



**An Garda Síochána**

**Monthly Report for February 2025 to the Policing Authority**

**In accordance with Section 41A of the Garda Síochána Act, 2005 (as amended)**

# An Garda Síochána

Oifig an Choimisinéara  
An Garda Síochána  
Páirc an Fhionnuisce  
Baile Átha Cliath 8  
D08 HN3X



Luaigh an uimhir tharaghta seo a leanas le do thoil:  
Please quote the following ref. number: **CMR\_86-53736/25**



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Ms. Helen Hall  
Chief Executive  
The Policing Authority

**RE: Commissioner's Monthly Report to the Policing Authority**

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Dear Helen,

I am pleased to provide the Commissioner's monthly report, outlining the key aspects of the administration and operation of An Garda Síochána for the month of February 2025, in accordance with Section 41A of the Garda Síochána Act, 2005, as amended.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Thelma Watters' followed by the initials 'CSpt'.

**THELMA WATTERS  
CHIEF SUPERINTENDENT  
COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE**

**24<sup>th</sup> March 2025**

## Message from the Commissioner

During the month of February 2025, An Garda Síochána launched its latest Garda Trainee recruitment campaign under the theme “It’s a Job Worth Doing”. The recruitment competition opened on 6 February 2025 and closed to applications on 27 February 2025. Personnel right across the organisation were involved in promoting activities associated with the campaign, conducting local information days, media interviews and other recruitment initiatives.

A communications strategy provided a wide range of media opportunities to promote the campaign. These included national television appearances by Gardaí and Garda Trainees, local and national radio interviews, print and digital media coverage, and also segments on popular podcasts.

The three-week campaign has yielded results with 6,784 applications received, which encompasses a varied demographic. Of those who applied, 62% were first time applicants, which is a good indicator that the public continue to consider An Garda Síochána as a worthwhile career and a job worth doing.

February saw the Laois/Offaly Division become the nineteenth division to commence the four Functional Area structure under the Operating Model. This came into effect on 23 February 2025.

Meanwhile, An Garda Síochána was pleased to give its support to a significant protocol which seeks to expedite cases of rape and murder involving child victims and/or defendants. The Juvenile Protocol for rape and murder cases was launched by the Department of Justice on 21 February 2025 and An Garda Síochána is one of 16 signatories.

A number of notable policing operations yielded significant results during the month of February 2025, this included an operation, which saw €14m worth of suspected drugs seized and a number of arrests made in Laois and Dublin on 4 February 2025.

Furthermore, in Dublin on 15 February 2025 a major search and arrest operation was conducted involving more than 100 Gardaí. This operation was targeted at an organised crime group in West Dublin and resulted in the arrest of five individuals.

Meanwhile, on 27 February 2025 the Garda National Immigration Bureau conducted an operation which saw the deportation of 32 people to Georgia from Dublin Airport.

In support of road safety, An Garda Síochána conducted a high visibility roads policing operation over the St. Brigid’s Day Bank Holiday Weekend. Gardaí conducted both statutory Mandatory Intoxicant Testing (MIT) and regular, high-visibility policing checkpoints. Almost 200 drivers were arrested on suspicion of driving under the influence of an intoxicant (alcohol and/or drugs), while more than 2,200 drivers were detected for speeding offences during the five-day operation.

A National Slow Down Day was held on 26 February 2025, while An Garda Síochána supported the implementation of a reduction in 80km/hr speed limits to 60kms/hr speed limits along most rural roads on 7 February 2025.

**Drew Harris**  
**Commissioner**

## 1. Financial Expenditure and Receipts

|  | 2024 Allocation & Supplementary €'000 | Expenditure/Receipts End Feb 2025 €'000 | Remaining Mar - Dec 2025 €'000 | Remaining % |
|--|---------------------------------------|---|--------------------------------|-------------|
| <b>Gross Total</b>                       | 2,480,453                             | 400,589                                 | 2,079,864                      | 84          |
| <b>Appropriations in Aids (receipts)</b> | 113,500                               | 23,238                                  | 90,262                         | 80          |
| <b>Net Total</b>                         | 2,366,953                             | 377,351                                 | 1,989,602                      |             |

The total gross 2025 allocation is €2.48b and net allocation is €2.37b. At the end of February 2025, total gross expenditure is €400.59m (16% of allocation) and receipts are €23.24m (20% of allocated). Of the 2025 allocation, €173.1m relates to capital. In addition to this, there is deferred capital funding carried over from last year of €16.586m, which means the total capital budget for 2025 is €189.7m.

The Garda Senior Leadership Team continues to place a significant focus on cost management, in particular in relation to oversight and management of overtime.

### Estate Management

A large-scale refurbishment at Abbeyleix Garda Station to upgrade cells and the custody area is completed, with some minor works to the adjoining office accommodation ongoing. A number of other cell projects are at various stages of development in Wicklow, Thurles, Gorey, Castleblayney and Nenagh. A number of other cell projects are at earlier stages of development between An Garda Síochána and the OPW to finalise designs.

## 2. Human Resources and People Development

### Resourcing

The Executive Officer 2024 competition online assessment testing window remains live until 5 March 2025. Some interviews are complete for the Higher Executive Officer 2024 competition and offers have been issued. Other interviews are continuing.

### Strategic Recruitment

The following competitions have been advertised with our recruitment partner Staffline since February 2025:

- AP Business Services Manager Occupational Health and Wellbeing.
- Occupational Health Nurse (2025).
- PO Head of Employment Law.

### Garda Appointments/Recruitment

The first 2025 Garda Trainee recruitment campaign closed for applications on 27 February 2025. At the time of closing, there were 6,784 applications (this figure reflects the total number of applications prior to any eligibility checks being completed and will reduce following same).

Central to the media and digital campaign approach was ensuring diversity in the members participating in local media, and achieving gender balance on all interviews. This aligns with our organisational priority to achieving greater diversity, including increased ethnic, gender and socio-economic representation across members. Recruitment outreach was delivered through a mix of community engagement, media campaigns and direct outreach initiatives at the national, regional, and divisional levels. This included:

- Media and Digital Campaigns: Television, radio, print, social media, podcasts and paid advertising.
- Recruitment Stands: Presence at third-level institutions, shopping centres and events.
- Community Outreach: Engagement with schools, colleges, sports clubs and minority groups.
- Information Seminars: Face-to-face and virtual sessions to educate potential applicants.

The communications approach was designed to target specific groups, including school leavers, graduates, female candidates, people from a range of ethnic backgrounds, etc. Similar to previous years, the campaign also targeted ex-pats abroad in the UK, Canada, Australia and New Zealand.

Three rejoiners are due to be attested on 20 March 2025 in Garda Headquarters.

There are currently 16 national, six regional, two overseas and 31 divisional member competitions underway.

### Resource Allocation

There was one member promoted to the rank of Chief Superintendent, 17 members promoted to the rank of Inspector and 41 members promoted to the rank of Sergeant in February 2025.

### Overseas Office

Five members have received their deployment date with the United Nations in Cyprus for late April 2025 and the Overseas Office are currently preparing for their deployment.

## Garda College

Ireland AM filmed Redman Training in the Garda College on 26 February 2025. Redman Training is a demonstration of where decision making, communication, use of force, human rights and physical skills are all combined into the one training area and assessment. This is a unique demonstration of excellence in education, and combines skills and theory/critical thinking into the one learning piece. Deric Hartigan interviewed Sergeant Andy Carmody who gave a behind the scenes look at what goes into the Redman classes. He spoke with Trainee Gardaí Meldrum and Moran about their experiences of life in the Garda College.



The Ryan Cup returned to the Garda College in February 2025. This is our fifth victory in that competition, having previously won in 1995, 2017, 2020 and 2024. Congratulations to the management team of Adrian Egan, Donal Doughan, Ray Doyle, John Ivors and James Woodlock.



Dylan Walsh, whom is currently a Trainee Garda with An Garda Síochána, was named on the GAA team of the week on 5 February 2025, playing for Tipperary.



#### **Irish Language Office**

In preparation for Seachtain na Gaeilge, the 'Club Cúpla Focal' initiative was developed and resource packs to support national coffee mornings were delivered across the country in time for the launch on the 1<sup>st</sup> of March 2025.

## Human Resources and People Development Analytics/Data

As at 28 February 2025, the Garda member strength stood at 14,146 (WTE 14,113) and the Garda Staff strength stood at 3,678 (3,501.9 WTE). A full breakdown by rank, grade and gender is outlined below.

### 2.1 Garda Member Strength

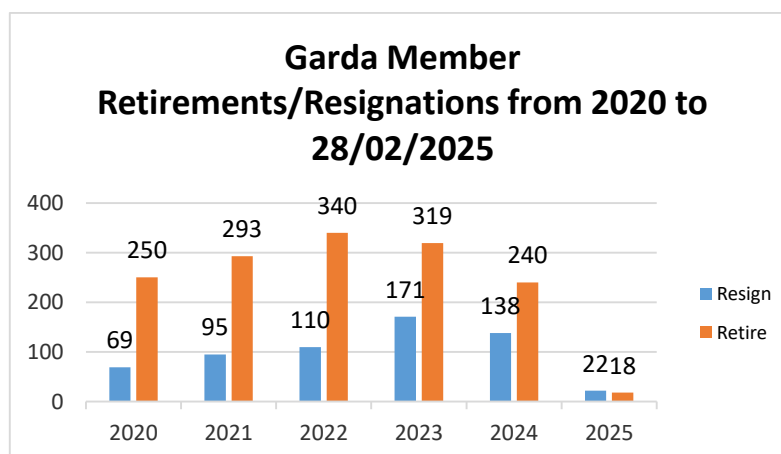
| Rank                   | As at 28 Feb 2025 | Male          | %         | Female       | %         | WTE           |
|------------------------|-------------------|---------------|-----------|--------------|-----------|---------------|
| Commissioner           | 1                 | 1             | 100       | 0            | 0         | 1             |
| Deputy Commissioner    | 2                 | 1             | 50        | 1            | 50        | 2             |
| Assistant Commissioner | 7                 | 3             | 43        | 4            | 57        | 7             |
| Chief Superintendent   | 46                | 37            | 80        | 9            | 20        | 46            |
| Superintendent         | 166               | 138           | 83        | 28           | 17        | 166           |
| Inspector              | 482               | 382           | 79        | 100          | 21        | 482           |
| Sergeant               | 2,208             | 1,655         | 75        | 553          | 25        | 2,207         |
| Garda                  | 11,234            | 7,869         | 70        | 3,365        | 30        | 11,202        |
| <b>Total</b>           | <b>14,146</b>     | <b>10,086</b> | <b>71</b> | <b>4,060</b> | <b>29</b> | <b>14,113</b> |

| Of which                    | As at 28 Feb 2025 | Male          | %         | Female       | %         |
|-----------------------------|-------------------|---------------|-----------|--------------|-----------|
| Career Breaks (incl. ICB)   | 31                | 18            | 58        | 13           | 42        |
| Work-sharing                | 33                | 1             | 3         | 32           | 97        |
| Secondments (Overseas etc.) | 47                | 27            | 57        | 20           | 43        |
| Maternity Leave             | 48                | 0             | 0         | 48           | 100       |
| Unpaid Maternity Leave      | 18                | 0             | 0         | 18           | 100       |
| Paternity Leave             | 8                 | 8             | 100       | 0            | 0         |
| <b>Available Strength</b>   | <b>13,961</b>     | <b>10,032</b> | <b>72</b> | <b>3,929</b> | <b>28</b> |

### Garda Reserves Strength

| Garda Reserves Strength As at 28 February 2025 | Total | Male | %  | Female | %  |
|--|-------|------|----|--------|----|
|  | 318   | 247  | 78 | 71     | 22 |

### Garda Member Retirements and Resignations



Retirement figures to include those that retire on compulsory retirements, voluntary retirements and cost neutral early retirement.



### Voluntary Retirements

As of 28 February 2025, 17 Garda members retired voluntarily, broken down as follows; there were 15 voluntary retirements in January 2025 and two (2) in February 2025.

### Personnel suspended from An Garda Síochána

| Suspensions |                 |        |                                       |           |  |
|-------------|-----------------|--------|---------------------------------------|-----------|--|
| Year        | New Suspensions | Lifted | Ended<br>(Resignation<br>/Retirement) | Dismissal | Total (Lifted/<br>Ended/<br>Dismissal) |
| 2019        | 26              | 4      | 5                                     | 10        | 19                                     |
| 2020        | 41              | 6      | 9                                     | 0         | 15                                     |
| 2021        | 44              | 13     | 8                                     | 1         | 22                                     |
| 2022        | 44              | 11     | 7                                     | 1         | 19                                     |
| 2023        | 27              | 19     | 13                                    | 0         | 32                                     |
| 2024        | 18              | 20     | 13                                    | 1         | 34                                     |
| 2025        | 6               | 1      | 4                                     | 0         | 5                                      |

| CURRENT SUSPENSIONS & CORE ISSUES INVESTIGATED BY AGS & GSOC |           |
|--|-----------|
| Suspension (Ended / Ongoing)                                 | Ongoing   |
|  |           |
| Main Reason  | Total     |
| Theft / Forgery / Fraud / Dishonesty                         | 15        |
| Sexual Assault / Sexual Misconduct                           | 9         |
| Driving under Influence of Intoxicant                        | 16        |
| Fixed Charge Notice (FCN) Interference                       | 9         |
| Corruption / Criminal Association                            | 8         |
| Domestic Violence / Coercive Control                         | 10        |
| Disclosure of Information / Data Protection / Abuse of PULSE | 8         |
| Assault / Assault Causing Harm                               | 9         |
| Drugs / Drug Related   | 4         |
| Other  | 6         |
| <b>Grand Total</b>   | <b>94</b> |

### 2.3 Garda Staff Strengths as at 28 February 2025 (Administrative and Civil Service, and Chief Medical Officer)

| Grade  | Total        | WTE            | Male         | %         | Female        | %         | Undisclosed        | %        |
|--|--------------|----------------|--------------|-----------|---------------|-----------|--------------------|----------|
| CCO  | 1            | 1              | 0            | 0         | 1             | 100       | 0                  | 0        |
| Executive Director                                       | 4            | 3              | 1            | 25        | 3             | 75        | 0                  | 0        |
| Chief Medical Officer                                    | 1            | 1              | 1            | 100       | 0             | 0         | 0                  | 0        |
| CIO  | 0            | 0              | 0            | 0         | 0             | 0         | 0                  | 0        |
| Director   | 2            | 2              | 1            | 50        | 1             | 50        | 0                  | 0        |
| PO   | 30           | 30             | 17           | 57        | 13            | 43        | 0                  | 0        |
| AP   | 115          | 114.8          | 53           | 46        | 62            | 54        | 0                  | 0        |
| HEO  | 208          | 206.7          | 80           | 38.5      | 128           | 61.5      | 0                  | 0        |
| AO   | 17           | 17             | 8            | 47        | 9             | 53        | 0                  | 0        |
| EO   | 878          | 867.2          | 281          | 32        | 597           | 68        | 0                  | 0        |
| CO   | 2,071        | 2,007.1        | 561          | 27        | 1,510         | 73        | 0                  | 0        |
| <b>Total</b>   | <b>3,327</b> | <b>3,249.8</b> | <b>1,003</b> | <b>30</b> | <b>2,324</b>  | <b>70</b> | <b>0</b>           | <b>0</b> |
|  |              |                |              |           |               |           |                    |          |
|  | <b>Total</b> | <b>WTE*</b>    | <b>Male</b>  | <b>%</b>  | <b>Female</b> | <b>%</b>  | <b>Undisclosed</b> | <b>%</b> |
| Professional/Technical (including Chief Medical Officer) | 55           | 54.8           | 28           | 50.9      | 27            | 49.1      | 0                  | 0        |
| Administrative ***                                       | 3,326        | 3,249.8        | 1,002        | 30        | 2,324         | 70        | 0                  | 0        |
| Industrial/Non Industrial                                | 297          | 197.3          | 94           | 32        | 203           | 68        | 0                  | 0        |
| <b>Total</b>   | <b>3,678</b> | <b>3,501.9</b> | <b>1,124</b> | <b>31</b> | <b>2,554</b>  | <b>69</b> | <b>0</b>           | <b>0</b> |
|  |              |                |              |           |               |           |                    |          |
| <b>Of which</b>  | <b>Total</b> | <b>WTE*</b>    | <b>Male</b>  | <b>%</b>  | <b>Female</b> | <b>%</b>  | <b>Undisclosed</b> | <b>%</b> |
| Maternity Leave  | 24           | 24             | 0            | 0         | 24            | 100       | 0                  | 0        |
| Unpaid Maternity Leave                                   | 11           | 11             | 0            | 0         | 11            | 100       | 0                  | 0        |
| Paternity Leave  | 2            | 2              | 2            | 100       | 0             | 0         | 0                  | 0        |
| Secondment/Exchange                                      | 0            | 0              | 0            | 0         | 0             | 0         | 0                  | 0        |
| <b>Available Total</b>                                   | <b>3,641</b> | <b>3,464.9</b> | <b>1,122</b> | <b>31</b> | <b>2,519</b>  | <b>69</b> | <b>0</b>           | <b>0</b> |

\* Whole time equivalent – Garda Staff work on a number of different work-sharing patterns.

\*\* Garda Staff headcount is exclusive of temporary Clerical Officers.

\*\*\* Civil Service grades and other administrative posts.

| Work Sharing *** | Total | WTE  | Male | % | Female | %  | Undisclosed | % |
|------------------|-------|------|------|---|--------|----|-------------|---|
|                  | 236   | 76.4 | 10   | 4 | 226    | 96 | 0           | 0 |

\*\*\* Work-sharing figure excludes industrial/non-industrial staff. Many posts are part-time.

\*Rounding applied to WTE.

| Career Breaks**** | Total | WTE | Male | %  | Female | %  | Undisclosed | % |
|-------------------|-------|-----|------|----|--------|----|-------------|---|
|                   | 30    | 30  | 9    | 30 | 21     | 70 | 0           | 0 |

\*\*\*\* Staff on career breaks are not included in total numbers above.

### Parental Leave

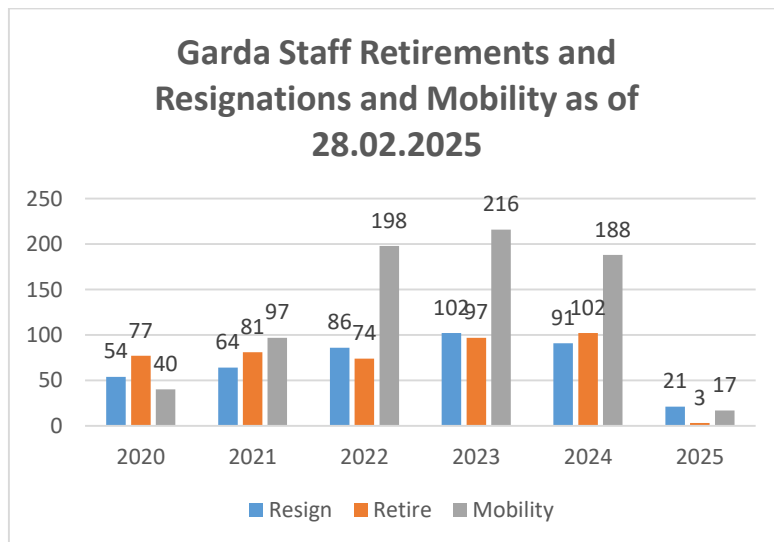
| As at 28.02.2025 | Garda Members | Garda Staff |
|------------------|---------------|-------------|
|                  | 135           | 86          |

### Garda Staff assigned – as at 28 February 2025.

| Month | Jan  | Feb | Mar | Apr | May | June | July | Aug | Sept | Oct | Nov | Dec | Total |
|-------|--|-----|-----|-----|-----|------|------|-----|------|-----|-----|-----|-------|
|       | Total number of vacancies filled since 01/01/2025* | 47  | 44  |     |     |      |      |     |      |     |     |     |       |

\*Numbers adjusted following reconciliation exercise.

### Garda Staff Exits by Type



The table above, which captures Garda Staff departures, includes Garda Staff who have transferred out on competition, promotion and those who have transferred through Civil Service mobility.

### Garda Staff transfers out of An Garda Síochána (up to 28/02/2025)

Records include figures up to 28/02/2025 pertaining to year to date transfer out via promotion, Civil Service mobility and open competition (equivalent grade transfer). Please note that Clerical Officer mobility outbound was paused for a 6-month period from 06/01/2023 to 06/07/2023.

| Type                   | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 | 2024 | 2025* |
|------------------------|------|------|------|------|-------|
| Mobility               | 41   | 116  | 140  | 90   | 4     |
| Promo/Open Competition | 56   | 82   | 76   | 98   | 13    |
| Totals                 | 97   | 198  | 216  | 188  | 17    |

\*Year to date

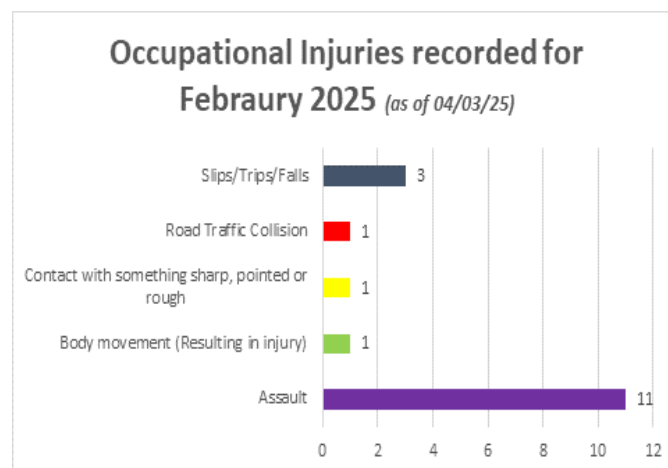
Open Competition = Grade equivalent to role external role

### Employee Assistance Service (EAS)

There are currently 1,560 Garda personnel engaging with the Employee Assistance Service. 1,343 Garda members and 217 Garda Staff. Additionally, the Employee Assistance Service is also engaged with 34 retired members.

### Health and Safety

17 occupational injuries were recorded for February 2025 (as of 04/03/25).



The number of National Incident Management System incidents created in February 2025 is 114. Six personnel were trained as fire wardens in the Dublin Metropolitan Region East Division.

### **3. Information and Communications Technology**

ICT continue to progress the delivery of key projects in line with An Garda Síochána strategic goals, and our data and technology vision of 'Information-Led Policing'. We also continue to support and enhance the operational needs of the organisation in the office, on the frontline and working remotely, by enabling An Garda Síochána personnel access Garda information systems in a secure manner where needed, particularly in the use of digital collaboration tools for desktop and mobile.

#### **Human Capital Management System**

This project, as reported last month, is part of a wider transformation programme for Human Resources and People Development in An Garda Síochána. The business case for the new Human Capital Management System has been approved by the Department of Justice. The drafting of the request for tender documentation is ongoing.

#### **Garda Information Services Centre (GISC)**

##### **Crime Incident Data Quality Metrics**

An Garda Síochána published its quarterly data quality metrics for Q4 2024 in February 2025. These metrics together with An Garda Síochána PULSE data quality framework are intended to inform users of crime statistics about the quality of the underlying PULSE data.

##### **Hate Crime Training**

During February 2025, 175 GISC staff attended briefings provided by the Garda National Diversity Unit in relation to the recording of hate crime on PULSE.

#### **Garda National Vetting Bureau (GNVB) Update**

##### **Vetting**

Garda standard vetting average turnaround times continue at five working days once an application is received. Approximately 100,743 Garda vetting applications were received by the end of February 2025, which is a 6.7% year on year decrease.

##### **Compliance**

The Compliance Team within GNVB carried out 1,443 role relevancy checks in February 2025. This led to 44 vetting applications being rejected as they did not meet the criteria of relevant work or activities as set out in Schedule 1 of the National Vetting Bureau (Children and Vulnerable Persons) Acts 2012 to 2016. In addition, throughout February 2025, the GNVB carried out six compliance inspections in relevant organisations.

##### **European Criminal Records Information System (ECRIS)**

118 requests from operational Garda members for criminal record information in respect of nationals of EU member states and the UK who are being investigated/prosecuted by An Garda Síochána were processed by the European Criminal Records Information System section of GNVB in February 2025. This criminal record information is significant in the successful investigation/prosecution of individuals here and also allows courts to make more informed sentencing decisions.

#### 4. Corporate Communications

Throughout the month of February 2025, the Office of Corporate Communications continued to communicate internally and externally on a broad range of policing activities undertaken by An Garda Síochána.

During this month, the Garda Trainee recruitment campaign was a key focus of promotional activities in this office. Over the course of the three-week campaign, this office implemented a comprehensive communications plan, which included proactive and reactive communications built around the recruitment process. In particular, it served to highlight the campaign's tagline – "Being a Garda is a Job Worth Doing". These activities included the hosting of media briefings, conducting media interviews on a range of platforms both local and national, the creation of social media content and sharing digital assets across our social media channels, together with initiatives undertaken by Divisions at local level.

This Office of Corporate Communications was strongly supported by colleagues nationwide, particularly Gardaí and Garda Trainees who participated in promotional activities and spoke passionately about being a Garda. The promotional campaign has proven worthwhile with 6,784 applications received.

Separately, this office promoted successful Garda operations and detections throughout February 2025. Notably, this included the holding of a media briefing on 5 February 2025 following the seizure of €14m in suspected drugs and arrests made as part of an operation in Laois and Dublin on 4 February 2025.

Further to this, personnel from this office attended a major search and arrest operation targeting an organised crime group in Dublin on 15 February 2025, capturing video footage and stills, which were later used to reassure the public of policing organised crime groups and keeping communities safe.

This office was also involved in producing a video promoting an operation led by the Garda National Immigration Bureau, which saw the deportation of 32 people to Georgia.

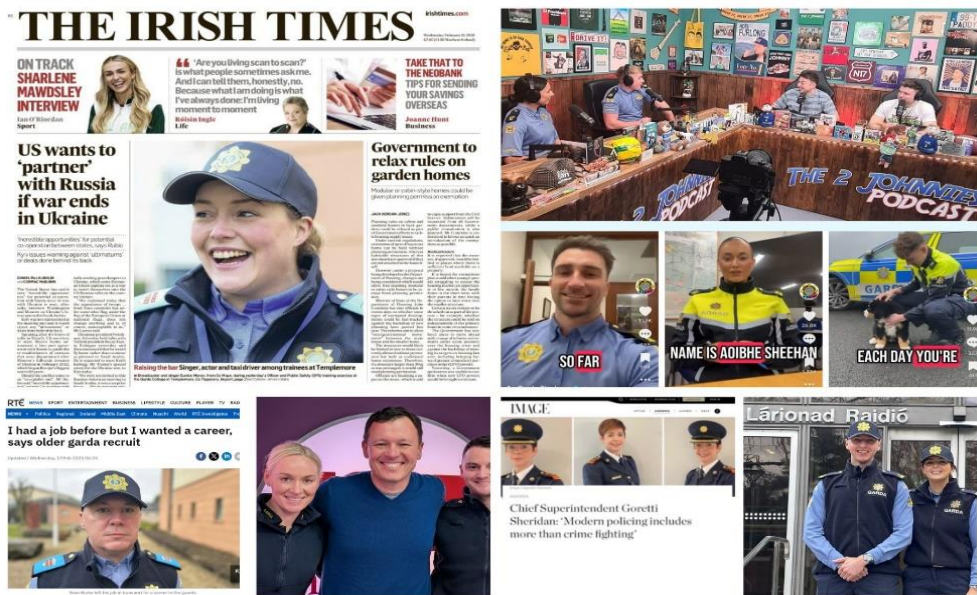
In the area of road safety, this office facilitated a second media briefing promoting the St. Brigid's Day Bank Holiday Weekend Roads Policing Operation at Water Street/Horgans Quay, Cork City on 1 February 2025 and provided media updates on detections over the bank holiday weekend. Later in the month, we supported the Roads Safety Authority campaign highlighting the implementation of a reduction in 80km/hr speed limits to 60kms/hr along most rural roads on 7 February 2025.

Furthermore, this office supported the promotion of National Slow Down Day on 26 February 2025.

Two episodes of the Garda Podcast were released during the month of February 2025, these included episodes entitled: Inside the Dog Unit and Becoming a Garda.

**Office of Corporate Communications Activities:**

**Public Relations Activities: Garda Trainee Recruitment Campaign 6-27 February, 2025**

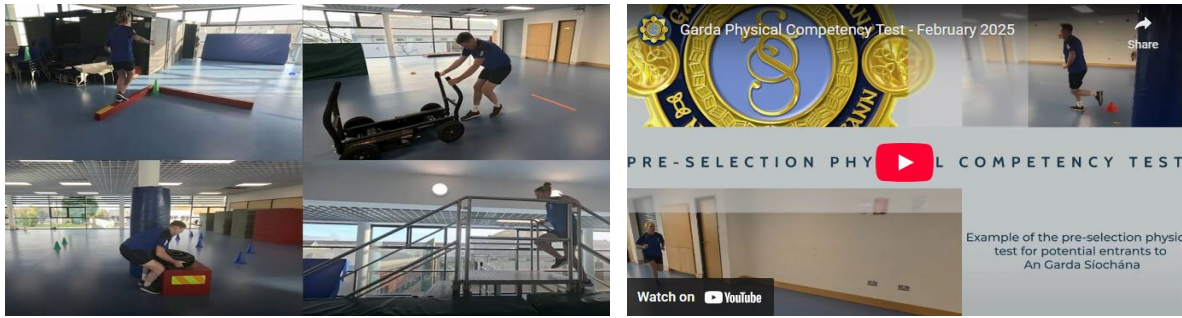


*(Top L-R) Garda Trainee Eunice Moran on the front page of Irish Times, Garda Cian O'Sullivan, Clonmel Garda Station and Garda Sinéad Roche, Fermoy Garda Station were interviewed by the 2 Johnnies. Garda Josh Rowland, Garda Aoibhe Sheehan and Garda Pdraig O'Neill on An Garda Síochána TikTok page. (Bottom L-R) New Recruit Sean Burke provided an interview to RTÉ, Garda Emma Henebery ASU and Garda Jamie Ryan Roads Policing Unit on the Anton Savage show, Chief Superintendent Goretti Sheridan interview with IMAGE Magazine.*



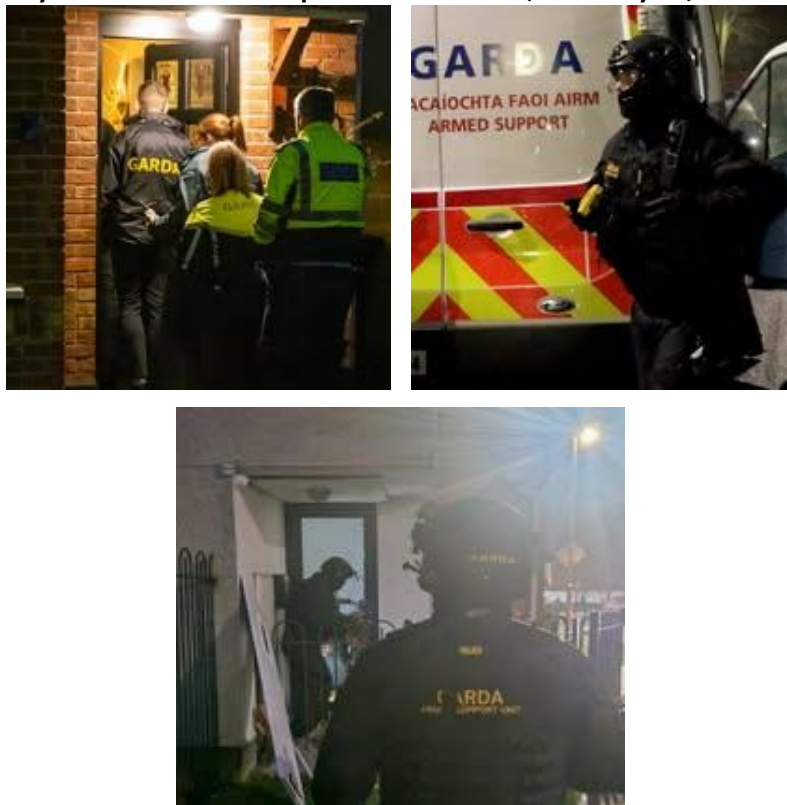
*Garda Fionnuala McCorry, Navan Garda Station and Garda Manus Murphy, Store Street Garda Station with RTÉ Radio 1 Presenter Oliver Callan.*

Our latest Garda recruitment campaign opened to applications on 6 February 2025 and concluded on 27 February 2025. The Office of Corporate Communications conducted a wide ranging PR campaign structured around creating awareness of the Garda recruitment competition and promoting that being a Garda is a job worth doing. These included media interviews with media news outlets, across television, radio and print (local and national), together with digital news media. Furthermore, opportunities to feature on podcasts were explored. These included recording an episode of the Garda Podcast on Becoming a Garda, and a 30-minute segment on the popular The Two Johnnies Podcast. While an opportunity to feature as part of the Ireland AM weather forecast was also utilised to promote the campaign. Further supporting the campaign, a media event was held in the Garda College, Templemore on 18 February 2025, providing opportunities to meet Garda Trainees with varied backgrounds who discussed why they wanted to join An Garda Síochána. Changes to the pre-selection physical competency test were promoted with video content outlining the updated requirements.



*Stills of the pre-selection physical competency test video, which is available on the Garda YouTube Channel*

**Promotional Activity: Search and arrest operation Dublin 15, February 15, 2025**



*Images captured of personnel involved in the search and arrest operation in Dublin on 15 February 2025*

The Office of Corporate Communications produced video content and images aimed at promoting a major search and arrest operation targeting an organised crime group in Dublin, which took place in the early hours of 15 February 2025. These images and video footage were shared across our social media channels and were picked up by media outlets. An accompanying press release was issued to media highlighting the number of arrests made and the significant numbers of personnel (>100) involved in the operation. The operation led by detectives and uniform units from Blanchardstown Garda Station, was supported by the Emergency Response Unit, Armed Support Unit, Dublin Crime Response Team, Garda National Bureau of Criminal Investigation, Garda Dog Unit, Garda National Technical Bureau, and local divisional search teams and Scenes of Crime Units.



**Garda Press Office Activity:**

The Garda Press Office operates 7am-11pm, seven days a week, responding to hundreds of queries, coordinating external communications and media relations, and regularly updating our social media platforms.

The Garda Press Office issued 208 press releases, including 53 missing person appeals relating to 27 missing persons; 27 in respect of witness appeals; together with those related to successful operations undertaken by the organisation.

Further to those already outlined this month's activity included:

- St. Brigid's Day Bank Holiday Weekend Roads Policing Operation, second briefing, Saturday 1 February 2025.
- Media briefing at Dublin Castle with Assistant Commissioner DMR, Paul Cleary on 5 February 2025 following seizure of €14m in suspected drugs and arrests in Laois and Dublin on 4 February 2025.
- National #SlowDown Day: Wednesday, 26 February 2025.

**Notable interviews with media in February 2025:**

This office was responsible for coordinating the following media interviews and providing support and guidance to those conducting these engagements.








| <b>Requestor / Media Outlet</b>  | <b>Topic</b>                             | <b>Interviewee</b>  | <b>Publication date</b> |
|----------------------------------|--|---|-------------------------|
| RTE Radio 1 Morning Ireland      | Bank Holiday Road Safety Campaign        | Superintendent Geraghty   | 05/02/2025              |
| RTE Radio 1 Claire Byrne Show    | Rural Road Speed Change                  | Chief Superintendent Humphries  | 06/02/2025              |
| Limerick Today                   | Recruitment Campaign 2025                | Superintendent Michael Fleming  | 07/02/2025              |
| Two Johnnies Podcast             | Garda Recruitment Campaign               | Garda O'Sullivan, Clonmel Garda Station and Garda Roche, Fermoy Garda Station | 10/02/2025              |
| RTE Radio 1 Oliver Callan Show   | Recruitment Campaign 2025                | Gardaí Fionnuala McCorry and Manus Murphy                                     | 12/02/2025              |
| Midlands Today                   | Recruitment Campaign 2025                | Inspector Joe Culliton  | 12/02/2025              |
| DriveTime RTÉ Radio 1            | Recruitment Campaign 2025                | Superintendent William Geraghty   | 18/02/2025              |
| Midlands Today                   | Recruitment Campaign 2025                | Sergeant Orla Nolan   | 18/02/2025              |
| The Evening Echo                 | Recruitment Campaign 2025                | Sergeant Jamie Sweeney  | 19/02/2025              |
| Ireland AM Virgin TV             | Garda Recruitment Campaign               | Garda Dwayne O'Brien, Garda Sudita Zalli, and Garda Josh Rowland              | 24/02/2025              |
| 96FM                             | Thefts of Luxury Cars by Gang in Munster | Sergeant Michael O'Connell  | 25/02/2025              |
| Joe Finnegan Show Shannonside FM | National Slow Down Day February          | Inspector David Tiernan   | 26/02/2025              |

### Social Media Activities:

The Office of Corporate Communications oversees six official social media channels for An Garda Síochána: Facebook, Instagram, TikTok, LinkedIn, X (formerly Twitter) and Bluesky. Within these channels there are 43 separate accounts, including regional Facebook and regional Instagram profiles. There are approximately 2.3 million followers across all platforms. These channels are used to promote activity within the organisation, highlighting the good work being done nationwide. These channels are further used to provide key communications to the public on behalf of An Garda Síochána. These communications may include public information regarding traffic disruption, public appeals for information, alerts i.e. CRI alerts and campaigns.

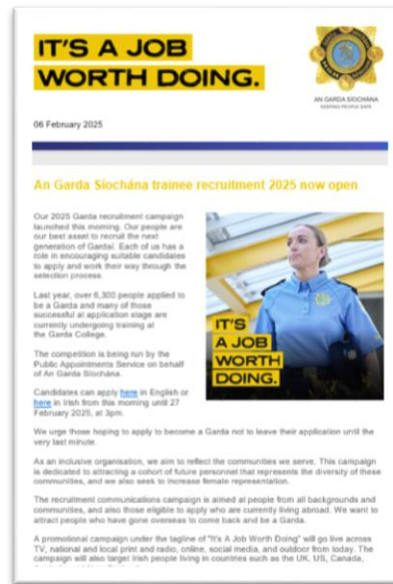
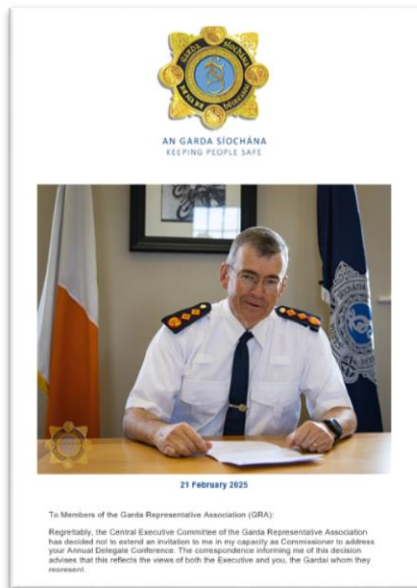
The Office of Corporate Communications measure the success of these communications by capturing:

- The number of followers / individual users who have subscribed to each account.
- The rate of engagement with the account. A high percentage indicates we are producing compelling posts that resonate with our audience. Typically, a good engagement rate is in the region of 1-5%.
- The number of engagements with the content / posts we produce.

| Social Media Channel   | Number of Followers | Engagement Rate |
|--|---------------------|-----------------|
|  Facebook - @AnGardaSíochána  | 420,589             | 0.85%           |
|  Facebook – Missing Persons   | 24,175              | 1.02%           |
|  Instagram - @GardaInsta      | 235,036             | 1.83%           |
|  X- @GardaInfo                | 296,563             | 2.11%           |
|  X - @GardaTraffic            | 628,801             | 5.43%           |
|  LinkedIn – An Garda Síochána | 70,912              | 13.3%           |
|  TikTok – @GardaInfo          | 64,166              | 3.9%            |

### Internal Communications

In February 2025, An Garda Síochána Internal Communications Team delivered eight comprehensive Newsbeat updates, including a Newsbeat recruitment special. The average Newsbeat open rate is 65%, significantly higher than the industry standard open rate 57.6% for internal newsletters and the 49.5% average within Government and Public Service organisations. Also published this month, was an organisational message from Commissioner Harris.



**Key updates:**

- Recruitment special: An Garda Síochána Trainee Recruitment Campaign; Providing personnel with information to help promote the campaign and any recruitment related questions.
- New speed limits: Information shared on reduction of speed limits from 80km to 60km on most rural local roads.
- Kildare Division's Living Well Expo: This event focused on raising cancer awareness and featured contributions from former Garda personnel and their families.
- EU Presidency in Ireland: Information on Ireland's preparation for the Presidency of the Council of the European Union in 2026 and our role in this.
- Juvenile Protocol for rape and murder cases: Information provided on the launch of protocol to expedite rape and murder cases involving victims and defendants under 18 years of age.
- National Slow Down Day: A recap of the nationwide initiative focused on high visibility speed enforcement.

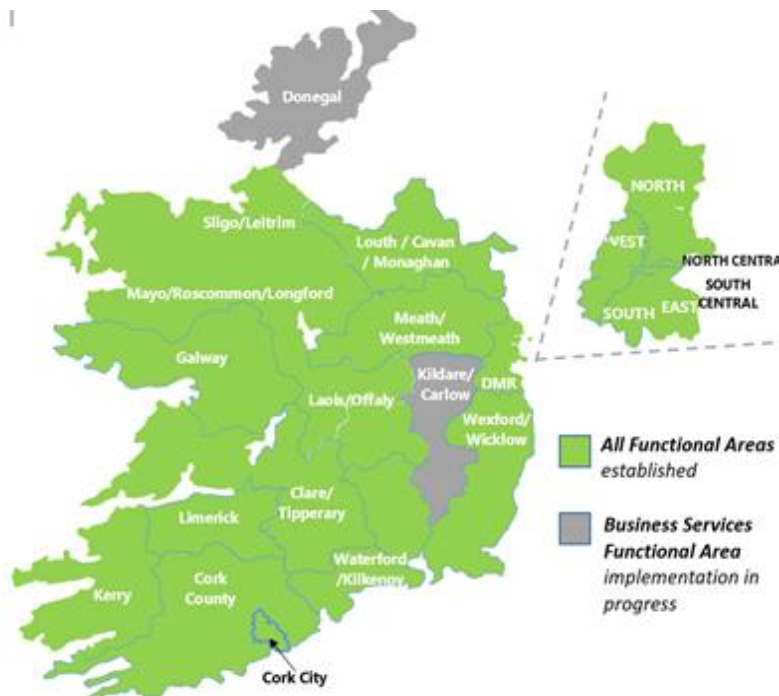
## 5. Operating Model

On 23 February 2025, the Laois/Offaly Division became the nineteenth division to commence the four Functional Area structure (Business Services, Performance Assurance, Crime and Community Engagement).

The Southern Region and Dublin Metropolitan Region have all their divisions operating under the four Functional Area structure. The Operating Model Central Implementation Team continue to provide support to the respective Divisional Management Teams in managing the transitional and post-implementation phases.

Progress is continuing with Business Services and Performance Assurance implementation across the remaining two divisions (Donegal and Kildare/Carlow) to transition to the Operating Model.

### Implementation Overview (28 February 2025)



## 6. Implementation of Cultural Change

### Culture Reform Programme

On 5 February 2025, Garda Ethics and Culture Bureau (GECB) met with the research team from Durham University who provided a presentation on the draft survey for 2025. A meeting is scheduled for the Durham Research team to meet with and present to the Garda member and Garda Staff representative bodies in March 2025. Quarter 4, 2024 returns were received from all business owners regarding initiatives from the Culture Audit 2022 Implementation Plan. A final report for the implementation has been completed and will be provided to senior management for review.

### Enhancing Professional Conduct

On 18 February 2025, GECB issued HQ Directive 005/2025 along with the new declaration form and Code of Ethics booklet in English and Irish, to Human Resource Management and the Garda College for all new entrants, promotions and personnel returning to work following career break. A monthly review of Code of Ethics declarations received at GECB was conducted at the end of February 2025. GECB have continued to embed the Code of Ethics within An Garda Síochána through the capture of Code of Ethics declarations/reaffirmations from all new recruits and Garda personnel at significant stages of their careers. A total of 50 new declarations were received by the Bureau.



The Learning the Lessons Working Group convened on 11 February 2025 to discuss the next edition, which will include topics on roads policing, human resources policies and internal affairs. The monthly Key Risk Action Plan for the Garda Ethics and Culture Bureau was forwarded to senior management on 27 February 2025.

## 7. Risk Management

An Garda Síochána Corporate Risk Register captures ten risks currently facing the organisation. An Garda Síochána corporate risks are being managed effectively by their assigned corporate risk owners, overseen by the Chief Risk Officer, and the Risk and Policy Committee, supported by the Garda Risk Management Unit (GRMU). Compliance rates at local level for Q4, 2024 are currently at 73%.

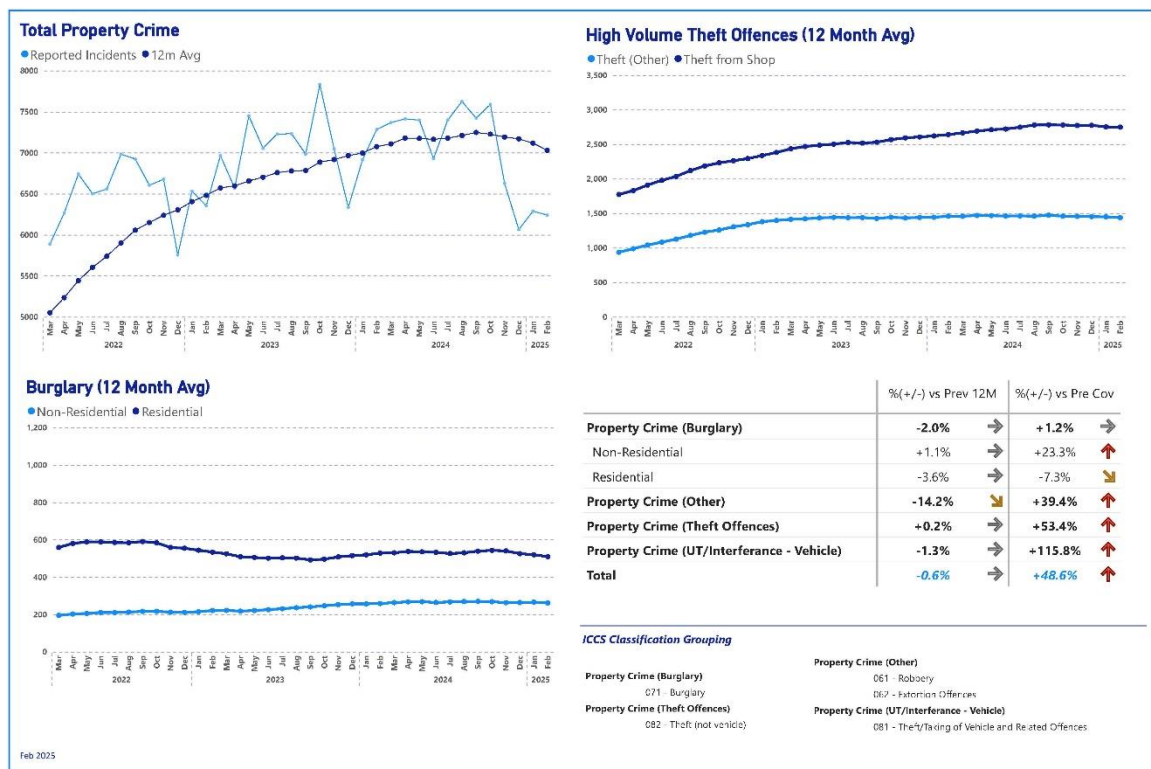
During the month of February 2025:

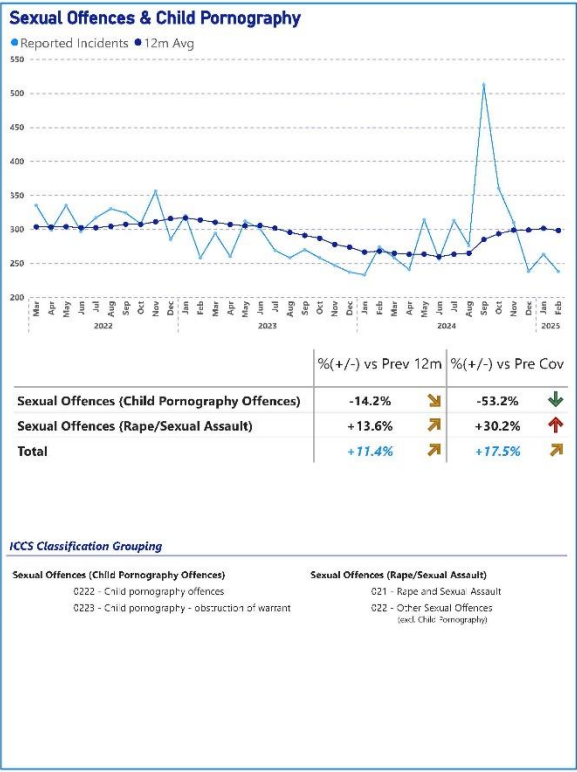
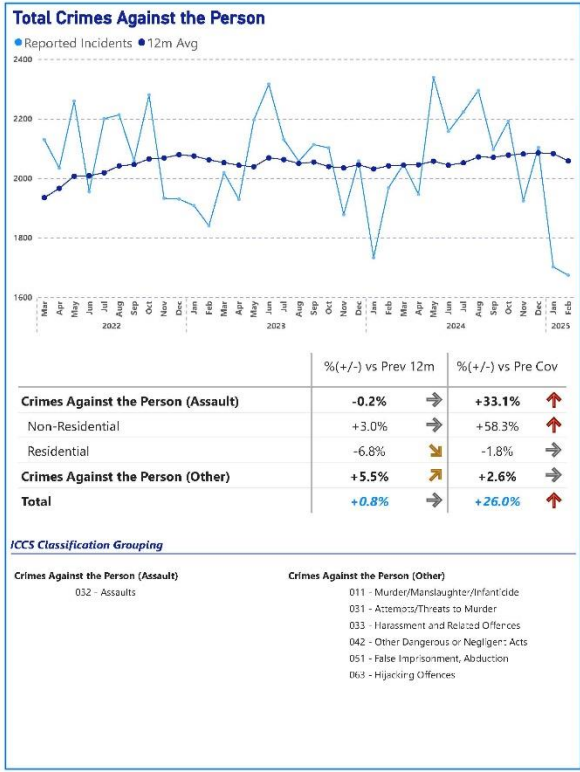
- Ms. Mary McGuirk was appointed as Assistant Principal of GRMU.
- GRMU held one-to-one meetings with all corporate risk owners/support staff, to assist in the review and update of their respective corporate risks.
- GRMU delivered a briefing/workshop on the '*e-Risk*' ICT system to personnel in the Meath/Westmeath Division to facilitate the rollout of the system.
- GRMU continue to engage with the Institute of Public Administration in the finalisation of their current review of risk management in An Garda Síochána.

## 8. Data Quality and Operational Value of Data

### Crime Trends

The Garda Síochána Analysis Service closely monitors crime trends, and disseminates analysis on a regional and divisional basis. This feeds directly into planning operational activities aimed at reducing and preventing crime. Crime incident figures and the associated trends are based on provisional data, and are subject to change following review. The CSO publications represent the official crime statistics. These are carried in the CSO's quarterly publications of crime trends and in their annual reports.







**Use of Force February 2025**

| <b>Category</b>   | <b>February 2025</b> |
|---|----------------------|
| <b>Total UOF for Month</b>  | 930                  |
| Civilians Injured   | 18                   |
| Garda Members Injured   | 17                   |
| Pepper Spray Deployed   | 111                  |
| Batons  | 25                   |
| Handcuffs   | 876                  |
| Anti-spit guard   | 1                    |
| Unarmed Restraint   | 179                  |
| Taser   | 4                    |
| Less Lethal Firearm   | 3                    |
| Firearm   | 0                    |
| Gender Subject to Force – Male                                      | 761                  |
| Gender Subject to Force – Female                                    | 103                  |
| Drugs Involved  | 292                  |
| Alcohol Involved  | 521                  |
| Division with highest level UOF – DMR South Central                 | 188                  |
| Percentage of UOF Deployments occurring Friday, Saturday and Sunday | 50%                  |

## 9. Policing Challenges

### Demonstrations

An Garda Síochána continues to provide a policing response, including traffic management, to protests nationally. This type of incident can be resource-intensive due to potentially large numbers of people involved. International conflict and anti-immigration/sentiment continue to be the main causes for protests/demonstrations.

Table 1 - Demonstration (Non Crime) - 2025YTD

| Region               | 2025 YTD   |
|----------------------|------------|
| Dublin Region        | 83         |
| Southern Region      | 23         |
| Eastern Region       | 17         |
| North Western Region | 10         |
| <b>Total</b>         | <b>133</b> |

Table 2 - Demonstration (Non Crime) – February 2025

| Region               | Feb 2025  |
|----------------------|-----------|
| Dublin Region        | 58        |
| Southern Region      | 12        |
| Eastern Region       | 11        |
| North Western Region | 6         |
| <b>Grand Total</b>   | <b>87</b> |

### Policing at events

The planning for, resourcing and policing of major events, continues to provide a challenge in terms of policing resources. February 2025 marked a busy month for policing, security and traffic management across the country. A number of major events drew people into Dublin City, of particular note were the Guinness 6 Nations fixture between Ireland and England, and the SSE Airtricity fixture, Bohemian FC v Shamrock Rovers FC, which attracted a high volume of tourists and local supporters to the Aviva Stadium.

### Roads Policing

An Garda Síochána continues to respond to road safety challenges. In February 2025, 14 people died in fatal traffic collisions. There were 43 serious injury traffic collisions reported in February 2025 and more than half of all fatalities this year have been drivers.

An Garda Síochána continues to implement the 30-minute roads policing initiative which was introduced last year to increase visibility on our roads. In February 2025, there were 4,084 MIT checkpoints conducted. There was an average of approximately 10 arrests per day nationally for driving under the influence of drugs, 14 per day for driving under the influence of alcohol and there were over 2,500 vehicles seized under the provisions of Section 41 of the Road Traffic Act in February 2025.

### Road Safety Campaign – St. Brigid’s Bank Holiday Weekend 2025

Commencing at 7am on 30 January 2025, An Garda Síochána implemented a 5-day road safety campaign for the St. Brigid’s Day Bank Holiday weekend, which concluded at 7am on 4 February 2025. The operation involved the targeting of lifesaver offences (speeding, holding a mobile phone while driving, seatbelt use and driving while intoxicated), and a heightened focus on patrols at identified high-risk times for collisions and intoxicated driving. The operation was launched by Assistant Commissioner, Roads Policing and Community Engagement at an event in Garda Headquarters, which was also attended by Minister of State for Transport, Sean Canny TD and the CEO of the Road Safety Authority, Mr. Sam Waide. Over the course of the 5-day campaign, there were 2,256 FCNs issued for speeding offences, 314 FCNs issued for mobile phone use, 110 FCNs for seatbelt offences, 129 arrests for driving under the influence with alcohol as a factor and 68 persons arrested for driving under the influence with drugs as a factor.

### Day of Action - Uninsured Drivers

On 12 February 2024 at 7am, a national day of action on uninsured drivers took place. The operation had members conduct checkpoints to detect persons using the road network without insurance. Over the course of the operation, there were 88 vehicles seized for having no insurance.

|                          | February 2025 |
|--------------------------|---------------|
| Mobile Phone FCNs        | 1,711         |
| SEAT BELT FCNs           | 364           |
| Intercept Speed FCNs     | 5,407         |
| Non-Intercept Speed FCNs | 6,179         |
| Total Speed FCNs         | 11,586        |

|   |     |
|---|-----|
| Driving While Intoxicated*                      | 638 |
| Driving While Intoxicated - alcohol as a factor | 390 |
| Driving While Intoxicated - drugs as a factor   | 272 |

| Section 41 Detentions   | February 2025 |
|---|---------------|
| Vehicle Detained (Sc. 41 RTA)**                               | 2,519         |
| Vehicle Detained (Sc. 41 RTA) - no ins.                       | 1,482         |
| Vehicle Detained (Sc. 41 RTA) - no tax                        | 970           |
| Vehicle Detained (Sc. 41 RTA) - no NCT                        | 421           |
| Vehicle Detained (Sc. 41 RTA) - unaccompanied learner drivers | 492           |

| MIT Checkpoints - Breath/Oral Fluid Tests    | February 2025 |
|--|---------------|
| MIT Checkpoints - Breath Tests performed     | 15,076        |
| MIT Checkpoints - Oral Fluid Tests performed | 651           |

\* Driving While Intoxicated excludes incidents of type 'Driver Under the Limit (No Offence Disclosed)' and 'In Charge Under The Limit (No Offence Disclosed)'.

\*\*It is important to note that vehicles may be detained under S.41 of the Road Traffic Act for more than one reason.

Information contained in this section is based upon operational data from the Pulse and FCPS systems as was available on 03/03/2025 and is liable to change. Crime counting rules were not applied

## **New legislation on XL Bully type dogs**

As of 1 February 2025, it is illegal to own an XL Bully type dog without a certificate of exemption issued by the local authority or evidence that an application has been made. The importing, breeding, selling and re-homing of XL Bully dogs was already prohibited, after a ban came into effect on 1 October 2024. The certificate of exemption allows the owner to keep the dog at a specific premise until the natural end of the dog's life. To receive the certificate, owners must also ensure that their XL Bully dog is licensed, microchipped and neutered. All XL Bully owners may then be required to present their certificate to a dog warden within ten days of a request to do so. Owners who are unable to produce a certificate face a fine of up to €2,500 or imprisonment of a term of up to three months. The XL Bully dog may then be seized and euthanised.

It is important to remember that the seizure and detention of any dogs may involve both the dog warden and An Garda Síochána. The authority to designate a dog as an XL Bully type rests with the dog warden.



## 10. Immigration Policing

The Garda National Immigration Bureau (GNIB) led an operation whereby 32 Georgian nationals were successfully removed from the State on the first chartered flight for this purpose in more than six years. All were subject to deportation orders issued by the Minister for Justice. The majority of the returnees had entered the state illegally and, following the issuing of a deportation order, had failed to comply with the conditions of said order, absconded and remained illegally present in the State.

The flight to Georgia was sanctioned by the Department of Justice and the Department of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Georgia, with significant liaison between both authorities to coordinate the operation. Escorting the deportees on this flight to Georgia were Garda Immigration Officers, accompanied by medics and a human rights monitor. An Garda Síochána and GNIB continue to enforce immigration legislation, and focus on maintaining the security and integrity of our borders, working closely with the Department of Justice in implementing immigration policy.



*GNIB-led operation whereby 32 Georgian nationals were successfully removed from the State.*

On 2 February 2025, while conducting immigration checks on foot-passengers disembarking from a boat at Rosslare Europort, a female whom had been refused entry to France in January 2025 was encountered. She was subsequently refused leave to land and was removed to Cherbourg the same day.

On 11 February 2025, two males were discovered concealed in the pallet carrier of an unaccompanied trailer as it was unloaded from a vessel. Gardaí attached to the Garda National Immigration Unit on investigation found the males had no travel documents. They were refused leave to land and subsequently removed to Cherbourg, under Garda escort.

## 11. Human Trafficking

On 21 February 2025, the Border Management Unit at Dublin Airport referred a case to the Garda National Immigration Bureau regarding a female's attempt to enter the State on a flight from Europe, using a lookalike passport in the company of a male whom they suspected may have been facilitating her unlawful entry. The female attempted to pass through immigration control using a Swedish passport in another name. A search of the male's luggage located a genuine travel document with the female passenger's correct identity. After caution, the suspect conceded that he intended to bring the female with him to the UK, even though his previous application for UK entry visa had been refused. The female subsequently claimed asylum. The suspect was arrested on suspicion of people smuggling, detained and charged. He was remanded in custody following a court appearance.

Separately, the Human Trafficking Investigation and Coordination Unit (HTICU) provided human trafficking training to 22 Probationer Gardaí in the Dublin Metropolitan Region. HTICU also provided human trafficking training to a number of external agencies during the month of February 2025. The human trafficking training includes the provision of information on the indicators of human trafficking and how to identify potential victims.

## 12. Community Engagement and Organisational Initiatives

Throughout the month of February 2025, An Garda Síochána was involved in a number of initiatives to improve interagency cooperation with international partners. A number of proactive awareness initiatives took place, highlighting the services available that align with our mission of 'Keeping People Safe'. A synopsis of some of the initiatives that occurred during the month of February 2025 are set out hereunder.

### Security 2025 Exhibition

On 6 February 2025, Garda National Community Policing Unit personnel attended the Security 2025 Exhibition held in the Blanchardstown Crown Plaza Hotel. This event showcased the latest developments and advancements in security products, i.e. CCTV, intruder alarm systems, geo-fencing, access control systems, among others. Keeping up-to-date and having knowledge of the latest security products is integral to the role of Crime Prevention Officers, who are often tasked with carrying out site security reviews of local and national infrastructure. Members of the Garda National Community Policing Unit who deliver Neighbourhood Watch, Community Alert and Campus Watch also attended. It provided an opportunity to gain invaluable knowledge on security products that will assist them in sharing information with the public.

### Crime Prevention Initiative Day in the Dublin Metropolitan Region

On 6 February 2025, Gardaí in the Dublin Metropolitan Region conducted a crime prevention initiative day at Smithfield Square. Members of the public were given an opportunity to have their bicycles marked with a unique reference number using a property marking machine. Members also gave advice and crime prevention demonstrations.

### Shining a light on Female Genital Mutation



*(L-R); R/Garda Stephen Moore, Garda Laura Reid, R/Garda Joe Lawlor, R/Garda Sabrina Murphy, Niamh Cortina BMU, R/Garda Áine Rooney, Rita Doran BMU, Amanda Sullivan BMU, R/Garda Jimmy Williams.*

The 6<sup>th</sup> of February 2025 marked the International Zero Tolerance Day against Female Genital Mutilation (FGM), a day dedicated to raising awareness of this harmful practice and its devastating consequences for women and girls worldwide. In Ireland, FGM is recognised as a form of gender-based violence under the third national strategy on domestic, sexual and gender-based violence. As part of this commitment, Operation Limelight, an international initiative, was launched in October 2023 by the Garda National Protective Services Bureau and supported by various agencies, to increase awareness of FGM and its consequences. The awareness and prevention days are run in conjunction with the Border Management Unit, Akidwa, Community Midwives and local Garda personnel. Operation Limelight emphasises the legal repercussions and severe long-term health risks associated with FGM. An Garda Síochána collaborates with supporting agencies to engage with flights arriving from areas with high prevalence of FGM and forced marriage. The goal is to raise awareness, identify potential vulnerabilities, and safeguard those at risk.

## Safer Internet Day 2025



*(L-R) Garda Danielle Cummins GNCEB, Mick Moran CEO Hotline.ie, D/Sgt Catherine Curtin GNPSB, members from Webwise Youth Panel, Corah Caples, Dept. of Justice, D/Chief Superintendent Colm Noonan GNPSB*

On 11 February 2025, Gardaí from the Garda National Community Engagement Bureau and the Garda National Protective Services Bureau attended Safer Internet Day 2025, which kicked off with an event at Microsoft's Dream Space. This event was hosted by Webwise and the Irish Safer Internet Centre. The theme for Safer Internet Day 2025 was "Prepare/Protect/Thrive: Navigating Algorithms and Influencers". The key speakers included Professor Debbie Ging from DCU and Online Safety Commissioner Niamh Hodnett, who addressed critical issues surrounding online safety. The event highlighted a European Commission study revealing that one-third of 16-30 year olds exhibit signs of social media addiction, adversely affecting their daily lives and increasing feelings of loneliness. The event also featured contributions from Mick Moran, CEO of Hotline.ie, the Irish national reporting centre where the public can securely and anonymously report concerns about illegal online content, particularly child sexual abuse material. Discussions focused on navigating algorithms and influencers, as well as promoting safety by design, regulation, and children's rights.

## Sharing knowledge to help protect children



*Chief Superintendent Colm Noonan, GNPSB*

The Garda National Protective Services Bureau held a joint specialist interviewer seminar at the Garda College, Templemore on 12 February 2025. The joint Seminar was held between Specialist Interviewers from An Garda Síochána, Tusla and Children's Health Ireland. Over 160 personnel from An Garda Síochána, Tusla, Children's Health Ireland, St. Michael's House, Barnahus and Accompaniment Support Services for Children attended, both in person and online. Detective Chief Superintendent Colm Noonan opened the seminar which covered topics such as supporting individuals with intellectual disabilities, Tusla's child abuse substantiation procedure, the recently announced protocol to expedite rape and murder cases involving victims and defendants under 18 years of age, and a resilience talk from clinical psychologist Shane Martin. St. Michael's house also gave a presentation.



## Protocol to expedite rape and murder cases involving victims and defendants under 18 years of age

On Friday, 21 February the Minister for Justice Jim O'Callaghan launched a new Juvenile Protocol for rape and murder cases involving children. 16 signatories to the protocol, including An Garda Síochána, agree to expedite such cases to reduce the stress, trauma, and the effect delays in the criminal justice system have on child victims and child defendants.

Garda Commissioner Drew Harris spoke at the event and said: *“This protocol represents a very positive step in enhancing supports for vulnerable child victims and defendants, and An Garda Síochána is pleased to support its introduction. As a victim-centred police service, An Garda Síochána is focused on keeping people safe, protecting the most vulnerable and providing a consistently high standard of service. This protocol enables justice to be carried out swiftly that will help victims and their families to heal. Furthermore, it will serve as a further protection of their rights in accordance with the Children Act 2001, recognising that all children are vulnerable and entitled to efficient due process”.*



(L – R) President of the High Court Mr Justice David Barniville, Director of Public Prosecutions, Catherine Pierse, Mr Justice Paul McDermott, Minister for Justice Jim O'Callaghan, and Ms Justice Caroline Biggs, Commissioner Drew Harris

## New speed limits for rural local roads



On 7 February 2025, the speed limit on most rural local roads changed from 80 kilometres per hour to 60 kilometres per hour. The change is intended to help reduce the number of deaths and serious injuries on Irish roads, in line with the Government's Road Safety Strategy 2021-2030. Reducing speed limits on rural local roads from 80 to 60 was recommended in the 2023 Speed Limit Review, published by a working group comprising the Department of Transport, Road Safety Authority, An Garda Síochána, Transport Infrastructure Ireland, the National Transport Authority and the Local Government Management Agency.

The Speed Limit Review highlighted that protecting vulnerable road users must be a key focus when setting speed limits. For example, the risk of being killed is much greater for collisions between a car and a vulnerable road user at 50 km/h, when compared with the same type of collision at 30 km/h.

A national Government advertising campaign called 'Slower Speeds, Safer Roads' has begun, with the aim of making people aware of the change. In the coming months, urban roads will also be subject to a reduction in road speed limits. We will continue to inform you of these changes by way of operational briefings, PAFs and all-organisation communications



## Garda Occupational Health and Wellbeing



### Mental Health First Aid Programme Update

- In February 2025, four cohorts of Mental Health First Aid (MHFA) Training Facilitators delivered 18 standard two-day MHFA workshops. In total, this means that 321 Garda personnel were trained in Mental Health First Aid in one month alone.



### Health and Wellbeing Survey 2024

In preparation for the Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2026 - 2030.

- The National Health and Wellbeing Survey was launched to all Garda personnel on 25 November 2024. A draft executive summary and report is currently being finalised.