byrne, and a great time was had by all.

The Community Policing Unit at Tallaght Garda Station organised a **Spring Clean** in the St. Aongus Parish/Bancroft area. The event was run in conjunction with An Taisce's "National Spring Clean Month". Students from participating schools collected litter from school grounds and local housing estates and helped with planting flowers and shrubs. The Spring Clean was supervised by local residents, teachers, members of the Castle-Combined Residents Association Committee and Park Rangers from Tymon Park. Community Gardaí were also on Mountain Bike Patrol throughout the day. This was the first time a Spring Clean event took place in the St. Aongus Parish/Bancroft area and it was very well received by the community. It is hoped that the Spring Clean will become an annual event.



Mountain bike patrol at the Tallaght Spring Clean.

A new **Garda Youth Diversion Project** has been fully operational in Lower Crumlin since August 2008. The project is being run in cooperation with a local community based initiative, CLAY Ltd. The project aims to prevent crime, improve quality of life and divert young people away from criminal and antisocial behaviour. 2008 programmes included one-to-one intervention, computer courses and a Halloween project that greatly reduced the number of fireworks and bonfires compared to previous years.

The **Wicklow Way Sponsored Walk** in aid of Our Lady's Hospice Harold's Cross, which took place on August 21st 2008, was a huge success. Some 36 members took part with strong representation from the Tallaght/Rathfarnham, Crumlin and Terenure/Rathmines Districts. Many Student Gardaí also took part. Special thanks are due to Garda Jim Fleming and Garda Richie Garvey for their hard work on the day. It is hoped to make this an annual event.



Superintendent Lorraine Wheatley and some of the Wicklow Way Walkers present their cheque to Our Lady's Hospice.

### DMR South Central (Pearse Street, Kevin Street and Donnybrook Garda Districts)

The **annual soccer match** between Gardaí from Kevin Street and Kilmainham stations took place at Richmond Park in December 2008. Over 500 children from national schools in both districts came along to support their local Gardaí. Dublin Bus provided transport and Glanbia provided light refreshments. Half time entertainment was provided by the arrival of Santa Claus and a raffle in aid of St. Patrick's Athletic Club. A very enjoyable day was had by all.



Gardaí from Kilmainham and Kevin Street battle it out.

While the new Kevin Street Garda Station is under construction, Gardaí, in conjunction with the Office of Public Works, have worked with young people to display their art on the hoarding at the new station on Bride Street. Students from the **National College of Art and Design** have given their time and assistance to work with 12 children who were selected from three Garda Special Projects: Youth Intervention Services (YIS) Meath Street, Dán Project, Donore Avenue/St. Teresa's Gardens and Reach Project, Ballyfermot. The outdoor work was carried out during October 2008.



Garda Caroline Ryan of Pearse Street Station in Dublin who won the Princess Royal Challenge Cup at Henley Royal Regatta in July 2008, thereby becoming the first Irish woman to win a trophy at Henley.

Gardaí from Kevin Street are continuing to engage with members of the Polish community to assist their integration into Irish society. A

## Eastern Region

### Longford/Westmeath (Mullingar, Athlone, Granard and Longford Garda Districts)

During the summer of 2008, Community Gardaí in Athlone entered a team in a ten week **football league** that was organised by staff from the Merchant's Quay Project. Teams from residential areas and youth groups in Athlone and the surrounding towns took part. The event was deemed very successful in breaking down barriers between diverse groups in the community and another similar tournament has been organised since then.

Community Gardaí in Mullingar mounted a campaign to prevent **anti-social behaviour** at the time of the publication of **Junior Certificate** results. The Gardaí visited licensed premises to advise on selling alcohol to underage people. They also visited secondary schools and helped parents to organise a supervised disco for the students. Parents and Gardaí alike were pleased that no incidents occurred as a result of the celebrations, and the initiative was positively received by members of the public.

A **voluntary addiction support group**, known as AIRE, was established in two locations in Athlone during 2008, with Community Gardaí

playing an active role in its development. The aim is to provide advice and support to the families of those affected by addiction. The group has been well received and demonstrates that Gardaí in Athlone are not only acutely aware of problems within the community but are actively seeking ways to help the people they serve on a daily basis.

### Wicklow (Wicklow, Bray and Baltinglass Garda Districts)

On December 13th 2008, the **first Intercultural Open Day** was held at Bray Garda Station. The station was opened to all members of the community for guided tours and to provide information on the services offered across all policing units. The Garda Water and Mounted Units were also in attendance. Many visitors brought samples of their national cuisine which were available for tasting in the recreational area. The event was a great success in building links with many ethnic groups including Indian, Chinese, Czech, Filipino, Italian, Polish, Irish and the Travelling Community who are resident in Bray and surrounding areas.

Garda workshop is held every Sunday at St. Audeon's Church on Thomas Street, where members of the Polish community can discuss any issues of concern with Community Gardaí. This project was set up by Garda Tom Gallagher, from the Community Policing Unit at Kevin Street.



Her Excellency, President Mary McAleese, on a visit to St. Audeon's Church in 2008. Pictured with her were (l to r): Fr. Andrzej Krzesinski, Garda Tom Gallagher, Ethnic Liaison Officer for the Polish Community, and Fr. Jaroslaw Maszkiewicz.

Inspector Martin McGonnell, Sergeant Andrew Keegan and members of the Irishtown Community Policing Unit attended an event at the **Islamic Cultural Centre** in Clonskeagh in March. Members from the Divisional Traffic Unit at Pearse Street also attended and a Crime Prevention/Garda Recruitment stand was provided. The event was also attended by representatives of Dún Laoghaire/Rathdown County Council. Irishtown fielded two teams in a five-a-side soccer tournament, which took place on the day, and which was followed by refreshments and a presentation.



The five-a-side soccer tournament at the Islamic Cultural Centre.

### DMR North Central (Store Street, Bridewell and Fitzgibbon Street Garda Districts)

Inspector Gerard Donnelly and Garda John Condrón from Fitzgibbon Street Station won an award for their website [www.nicnewcommunities.ie](http://www.nicnewcommunities.ie) at the Media and Multicultural Awards at the Abbey Theatre in November 2008. The website provides information on legal rights, ethnic and faith groups, Garda activities and matters of intercultural interest. The website won the On-Line and Web category, and the team was presented with a plaque by Minister for Integration, Mr. Conor Lenihan TD.



Gardaí from Fitzgibbon Street with the Media and Multicultural Award presented for the On-Line and Web category.

### DMR East (Dún Laoghaire and Blackrock Garda Districts)

Operation Slogan, which was launched in Dun Laoghaire in 2007, is a comprehensive database of photographs of graffiti with corresponding dates and locations. Each instance of graffiti is photographed and measured by Council officials, who also value the cost for cleaning the damage. This information is passed to Gardaí who log it on the database. The operation has proven to be a great success, due to the cooperation between An Garda Síochána, Dún Laoghaire/Rathdown County Council and the local community. In 2008 the number of incidents dropped by approximately 50% compared to 2007. Also in 2008 the scheme was replicated in Blackrock, Dundrum and Bray.



# REGIONAL REPORTS

## Southern Region



Kevin Ludlow was appointed Assistant Commissioner in the Southern Region in October 2008. A native of Co. Meath, Kevin Ludlow has served with An Garda Síochána since 1973. He previously worked as Chief Superintendent at the Garda College and from March 2005 was in charge of the Cork City Division.

### Cork City (Anglesea Street, Gurrabraher, Mayfield and Togher Garda Districts)

Garda Inspector Denis O'Shea and Garda Patricia O'Riordan from the Community Policing Unit based in Anglesea Street represent An Garda Síochána on the **Human Trafficking of Persons Forum** which was recently established in Cork City. It aims to raise the issue of human trafficking and advises victims of violence of the assistance available.

In December 2008 Community Gardaí from Anglesea Street, in association with the *Evening Echo*, held the annual **Christmas Reception** in the Thomas Crosbie Holdings Building for members of new communities. Asylum seekers and refugees enjoyed music and refreshments, while Santa arrived to entertain the children. Over 200 guests attended the reception and the Chief Executive of the *Evening Echo*, Mr. Dan Linehan, praised the Gardaí in Cork for their efforts in promoting integration.



The third annual Christmas Reception was a great success.

A **Road Safety Awareness Campaign** aimed at Polish drivers living in the Cork area was launched to an audience of 120 Polish guests at City Hall. Many members of the Polish community do not speak English and may not be familiar with the Rules of the Road and driving legislation. The Road Safety Awareness Campaign included information leaflets on drink-driving, the NCT, child safety and seat belts. All literature was translated into Polish and was made available for distribution through various outlets including Polish web

sites. This has since been extended to include other languages such as Russian, French, Arabic and Latvian.

Over 360 people attended the **Cork City Divisional Dress Dance** at the Rochestown Park Hotel in February 2008. The event was attended by the Lord Mayor, Councillor Donal Counihan, Garda Commissioner Fachtna Murphy and Cork City Manager Mr. Joe Gavin among others. A significant contribution was made to the Children's Leukaemia Ward, Cork University Mercy Hospital and the Garda Benevolent Society.

### Cork North (Fermoy, Cobh, Middleton and Mallow Garda Districts)

For the first time, members from Mallow Garda Station took part in the **Mallow Search and Rescue Raft Race**. The annual race runs on an 8km stretch of the river Blackwater between Mallow town and Killavullen. The Garda raft came in fourth position out of 40 and the team won the Best Newcomers award. The raft was constructed at Mallow Garda Station by an eight-person team. The trophy is now proudly on display at Mallow Garda Station.



The Garda raft which competed in the Mallow Search and Rescue Raft Race.

The **Cork North Youth Awards 2008** were held at Middleton Park Hotel in December 2008. The awards were organised by Community Gardaí and Juvenile Liaison Officers from the four Garda Districts in the Cork North Division. Ten winners were chosen from a large number of nominees. The Youth Awards acknowledge the excellent contribution made by the nominated young people to their communities. Over 200 people attended this successful event.

A **Multicultural Day** was organised by Gardaí from Cobh and Middleton Districts in May 2008. The event was held at the Family Resource Centre, Middleton and representatives from over 20 countries, as well as local Gardaí and members of the local community attended. A wide array of food, music and crafts from various countries were displayed and sampled and the event was acknowledged as being a great success by all who attended.

Tralee Deputy Mayor Kieran Moriarty sees off the Fenit Lifeboat Sponsored cycle at Mounthawk. The cycle, which was organised in association with Community Policing, was 50 km long. Over 100 cyclists took part and they raised €12,000 for the Royal National Lifeboat Institution (RNLI).



### Kerry (Tralee, Cahirciveen, Killarney, Listowel Garda Districts)



Garda Kelly, Sergeant Brennan, Superintendent Sullivan and Garda Rath who completed a Triathlon at An Ríocht Training Grounds Castleisland in aid of the Kerry Parents and Friends Association.



Community Garda Fitzpatrick stepping out with a member of the community at a trip to Dingle organised by Community Gardaí in conjunction with the Lions Club in late 2008. Over 50 people took part in this annual trip in which members of the community are brought to the Dingle Scellig Hotel for refreshments and for music and dance at the Marina Hotel afterwards.

### Limerick (Henry Street, Roxboro Road, Askeaton, Newcastlewest and Bruff Garda Districts)

The **Garda World Cup of Cricket** was devised by the Community Policing Unit and received prominent local and national media coverage. Teams from every ethnic background in Limerick City entered the competition.

Leading GAA stars ably assisted at the **Limerick Garda Sports Day 2008** for youths from the Moyross, Ballynanty and Thomondgate areas. The All Ireland Hurling and Football Cups were on display for the day.

An inter-school **Safe Cycle competition** was organised by the Community Policing Unit and supported by Limerick Sports Council. The highly successful programme has been produced in booklet/instruction manual format for use throughout the country.

A **Christmas party for senior citizens** was organised by the Community Policing Unit at Roxboro Road.

Gardaí, together with coordinators, arranged for a number of **weekend programme outings** with young persons involved in the Limerick South City Youth Initiative.

Gardaí are working closely with **Community Coordinators** who are employed by Limerick City Council in a number of areas in Limerick City.

## Fundraising Gardaí

Throughout the year Gardaí across all Divisions undertook fundraising activities for various causes. Below are some highlights from 2008.

### Garda Mountaineering and Canoe Club raises €27,000 for charity

Members from the Garda Mountaineering and Canoe Club, which was established in 2007, completed the Wicklow Way in a record three and a half days in May 2008. The group of 35 (including support crew) raised €27,000 for the Laura Lynn Foundation, which provides respite care for terminally ill children, and the Irish Mountain Rescue Foundation, which provides mountain rescue all year round on a voluntary basis.



Members of the Garda Mountaineering and Canoe Club were blessed with lots of sunshine on their charity trek over the Wicklow Way.

### Great Garda Run in Paris raises money for GOAL

Some 100 members from An Garda Síochána competed in the Paris Marathon in April 2008, to raise money for the charity GOAL. The group raised over €100,000. The Gardaí involved were mainly from the Special Detective Unit at Harcourt Square, but also represented other stations and sections throughout Dublin and Garda Headquarters.



Commissioner Fachtna Murphy wishes good luck to the Great Garda Run participants before they leave for Paris

### "Tour de Force" – 50 Gardaí and friends raise €100,000 for charity

In September 2008, a group of 50 Gardaí and their friends once again took up the annual challenge of raising €100,000 for charity by cycling from Dublin to Rosslare and onwards from the French coast to Paris, finishing at the Eiffel Tower. Since its first outing in 2005, and including the money raised by the 2008 cycle, the group has raised over €390,000 for Our Lady's Children's Hospital Crumlin, DEBRA Ireland, the Christina Noble Children's Foundation and the Ré Nua, St. Raphael's, Celbridge, Co. Kildare.



# REGIONAL REPORTS

## Northern Region



Michael Feehan was appointed Assistant Commissioner in the Northern Region in October 2008. A native of Co. Offaly, Michael Feehan has served with An Garda Síochána since 1977. He has served in Harcourt Terrace, Traffic, Store Street, Crime Task Force, Blanchardstown and Community Relations.

### Cavan/Monaghan (Monaghan, Bailieboro, Ballyconnell, Carrickmacross and Cavan Garda Districts)

In May 2008, a **delegation of senior Lithuanian Police Officers** visited the Cavan/Monaghan Division to study Irish policing methods and experience the integration of a relatively large Lithuanian population in the area. The Cavan/Monaghan delegation gave a number of presentations to the Lithuanians and this was followed by a visit to Monaghan town, North Monaghan and Castle Leslie. The visit was very productive and beneficial to both police organisations.



Group of Lithuanian Police Officers who visited Monaghan Garda Station during 2008. The group above included Superintendent Noel Cunningham, Sergeant Anthony Campbell and Garda Sean Grant.

In December 2008, the **Monaghan Road Safety Together Working Group** (which includes An Garda Síochána and the Road Safety Authority among others) hosted a Road Safety Road Show in Monaghan, aimed at increasing awareness of road safety issues among Transition Year students in Co. Monaghan and north Louth. Over 1,000 students attended the event, which aimed to promote a more responsible attitude when driving. The show featured a series of presentations from representatives of the local emergency services, Gardaí and paramedics. Survivors of road traffic collisions spoke about the incidents which had left them with severe permanent injuries, and the impact it had on their lives. Attendees found the event most beneficial.



At the road safety show in Monaghan were left to right: Declan McElroy (Ambulance Service), Johnny O'Callaghan (DJ), Chris O'Connor (Paramedic), Eilish McShane (Monaghan County Council), Brendan Buckley (Fire Service), Garda Ciaran Marks, Dillon Maxwell (Actor), Barry McArdle (Victim) and Rosemary Flynn (Mother of Victim).

### Donegal (Donegal Town, Letterkenny, Glenties, Ballyshannon and Milford Garda Districts)

Throughout 2008, Gardaí from each of the five Districts in the Donegal Division took part in sponsored walks in support of "Talk 2 Me". Sergeant Sarah Hargadon from Letterkenny began the "Talk 2 Me" project to raise awareness of and prevent suicide. As well as Gardaí, a large number of local activists and interested parties also took part. A total of €71,400 was raised for various charities such as Aware, Samaritans, Grow, Tabor House (Donegal Town), Finn Valley Alliance for Positive Mental Health, Living Links and Letterkenny Pastoral Centre.



The "Talk 2 Me" sponsored walks raised €71,400 for charity.

### Cross Border Events

Eight members of An Garda Síochána from the Donegal Division, along with members of the PSNI from Derry and Limavady areas, participated in a **domestic violence training programme** from September 2007 to February 2008. The course was organised by the Foyle Domestic Violence Partnership based in Derry. The benefits of the course included the development of a shared understanding of the policies on domestic violence on either side of the border, identification of relevant local agencies and increased awareness of the needs of victims of domestic violence.

A **major emergency table-top exercise** relating to the Framework for Major Emergency Management took place in the Drummond Hotel, Ballykelly, Co. Derry in October. The scenario centred around a fire on board the Greencastle (Co. Donegal) to Magilligan (Co. Derry) ferry vessel, the "Foyle Adventure". Ten agencies from both sides of the border participated in the exercise including An Garda Síochána, the PSNI, the Northern Ireland Fire and Rescue Service and the Marine Coastguard Agency (NI). A follow up to this beneficial exercise was held in Coleraine in November 2008.

A number of members of An Garda Síochána in the Donegal Division were involved in organising a **multicultural conference** in Derry in June 2008. The conference was attended by Commissioner Fachtina Murphy, Chief Constable Sir Hugh Orde OBE, PSNI and Conor Lenihan TD, Minister for Integration. The conference successfully raised awareness of multicultural communities and the shared vision of policing on both sides of the border.

### Sligo/Leitrim (Sligo, Ballymote, Carrick-on-Shannon and Manorhamilton Garda Districts)

In 2008, the **Leitrim Calling** initiative was established in Drumshambo. Under this initiative, twice-weekly telephone contact is made with elderly and isolated people that live in the community. The Leitrim Calling committee is chaired by Sergeant Chris Fahy (attached to Drumshambo) and includes

social workers, members of the Clergy, District Nurses and An Garda Síochána. The work is largely voluntary and funding is provided by various charitable organisations and the HSE. Due to the success of the project it is hoped to increase the telephone contact to three times a week.

On November 21st 2008, the Sligo/Leitrim Division hosted the 15th Annual **Coiste Siamsa Sports Star Awards Ceremony**. Two Gardaí attached to the Sligo/Leitrim Division, Martha Carter and Teresa McCabe, received Sports Star Awards, making it a truly unique and special occasion for the Division. Garda McCabe received the Special Administration/Special Contribution award in part for her role as Head coach for Team Ireland at the Special Olympics World Games in China in 2007. Garda Martha Carter, a regular on the Mayo Ladies' Football Team, received the Ladies Football Award.



Sports Personality Jimmy Magee, Chief Superintendent Kieran Kenny, Sligo, Garda Teresa McCabe, Sligo and Garda Commissioner Fachtina Murphy at the 15th Annual Coiste Siamsa Sports Star Awards Ceremony

### Louth (Ardee, Dundalk and Drogheda Garda Districts)

Members from Drogheda Garda District played a match against Mosney United (a multi-cultural football team) in May 2008 to promote diversity and anti-racism. A poster, entitled "**Show Racism the Red Card**", was launched on the day, in conjunction with the Football Association of Ireland. The poster was distributed to thousands of school children across the north-east of the country. Drogheda Garda District showed its commitment to promoting anti-racism and diversity through its support for this project.

## Western Region



William Keane was appointed Assistant Commissioner in the Western Region in October 2008. A native of Co. Cork, he has served with An Garda Síochána since 1975. Prior to his appointment he was Chief Superintendent in charge of the Limerick Division.

### Clare (Ennis, Ennistymon, Killaloe and Kilrush Garda Districts)

In September, 21 Clare Gardaí took part in the **Annual Garda Charity Cycle**. At a presentation ceremony afterwards, Chief Superintendent Donohoe presented €17,000 to the Clare Water Rescue Services.

A new **CCTV** scheme was introduced in Ennis town centre in 2008. This project will contribute significantly to the prevention and detection of crimes and will prove to be of huge benefit to the policing of Ennis town.

In August 2008, Community Gardaí held the

**10th Annual Garda Football Tournament**, led by Inspector Michael Gallagher. The 2008 winners were: Ennis South (Division 1); Ennistymon (Division 2); Ennis North (Division 3); Kilmurray Ilbrickane (Division 4).

### Mayo (Castlebar, Ballina, Belmullet, Claremorris, Swinford and Westport Garda Districts)

In December 2008, a **CCTV** system was installed in Castlebar. The 18 cameras are monitored by personnel at the Communications Centre in the Station. The system is proving effective in the reduction, prevention and detection of public order and criminal incidents.

The **new Garda District Headquarters at Claremorris** was opened to the public on September 5th 2008.

In April 2008, a **Garda Immigration Unit** consisting of one Sergeant and seven Gardaí was established at Ireland West Airport, Knock. The Unit, which is currently based at Kilkelly Garda Station, hopes to move to new accommodation at the Airport in 2009.



Players, management and supporters from the Galway Division who travelled to New York in October 2008 and participated in the Seamus McIntyre/Jimmy Madden Memorial Cup in Gaelic Park. The NYPD won by one point, with a goal in the final minute of the game. The tour strengthened links between the two police services and the Garda group visited the Irish Consulate's residence while in New York.



# REGIONAL REPORTS

## South Eastern Region



Fintan Fanning was appointed Assistant Commissioner in the South Eastern Region in October 2008. A native of Co. Wexford, he has served with An Garda Síochána since 1980. He previously worked as Chief Superintendent in charge of the DMR South Central Division.

### Wexford (Wexford, Enniscorthy, Gorey and New Ross Garda Districts)

The very first **Christmas Party for senior citizens** in Wexford town was attended by over 180 older people from local communities. The party was held in the Riverbank House Hotel. A four course dinner followed the mulled wine reception and entertainment was provided by Wexford Light Opera. All the necessary funding for the event was raised by the Community

Policing Unit through local businesses. The party was a tremendous success and it is hoped to make it an annual event.

A full time **Community Policing Unit**, consisting of a Sergeant and eight Gardaí, was established in Wexford in 2008. This has fostered greater cooperation between local communities and An Garda Síochána. The Community Gardaí are visible on a daily basis as they operate foot and mountain bike patrols, visit schools and get involved with youth and sports clubs. Their presence has generated a positive response from members of the community.

The **Rural Policing Initiative**, which was established in the New Ross District in October 2008, is another positive development in terms of increased community engagement. The initiative covers the stations of Duncannon, Carrick-on-Bannow, Campile, Ballycullane and Carrickbyrne.

### Tipperary (Thurles, Cahir, Clonmel, Nenagh, Templemore and Tipperary Garda Districts)

The annual **Older Persons Party** was held at Cahir House Hotel in January 2008. Over 300 people attended the party which was addressed by Ms Máire Hocht TD, Minister of State for Health and Children with responsibility for Older People. The party was organised by An Garda Síochána, in conjunction with Community Alert and Neighbourhood Watch.

An **Information Seminar on Health, Safety and Security for Older Adults** was organised by the Clonmel Community Policing Unit, with the



Ms Máire Hocht TD addresses the older persons party in Cahir in January 2008

assistance of Clonmel Community Partnership. The seminar took place at Clonmel Park Hotel and almost 300 people attended. The aim of the project was to inform and advise older members of the community about relevant issues such as crime prevention, dealing with nuisance callers and scams and remaining active in the community. Information and relevant contact points were also provided. The event was very well received by all those who attended and presented a good opportunity to introduce the new Clonmel Community Policing Unit.



The National Ploughing Championships in Co. Kilkenny in September 2008 attracted the largest ever attendance of 180,000 people over three days. An Garda Síochána was responsible for traffic control and the security of the site, cash and VIPs. Pictured left to right are: Mr. Jim Dunphy (Chairman, Kilkenny Ploughing Association), Superintendent W. O' Sullivan (District Officer, Kilkenny), Mr. Liam Cassen (Secretary, Kilkenny Ploughing Association) and Superintendent Pat Ward (Regional Traffic Superintendent).

## Memorial for Garda Gary Sheehan



On Sunday December 14th, 2008, a ceremony was held at the Garda Síochána College to remember Recruit Garda Gary Sheehan who was killed on duty at Ballinamore, Co. Leitrim on December 16th, 1983. Senior Garda management joined with members of the Sheehan family and colleagues and classmates of Recruit Garda Sheehan to remember his passing. The Commissioner attended the ceremony and a wreath was laid. Ar dheis Dé go raibh a anam.



# PUBLIC ATTITUDES SURVEY 2008

The main focus of the 2008 Garda Public Attitudes Survey is satisfaction with Garda service, policing priorities and experiences and fear of crime in 2007.

The survey is the seventh since 2002. Results in respect of key indicators, such as satisfaction with overall service, satisfaction with contact with the Gardaí, Garda approachability and overall performance at local level, have been consistent over the recent surveys, despite the use of different survey companies and methodologies.

**Satisfaction with overall Garda service to the community** was 81 per cent, the same as in the 2007 survey, compared with 79 per cent in 2006, 83 per cent in 2005, 85 per cent in 2004, 81 per cent in 2003 and 87 per cent in 2002.

**Crime victimisation** rates were similar to most previous years, with 9.2 per cent of respondents saying they or a member of their household had been a victim of a crime in 2007 (down by 0.6 of a percentage point compared with the 2007 survey).

As regards **crime reporting**, 84 per cent of those victimised said that they reported the most recent crime to the Gardaí, a lower rate than in the 2007 survey (by three percentage points).

Four per cent of respondents had requested an **emergency Garda response** in 2007. In 83 per cent of cases, their phone call was answered

within 10 seconds. This rate was higher than those reported in 2007, 2006 and 2005, lower than in 2003 and 2004 and the same as in the large-scale survey in 2002. Response time to a call was within 15 minutes for 48 per cent of respondents. Sixty-five per cent expressed satisfaction with the emergency service received; five percentage points lower than in the 2007 survey.

**Satisfaction with overall contact with the Gardaí** was 79 per cent, similar to the 2007 survey.

Asked about **Garda approachability**, 91 per cent of respondents described Gardaí at their local station as either 'very approachable' or 'approachable'.

As regards **Garda visibility**, 53 per cent reported seeing a Garda in their locality in the previous week. Seven per cent of respondents remembered seeing a Garda on the day of their interview. Sixty-five per cent of respondents were satisfied with the level of Garda visibility in their locality (62% in 2007 survey).

Ratings for **how good a job the Gardaí do in the locality** were at 82 per cent, the same as in the 2007 survey ('very good' or 'fairly good' combined). Satisfaction rates were lower among local authority tenants, compared with other housing tenure categories. Ratings for how good a job the Gardaí do in the locality as regards

**road safety** were at 77 per cent, similar to the 2007 survey rate.

Responses about the **relationship between the Gardaí and the community** showed, among other things, high degrees of confidence that anyone in Garda custody would have their rights fully respected, that the Gardaí would help if a person's rights were infringed and that the Gardaí carry out their role in a fair and impartial manner. A majority disagreed with the statement: 'the Gardaí discriminate against immigrants'.

Overall, 74 per cent of respondents said that they felt safe out walking, similar to the 2007 survey (75%). Regarding **fear of crime**, 37 per cent of respondents worried about becoming a

victim of crime themselves, while 44 per cent were worried about other family members and friends becoming victims, which is identical to 2007 survey rates.

A quarter of respondents said they were in **Neighbourhood Watch/Community Alert** schemes (25%). Seventeen per cent of those in schemes said that they were regularly informed by scheme co-ordinators about criminal activity in their area (19% in 2007 survey). Forty per cent of all respondents and 59 per cent of those who were in schemes, believed that such schemes were successful in preventing crime ('very successful' or 'successful'). These rates are identical to those in the 2007 survey report.





# STRATEGIC GOALS

## Goal One: National and International Security - *To maintain national and international security*

Action	Performance Indicator	Details
Identify and analyse the threats to national and international security	100% of identified threats, assessed, categorised and recorded	Of the threats identified, 100% were assessed, categorised and recorded
	100% of identified groups and individuals profiled	Of the groups and individuals identified, 100% were profiled
Initiate responses to the identified threats	100% of operations against identified targets initiated	During 2008 there were 830 operations initiated against identified targets
	Number of individuals arrested and prosecuted for terrorist/subversive offences	Out of 47 individuals arrested, proceedings were commenced for terrorists/subversive offences in all cases
Enhance the Garda capability to anticipate and respond proactively to national and international threats	National Critical Infrastructure Security Plan developed	Discussions are ongoing with Department of Justice, Equality and Law Reform in relation to the National Critical Infrastructure Security Plan
	100% achievement of a needs analysis of the Garda counter terrorist training requirements	A needs analysis of Garda counter terrorist training requirements was conducted in 2008
	100% participation in identified and approved international security training programmes	Gardaí attended all appropriate and relevant international security training programmes during 2008
	100% of major emergency plans reviewed and updated	National major emergency plans were reviewed and updated as required

## Goal Two: Crime - *To significantly reduce the incidence of crime and criminal behaviour*

Action	Performance Indicator	Details
Complete and implement the National Crime Reduction and Prevention Strategy	Strategy completed	National Crime Prevention and Reduction Strategy completed during 2008
	National implementation commenced	Work is continuing towards the implementation of the National Prevention strategy and roll-out will commence in 2009
Enhance the forensic and investigative capability of the Garda Síochána	Evaluation of Scenes of Crime pilot in each Region completed	Evaluation of Scenes of Crime pilot was completed in each Region in 2008
	Accredited training in Scenes of Crime in each Division developed	43 scene of crime officers were trained during 2008; the total number of operational scene of crime officers is 146 and these officers are deployed in divisions throughout the country Additionally, further relevant study/training has been undertaken by a number of these officers
	Regional Forensic Seminars conducted	Regional Forensic Seminars conducted
	Preparation for establishment of DNA Database completed	Limited progress has been made as the establishment of a DNA database is dependent on the appropriate legislative provisions being in place
	Forensic Service Advisory Forum completed	Three Forensic Service Advisory Forums were completed
	Establishment of Crime Scene Investigation Team in each Garda Division completed	A Crime Scene Investigation Team was established in each Garda Division
	5% increase in the number of detections as a result of forensic examination and identification	99% increase achieved
Proactively target groups and individuals engaged in gun crime	Tactical training provided for all certified and authorised firearms personnel	The Emergency Response Unit (ERU) and the Regional Support Unit (RSU) have primary responsibility for tactics in relation to firearms; an element of tactical training was also provided to all authorised firearms personnel through the Firearms Training System (FATS) in 2007/08
	Second Tier Firearm Response Units established and deployed	Second Tier Firearm Response Unit established and deployed initially in Southern Region Rollout is ongoing on a phased basis in five other regions, including recruitment in the Eastern Region, which will be complete in July 2009; the Western Region will be complete by the last quarter of 2009 and the remaining two Regions will be complete by the first quarter 2010
	5% increase in Operation Anvil Firearm prevention patrols	12% increase achieved
Continue and intensify intelligence led operations against groups and individuals engaged in the trafficking of illegal drugs, guns and immigrants into and within the State	5% increase in intelligence-led operations against drug, gun and human trafficking networks	8% increase achieved
	5% increase in intelligence-led operations against street level drug dealers	45% increase achieved
	Relevant sections of the National Drugs Strategy implemented	Relevant sections of the National Drugs Strategy were implemented in 2008
Enhance An Garda Síochána's serious crime investigations capability	National deployment of 15 senior investigation officers completed	33 Gardaí completed the internationally recognised HETAC accredited SIO course in 2008; there have been six courses to date with 96 participants in total
	Suite of world class standard operating procedures for the investigation of serious crime developed and deployed	Suite of world class standard operating procedures for the investigation of serious crime developed and deployed as part of the establishment of the Crime Training Facility in the Garda College In addition, senior investigating officers (SIO) courses are delivered on an ongoing basis
Maximise An Garda Síochána's intelligence gathering and management capability to target, prevent and solve crime	10% increase in the number of registered intelligence sources	30% increase achieved
	10% increase in the number of intelligence reports submitted	19% increase achieved
	Four Criminal Intelligence Officer forums convened per region	Criminal Intelligence Forums are convened on at least a quarterly basis in all regions
	20% increase in the number of trained divisional criminal assets profilers	Increase of 69% achieved 57 divisional criminal assets profilers were appointed, bringing the total to 82 profilers trained and operating across the Divisions and enhancing the investigation of crime Further training courses are planned, as required



# STRATEGIC GOALS

Action	Performance Indicator	Details
Develop national and regional crime analysis capability	Analysis Centre at Garda Headquarters established	Analysis Centre established
	Analytical service supporting National Services (NSS) and Headquarters established	Analytical service supporting NSS and Headquarters established
	Analytical service supporting Regions established	Analysis Centre established
Proactively target high-volume and high-impact crime including domestic violence and sexual crime	2% reduction in high volume crime	This target was not achieved due to a higher incidence of theft in the first half of the year and of burglary in the second half of the year  A number of initiatives were undertaken to counteract this trend, including Garda Community Safety Week in September  This campaign focused on ensuring that people feel safe in their homes, on the streets and on our roads and assisted them to protect themselves, their families and their properties
	Senior Investigation Officers utilised in investigation of all high impact crime	Senior Investigation Officers were utilised in the investigation of all 2,438 high impact crimes
	Officer from Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Investigation Unit (DVSAIU) appointed as liaison with COSC (the National Office for the Prevention of Domestic, Sexual and gender-based violence)	Officer appointed as liaison
	Quarterly meetings held between DVSAIU management and COSC management to enhance the services provided to victims of domestic violence and sexual crimes	Three meetings were held between DVSAIU management and COSC management to enhance the services provided to victims of domestic violence and sexual crimes
Manage the risk posed by sex offenders	Monitor sex offenders to ensure their compliance with the terms of the Sexual Offenders Act 2001	1,075 sex offenders were monitored post registration during 2008
	Utilise community Gardaí to monitor the movement of sex offenders	332 Community Gardaí were utilised to monitor the movement of sex offenders
	Monitor, in conjunction with external police forces, the arrival of high-risk sex offenders into the State	Seven high-risk sex offenders who arrived into the State were monitored and ongoing liaison was also undertaken with external police forces
	Liaise with Internet Service Providers to develop reduction strategies in relation to the availability of child pornography on the internet	Crime reduction strategies were developed in relation to the availability of child pornography on the internet
	Conference with the Probation and Welfare Service and external police forces held	Conference was held during 2008
	Seminars for Inspectors to familiarise them with legislative changes held	160 Inspectors were trained regarding sex offences

## Goal Three: Traffic and Road Safety - *To significantly reduce the incidence of fatal and serious injuries and improve road safety*

Action	Performance Indicator	Details
Targeted enforcement of road traffic and road transport legislation	10% increase in detections for driving whilst intoxicated	An Garda Síochána is committed to sustained enforcement of the legislation relating to driving whilst intoxicated and proactively seek to increase the levels of voluntary compliance with this very important aspect of road safety; detections reduced by 12% during 2008  An Garda Síochána, takes every available opportunity to warn motorists of the dangers of driving whilst intoxicated; in addition, several high profile campaigns were organised during 2008 to coincide with Bank Holiday Weekends and the Christmas period to warn road users of the increased risks associated with busy traffic periods
	10% increase in detections for driving while speeding	An Garda Síochána continues to proactively enforce the legislation relating to speeding in order to reduce the incidence of fatal and serious injuries and improve road safety; in particular, enforcement is prioritised in areas with the greatest tendency for speed related collisions  While feedback from operational members indicates a positive change in driver behaviour as a result of An Garda Síochána's continued commitment to enforcement of this legislation, detections reduced by 18% during 2008  An Garda Síochána continues to make the public aware of the dangers of speeding and provides information on roads which have been identified as having a propensity for speed related collisions, through engagement with the media and other stakeholders
	10% increase in detections for road transport offences	Detections increased by 63%
	5% increase in seatbelt detection achieved	An Garda Síochána, takes every available opportunity to warn motorists of the dangers of the non-wearing of seatbelts and are proactive in seeking an increase in voluntary compliance with this very important aspect of road safety  Enforcement of the legislation relating to the wearing of seatbelts is undertaken by Gardaí as a priority, however detections reduced by 10% during the year, indicating increased levels of compliance with the wearing of seatbelts
	5% reduction in fatal and serious injury collisions achieved	15% reduction in road fatalities achieved
Targeted enforcement of road traffic and road transport legislation	10% reduction in fatal collisions involving drivers in the 17-26 year age group	While there were 59 fewer deaths on Irish roads in 2008, the lowest in the past ten years, reducing to 279 from 338 in 2007, and representing a reduction of 17% overall, the figure for drivers in the 17-26 year age group increased by 7.5%  In order to address this trend, An Garda Síochána's Road Safety Unit delivers presentations on road safety to a number of groups in the community, including those which are specific to younger audiences including schools and colleges and youth clubs, in order to lead to changes in driver behaviour  The Unit's education programme, 'It won't happen to me', is included in the Transition Year syllabus  The Unit also provides road safety information at major public exhibitions which attract younger people, such as The Young Scientist Exhibition, and a variety of car and motorcycle shows
	10% Reduction in serious injury collisions involving drivers in the 17-26 year age group	While there was a significant reduction of 15% in the number of serious injury collisions overall, there was an increase of 4.4% among the 17-26 year old age group in 2008  In order to address this trend, An Garda Síochána's Road Safety Unit delivers presentations on road safety to a number of groups in the community, including those which are specific to younger audiences including schools and colleges and youth clubs, in order to lead to changes in driver behaviour  The Unit's education programme, 'It won't happen to me', is included in the Transition Year syllabus  The Unit also provides road safety information at major public exhibitions which attract younger people, such as The Young Scientist Exhibition, and a variety of car and motorcycle shows



# STRATEGIC GOALS

## Goal Three: Traffic and Road Safety - *To significantly reduce the incidence of fatal and serious injuries and improve road safety - continued*

Action	Performance Indicator	Details
Increase of organisational capability in Traffic Policing	Traffic Corps strength increased to 1,200	Significant progress has been made in relation to achieving this goal and An Garda Síochána is fully committed to the development of the Traffic Corps in order to reduce the incidence of fatal and serious injuries and improve road safety; at year end there was an increase of 19.5% in personnel, which equates to 1,101 full time Traffic Corps
	Role-specific training provided to all appointed personnel	All personnel appointed received role-specific training appointed
	Vehicles allocated to Traffic Corps in line with planned transport model	As part of the ongoing development of the Traffic Corps, 431 additional vehicles were allocated in line with the planned transport model, representing an increase of 63% in vehicle allocation compared to 2007
Utilise automated technology to enhance traffic operations	100% review of existing Collision Prone Zones achieved and disseminated by the Garda National Traffic Bureau	100% review of Collision Prone Zones was achieved; Collision Prone Zones are locations within the road network where there is a propensity for collisions as identified by an analysis of collision data Information relating to all Collision Prone Zones has been published on the Garda.ie website and Garda activities are being prioritised in these areas to encourage changed driver behaviour
	Progress the outsourcing of the provision and operation of Safety Cameras	Progressing the outsourcing of the provision and operation of Safety Cameras
	Business-case developed for Automated Number Plate Recognition (ANPR)/speed monitoring systems installation in 100 Garda vehicles	A business-case was developed for the installation of Automated Number Plate Recognition (ANPR)/speed monitoring system; to date, 80 vehicles have been fitted with the ANPR system
Promote road safety	Complete and implement the Road Safety Awareness Communications Programme	Road Safety Awareness Communications Programme was completed
	10% increase in Road Safety Promotion information achieved in schools and colleges	53% increase in Road Safety Promotion information communicated
Engage with the Road Safety Authority and other relevant stakeholders in implementing the Road Safety Strategy	Number of road safety initiatives completed in association with the Road Safety authority	339 road safety initiatives were completed with the Road Safety Authority
	Number of traffic management initiatives completed in association with other stakeholders	630 traffic management initiatives were completed with other stakeholders

## Goal Four: Public Order - *To significantly reduce the incidence of public disorder and anti-social behaviour in our communities*

Action	Performance Indicator	Details
Proactively target groups and individuals involved in anti-social behaviour	10% increase in the number of targeted Public Order Patrols achieved	39% increase achieved
	15% increase in the number of arrests for incidents of public disorder achieved	22% increase achieved
	Number of Behaviour Warnings issued under the Criminal Justice Act 2006	502 Adult Behaviour Warnings and 513 Child Behaviour Warnings issued
	Number of Good Behaviour Contracts issued	8 good behaviour contracts issued
In consultation with community and statutory groups and elected representatives, identify and target local public order and anti-social behaviour hot-spots through weekly review, and put in place responsive actions and plans	100% of locally identified hot-spots targeted through specific operational plans	100% of locally identified hot-spots were targeted through specific plans
	5% reduction in incidents of public disorder	An Garda Síochána's continued commitment to the enforcement of public order legislation has resulted in increased detection of public disorder crimes, however there was an increase of 3.9% in incidents during 2008; An Garda Síochána is committed to ensuring that a minority of individuals intent on misbehaving do not have a negative impact on the quality of life in local areas, depriving communities of access to public amenities through intimidating behaviour  The Intoxicating Liquor Act 2008, which came into force during 2008, enables Gardaí to seize alcohol from under 18 year olds or from adults in possession of alcohol in a public place; the Act enhances An Garda Síochána's capacity to respond to community concerns about on-street drinking, anti-social behaviour and public order issues arising in public parks and recreational areas
	Marketing campaign directed at the carrying of knives in contravention of the Firearms and Offensive Weapons Act 1990 completed	Nationwide public information campaign, to advise young people about the dangers of knives, was developed and piloted in 2008 with phased roll-out planned for 2009; the campaign, 'How Big Do You Feel', which was devised in consultation with Community Gardaí, also teaches young people about the importance of ambition and the determination to realise their goals, and this is demonstrated through the involvement of sports stars and other achievers who are willing to share their stories
	Number of people prosecuted under Firearms and Offensive Weapons Act 1990	Increase of 35% in people prosecuted achieved
Enforce the law dealing with alcohol and drug-related anti-social behaviour	5% reduction in incidents of assaults and criminal damage	An Garda Síochána is fully committed to maintaining public order and making our communities safer through a variety of methods, including high visibility patrolling (vehicular and foot patrols); during 2008, there was an increase of 4.5% for assaults and 2.7% for criminal damage
Maximise the use of CCTV technology	Number of CCTV Systems commissioned	33 new CCTV systems were commissioned during the year
	10% additional locations for Garda CCTV schemes identified	174 possible locations identified (increase of 235% on 2007)
Conduct an analysis of the findings of the Public Attitudes Survey with a view to developing initiatives to address feeling of safety issues	Strategy developed and implemented to address analysis findings	Strategies developed and implemented to increase presence in public, e.g. High Visibility Strategy and Implementation Plan and the launch of the first Community Safety Week; Operation Encounter was also enforced on a continuing basis



# STRATEGIC GOALS

## Goal Five: Ethnic and Cultural Diversity - To provide equal protection and appropriate service, while nurturing mutual respect and trust

Action	Performance Indicator	Details
Develop a Garda Diversity Strategy	Garda Diversity Strategy developed and implemented	Garda Diversity Strategy developed and implemented
Ensure that An Garda Síochána is an organisation representative of the community it serves	Two marketing campaigns focusing on recruitment from ethnic minority groups completed	Marketing campaigns completed in first and third quarters
	5% of new entrants to An Garda Síochána from ethnic minority communities achieved (Full time/Reserve/ Civilian Support staff)	23% increase achieved
Evaluate the effectiveness of the Garda Racial and Intercultural Office (GRIO) and enhance its capability	Evaluation completed and recommendations implemented	Professional Standards Unit carried out an evaluation of the GRIO the recommendations included in the report were implemented
Develop effective policing approaches for minority and marginalised groups and communities	Best practice guidelines for delivery of a policing service to a specific minority group developed and deployed	Significant progress has been achieved in relation to the development of best practice guidelines for delivery of a policing service to a specific minority group  An Garda Síochána will continue to liaise closely with marginalised groups and communities and Ethnic Liaison Officers have been appointed in all areas
Enhance An Garda Síochána's ethnic and cultural services	100% of Community Gardaí trained as Ethnic Liaison Officers	Training of Community Gardaí as Ethnic Liaison Officers took place during 2008 with 55% of Community Gardaí trained as Ethnic Liaison Officers by year end; training will continue during 2009

## Goal Six: Community Engagement - To build a Garda service that reflects the needs and priorities of the people in Ireland

Action	Performance Indicator	Details
Develop and implement An Garda Síochána's National Model of Rural and Urban Community policing	Development of the National Model of Rural and Urban Community policing completed	National Model of Rural and Urban Community policing was completed
	Implementation of the National Model of Rural and Urban Community policing completed	National Model of Rural and Urban Community policing was developed during 2008 and was launched on 26th January 2009; roll-out will take place during 2009
Implement policy relating to Neighbourhood Watch / Community Alert schemes	A Neighbourhood Watch/Community Alert Committee established in every Garda Division	Neighbourhood Watch/Community Alert Committee was established in every Garda Division
	A Neighbourhood Watch/Community Alert Committee established in every Garda District	Neighbourhood Watch/Community Alert Committee established in every Garda District
	100% of existing Neighbourhood Watch/Community Alert schemes reviewed	Significant progress was made in 2008 towards the review of existing Neighbourhood Watch/Community Alert schemes, with 74% complete at year end and reviews ongoing for the remainder  Work is continuing towards the evaluation of existing Neighbourhood Watch / Community Alert schemes and, in some cases, these schemes will be subsumed into the new Rural / Urban Community Policing Models
	All issues identified in the reviews to be addressed in Divisional and District Policing Plans	Achieved in all regions
Implement the Garda Youth Strategy to advance appropriate services for children and young people in accordance with the National Youth Justice Strategy	Seven additional Juvenile Liaison Officers appointed	Seven Juvenile Liaison Officers appointed
	Identify suitable locations for the further development of Garda Youth Diversion Projects in consultation with the Irish Youth Justice Service	15 suitable locations were identified for the further development of Garda Youth Diversion Projects in consultation with the Irish Youth Justice Service
Build and utilise Garda capability in the provision of victim-related services	100% of crime victims notified in writing of the contact details of investigating Gardaí and where appropriate the availability of victim support services	District Officers notify all crime victims in writing, as deemed appropriate, providing contact details of investigating Gardaí and where relevant the availability of victim support services
	Two trained Family Liaison Officers (FLOs) appointed in every Garda District	All 110 Garda Districts had two trained FLOs at year end  The Garda FLO training programme began in December 2006 and all training to date has been delivered by the London Metropolitan Police Crime Academy
	100% utilisation of the services of FLOs in investigations involving a fatality and in all other investigations as deemed appropriate by the District Officer	FLOs were utilised in 385 cases during the year  An Garda Síochána recognises the importance of the relationship between the victim/family and the Gardaí during an investigation  Family liaison is a vital resource that can be used in a wide variety of policing contexts including to provide care, support and information in a sensitive and compassionate manner to the family who are themselves victims of crime and to secure the confidence and trust of the family, thereby enhancing their contribution to the investigation
Engage fully in Joint policing Committees and local policing fora	Chief Superintendents or Superintendents appointed to all Joint Policing Committees (JPCs) as appropriate	Chief Superintendents or Superintendents were appointed to all JPCs as appropriate (in total, 92 Chief Superintendents or Superintendents were appointed to all 46 JPCs)
	Recommendations from JPCs inform all Divisional and District Policing Plans as appropriate	42 recommendations from JPCs were included in policing plans
Implement the Garda High-Visibility Project	10% increase achieved in visibility as measured by the Public Attitudes Survey 2008	Significant progress was made in 2008 in relation to improving levels of visibility in our communities  An Garda Síochána is fully committed to making our communities safer through a variety of methods, including high visibility patrolling (vehicular and foot patrols) an increase of 3% in visibility was achieved during the year
	Four high-visibility foot patrols completed per month by senior Garda management	Four high-visibility foot patrols completed per month by senior Garda management
	10% increase in the number of marked vehicles in the Garda fleet	16% increase achieved
	10% increase in the number of high-visibility patrols in RAPID areas	An Garda Síochána is committed to providing high visibility policing in all communities and RAPID areas are receiving high levels of attention in accordance with Government policy; an increase of 6% was achieved in 2008



## Crime Statistics

The figures published by the Central Statistics Office (CSO) on February 6th 2009 show that there was a significant decrease in the number of Murders and Manslaughters recorded in 2008 when compared to 2007. In 2008 there were 49 Murders and 3

Manslaughters recorded which is a 36% and 57% decrease respectively on the 2007 figures. All three manslaughters were detected and 65% of murders were detected. A 3% decrease in the number of rapes (male or female) and six (33%) fewer aggravated sexual assaults were recorded in 2008 compared with 2007. Assaults causing harm decreased by 2% while False Imprisonment and Abduction decreased by 35% and 16% respectively. Theft and related offences shows an increase of 2% and Burglary and Related Offences have increased by 4.5%. However Fraud, Deception and Related Offences show a decrease of 8%. For a more detailed breakdown of figures please go to the website of the CSO, [www.cso.ie](http://www.cso.ie).

Crime Incident Type	2008
01 Homicide Offences	76
02 Sexual Offences	1,384
03 Attempts/Threats to Murder, Assaults, Harassments and Related offences	18,701
04 Dangerous or Negligent Acts	19,564
05 Kidnapping and Related Offences	75
06 Robbery, Extortion and Highjacking offences	2,307
07 Burglary and Related Offences	24,624
08 Theft and Related Offences	76,789
09 Fraud, Deception and Related Offences	5,378
10 Controlled Drug Offences	23,306
11 Weapons and Explosives Offences	3,988
12 Damage to Property and to the Environment	44,672
13 Public Order and other Social Code Offences	61,463
15 Offences against Government, Justice Procedures and Organisation of Crime	12,209

### Child behaviour warnings and good behaviour contracts

**Child behaviour warnings and good behaviour contracts**, which came into effect in March 2007, may be issued by a Garda to a person over 12 years of age if the person has behaved in an anti-social manner. A warning (verbal or written) advises a person that he or she has behaved in an anti-social manner and must stop the behaviour. Good behaviour contracts apply to children only and can arise

where a Superintendent in charge of a Garda District convenes a meeting to discuss the child's behaviour on foot of a report from a member of An Garda Síochána. Behaviour orders (child) and civil orders (adult) are applied for before the Court by a Garda Superintendent. The maximum duration of these orders is two years.

Behaviour Warnings, Good Behaviour Contracts and Civil/Behaviour Orders issued in 2008	
Behaviour warnings issued (adult)	502
Behaviour warnings issued (child)	513
Good behaviour contracts issued	8
Civil orders issued (adult)	2
Behaviour orders issued (child)	2

## Missing Person Reports

2008	Category A Missing persons considered at serious risk to themselves or others		Category B Persons who have gone missing of their own volition and are assumed not to be at serious risk to themselves or others		Category C Missing persons where there is no apparent danger to the missing person or the public; they are over 18 years and may have decided to start a new life		Total	
	Reports	Untraced	Reports	Untraced	Reports	Untraced	Reports	Untraced
<b>EASTERN REGION</b>	540	2	272	2	259	2	1,071	6
Carlow/Kildare	177	2	53	1	56	1	286	4
Laois/Offaly	63	0	34	0	29	0	126	0
Longford/Westmeath	100	0	101	0	72	0	273	0
Louth	113	0	47	1	35	0	195	1
Meath	87	0	37	0	67	1	191	1
<b>DUBLIN MET. REGION</b>	1,956	29	644	4	711	14	3,311	47
Eastern	242	2	78	0	45	2	365	4
North Central	137	8	71	2	120	2	328	12
Northern	962	6	217	1	195	5	1,374	12
South Central	134	8	99	1	136	2	369	11
Southern	213	2	84	0	80	1	377	3
Western	268	3	95	0	135	2	498	5
<b>NORTHERN REGION</b>	363	1	186	0	147	1	696	2
Cavan/Monaghan	136	0	86	0	59	0	281	0
Donegal	150	0	84	0	62	1	296	1
Sligo/Leitrim	77	1	16	0	26	0	119	1
<b>SOUTH EASTERN REGION</b>	679	2	294	0	262	0	1,235	2
Tipperary	195	0	95	0	67	0	357	0
Waterford/Kilkenny	234	1	106	0	115	0	455	1
Wexford	92	1	38	0	33	0	163	1
Wicklow	158	0	55	0	47	0	260	0
<b>SOUTHERN REGION</b>	570	4	277	2	259	3	1,106	9
Cork City	267	0	139	0	118	1	524	1
Cork North	80	0	35	0	20	0	135	0
Cork West	51	1	39	1	28	1	118	3
Kerry	34	0	19	1	13	1	66	2
Limerick	138	3	45	0	80	0	263	3
<b>WESTERN REGION</b>	300	1	109	3	152	0	561	4
Clare	40	0	24	1	24	0	88	1
Galway West	184	0	40	0	78	0	302	0
Mayo	37	1	24	2	17	0	78	3
Roscommon/Galway East	39	0	21	0	33	0	93	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>4,408</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>1,782</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>1,790</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>7,980</b>	<b>70</b>

There were 7,980 reports for the year 2008, which was a slight decrease (0.15%) on the 2007 reports of 7,992. There were 70 persons untraced at the end of 2008, which was a decrease of 25% compared to 2007.

## Firearms & Explosives

### Firearms and Explosives seized and submitted to the Garda Technical Bureau for examination during 2008

Firearms	
Shotguns	183
Machine Guns	10
Rifles	56
Revolvers	29
Pistols/Airguns	441
Stun Guns	68
Crossbows	18
CS/CN Gas	13
Pen Guns	3
Replicas	83
Paintball Guns	6
Spear Guns	0
Silencers	24
Sights	0
Magazines	0
Humane Killers	0
Starting Pistols/Revolvers	44
<b>Total</b>	<b>978</b>
Explosives and Components	
Hand Grenades	16
Improvised Explosive Devices (IEDs)*	59
Hoax Devices	34
Explosives	2
Smoke Grenades	2
Petrol Bombs	0
Firework cases	7

\*Includes Pipe Bombs and Component Parts for IEDs.