

**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, 6<sup>TH</sup> MARCH, 2019, AT 9.15AM.**

**PRESENT IN THE CHAIR:** Councillor J. Sheahan, Cathaoirleach.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Councillors Browne, Collins, Foley, Galvin and Scanlan.

**OFFICIALS IN ATTENDANCE:**

Director, Social Development Directorate (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 J. Deasy and Inspector A. Lacey

At the outset, Councillor Sheahan welcomed Superintendent Deasy and Inspector Lacey to the Meeting.

**1. Adoption of Minutes**

Circulated, copy of draft Minutes of Meeting of the Joint Policing Sub Committee Meeting of the Municipal District of Newcastle West held on 5<sup>th</sup> December, 2018.

Proposed by: Councillor Galvin

Seconded by: Councillor Foley

And Resolved:

“That, the draft Minutes, as circulated, be taken as read and adopted and signed”.

**Matters Arising**

The Members referred to the location of Go Safe Vans at various towns and villages within the District and asked if a review of the locations could be undertaken. A discussion followed and the Superintendent confirmed that the Road Safety Authority designate locations in areas close to accident blackspots. The locations are also available on the Garda website.

## **2. Policing Issues in the District**

Superintendent Deasy gave an update on policing issues within the District and referred to the liaison between the Gardai, Limerick City and County Council and Foroige. He stated that the Christmas policing plans went well particularly in Rathkeale town and noted the cases, which the Gardai dealt with including criminal damage, assaults, drink and drugs offences, road traffic accidents and theft.

He referred to the high number of checkpoints carried out within the District and also said that the incidents of crime had decreased when compared with the same period last year. He did confirm however, that there was a slight increase in theft and drink driving.

He also noted the significant increase in fraud and economic crimes including internet activity. He stressed the importance of people being careful when online shopping, and to be cautious when disclosing personal and bank details. He also advised that people should contact their financial institution if they are aware of any suspicious activity.

He stated that the number of thefts from mechanically propelled vehicles has increased and the Superintendent stressed the importance of members of the public ensuring that their vehicles are securely locked at all times and keys kept in a safe place. He also referred to the text alert system where any suspicious activity can be reported. He stated that people should be conscious when leaving their houses to ensure that they light up and lock up and to identify neighbours requiring assistance.

He noted that one fatal Road Traffic Accident that had taken place in the District. He also noted the importance of CCTV in tackling crime and referred to the high quality of CCTV which is being used on a daily basis in the investigation of crime. In response to queries from Members, Superintendent Deasy advised that the Gardai are very happy with the access to and effectiveness of the CCTV within the District.

The Cathaoirleach and Members complimented the Superintendent on the overview.

The Members referred to the recent fatal Road Traffic Accident and expressed sympathy to the family on their loss. The Members referred to a number of other items including anti-social behaviour at tenanted properties in the private sector, community policing, opening hours of the Garda Station in Abbeyfeale. The Members also noted illegal dumping in Rooska, Carrickerry and asked if the Gardai could liaise with the Council to alleviate the issue of illegal dumping at this location.

This concluded the Meeting.

Signed:

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**Cathaoirleach**

Dated:

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