

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS AT MEETING OF THE MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF NEWCASTLE WEST JOINT POLICING SUB COMMITTEE HELD IN ÁRAS WILLIAM SMITH OBRIEN, NEWCASTLE WEST, CO. LIMERICK, ON WEDNESDAY, 7TH MARCH, 2018, AT 9AM.

PRESENT IN THE CHAIR: Councillor M. Collins, Cathaoirleach.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Councillors Browne, Foley, Sheahan and Galvin.

Apologies: Councillor Scanlan

OFFICIALS IN ATTENDANCE:

Director, Service Operations (Mr. G. Daly), Senior Executive Engineer, West Division (Mr. B. Noonan), Meetings Administrator, Newcastle West (Ms. M. Corbett), Executive Engineer, Roads (Mr. P. Vallely), Clerical Officer, Newcastle West (Ms. A. Lenihan)

Superintendent E. O'Neill and Inspector A. Cullen

Councillor Collins noted that this was the first Meeting of the Newcastle West Joint Policing Sub Committee and welcomed everyone in attendance.

1. Policing Issues in the District

Superintendent O'Neill stated that the Christmas policing plans went well particularly in Rathkeale town. He referred to a number of incidents, which occurred within the District including a hijacking, quad bike theft, arson and a drug seizure. He noted that arrests had been made with files sent to the Director of Public Prosecutions.

He outlined the community policing plans and stated that 49 Gardai are involved in community policing. He noted that these Gardai would be liaising with community and residence groups. He also referred to the text alert schemes for households and to the new business text alert scheme. Superintendent O'Neill also stated that a formal launch of the scheme would take place in April.

He also paid tribute to the great co-operation between the Gardai, Council, Emergency Services, Civil Defence, Red Cross and the Army during Storm Emma.

The Members also complimented all services dealing with the severe weather event and the work, which was carried out in the aftermath of Storm Emma. They requested that their thanks be conveyed to the crews involved.

They also welcomed the update on policing within the District and queried if additional resources were required given the large geographical area being policed. They noted the community policing model and the visual presence of Gardai within the local towns. The opening hours of the Abbeyfeale Garda Station, a Sergeant for Abbeyfeale and the issue of drugs within the region was also raised.

In response, Superintendent O'Neill, stated with regard to the opening hours of Abbeyfeale Garda Station, it was more beneficial to have Gardai patrolling the area but if members of the public wished to meet with Gardai arrangements could be made. He also noted that in the short term there would be no Sergeant for Abbeyfeale but did state that four additional traffic Gardai are being made available for the District. He also advised that a Crime Prevention Sergeant is available for the District and he can give advice to groups on security measures.

The Members also expressed their congratulations to former Chief Superintendent D. Sheahan on his appointment to Assistant Commissioner. They wished Sergeant D. Woods well on his retirement and also expressed their condolences to Garda G. Griffin on his family's recent bereavement.

This concluded the Meeting.

Signed: _____
Cathaoirleach

Dated: _____