An Roinn Dlí agus Cirt,
Gnóthaí Baile agus Imirce
Department of Justice,
Home Affairs and Migration

An Oifig Náisiúnta um
Shábháilteacht Pobail
The National Office
for Community Safety

Guidance for the Operation of Local Community Safety Partnerships

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Acronyms

AGS	An Garda Síochána
CoFPI	Commission on the Future of Policing in Ireland
CSF	Community Safety Fund
CYPSC	Children and Young People's Services Committee
GDPR	General Data Protection Regulation
HSE	Health Service Executive
IPS	Irish Prison Service
JPC	Joint Policing Committee
LCDC	Local Community Development Committee
LDC	Local Development Company
LECP	Local Economic and Community Plan
LCSP	Local Community Safety Partnership
PSCS	Policing, Security and Community Safety Act
PCSA	Policing and Community Safety Authority
PPN	Public Participation Network
SICAP	Social Inclusion and Community Activation Programme
TUSLA	The Child and Family Agency

1. Background and context

1.1. Community Safety: A new approach

The term "community safety" was introduced to encourage community participation, involving all sections of the community working together to foster greater feelings of safety in their community.

As outlined in the Department of Justice, Home Affairs and Migration's **community safety policy**, community safety is about people being safe and feeling safe in their own communities. The Department developed this Community Safety Policy based on a key principle identified in the 2018 report by the Commission on the Future of Policing (CoFPI), that policing is not the responsibility of An Garda Síochána alone and that a strategic partnership approach, which brings together a range of service providers and the community, will have a significant impact on helping people be and feel more secure in their communities.

The new community safety approach goes far beyond the traditional policing response and requires all relevant state bodies and voluntary organisations to work together in a joined-up way, in partnership with the local community, to prioritise and address issues in their own area. This new partnership approach is being introduced to encourage greater community participation and empowerment, involving all sections of the community working together to foster greater feelings and experiences of safety in localities throughout Ireland.

The Community Safety Policy is also part of a fundamental change now underway in how government policy in relation to community safety will be delivered and implemented. This "whole-of-government" approachwilll focus all relevant government services on prevention and early interventions. A shared approach to problem solving can ensure that potentially harmful situations do not develop in any given community. Harm prevention and interventions should be delivered pro-actively, by the service best placed to deliver it, and in a joined-up, integrated way with other services.

Ongoing feedback, learning and revew will be a feature of the roll out of the new approach to community safety as outlined in Fig 1 below:

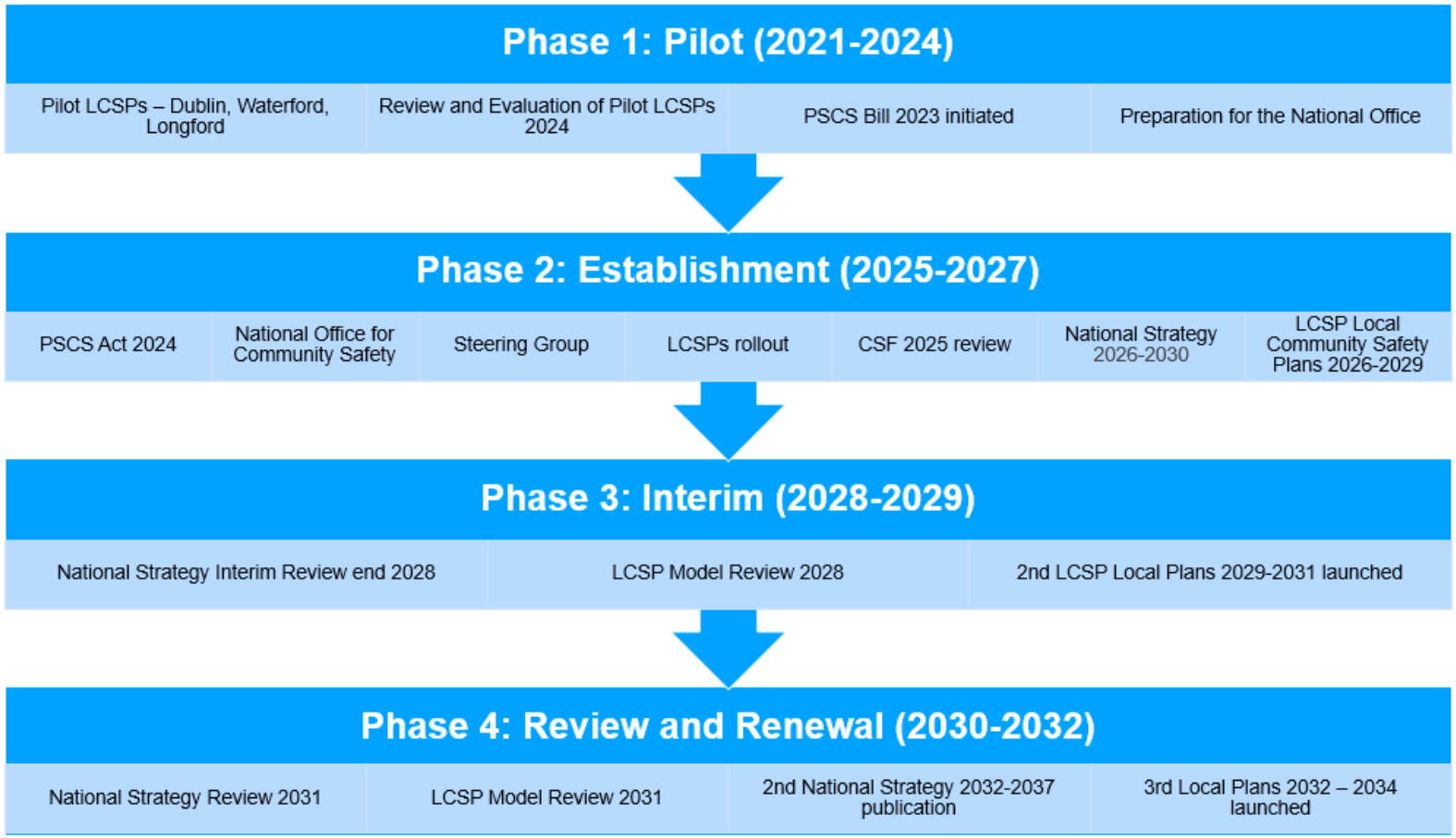


Fig 1: Phases of delivery in the new approach to community safety

1.2. Policing, Security and Community Safety Act 2024

A further recommendation in the CoFPI Report was that this new approach to community safety should be established in legislation. The Policing, Security and Community Safety Act 2024, which commenced on 2 April 2025, addresses this recommendation. Part 3 of this Act relates to community safety and provides for the establishment of local and national infrastructure to support the new approach to community safety, including Local Community Safety Partnerships (LCSPs).

1.3. National Community Safety Infrastructure

The Policing Security and Community Safety (PSCS) Act 2024 ('the Act') provides for a number of key structures and tools to support the Community Safety Policy and Local Community Safety Partnerships:

- **A national strategy for improving community safety**: to support public bodies and communities working together to improve community safety. The strategy will also provide an overarching policy framework and programme of actions, underpinning a whole-of-government approach where community safety is concerned. It is envisaged that the strategy will be prepared and submitted to the Government no later than 12 months following the commencement of the Act.

- **A designated Committee of the Government**: may be established to provide high-level political oversight and accountability to Government.

- **National Community Safety Steering Group**: to provide senior leadership and direction for the implementation of the national strategy and for fostering interagency cooperation. It is comprised of Assistant Secretary, or equivalent, level representation from relevant Government bodies (listed in part 3 of the Act) and agencies (listed in regulations for the Steering Group), supporting the Government's commitment to this new approach.

- **National Office for Community Safety**: to bring strategic direction to the roll out and implementation of Local Community Safety Partnerships; provide training, guidance, and other supports to the Local Community Safety Partnerships;

monitor implementation of local community safety plans; to foster and to conduct or commission research and evaluations relating to the operation of Safety Partnerships. Further information on the functions on the National Office and how it will support Local Community Safety Partnerships are available here.

- **Local Community Safety Partnerships :** will be responsible for bringing all the relevant state services and the community together at local authority level and will play a pivotal role in addressing some of the challenges facing communities across the country. These Safety Partnerships will serve as collaborative platforms, bringing together relevant state services, community representatives, and stakeholders to identify and prioritise local safety concerns, develop local community safety plans, and coordinate multi-agency efforts to address them. 36 Local Community Safety Partnerships will be established in each local authority area, including five in Dublin City Council and two in Fingal County Council administrative areas.

1.4. Local Community Safety Partnership Pilots

In preparation for the Act, the Department of Justice, Home Affairs and Migration piloted this new partnership approach to community safety in three areas from 2021-2024 – Dublin North Inner City, Longford, and Waterford - to trial how the model can succeed in different settings and contexts. These pilot Safety Partnerships were subject to independent monitoring and evaluation, with baseline, interim and final reports published. During this pilot phase, each of the pilots successfully developed, launched, and worked towards implementation of Local Community Safety Plans, which can be viewed here.

The independent evaluation found that the Safety Partnership Model fits well with community safety as a whole-of-government responsibility, with the community voice and involvement as a core feature. Additionally, the evaluation of the pilots highlighted that the work of Safety Partnerships aligns with the UN Sustainable Development Goal 16: to promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all, and build effective, accountable, and inclusive institutions at all levels.

The learnings from these Pilots and the independent evaluations have been used to inform this document.

1.5. Joint Policing Committees

The Garda Síochána Act 2005 provided for the establishment of Joint Policing Committees (JPCs) in each local authority administrative area. JPCs provided a dedicated forum to support consultation, cooperation, and synergy on policing and crime issues between the Garda Síochána, local authority officials, elected representatives, and the community and voluntary sectors. On commencement of the Policing, Security and Community Safety Act on 2nd April 2025, the Garda Síochána Act 2005 was repealed.

Safety Partnerships replace and build upon the good work undertaken through JPCs and supplement it by bringing together a broader range of stakeholders including local councillors, An Garda Síochána, local residents, community representatives, business and education representatives, and a range of statutory agencies, including the HSE, Tusla, and the local authority.

2. Purpose of this document

This document has been developed to support the establishment and operation of Local Community Safety Partnerships, which are provided for in Sections 114 – 116 of the PSCS Act. The regulations under Section 114 of the Act (S.I. 279/2025) govern how they will operate. This guidance document should, therefore, be read in conjunction with those regulations.

The guidance aims to provide clarity and direction to Safety Partnerships, whilst also allowing discretion to develop and implement arrangements that account for local circumstances and local community safety needs. It has been informed by learning from the independent evaluation of the pilot Partnerships alongside other documents including the Department of Justice and Home Affairs Community Safety Policy, the Policing Authority Guidelines for Joint Policing Committees, the Department of Rural and Community Development and the Gaeltacht (DRCDG) Revised Guidelines for the Operation of Local Community Development Committees, and DRCDG's Values & Principles for Collaboration and Partnership Working with the Community and Voluntary Sector. The final evaluation of the pilots recognised that the delivery of Safety Partnerships will be a dynamic and experiential process, as such this is a living document and may be updated from time to time to reflect changes in policy and operational context.

3. Functions of Local Community Safety Partnerships

The functions of Safety Partnerships are listed in Section 116 of the Policing, Security, and Community Safety Act 2024 and are as follows:

Act as a forum for discussion: to serve as a platform for discussing community safety concerns and developing coordinated approaches to improving community safety at the local level.

Develop local community safety plans every three years: develop and adopt a local community safety plan on a three-year basis. The plans must take into account the National Strategy for Community Safety (when available) and any guidance from the National Office.

Public consultation process for Local Community Safety Plans: carry out public consultations to identify Local Community Safety priorities and objectives in the development of the Local Community Safety Plan.

Implement local community safety plans: monitor and review the implementation of Community Safety Plans on an ongoing basis against appropriate benchmarks or indicators.

Monitor and review plan implementation: undertake a review of the community safety plan at least once in the lifetime of the plan and after such a review, amend the plan as appropriate.

Collaborate with stakeholders: collaborate and coordinate with relevant stakeholders in relation to actions under a Local Community Safety Plan, a Local Economic and Community Plan[LECP] made pursuant to section 66B of the Local Government Act 2001, and any other plans relevant to its functional area.

Provide views on local policing plans: where a local policing plan relevant to the functional area of the Safety Partnership is being, or has been, prepared, to provide views on such preparation or on the progress of the implementation of any such plan to the relevant divisional officer for the Garda Síochána division or part thereof to which the plan relates.

Host public meetings: to host public meetings concerning matters relating to community safety in its functional area.

Local Community Safety Fora: to coordinate and support area-based local neighbourhood community safety fora in the Safety Partnership functional area, where appropriate.

Reporting: to prepare and submit an annual report, and any other such reports as required, to the National Office for Community Safety.

4. Objectives and Outcomes

The objectives and intended outcomes of Local Community Safety Partnerships will be to:

- prioritise issues identified by the community as safety concerns;
- ensure community engagement and representation on Safety Partnerships;
- develop a Local Community Safety Plan which will reflect priorities identified by the community;
- improve multi-agency collaboration in the Safety Partnership area;
- increase community confidence in service providers; and
- service providers will be accountable to the community in fulfilling the agreed actions identified in the Local Community Safety Plan.

5. Guiding Principles

1. **A Whole-of-Government Approach**

A Whole-of-Government approach that links with other national and local government strategies and structures to focus all involved government services on community safety, particularly on prevention and early interventions. The focus should be on developing integrated and holistic solutions to community safety issues, pooling resources and sharing best practices.

2. **Collaboration and Partnership**

Community organisations and government agencies should work together in partnership with the local community and their representative organisations to prioritise and address issues in their own area. More detail on the principle of adopting a collaborative partnership approach is available here.

3. **Harm Prevention**

Addressing the root cause of crime involves tackling underlying social, economic, structural issues and disadvantages that contribute to communities being unsafe or feeling unsafe. Safety Partnerships should seek to prioritise actions that prevent harm and pro-

actively address key underlying issues. This will enable a coordinated and effective response.

4. **Targeted Support for Disadvantaged Communities**

Communities in areas of social and economic disadvantage often experience disproportionately negative outcomes in relation to community safety. They are more likely to be impacted by the key underlying issues that contribute to communities being, or feeling unsafe, such as poverty, marginalisation, inadequate infrastructure and limited access to services. A core objective of Local Community Safety Partnerships is to provide targeted, evidence-based support to these communities, with the aim of fostering safe, inclusive environments for families, residents and local businesses.

5. **A Participative Approach**

A participative approach is rooted in the belief that communities have the right to identify their own needs and interests, and the responses required to meet these needs. Local Community Safety Partnerships should develop processes and mechanisms to support meaningful consultation, inclusion, and participation of the community in all its diversity. The Department of Rural and Community Development and the Gaeltacht Guide for Inclusive Community Engagement in Local Planning and Decision Making is a very useful tool when planning a participative approach to community engagement. A participative approach to community engagement is discussed further in this document here.

6. **Social Inclusion**

Effective and meaningful participatory planning depends on the involvement of those whose voices are most marginalised. They are often most impacted by the decisions that do not include their experiences and concerns. It is important to ensure that marginalised and disadvantaged communities have a strong voice in Safety Partnerships, this should be reflected in both the Safety Partnership membership and the mechanisms in place to ensure socially excluded persons and groups can participate in planning and decision-making.

7. **Accountability**

Service providers should be accountable to the community for fulfilling agreed-upon actions. Communities and community members are active participants in the identification and delivery of community safety responses and, as such, are also accountable for action

delivery. Local Community Safety Partnerships must hold themselves as a collective; member organisations; and other stakeholders accountable for the delivery of these actions.

8. **Evidence Based Approach**

Ensure that decisions and actions are guided by evidence as well as input of community members, grounding these decisions in available data while considering the historic and current knowledge of the community and its stakeholders.

9. **Respect/Recognition of Experience and Contribution of All Members**

The experience and contribution brought by all Safety Partnership members should be recognised and respected, and approaches that use the strengths and expertise of all members should be developed and implemented.

6. Membership

One of the premises behind the partnership approach is that every community is different and has different problems and issues. Membership should be configured to give the broadest of representation across community safety sectoral interests, demographic and community interests in the Local Community Safety Partnership administrative area, and to achieving the best community safety outcomes for that area

6.1. Structure of Local Community Safety Partnerships



Fig 1

The core structure of the Safety Partnership is outlined in figure 1 above.

The Safety Partnership will have a maximum of 30 members.

The proceedings of the Local Community Safety Partnership shall not be invalidated by any vacancy or vacancies among its members so long as Safety Partnership meetings can meet quorum as per agreed Terms of Reference.

All members of Local Community Safety Partnerships are appointed by the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration.

6.2. Local Authority Members

- 7 elected members of the administrative area of the local authority, nominated by members of that council.

Local authority members have a crucial role to play in Local Community Safety Partnerships, not only in representing the needs and concerns of their constituents, but

also in communicating the issues, priorities and interventions of the Safety Partnership to the broader council and the public.

The local authority should, therefore, ensure that nominations to the partnership reflect the elected representational spread on the full council, with consideration given to diversity, including gender diversity. They should, as far as is practical, be representative of each municipal district within the local authority area, and in local authorities without municipal districts, be representative of each of the areas covered by the Safety Partnership.

6.3. Public sector bodies

There are four public sector bodies designated for mandatory membership in the regulations for Local Community Safety Partnerships: the relevant local authority, An Garda Síochána, the HSE and Tusla.

The regulations place an obligation on the nominating body to have regard for their appointees to be of appropriate rank and seniority. These nominations will be received centrally by the National Office for appointment by the Minister. Nominee details will be shared with the Local Community Safety Partnership Coordinator by the National Office. The relevant bodies have proposed that they will nominate individuals of the below rank/seniority:

- An employee of the local authority of the administrative area concerned at Director of Service level, nominated by the chief executive of the local authority or the Director General of Limerick City and County ;
- Such number of members of An Garda Síochána at Community Superintendent level, nominated by the Garda Commissioner;
- One member of staff of the Health Service Executive at Integrated Health Area Manager level, nominated by the chief executive officer of the Health Service Executive; and
- One member of staff of the Child and Family Agency at Area Manager level, nominated by the chief executive officer of the Child and Family Agency .

6.4. Other members

All other members of the Local Community Safety Partnership are nominated via the National Office for Community Safety to the Minister for appointment based on one or more of the following criteria:

(a) representing local community and voluntary bodies,
(b) representing local community interests, or
(c) otherwise possessing relevant experience or expertise,

The Chief Executive of the relevant local authority, the Director General of Limerick City and County, or their delegated staff, shall make arrangements to identify and secure nominees and submit them to the National Office for appointment by the Minister.

The proposed membership structure of the Local Community Safety Partnership should be included in their Terms of Reference. A template Terms of Reference is available to view here.

At a minimum these nominees will include

- 4 local resident representatives*
- 1 youth representative
- 1 minority/new communities' representative
- 1 social inclusion sector representative from the community & voluntary sector
- 1 education representative°
- 1 business representative†

Public Participation Networks (PPNs) can play an important role in recruiting community representatives and should be considered the most appropriate mechanism for this.

In addition, when selecting community representatives for the Safety Partnership, particularly residents, due regard should be given to the broader socio-economic context of the Safety Partnership area. This includes consideration of factors such as levels of disadvantage, social exclusion, and the demographic composition of the community. It is particularly important to assess whether certain groups within the community, who may be adversely affected by issues relating to community safety, are underrepresented in

local decision-making structures. These may include young people, new and minority communities;, people of ethnic minority background, persons with disabilities, LGBTQI people, and those experiencing social and economic disadvantage.

Where this is the case, active efforts should be made to ensure that underrepresented members of the community are heard and reflected in the Local Community Safety Partnership. This may require targeted outreach to individuals or community groups in the Safety Partnership area that face structural barriers to participation. The DRCDG Guide for Inclusive Community Engagement in Local Decision Making and Planning identifies many of these structural barriers and suggests approaches to overcome them.

*Local residents are people living within the functional area of the Safety Partnership. Representatives should be selected to provide a broad representation of the geographic area, as well as demographic, and community interests/issue in the area. Consideration could be given to residents being nominated based on community safety issue(s) in the area and the mandate they have to address such issues.

†If there are multiple organisations representing business interests in the Safety Partnership area – e.g. Chambers of Commerce, Business Improvement Districts (BIDs), Traders Associations – consideration could be given to inviting these organisations to collectively nominate a representative. Alternatively, consideration could be given to the level of impact community safety issues may have on their constituent memberships and the insight their representative organisation could provide on these community safety issues

°In identifying an education representative the Safety Partnership should consider insights that they may be able to give on topics relating to community safety. Consideration should also be given as to how the representative links back to colleagues in the relevant sector(s) and the broader education community. Education representatives can be chosen from a variety of local educational bodies and institutions. Pilot Safety Partnerships included education representatives from primary and secondary schools, third level institutions, and Education and Training Boards (ETBs).

§A youth representative is a person who can represent the needs, views and experience of young people living in the functional area of the Safety Partnership. Ideally this would be a young person, under the age of 25, with lived experience of the local context. However, if this is not feasible a youth worker may fulfil the role of authentically representing the needs of young people in the Safety Partnership. Where young people under the age of 18 participate in Safety Partnership processes, including membership, child protection and welfare procedures need to be implemented to ensure a safe space for the young people involved.

There is considerable flexibility in the additional representation that best reflects the Local Community Safety Partnership administrative area and the community safety needs of that area. It is important that the Local Community Safety Partnership will have active and representative community voices. Membership, where possible should therefore be weighted in favour of community. In addition, flexibility should be built into the representation model to allow for periodic review and adjustments, ensuring the Safety Partnership continues to reflect the evolving needs and demographic changes of the area.

Examples of additional representation

While membership of the three pilots was largely similar there were slight variations to meet the profile of local demographics and community safety needs in that area. For example, the terms of reference in one of the pilots explicitly makes provision for "1 farming representative to be nominated by the farming pillar" and "1 Traveller Community representative", whilst another included provision for a Probation Service nominee.

Local Development Companies play a key community development role in many areas and as such should be considered for representation. The Local Development Network CLG, the representative body for Ireland's Local Development Companies (LDCs), lists the full 49 not-for-profit groups within their membership.

Consideration should also be given to the inclusion of representatives from services and organisations with a community safety remit operating in the Safety Partnership area such as Regional or Local Drug and Alcohol Task Forces, Domestic, Sexual and Gender Based Violence (DSGBV) services and Family Resource Centres. Consideration should also be given to structures which represent specific demographics such as Older Persons'

Councils and Disabled Persons' Organisations. Intersection of the work of the Safety Partnership and structures such as the Children and Young Persons Services Committee (CYPSC) may also need to be considered in terms of member representation.

Where the Safety Partnership has secured representation from a young person under the age of 25 they may also consider allocating an additional membership position to a sectoral representative particularly if they have secured a mandate from colleagues within the local youth services sector.

Local Community Safety Partnerships covering the inhabited island counties (Donegal, Mayo, Kerry, Cork, and Galway) should consider including island representatives, potentially in a subgroup/working group of the Safety Partnership. It is recommended that the relevant Safety Partnership engage with the Islands Unit in the Department of Rural and Community Development and the Gaeltacht in an effort to secure appropriate representation.

6.5. Gender balance & diversity

Local Community Safety Partnerships should strive to be representative of the different communities in their functional area. This includes having due regard to gender balance and diversity in the membership and the different geographic areas in the functional area. Safety Partnerships should also factor in demographics of their local area – including disability; LGBTQI+; New and minority Communities; Ethnicity; Rural/Urban; Gender; Health/Socio-Economic diversities etc. Each community is different and the Safety Partnership should challenge itself to ensure that the community in all its diversity is represented in its membership, or, where this is not possible, that efforts are made to ensure that those not represented are, through other means, given an opportunity to contribute their views and be heard.

To the greatest extent possible, the objective of achieving at least 40% gender balance, as well as the need to foster social inclusiveness and equality in processes for the selection of nominees organised by the local authority.

6.6. Appointment of Members[1]

Details of proposed Safety Partnership members are to be forwarded to the National Office for Community Safety by the Safety Partnership coordinator on the template provided.

The Director of the National Office will review and then nominate proposed members to the Minister for appointment to the relevant Safety Partnership.

Future appointment or replacement of members must follow this process.

6.7. Member Induction

A list of suggested documents to be provided in an induction pack for members is available here. Consideration could be given to holding an induction meeting for Safety Partnership members prior to the first full meeting of the Safety Partnership to provide an introduction to and overview of the structure. This may assist in the smooth commencement of the formal partnership including election of chair and vice chair.

This workshop can be facilitated by the Local Community Safety Partnership Coordinator and could include:

- a ‘meet and greet’ activity for Safety Partnership members to get to know one another
- the genesis of the new approach to community safety and the Local Community Safety Partnership model
- the functions of the Safety Partnership as per the Policing, Security and Community Safety Act 2024
- the guiding principles of Safety Partnerships as set out in this document
- proposed terms of reference for the Safety Partnership
- information on the role of the Chair and election process

[1] Subject to Regulations under Section 114 of the Act

6.8. Term of membership

- Members will be appointed for a term of three years.
- Members can be reappointed after that period subject to process outlined in this guidance document being followed

6.9. Replacement and resignation of members

- **Ex-Officio membership:** A member who is appointed due to holding specific position, and who ceases to hold that position, will cease being a member of the Local Community Safety Partnership.
- **De-selection of members**: A nominating body may de-select their representative member by giving written notice in writing to the Chair, this will take effect from the date specified on the notification.
- **Resignation of members:**
    - A member may resign their membership at any time. Resignation must be notified to the Chair and will take effect from the date specified on or on receipt of notification to the Safety Partnership Coordinator, whichever is the later.
    - If a member is absent from three consecutive meetings without adequate reason, the Chairperson may request:
        - that member to resign as a member of the Local Community Safety Partnership, and
        - the member's nominating body to provide a replacement nominee to the Local Community Safety Partnership.
    - A member of the Safety Partnership shall resign upon the request of the Chair for stated reasons in line with the orderly conduct of the Safety Partnership.
- **Reviewing membership**: Membership of the Safety Partnership should be managed proactively to ensure compliance with requirements, but also to ensure a broad representation and the effective operation of the Safety Partnership. The Chair, in Safety Partnership with the other members, should review the membership of the Safety Partnership not less than every three years to ensure it remains reflective of local demographics and community safety needs.

Any changes to membership of the Safety Partnership should be notified to the National Office by the Safety Partnership Chair. The Director of the National Office will review and nominate new members to the Minister for appointment to the Safety Partnership.

7. Chair & vice chair

7.1. Role of the chair

Each Safety Partnership will be led by a voluntary Chair, elected from amongst the members of the Safety Partnership. The learning from the pilot evaluation informs us that this role is central to the success of the Safety Partnership, highlighting that qualities such as relational competence, local knowledge, and experience of large Safety Partnership processes, strategic leadership and facilitation skills are a vital success determinant for the Safety Partnership. The Chair must serve as an impartial leader of the Safety Partnership, ensuring that all members are engaging with the partnership process and working collectively to improve community safety outcomes for the area. The Chair should also reach out proactively beyond the membership of the Safety Partnership, carrying out a horizon scan of the local landscape to encourage broader engagement with the Local Community Safety Partnership and its work.

The Minister for Justice reserves the right to make regulations in relation to the selection process for the appointment of Chairpersons to the Safety Partnership into the future.

Roles and responsibilities of the Chair include:

- Providing leadership and strategic thinking to the Local Community Safety Partnership;
- Leading the Safety Partnership in making informed decisions and providing tailored solutions to specific community needs;
- Implementing the local community safety plan in partnership with the community and public services ;
- Acting as an advocate and representative for the partnership to the public, media and other stakeholders as appropriate;
- Facilitating open discussion and full participation by members on all matters coming before the Safety Partnership;

- Ensuring responsibilities are delegated to members, sub-committees and working groups as appropriate; and
- Managing meetings of the Safety Partnership efficiently and effectively, ensuring that meetings are held and that the Safety Partnership's functions are discharged, in accordance with its guiding principles.

A detailed Chair role description is provided here. This section of the guidance and the detailed role description should be provided to proposed members with their induction documentation.

Consideration should be given to appointed Chairs signing a declaration of assurance that they understand and will fulfil the role of Local Community Safety Partnership Chairperson.

7.2. Role of the vice chair

The role of the vice-chairperson is to assist the chairperson in fulfilling their duties and to stand in for the chair in their absence. The vice chair will also be elected from amongst the members of the Safety Partnership.

7.3. Election of chair and vice chair

The election of the Chairperson will be the first item on the agenda of the first formal meeting of the Local Community Safety Partnership. The Chief Executive of the relevant local authority may serve as meeting convenor, opening the meeting and calling the election process.

Nominations:

- The members of a Local Community Safety Partnership will elect a chair and vice chair from amongst their members, and may nominate themselves or be nominated by other members.
- Where a member has not nominated themselves this nomination will be subject to the agreement of that member
- Nomination(s) must be submitted in writing to the Safety Partnership Coordinator not later than one week in advance of the election taking place. Nomination(s) must include details as to why the member is being nominated, including how they

would fulfil the role as outlined in the Chairperson Role description and should be submitted on a nomination form supplied by the Safety Partnership Coordinator. A template nomination form is available here.

- Nomination(s) will be circulated to the membership not less than 2 days prior to the election taking place by the Safety Partnership Coordinator.

Campaigning: Nominees may present their vision and goals for the Safety Partnership to the full membership.

Voting: All members of the Safety Partnership shall participate in the vote, which will be held by secret ballot, managed by the Chief Executive of the local authority and Coordinator of the Local Community Safety Partnership, casting their vote for **one** of the nominated candidates.

Counting Votes: The candidates with the majority of votes will be declared and appointed the Chair/Vice Chair.
In the event of a tie: Each Safety Partnership has the power to determine what should happen in the event of a tie vote. Suggested mechanisms include second round of voting, drawing lots, and withdrawal of candidacy.

Notification of National Office: The Safety Partnership Coordinator shall notify the National Office of the results of an election for the role of chair and/or vice chair within one week of election being completed.

7.4. Term of office for chair and vice chair

The Chair and / or Vice chair shall serve in these positions for a period of three years after their date of appointment.

The Chair and/or Vice chair may, subject to a majority vote by other members, be appointed to serve for one further consecutive three year term in that role.

7.5. Resignation of the chair / vice chair

The chair and vice chair can resign from their position at any time, subject to two weeks advance written notification being communicated with both members of the Safety Partnership and the National Office.

7.6. Removal of the chair / vice chair

The Minister may remove a chairperson, vice-chairperson or other member of a Safety Partnership from their position for stated reasons, as set out in a written explanation by the Minister.

7.7. Chair / vice chair vacancy

If the positions of Chair and Vice Chair are vacant, or for any reason they are temporarily unable to fulfil their position a member of the Safety Partnership can be elected by the members to fulfil their duties until such a time as :

a) A new Chair of Vice Chair is elected or
b) The Chair of Vice Chair is able to resume their duties

8. Administrative and other supports

8.1. Permanent staff

Each Safety Partnership will be supported by a dedicated Community Safety Coordinator, Grade VII Administrative Officer and an Administrator, Grade IV Assistant Staff Officer. Both of these permanent positions will be funded by the Department of Justice Home Affairs and Migration and sit within each Local Authority.

The **Community Safety Coordinator** will support the Safety Partnership in its work to bring together a diverse group of agencies and residents to engage in joint planning and co-ordination of services for the community. A main focus will be the design and delivery of community safety projects in the relevant local authority area. The Coordinator will be a key driving force for the work of the Safety Partnership. They will oversee a network, which will act as a hub for the local community in relation to community safety. The

Coordinator will act as a support to community members to identify local priorities and access relevant services, as well as assisting the Local Community Safety Partnership (LCSP) in drafting and delivering on a local community safety plan.

The **Community Safety Administrator** will administer the Safety Partnership communication channels, providing a hub for the local community in the relevant local authority area in relation to community safety.
They will play a key role in providing operational and administrative support to the Community Safety Coordinator to establish and run an efficient and effective secretariat, supporting all the administrative and organisational requirements of the Local Community Safety Partnership (LCSP).

The final evaluation of the pilot Safety Partnership states that "the recruitment and retention of good people, particularly the Safety Partnership Coordinator, is a significant success determinant of the Safety Partnership." To support recruitment of staff the Department of Justice Home Affairs and Migration provided detailed role descriptions, informed by the pilot evaluation, for both of the above posts to local authorities

8.2. Additional staff

Section 117 of the PSCS Act outlines the responsibilities of the Chief Executive of a local authority, or Director General of Limerick City and County, regarding the staffing of Safety Partnerships. When a local community Safety Partnership needs more staffing, they should refer to Section 117 as it specifies the procedure and authority for assigning additional personnel. The Safety Partnership can request the Chief Executive to allocate more staff or resources. The Chief Executive then has the discretion to determine and assign the appropriate number of employees to fulfil the Safety Partnership's needs.

8.3. National Office for Community Safety

The National Office will bring strategic direction to the roll out of Safety Partnerships nationwide. The National Office will be a core source of support to Safety Partnerships.

Functions of the National Office within the Act include:

- Provide training, guidance, and support to the Safety Partnerships to help them operate and carry out their tasks.
- Monitor how the local community safety plans are being implemented by the Safety Partnerships.
- Conduct or commission research and evaluations related to any of the functions of the National Office and the operation of the Safety Partnerships.
- To foster collaboration between public sector bodies in the provision of services to improve community safety.
- Promote public awareness of issues affecting community safety and the work of the National Office.
- Prepare annual programmes of work to support the implementation of the strategy.
- Monitor the implementation of the National Strategy.
- Provide such information and reports as requested by the Minister and the National Community Safety Steering Group.
- Provide support to the National Community Safety Steering Group.

8.4. Training for Local Community Safety Partnership members

Training opportunities should be made available to the members of the Local Community Safety Partnership, with a particular focus on the community representatives, to enable them to build confidence, leadership skills and their capacity to represent their communities on the Local Community Safety Partnership. Due consideration should also be given to delivering an enhanced induction to community members who may not be familiar with the logistics of engaging with or participating in structures such as the Safety Partnership.

The National Office for Community Safety will establish networks for Safety Partnership Chairs, Coordinators and members – giving opportunities to share examples of best practice and request support for emergent issues. It is anticipated that the National Office will, over time, develop a suite of training for Safety Partnership members which members will be expected to participate in.

8.5. Funding

Beyond the core staff of the Safety Partnership, the focus is that funding for the aims of local community safety plans should be sourced from the relevant departments/agencies.

This is to ensure that funding identified to support the actions identified in the plan is provided by the relevant entity and that, where it is needed on an ongoing basis, it is mainstreamed within that organisation.

In addition, staff in the pilot partnerships drew down funding from a variety of funding streams to facilitate interventions on behalf of the partnership in addition to leveraging other resources by working in collaboration with colleagues both internally and externally such as Healthy Ireland; Sláintecare Communities; Children and Young Persons Services Committees (CYPCs).

8.5.1. Community Safety Fund

The Community Safety Fund (CSF) is a yearly, multiannual, fund administered by the Department of Justice, Home Affairs and Migration, that allows the proceeds of crime to be directed into community projects to support community safety. The CSF is intended to fund new projects for community safety. Once these projects have demonstrated successful outcomes, it is envisaged that these projects would be 'mainstreamed' and funded by the relevant agency or department.

The aim of the fund is to:

- ensure that the most appropriate proposals to improve community safety will access the funding they need;
- encourage the development of innovative ways in which to improve community safety from those people who best understand local community safety needs;
- allow best practice on community safety to be shared with other partnerships and communities nationally as new proposals are developed; and
- reflect and highlight the success of An Garda Síochána and the Criminal Assets Bureau in seizing the proceeds from criminal activity.

The fund aligns with the overall objectives of the Community Safety Policy that underpin Safety Partnership model and should be considered when seeking funding for activities

and priorities identified by the partnership. The pilot Safety Partnerships drew on the community safety fund to support several initiatives under their respective Community Safety Plans.

The exact dates of the funding call and criteria are announced and publicised annually by the Department of Justice, Home Affairs and Migration.

9. Terms of Reference

The Local Community Safety Partnership shall agree terms of reference for the conduct of business of the Safety Partnership. A template Terms of Reference is available here.

10. Local Community Safety Partnership Meetings

The Local Community Safety Partnership will determine and agree the operations, business and record keeping of their meetings in their Terms of Reference and Standing Orders. A national template which can be adapted to the local context is available here.

10.1. Number and frequency of meetings

There should be regular meetings of the Safety Partnership to include no fewer than:

- four quarterly Safety Partnership meetings,
- one public meeting, and
- one closed meeting for elected representatives for the relevant area

per annum.

The frequency, location and timing of ordinary meetings of the Safety Partnership are matters for determination by the Safety Partnership. The Chair should keep the National Office informed about scheduled meetings.

The Local Community Safety Partnership shall hold such and so many meetings as may be necessary for the performance of its functions.

10.2. Quorum requirement for meetings

The quorum for a meeting will be set by the Safety Partnership in its terms of reference. A template terms of reference can be found here.

10.3. Additional Attendees

Support personnel from the relevant agency may, with prior agreement from the Chair, accompany a Safety Partnership member for the purposes of providing further information on a specific topic of discussion on the agenda.

10.4. Media Attendance

Local Community Safety Partnerships may facilitate attendance by the media at their discretion and via request to the chair. In the first year of the partnership, to allow for relationships and trust to develop, and as the Safety Partnership is developing its workplan, consideration should be given to limiting media attendance to public meeting(s) This approach to be reviewed as the partnership's work evolves. At this point the Safety Partnership may also consider achieving a balance whereby three meetings allow media attendance whilst three are held in private.

Transparency and accountability to the general public and media are an important factor of the Safety Partnership's work. As per section 9.6 an agreed report of a closed meeting must be made available. Safety Partnerships could consider, as part of their communication strategy, sharing such reports directly with local media.

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10.5. Public meetings

The Local Community Safety Partnership must hold at least one public meeting per year.

Where meetings of the Safety Partnership are open to the public, appropriate provision should be made for notifying the public of the meeting with particular provision made to ensure that sections of the community most distance from decision making are made aware of and facilitated in attending through the timing, location and accessibility of meetings. Consideration of accessibility should be in the broadest terms going beyond

physical accessibility. This should include organising public meetings with the minimal of formality in order to maximise the engagement and participation to the community.

Public meetings also present the Safety Partnership with the opportunity to inform the public of the work carried out and planned; and to engage directly with the public in relation to the Local Community Safety Plan.

The Chair of the Local Community Safety Partnership will determine, in consultation with the members, the details of when the meeting will be organised.

10.6. Closed meetings

Where the Local Community Safety Partnership holds meetings in private, an agreed report of the meeting should be made publicly available.

The Safety Partnership should endeavour to make its reports and documents publicly available to the widest degree possible, unless it would not be possible for legal or confidentiality reasons or would not be in the public interest to make such information or documents available.

10.7. Meeting minutes

The Local Community Safety Partnership should approve arrangements in respect of the minutes of the proceedings of meetings, including recording decisions made and action to the taken, along with procedures in respect of the approval and publication of minutes.

A proposed procedure, informed by the experience of the Pilot Safety Partnerships is outlined below:

- Minutes are taken at meeting by the Safety Partnership Administrator, and reviewed by the Safety Partnership Coordinator.
- These draft minutes are submitted to the Chair for review, following which they will be circulated to the membership for confirmation of accuracy and amendments.
- Minutes should be confirmed by members at the next meeting and signed by the Chair, at which point they will become the official record of proceedings.

A template meeting minutes record is available here.

10.8. Record of attendance

The Local Community Safety Partnership staff should maintain a record of attendances at meetings. The attendance of each member present at a meeting should be entered by that member in a record kept for that purpose by the Safety Partnership Coordinator on behalf of the Safety Partnership.

10.9. Meeting records

Appropriate arrangements should be made for safe keeping of the minutes by the meetings' Safety Partnership Staff in consultation with the Chair. The Safety Partnership should consider making confirmed meeting minutes available to the public via their website / page on the local authority website. See here for more on sharing of meeting records.

11. Decision Making

The Safety Partnership will determine decision making processes in their Terms of Reference, which should consider the following:-

- Decision making power on matters relating to the functions of the Safety Partnerships rests with the Safety Partnership itself
- Decisions / votes should be made through a collaborative approach and should where possible be made by consensus and if this is not possible by a majority vote.
- Each member of the partnership present at a meeting has a vote.
- In the event of a tie the Chair can cast the deciding vote.

12. Conflicts of interest

Declarations of conflict of interest should be made at the outset of a meeting. Members must also declare any conflict of interest that may occur due to an unexpected item arising. A record will be kept of any conflicts of interest declared as part of meeting documentation.

A member must exclude themselves from a meeting or part of a meeting and must not participate in any discussion relating to any matter in which they would reasonably be perceived as having a conflict of interest.

A conflict of interest can be described as any form of personal interest, which may affect, or might reasonably be thought to affect, on an individual's impartiality in decision-making.".

13. Limitations of Safety Partnerships

A Safety Partnership, a committee of a Safety Partnership or an area-based neighbourhood community safety forum shall not consider matters relating to a specific criminal investigation or prosecution or matters relating to the security of the State.

14. Subgroups and working groups

The establishment of committees by the Local Community Safety Partnership is provided for in regulations under Section 114 of the Act. In practice these committees are generally referred to as subgroups / working groups. A Safety Partnership can establish such groups for any specific purpose. Subgroups and/or working groups should have a specific remit and task on which they are working to avoid duplication. They can be valuable in supporting execution of the plans and strategies of the Local Community Safety Partnership

Learnings from the pilots show that both subgroups and working groups played a crucial role in developing a sense of momentum amongst Local Community Safety Partnership members and in contributing to the attainment of the goals of the Safety Partnerships. In practice, many community safety issues which were raised by community members through informal consultation with the Safety Partnership office would then be discussed in working groups/subgroups where actions would be identified and recommendations taken forward to the Safety Partnership. Recurring issues and concerns of greater significance would be fed back to the wider Safety Partnership meeting.

Subgroups

Subgroups are a subset of the Safety Partnership and are generally established to focus on thematic pillars for example youth engagement; drugs and policing; building community capacity. The establishment of subgroups may also be informed by priorities identified in the Local Community Safety Plan.

- the members of the Safety Partnership shall determine who from amongst their own membership will be Chair of the subgroup
- the members of the Safety Partnership shall determine those from amongst their membership who will sit on the subgroup
- the members of the Safety Partnership may include as members of the subgroup persons with appropriate knowledge, experience, or skills who are not members of the Safety Partnership.
- the Safety Partnership shall fix the quorum of the subgroup, this to be no less than three members.
- the term of office of a Sub-Group shall be for such period as the Chairperson of the Safety Partnership may determine.
- the Safety Partnership can determine the terms of reference for the subgroup outlining the specific remit of the group
- the Chairperson of each subgroup shall be responsible to the members for the general management of the business entrusted to the subgroup.
- the Chairperson of each subgroup will present a report on the work of the subgroup to members of the Local Community Safety Partnership at a meeting of the Safety Partnership

- a copy of any report of a subgroup should be submitted to each member in the Local Community Safety Partnership at least three days before any meeting at which it is to be discussed.
- a subgroup does not have decision making power but makes recommendations to the Local Community Safety Partnership as a whole

Working groups

Working groups are focused, timebound groups set up to undertake a task such as address a specific current community safety issue; deliver a project or action within the local community safety plan; or plan an event.

Working groups tend to have a smaller, more focused membership. They may have a mix of Safety Partnership members and representatives from outside the partnership with specific interest or expertise in the area the working group is focused on.

As an example, on the Local Community Safety Partnership pilot programme working groups were used in a number of ways in the development and implementation of the Community Safety Plans.

(a) Organised thematically, are linked to one or more priority area that has been identified or focus on a specific objective identified in these priority areas.
(b) A specific task of the action plan e.g. 'establish a Traveller interagency group'
(c) Working groups established to tackle interim issues during the development of the plan. This can help improve and/or maintain members buy-in and interest.

As with subgroups the Safety Partnership will establish the terms of reference for the working group – setting out the remit, membership and reporting mechanism of the group.

15. Local Neighborhood Community Safety Fora

Area-Based Neighbourhood Community Safety Forum" means a forum established in accordance with regulations made under section 115 (a).[2]

To coordinate and support area-based neighbourhood community safety forums in its functional area where appropriate, Safety Partnerships can establish, in consultation with An Garda Síochána, local community safety forums at the neighbourhood level as needed. These forums are intended to deepen the engagement between the Safety Partnership, public service bodies, the local authority, and neighbourhood communities.

The primary goal of these forums is to provide a platform for discussing local safety concerns, identifying specific issues affecting the neighbourhood, and collaboratively developing solutions. By facilitating regular communication and cooperation among all stakeholders, these forums aim to enhance the overall safety and well-being of the community.

Furthermore, local community safety forums are designed to operate at a more localised level than the broader Safety Partnerships, allowing for more tailored and effective responses to the unique challenges of each neighbourhood.

They can make recommendations to the Safety Partnership on matters of local concern, ensuring that the voices of neighbourhood residents are heard and considered in broader community safety planning and decision-making processes.

It is intended that Safety Partnerships should, in their first year, review their local community safety landscape, including the existence of Local Policing Fora, local community safety fora, and other similar structures; reviewing whether they serve the current community safety needs of the area. Such Fora may continue to meet during this period.

[2] Commencement of the regulations for the establishment of Local Neighbourhood Community Safety Fora will be delayed to allow for the initial establishment of LCSPs

Where staffing supports are already in place for Local Policing Fora these pre-existing arrangements should continue in the event of the relevant Local Policing Forum transitioning to a Local Neighbourhood Community Safety Forum.

16. The Policing and Community Safety Authority

Part 4 of the PSCS act provides for the establishment of the Policing and Community Safety Authority (PCSA).

The PCSA is a successor organisation to both the Policing Authority and Garda Síochána Inspectorate, taking on most of their existing functions. The PCSA will also play a role in promoting interagency collaboration and community engagement to improve community safety.

The primary role of the PCSA is to oversee and assess, in an independent and transparent manner, the policing services carried out by An Garda Síochána. The aim of this oversight is to ensure that people in Ireland not only are safe but feel safe in going about their day-to-day lives within their local communities.

Under the 2024 Act, Section 114 allows for the PCSA to convene meetings of Chairpersons and Vice-Chairpersons of Safety Partnerships, whether individually or collectively, where these meetings would assist the PCSA in the performance of its functions. The National Office can provide support to both the PCSA and the Safety Partnerships in such meetings. Section 114 also allows for representatives of the PCSA to attend Safety Partnerships meetings, in addition to meetings of committees or subgroups of the Safety Partnership for the purpose of the performance of its functions.

The Director of the National Office is required to attend at least one meeting in public of the PCSA per year to report on developments relating to community safety. This may include updates on, or issues emerging within Safety Partnerships. The National Office may also keep the PCSA informed and/or provide reports on matters that are relevant to its functions.

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17. Collaboration

17.1. Developing collaborative relationships

Investment of time and resources into developing collaborative relationships within the Safety Partnerships

The whole of the new approach to community safety is founded in partnership and collaborative work and alignment of strategies and plans to achieve shared problem solving of community safety issues.

Partnership working is relational and requires good communication between partners. The effectiveness of partnership is determined by commitment of partners to the work and development of trust and respect for one another.

The evaluation of the Safety Partnership pilots confirmed that building collaborative relationships and ways of working is a gradual process that takes time and purposeful effort. The evaluation also pointed out that the context the partnership will be established in, including whether there is a history of good collaboration in the area, can be an enabler of effective collaborative working.

This means that time and resources, particularly from the Safety Partnership Chair and Coordinator, are required not only to establish a collaborative approach within the Safety Partnership but also to maintain this approach and these relationships.

17.2. Collaboration with other partnership structures

Collaboration is at the heart of Community Safety, both within and beyond the Safety Partnership structure.

Local Community Safety Partnerships are encouraged to collaborate with other partnership structures at local level to improve multiagency collaboration in their functional areas. There are already several pre-existing partnership structures working to address community issues in communities across Ireland. This creates the risk of duplication of initiatives to address these issues if collaboration is not actively pursed.

In practice the risk of duplication has been mitigated in the pilots by a good understanding of the 'partnership landscape', being co-located with other partnership structures, use of the work of pre-existing partnerships (e.g. Local Community Development Committees, Children and Young Peoples' Services Committees, Local Development Companies) to inform the work of Safety Partnerships, actively reaching out to other partnerships to collaborate, and/or the inclusion of other partnerships in the Safety Partnership membership.

The work of the Safety Partnerships should also align with other community development, place based partnership initiatives, such as the Social Inclusion and Community Activation Programme (SICAP) and the Empowering Communities Programme, which focus on capacity building within the community and are funded by the Department of Rural and Community Development and the Gaeltacht.

In the appendix section of this document, there is a list of existing local area based partnership structures to help give an overview of this partnership landscape.

17.3. Collaboration with other Local Community Safety Partnerships

While each Local Community Safety Partnership will operate within a defined administrative area, community safety issues do not always align neatly with these boundaries. It is in this context that Safety Partnerships should ensure that community safety efforts are effective, inclusive, and responsive to the realities of local communities, particularly in areas where community safety issues transcend administrative boundaries.

In cases where community safety concerns, criminal activity, or social challenges extend beyond the jurisdiction of a single Safety Partnership, particularly areas where multiple Safety Partnerships operate adjacent to one another, Safety Partnerships are encouraged to adopt a collaborative approach.

For example, where safety issues impact communities across two or more Safety Partnerships, partnerships may actively engage with their counterparts in neighbouring areas to share information, align approaches, and coordinate responses. Given that policing, emergency services, and community initiatives often operate across multiple administrative areas, Safety Partnerships should ensure that key stakeholders are involved in discussions and solutions that address interlinked safety concerns.

Local Community Safety Partnerships may explore opportunities for joint initiatives, shared resources, and collaborative problem-solving approaches to address challenges that affect communities on both sides of an administrative boundary.

Establishing clear and consistent communication mechanisms between adjacent Safety Partnerships, particularly those where administrative areas may overlap, will help facilitate ongoing cooperation and prevent duplication of efforts or gaps in service provision.

Local Community Safety Partnerships may arrange joint meetings where and when required with neighbouring partnerships to ensure a coordinated and joined-up response to shared challenges. These meetings can provide a structured space for discussion, the exchange of best practices, and the development of collaborative approach to address cross-cutting issues effectively.

17.4. Cross-border collaboration[3]

Border communities face unique challenges where safety and infrastructure issues require cooperation in both jurisdictions to be effectively addressed. The opportunity for cross-border cooperation is important given the geopolitical context for both jurisdictions.

[3] Awaiting comment from Department of Justice Northern Ireland

Local Community Safety Partnerships may benefit in terms of learnings and better be able to address issues by seeking opportunities for cross border collaboration;in particular opportunities for shared learning with and from Policing and Community Safety Partnerships (PCSPs), collaborative structures that bring together members of the community alongside representatives from policing, probation, housing, youth, emergency and education services to focus on community safety issues at local level in Northern Ireland.

This is particularly relevant for Safety Partnerships in border counties where consideration could be given to the co-delivery of interventions and projects; exploring opportunities for joint funding under programmes such as PEACEPLUS; extending invitations to neighbouring PSCPs to attend Safety Partnership meetings or events, and engaging with PSCPs to identify common community safety challenges that are exacerbated by border proximity. The Cross Border Policing Strategy 2025-2027 may also be of interest to Safety Partnerships in border areas. .

18. Community engagement and participation

The aim of this community safety approach is to provide more targeted and effective support to the most disadvantaged communities and to foster safe local areas for families, residents and businesses. This requires all relevant state bodies and voluntary organisations to work together in a joined-up way in partnership with the local community to prioritise and address issues in their own area. This will require proactive and ongoing dialogue with the local community.

Participation, whether through partnership membership, consultation on Local Community Safety Plans, or regular community engagement, should also reflect the diversity in the local community and take into account disability; LGBTQI+; New and minority Communities; Ethnicity; Rural/Urban; Gender; Health/Socio-Economic diversities, Religion etc. Engagement with the Public Participation Network (PPN) as referred to in section 6.3 is important in this regard

Safety Partnerships should refer to the second edition of the Guide for Inclusive Community Engagement in Local Planning and Decision Making when engaging and/or consulting with the community.

18.1. Participative Approach

A participative approach is rooted in the belief that communities have the right to identify their own needs and the outcomes required to meet them. This requires **meaningful** community participation in identifying issues, priorities and solutions. This includes understanding what conditions are necessary for people within these communities to feel safe, supported and heard. Completing such assessments will ensure that responses are proactive, equitable and tailored to local context. The above referenced Guide for Inclusive Community Engagement in Local Planning and Decision Making provides practical tips in relation to this.

It is a matter for the Safety Partnership to determine what appropriate participative arrangements it makes however such arrangements should:

- Facilitate participation by those most impacted by issues relating to community safety, and particularly those whose voices are often least heard
- Ensure multiple methods of participation are made available and appropriate methodologies for engagement used
- Employ fair, just and respectful methods of participation
- Consider venues and locations that are inclusive in addition to being accessible
- Ensure any public participation processes provide participants with the information they need to participate in a meaningful and accessible manner
- Communicate how participation and input affects decisions or outcomes
- Give the community the opportunity to be involved and/or monitor the implementation of outcomes.

A primary goal of Safety Partnerships should therefore be to build the capacity of local community members to enable them to participate meaningfully and grow local community leadership, resilience and participation.

18.2. Youth Voice

Each Safety Partnership will have a mandated youth representative, which is discussed in the membership section. With a view to ensuring that young people have a strong say in this new community safety framework, Safety Partnerships are also encouraged to work with Comhairle na nÓg; local youth services, CYPSC Youth Forums, and other youth forums so that young people, more broadly, can shape the work of Safety Partnerships in their own Localities.

Ideally young people, under the age of 25, should be consulted directly on their needs, views and lived experiences. Where consulting with young people under the age of 18 child protection and welfare procedures will need to be followed to ensure a safe space for the young people involved.

The needs and perspectives of young people may also be represented by youth workers. Youth workers can be an additional youth voice to consult or add as a member of the Safety Partnership but can also directly represent young people where participation of a young person is not feasible.

Local Community Safety Partnerships should prioritise inclusivity by actively seeking and incorporating feedback from youth fora into their strategies and operations. By providing robust support and resources, Safety Partnerships can empower youth members to contribute actively, fostering their development and engagement in safety initiatives. Ongoing dialogue and collaboration through regular meetings and joint projects are also vital to maintaining effective partnerships.

Regular evaluation and adaptation of engagement strategies based on youth feedback will further enhance the relevance and impact of community safety efforts. Ultimately, integrating youth perspectives into Safety Partnerships activities ensures that community safety strategies are comprehensive, responsive, and reflective of the needs and concerns of young people in the community.

It is recommended that Safety Partnerships refer to and utilise The National Framework for Children and Young People's Participation in Decision Making when designing youth engagement strategies and activities. Hub na nÓG and TUSLA provide additional resources and supports to draw on when engaging young people.

19. Communications

As identified in the pilot evaluation good communication at all levels is a key enabler of Safety Partnerships. Effective communication is particularly important given the outward-facing nature of the work of the Local Community Safety Partnership and the central intention of involving the local community. It is important that communication is open and transparent.

To facilitate this open engagement it is expected that Safety Partnerships will have their own webpage hosted on the local authority site and social media account(s) which the Safety Partnership team can manage directly or are supported by the local authority communications team to update on a regular basis.

See Longford Local Community Safety Partnership's page for an example of the transparent sharing of their Local Community Safety Plan, meeting records, membership, and project activity.

Local Community Safety Partnership teams should avail of supports their local authority can provide in relation to communications, such as the provision of training, however where possible Safety Partnerships should be afforded a level of autonomy, working within local authority communication policy guidelines, in communicating with the public. Members of the Safety Partnerships could consider, in consultation with the local authority, establishing an agreed communications strategy to support this.

The National Office for Community Safety have developed a national logo and brand identity for Safety Partnerships. The National Office will provide each Safety Partnership with their own logo mark, in both English and Irish; graphic designs for basic materials such as banner stands; and brand guidelines for the production of further promotional materials. Safety Partnerships must adhere to brand guidelines as issued by the National Office.

To ensure consistency of approach it is recommended that all Safety Partnerships establish a generic email inbox which can be accessed and managed by all Safety Partnership staff – communitysafety@xxxxcoco.ie. Similarly, an email inbox should be established for the Safety Partnership Chair – for example

ChairXXXXLCSP@xxxxcoco.ie, which can be managed by the Safety Partnership team and accessed by the Chair. Under no circumstances should the Chair's personal email address be a point of contact for the Safety Partnership.

20. Data

20.1. Data management

Data Protection is the means by which the privacy rights of individuals are safeguarded in relation to the collecting and processing of their **personal data**.

The General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) together with the Data Protection Act 2018 is the legislative framework that applies to most kinds of processing of personal data in Ireland and across the EU.

Local Community Safety Partnerships should adhere to the data protection policies and compliance guidelines set by their relevant local authority, ensuring that all practices align with current legal and regulatory requirements.[4]

20.2. Provision of data by relevant agencies

Effective partnership working is enabled by data sharing policies and protocols, as well as the regular exchange of relevant information. The National Office are engaging with relevant statutory agencies to develop data sharing templates to inform the monitoring and evaluation of the work of the Safety Partnerships.

Coordination

Over time, a central profiling arrangement may be put in place for each Safety Partnership. Each partnership will be required to contribute to the profile and draw from the range of data provided. This dataset may include the CYPSC, LCDCs, Primary Care, Healthy Ireland, the Sports Partnerships, Resource Officers for Suicide Prevention, amongst

[4] When agreed, the SLA between National Office for Community Safety and local authorities will include a section on data sharing.

others to support the medium-longer term mainstreaming of a more coordinated and data-informed approach to responding to local challenges.

Reporting

Safety Partnerships will be required to monitor and report on their progress at times specified by the National Office. Guidance will be provided by the National Office in due course in relation to the collection and reporting of data relating to their outputs, outcomes and impacts.

In consideration that the nature of the work of each Partnership has potential to expand into all areas of social services, the data will be specifically community safety bounded.

21. Community safety plans

Each Safety Partnership is required to develop and adopt, during it's term, a plan to improve community safety in its functional area having regard to the national strategy and in accordance with any guidance in that regard which may be issued by the National Office. It is important that the Local Community Safety Plan brings the relevant people together to plan their agreed response to local safety priorities. This plan should be monitored and reviewed on an ongoing basis.

The first National Strategy for Improving Community Safety will be developed over a 12 Month period, following the commencement of the PSCS Act in April 2025.It is intended that consultations for the first National Strategy and Local Community Safety Plans will happen in tandem with one another. It is important to note, as recommended in the pilot evaluation, that during this period Safety Partnerships can initiate immediate actions on the ground. It is a 'both and' situation in that the Safety Partnership can be preparing their plan **and** at the same time working in an integrated way with other initiatives/partnerships responding to local community safety issues.

In addition, the Safety Partnerships should have regard to other relevant local area plans when consulting on and drafting their plans for example the Local Economic Community Plan, Children and Young People's Services (CYPSC) Children and Young People plans,

Creative and Cultural Strategies, Traveller Accommodation plans, Age Friendly Strategies, Suicide Reduction Plans and so on.

The purpose of each Community Safety Plan is to build a solid foundation in the partnership area for working together with all stakeholders to maintain and enhance community safety.

The Plan is intended to:

- support a co-ordinated approach to addressing community safety;
- encourage an improved level of community and stakeholder collaboration;
- advance principles of best practice in prevention and intervention;
- promote a better understanding of local issues and to explore the relevant safety risks and protective factors.

A separate guidance document will be provided on the development of Local Community Safety Plans by the National Office for Community Safety.

22. Reports and reporting

The Local Community Safety Partnership shall provide reports as required to the National Office on the performance of its functions, starting from the date of establishment of the Local Community Safety Partnership. [5]

The Local Community Safety Partnership shall issue an agreed public update every 3 months providing an overview of partnership activities. This update can take the form of an agreed meeting summary and/or ratified meeting minutes.

As the Local Community Safety Partnership is not a committee of the local authority there are no mandatory reporting requirements in that regard. However, given the role of local

[5] It is anticipated that in year one LCSPs will only be required to report on Partnership establishment as they, the National Office, and the National Community Safety Steering group develop baseline data in tandem with the production of the National Strategy and Local Community Safety Plans

authority members as key stakeholders in community safety and their democratic accountability for local authority expenditure a formal mechanism for keeping the elected members as a whole informed of the activities of the Safety Partnership may be agreed. This mechanism can be determined at local level. For example one of the pilot partnerships provided updates through the local authority management reports whilst another gave presentation(s) at council meeting.

The Local Community Safety Partnership shall issue an annual public report, which should reflect the work done to engage the community and to achieve the objectives in the Local Community Safety Plan. This report should include key achievements; an assessment of the Local Community Safety Partnership in the delivery of its functions; a report on the delivery of actions within the Local Community Safety Plan (once published), a record of meetings and details on the membership of the Safety Partnership. The annual report is also an opportunity for the Safety Partnership to showcase particularly effective interventions, projects or activities.[6] Further guidance will issue from the National Office on this in due course.

The Local Community Safety Partnership will monitor and review, on an ongoing basis, the implementation of a local community safety plan, including its performance against any benchmarks or indicators of performance set out in the plan or other relevant indicators and will undertake a review of a local community safety plan at least once within the lifecycle of the plan and, after any such review, amend the plan as appropriate.

The Local Community Safety Partnership shall, at least once a year, review its own performance and terms of reference to ensure it is operating at maximum effectiveness and implement any changes it considers necessary.

Matters of a sensitive or confidential matter should not be included in any reports issued by the Safety Partnership.

[6] Given the timeline for establishment of LCSPs in 2025 it is anticipated that reporting for 2025 and 2026 may be submitted together

23. Appendices

Glossary of terms

Term	Definition
Community Representatives	Individuals selected from the community or voluntary sector, often through the PPN, to represent community interests within the Safety Partnership.
Consultation	The process of engaging local communities and stakeholders to gather input on safety issues and priorities.
Elected Members	Councillors elected to represent the public in local government, some of whom may be nominated to participate in Safety Partnerships.
Local Authority	The city or county council responsible for governance, planning, and service delivery within a defined geographic area.
Public Service Body	A government department, a local authority or a state agency. Some public service bodies serve as members of partnerships on a statutory basis. Additionally certain public service bodies are required to have due regard to community safety and harm prevention under the Policing Security and Community Safety Act.
Service Providers	Service providers are statutory, local and/or voluntary bodies mandated or funded to deliver community safety interventions in the area.
Stakeholders	Individuals or organisations with an interest in or influence over community safety outcomes, including residents, businesses, and service providers.
State Agency	A public sector body of the state that has a statutory obligation to perform specific tasks on behalf of the Government of Ireland , for example, Tusla, the child and family agency.
Subgroup / Working Group	A smaller team formed by the Local Community Safety Partnership to focus on thematic community safety pillars or specific issues (for example youth engagement, anti-social behaviour, drug misuse).
Regulations	Some Acts of the Oireachtas allow for regulations to be made by a Minister, local authority, or some other body, to add details

	about how a particular provision will operate in practice. These regulations are secondary legislation. A Minister makes regulations by signing a Statutory Instrument (SI).
Terms of Reference (ToR)	A formal document outlining the scope, responsibilities, membership, and operating procedures of the Safety Partnership or its subgroups.

The local landscape - place based partnership structures

Name	Description
Age Friendly Ireland	The Age Friendly Ireland Shared Service supports cities, counties and towns across Ireland to prepare for the rapid ageing of our population by paying increased attention to the environmental, economic and social factors that influence the health and well-being of older adults.
Child and Young People's Services Committees	CYPSC are county-level committees that bring together the main statutory, community and voluntary providers of services to children and young people
Comhairle na nÓg	Comhairle na nÓg are child and youth councils in the 31 local authorities of the country, which give children and young people the opportunity to be involved in the development of local services and policies.
Connecting for Life (CfL)	Connecting for Life is the national suicide reduction policy which ended in 2024 and is currently being updated by the Department of Health. Its structure includes 10 local suicide reduction action plans, which are collaborative partnerships, coordinated by the local HSE Resource Officer for Suicide Prevention. Membership

	includes AGS, HSE, CYPSCs, Community organisations, Local Development Companies, etc.Fpol
Creative Ireland	Creative Ireland is an all-of-government culture and wellbeing programme with the ambition to inspire and transform people, places and communities through creativity.
Healthy Ireland	Healthy Ireland is a government-led initiative aimed at improving the health and wellbeing of everyone living in Ireland
Local Community Development Committee [LCDCs]	LCDCs are committees in each local authority area set up for purposes of developing, coordinating and implementing a coherent and integrated approach to local and community development and have a similar 'bottom up' and partnership based approach to developing this approach
Local Development Companies	Local Development Companies (LDCs) are not for profit companies that deliver community and rural development, labour market activation, social inclusion, climate action and social enterprise services. They employ a partnership model fostering local ownership and delivering place based solutions
Local Sport Partnerships	Local Sports Partnerships help people to get active and removes barriers to sport and physical activity.
Public Participation Networks	A Public Participation Network (PPN) is a network that allows local authorities to connect with community groups around the country.
Regional and Local Drug and Alcohol Task forces	Local and regional drug and alcohol task forces implement the national drugs strategy in the context of the needs of their local area. Drug and alcohol task forces comprise representatives from a range of relevant agencies, such as the HSE, the Gardaí, education and training boards, and local authorities, as well as

	elected public representatives and voluntary and community sector representatives.
Sláintecare Healthy Communities	A programme of targeted initiatives to promote and improve the overall health in certain communities where there is particular concentration of health and wellbeing risk factors(Sláintecare Healthy Communities - HSE.ie) Each of these targeted initiatives has a Healthy Community Local Development Officer who works in co-ordination with the Local Community Development Committee.

Chairperson role description

The role of the Chairperson will be to lead the work of the Local Community Safety Partnership and the Community Safety Coordinator, find consensus among the partnerships members so that a tailored local community safety plan can be developed, and drive forward the implementation of the community safety plan so that it delivers tangible benefits for the relevant community.

The Chairperson is responsible for the leadership of the Safety Partnership and ensuring its effectiveness on all aspects of its role. They should display high standards of integrity and probity and set expectations regarding culture, values, and behaviours for the Safety Partnership and for the tone of discussions at Safety Partnership level. They will also lead the work of the Local Community Safety Partnership and the Community Safety Coordinator and Administrator.

The learnings from the independent evaluation of the Safety Partnership pilots informs us that the role of the Chairperson, particularly in terms of leadership competence and experience, is central to the Partnership. It is a significant high-level volunteering role, within their own community/county, which will require dedication and time.

In addition, the evaluation emphasises that it is imperative that the Chairperson is experienced and confident to facilitate a large partnership, strategically and relationally, bringing in involving stakeholders at all levels in a consistent, effective and impartial manner. The ability of a chair to act as an independent broker is an essential requirement.

The Chairperson will:

- provide leadership and strategic direction,
- Focus the Safety Partnership in making informed decisions and solutions tailored to the needs of the specific community which they are working in,
- Develop and implement the Local Community Safety Plan in conjunction with both the community and public services, and
- act as an advocate for the Safety Partnership and representing the Safety Partnership to the public, media and other stakeholders as appropriate.

When considering a candidate for the role of Chairperson members of the Partnership should consider whether they demonstrate

- proven ability in building consensus and effective communication,
- proven ability in influencing a wide range of stakeholders,
- an ability to lead strategically in a high-profile environment,

- demonstrable understanding or the ability to grasp issues relating to community safety
- the capacity to work in a sensitive area sometimes under the pressure of close public scrutiny.
- Experience of large partnership processes and facilitation skills

Suggested induction documents for Safety Partnership Members

- Community Safety Policy
- Sections 114; 115 and 116 of the Policing, Security and Community Safety Act
- (Proposed) Safety Partnership Terms of Reference and Standing Orders
- Chair role description
- Details of election process
- Any other documents pertinent to the relevant Safety Partnership

Template documents

How to use these templates

These templates have been provided as a guide to Safety Partnerships and should be adjusted in line with the needs of the Safety Partnership and the local community. Footnotes are included in the document to provide further guidance to Safety Partnerships in adapting templates such as the Terms of Reference and Standing Orders to their local context. Template documents should be updated at local level to reflect updates to guidance issued by the National Office.

1. Terms of reference

XXXXXXX
Local Community Safety Partnership
Terms of Reference Template

Terms of Reference Version Control

Version: V1.0

Date: DD/MM/YYYY

Version Control History:

XXXX Local Community Safety Partnership		
Version No.	Date	Status

Background

1. The purpose of these Terms of Reference (ToRs) is to set out the composition, functions, and operation of the _____ Local Community Safety Partnership.
2. The XXXX Local Community Safety Partnership(LCSP) is established in accordance with the Policing Security and Community Safety Act 2024. The functions and purpose of the Safety Partnership are as outlined in Section 116 of the Act and in the Guidelines for the Operating of the Local Community Safety Partnerships as issued by National Office for Community Safety.
3. These Terms of Reference may be revised at any stage by Safety Partnership and the Chairperson, in consultation with the National Office or should revised regulations or guidelines be issued.

Location of the Local Community Safety Partnership

4. The XXX Local Community Safety Partnership administrative area will match that of the administrative area of XXX local authority

Guiding Principles of the Local Community Safety Partnership [7]

a. A Whole-of-Government Approach
b. Collaboration and Partnership
c. Harm Prevention
d. Targeted Support for Disadvantaged Communities
e. A Participative Approach
f. Social Inclusion
g. Accountability
h. Evidence Based Approach
i. Respect/Recognition of Experience and Contribution of All Members
j. [PLEASE ADD ADDITIONAL PRINCIPLES WHERE REQUIRED]

Functions of the Local Community Safety Partnership

5. The functions of Safety Partnerships, as outlined in Section 116 of the Policing, Security, and Community Safety Act 2024 are as follows:

a. **Act as a forum for discussion:** to serve as a platform for discussing community safety concerns and developing coordinated approaches to improving community safety at the local level.
b. **Develop local community safety plans every three years:** develop and adopt a local community safety plan on a three yearly basis. The plans must take into account the National Strategy for Community Safety (when available) and any guidance from the National Office.
c. **Public consultation process for Local Community Safety Plans:** carry out public consultations to identify Local Community Safety priorities and objectives in the development of the Local Community Safety Plan.
d. **Implement Local Community Safety Plans:** monitor and review the implementation of Community Safety Plans on an ongoing basis against appropriate benchmarks or indicators.

[7] Further details of these principles are available in the National Office Guidance for the Operation of Local Community Safety Partnerships.

e. **Monitor and review plan implementation:** undertake a review of the Community Safety Plan at least once in its lifetime, and after such a review, amend the plan as appropriate.

f. **Collaborate with stakeholders:** collaborate and coordinate with relevant stakeholders in relation to actions under a Local Community Safety Plan, a Local Economic and Community Plan made pursuant to section 66B of the Local Government Act 2001 and any other plans relevant to its functional area.

g. **Provide views on local policing plans:** where a local policing plan relevant to the functional area of the Safety Partnership is being, or has been, prepared, to provide views on such preparation or on the progress of the implementation of any such plan to the relevant divisional officer for the Garda Síochána division or part thereof to which the plan relates.

h. **Host public meetings:** to host public meetings concerning matters relating to community safety in its functional area.

i. **Local Community Safety Fora:** to coordinate and support area-based local neighbourhood community safety fora in the Safety Partnership functional area, where appropriate

j. **Reporting:** to prepare and submit an annual report, and any other such reports as required, to the National Office for Community Safety

Objectives of the Local Community Safety Partnership

6. The Objectives and intended Outcomes of Local Community Safety Partnerships will be to:

a) Prioritise issues identified by the community as safety concerns;
b) Ensure community engagement and representation on Safety Partnerships;
c) Develop a Local Community Safety Plan which will reflect priorities identified by the community;
d) Improve multi-agency collaboration in the Safety Partnership area;
e) Increase community confidence in service providers;
f) Service providers will be accountable to the community in fulfilling the agreed actions identified in the Local Community Safety Plan

Membership

7. The local authority shall establish the Local Community Safety Partnership and shall secure membership of the Local Community Safety Partnership. It is important that the Local Community Safety Partnership will have active and representative community voices. Membership, where possible, should therefore be weighted in favour of community.

8. Membership, of __XXXX Local Community Safety Partnership___ will include the following representatives, insofar as possible, to a maximum of 30 members :

a) Not less than seven elected members of the local authority for the administrative area concerned;
b) 1 Local Authority representative
c) X member(s) of An Garda Síochána
d) 1 member of staff of the Health Service Executive
e) 1 member of staff of the Child and Family Agency
f) *A Minimum of* 4 Local Resident representatives, in addition to at least:
g) 1 youth representative
h) 1 minority/new communities' representative
i) 1 Social inclusion sector representative from the community & voluntary sector
j) 1 Education Representative
k) 1 Business representative
l) Additional Members:[8]

[PLEASE SPECIFY]

9. The proceedings of the Local Community Safety Partnership shall not be invalidated by any vacancy or vacancies among its members.

10. Members will be appointed for a term of three years.

11. A member who is appointed due to holding a specific position, and who ceases to hold that position, will cease being a member of the Local Community Safety Partnership.

[8]Please refer to the Guidance for the Operating of the Local Community Safety Partnerships for further information on including additional members.

12. A nominating body may de-select their representative member by giving written notice in writing to the Chair. This will take effect from the date specified on the notification.

13. A member may resign their membership at any time. Resignation must be notified to the Chair and will take effect from the date specified on or on receipt of notification by the Safety Partnership Coordinator, whichever is the later.

14. If a member is absent from three consecutive meetings without adequate reason, the Chairperson may request:

- that member to resign as a member of the Local Community Safety Partnership, and
- the member's nominating body to provide a replacement nominee to the Local Community Safety Partnership.

15. A member of the Safety Partnership shall resign upon the request of the Chair.

16. Membership of the Safety Partnership should be managed proactively to ensure compliance with requirements, but also to ensure a broad representation and the effective operation of the Safety Partnership. The Chair, in partnership with the other members, should review the membership of the Safety Partnership not less than every three years to ensure it remains reflective of local demographics and community safety needs.

17. The Minister may remove a member of a Safety Partnership for stated reasons, as set out in a written explanation by the Minister.

18. The Chair shall inform the National Office of any changes in membership of the Local Community Safety Partnership for onward nomination to the Minister for appointment

Chairperson and Vice-chairperson of the Local Community Safety Partnership

19. The key responsibilities of the Chair and Vice Chair are as laid out in the Guidance for the Operation of Local Community Safety Partnerships issued by the National Office for Community Safety.

Election of the Chairperson and Vice-chairperson

20. At the first meeting of the Local Community Safety Partnership, members will elect a Chair and Vice Chair from amongst their membership.

21. Members may nominate themselves or be nominated by other members.

22. Where a member has not nominated themselves, the nomination will be subject to that member's agreement.

23. Nomination(s) must be submitted in writing to the Safety Partnership Coordinator not later than one week in advance of the election taking place. Nomination(s) must include details as to why the member is being nominated and should be submitted on a nomination form supplied by the Safety Partnership Coordinator.

24. Nomination(s) will be circulated to the membership not less than 2 days prior to the election taking place by the Safety Partnership Coordinator.

25. Nominees may present their vision and goals for the Safety Partnership to the full membership.

26. All members of the Safety Partnership will participate in the vote, which will be held by secret ballot, managed by the Chief Executive of the local authority and Coordinator of the Local Community Safety Partnership, casting their vote for **one** of the nominated candidates.

27. The candidates with the majority of votes will be declared and appointed the Chair and/or Vice Chair.[9]

28. The Partnership shall notify the National Office of the results of an election for the role of chair and/or vice chair within one week of members being elected.

Term of office for chair and vice chair

29. The Chair and Vice Chair shall serve in these positions for a period of three years after their date of appointment.

[9] Each Safety Partnership has the power to determine what should happen in the event of a tie vote. Suggested mechanisms include second round of voting, drawing lots, and withdrawal of candidacy.

30. The Chair and/or Vice Chair may, subject to a majority vote by other members, be appointed to serve for one further consecutive three year term **in that role.**

Removal of the chair

31. The Minister may remove a Chairperson or Vice-Chairperson from their position for stated reasons, as set out in a written explanation by the Minister.

Chair/Vice-Chair Vacancy

32. If the positions of Chair and Vice-Chair are vacant, or for any reason they are temporarily unable to fulfil their position, a member of the Safety Partnership can be elected by the members to fulfil their duties until such a time as:
    a. A new Chair or Vice-Chair is elected or
    b. The Chair or Vice-chair is able to resume their duties

Scheduling and Notification of Meetings

33. Standing Orders for meetings will be agreed by the Local Community Safety Partnership.

34. Notifications of meetings of the Local Community Safety Partnership shall be sent to each Partnership member by electronic means or otherwise, specifying the date, time and place of the meeting, and giving no less than 7 days' notice of the meeting.

35. The Safety Partnership will not consider a matter if:

a. it would endanger the security of one or more individuals;
b. it relates to an individual – individuals shall not be discussed or named. An individual's right to privacy and the provisions of the European Convention on Human Rights Act 2003 must be adhered to;
c. it involves information received by the Garda Síochána or the local authority in confidence;
d. it would, or would be likely to, prejudice the prevention or detection of crime or the apprehension or prosecution of offenders; or
e. it is deemed prejudicial to a Garda operational matter, such as the deployment or composition of specialist units, or involves material of a sensitive nature.

Number and frequency of meetings

36. There should be regular meetings of the Safety Partnership to include no fewer than:

a. Four quarterly partnership meetings.
b. One public meeting.
c. One closed meeting for elected representatives for the relevant area.

37. The frequency, location, and timing of ordinary meetings of the Safety Partnership are matters for determination by the Safety Partnership.

38. The Chair should keep the National Office informed about scheduled meetings.

39. The Safety Partnership shall hold such and so many meetings as may be necessary for the performance of its functions.

Minutes

40. The Local Community Safety Partnership shall approve arrangements in respect of the minutes of the proceedings of meetings, including recording decisions made and action to be taken, and procedures in respect of the approval and publication of minutes. [10]

Business of the Local Community Safety Partnership

41. A member shall not receive any remuneration for acting as a member of the Local Community Safety Partnership

42. A person shall not, without the consent of the Local Community Safety Partnership, disclose any information deemed by the Partnership to be commercially sensitive or confidential in nature, obtained by that person while

[10] A suggested process for the review and approval of minutes is included in the Guidance on the Operating of Local Community Safety Partnerships as issued by the National Office for Community Safety

performing, or as a result of having performed, their duties as a member of the Partnership.

43. Where meetings of the Local Community Safety Partnership are open to the public, appropriate provision should be made for notifying the public of the meeting. Particular provision should be made to ensure that marginalised and those most distanced from decision making sections of the community are made aware of, and are supported to attend and participate meaningfully in the meeting.

44. Where the Local Community Safety Partnership holds meetings in private, a report of the meeting should be made publicly available. The Local Community Safety Partnership should endeavour to make its reports and documents publicly available to the widest degree possible, unless it would not be possible for legal or confidentiality reasons or would not be in the public interest to make such information or documents available.

Reporting obligations of Local Community Safety Partnerships [11]Partnerships [12]

45. The Local Community Safety Partnership shall provide updates and reports, as required, to the National Office for Community Safety on the performance of the functions of the Safety Partnership.

46. The Local Community Safety Partnership shall issue a public update every 3 months, providing an overview of partnership activities.

47. The Local Community Safety Partnership shall issue an annual public report, which should reflect the work done to engage the community and achieve the objectives in the Local Community Safety Plan.

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[12] The Local Community Safety Partnership may also consider other reporting mechanisms that reflect their local landscape. For example providing regular updates for inclusion in the management report presented to monthly plenary council meetings.

48. The Local Community Safety Partnership will monitor and review, on an ongoing basis, the implementation of a Local Community Safety Plan, including its performance against any benchmarks or indicators of performance set out in the plan or other relevant indicators and will undertake a review of a Local Community Safety Plan at least once within the lifecycle of the plan and, after any such review, amend the plan as appropriate.

49. The Local Community Safety Partnership shall, at least once a year, review its own performance and Terms of Reference to ensure it is operating at maximum effectiveness and implement any changes it considers necessary

Oversight of Local Community Safety Partnerships

50. Oversight of the Local Community Safety Partnership will be led the National Office for Community Safety.

51. The National Office will engage primarily through the Chairperson, Coordinator and Administrator of the Local Community Safety Partnership in order to receive updates on:

    a. Activities of the Local Community Safety Partnership
    b. Engagement by the service providers and community representatives on the Partnership
    c. Collaboration between public service bodies and other stakeholders in the provision of services to improve community safety
    d. Community safety activities and engagement with the wider community

52. The National Office for Community Safety will monitor and evaluate the implementation of Local Community Safety Plan

53. The National Office will provide support, training and guidance to Local Community Safety Partnerships; including through removing barriers to the delivery of Safety Partnerships functions by highlighting thematic and common challenges experienced by Safety Partnerships to the National Community Safety Steering Group.

54. The National Office may conduct or commission research and evaluations relating to the operation of Safety Partnership.

Limitation of Local Community Safety Partnership

55. In addition the Safety Partnership will not consider a matter if:

a. It would endanger the security of one or more individuals;

b. It relates to an individual – individuals shall not be discussed or named. An individual's right to privacy and the provisions of the European Convention on Human Rights Act 2003 must be adhered to;

c. It involves information received by the Garda Síochána or the local authority in confidence;

d. It would, or would be likely to, prejudice the prevention or detection of crime or the apprehension or prosecution of offenders; or

e. It is deemed prejudicial to a Garda operational matter, such as the deployment or composition of specialist units, or involves material of a sensitive nature.

Review

56. This Terms of Reference will be reviewed by the Safety Partnership and Chair on an Annual Basis.

2. Standing Orders

Place, Date and Time of Meeting

1. The Local Community Safety Partnership shall hold such and so many meetings as may be necessary for the performance of its functions,
    a. to include no fewer than:

    b. Four quarterly partnership meetings.

    c. One public meeting.

    d. One closed meeting for elected representatives for the relevant area.
2. In so far as practicable, the normal place for holding meetings of the XXXX XXXX Local Community Safety Partnership (Safety Partnership) shall be XXXXXXXXX. Meetings shall normally be held there. The Safety Partnership may from time to time, by agreement, appoint an alternative location for a particular meeting as decided by the Chairperson.[13]
3. When required and agreed, the meeting can be held via Microsoft Teams or alternative video conferencing tool. The option for blended meetings is also provided for.
4. Meetings of the Local Community Safety Partnership shall be held on the <specify whether first, second, third> <specify day for example Monday, Wednesday, Friday> of XXXX, XXXX, XXXX and XXX.
5. Meetings will commence at XXX p.m. and will continue for no longer than <insert timeframe here>.[14]

Notifications of Meeting

6. Notifications of meetings of the Local Community Safety Partnership shall be sent to each Partnership member by electronic means, specifying the date, time, and place of the meeting, and giving no less than 7 days' notice of the meeting.
7. Special meetings of the Local Community Safety Partnership may be called to discuss matters of particular importance to it. Where a special meeting is convened, notice must be issued at least 3 days in advance of the meeting, containing the time and place of the meeting and specifying the purpose of the meeting to every member of the Local Community Safety Partnership.

Meetings of the Local Community Safety Partnerships or Subgroups

8. Representatives of the media may attend meetings of the Safety Partnership, and information and documents produced will be available to them, unless there

[13] LCSPs should consider holding of meetings at time and place that will facilitate the engagement of all members, particularly the community. Consideration can also be given for rotating location of meetings to reflect geographic area covered by LCSP
[14] In Pilot LCSPs three and half hours was the specified time.

are legal reasons why this would not be possible or it would not be in the public interest to do so.[15]

9. The Local Community Safety Partnership may decide to meet in committee for the whole or part of the meeting concerned, where the Safety Partnership is of the opinion that the absence of members of the media from the whole or part of a particular meeting is desirable because:

- of the special nature of the meeting, or of an item of business to be, or about to be, considered at the meeting, or
- for other special reasons the committee or subgroup may decide to meet in committee.

10. The right of the media to attend Safety Partnership meetings is subject to the following:

- Taking account of available space, a limit may be placed on the number of persons attending for reasons of safety,
- Rules governing the conduct of persons present at meetings,
- The Chairperson reserves the right of removal of members of the media who interrupt the proceedings or who otherwise misconduct themselves,
- All mobile telephones or other communication apparatus to be switched off,
- No recording equipment is permitted,
- Members of the media must be in the public gallery before the commencement of the meeting in order to ensure entry to the meeting.

Public Meetings

11. The Local Community Safety Partnership shall hold at least one public meeting per year. Where the Local Community Safety Partnership holds meetings in private, a report of the meeting should be made publicly available.
12. The emphasis of any public meeting will be on community safety rather than individuals and on obtaining the collaboration of the public.
13. Decisions on holding public meetings will be made at meetings of the Safety Partnership.
14. Details regarding public meetings will be advertised in local media, on the XXXX local authority website, and on social media.
15. Questions must be received in writing at least 7 full working days before a meeting of the Safety Partnership by the Safety Partnership Co-ordinator.

- Questions will be accepted from any person with relevant community safety queries.
- Questioners should give their name and address, which will not be publicised.

16. In certain circumstances, it may not be possible for either the Garda representative or the local authority to reply to a question for legal reasons or because it would not be in the public interest to do so.
17. Any reply given will be verbal and recorded in the minutes.

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[15] Attendance by media at Safety Partnership meetings is not mandated. Consideration could be given to only allowing media to attend public meetings, or specific meetings on request, in the first year of the Partnership to allow for relationships and trust to develop and as the Safety Partnership is developing its workplan. This could be reviewed as the Partnership's work evolves

18. A record shall be kept of all written questions submitted. Questions and the answers provided will form part of the official records of the committee.

Special Meetings

19. The Chairperson shall have discretion to call a special meeting of the Local Community Safety Partnership to discuss matters of particular importance to it.

20. Where a special meeting is convened, notice must issue at least 3 days in advance of the meeting, containing the time and place of the meeting and specifying the purpose of the meeting to every member of the Local Community Safety Partnership.

Meetings where the media are in attendance

21. In meetings where it has been agreed that the media will be in attendance, the Safety Partnership may decide to meet in committee for part of the meeting concerned, where the Safety Partnership is of the opinion that the absence of members of the media from the whole or part of the meeting is desirable because:

- of the special nature of the meeting or of an item of business to be, or about to be, considered at the meeting, or
- for other special reasons the committee or subgroup may decide to meet in committee.

22. The right of the media to attend Safety Partnership meetings is subject to the following:

- Taking account of available space, a limit may be placed on the number of persons attending for reasons of safety,
- Rules governing the conduct of persons present at meetings,
- The Chairperson reserves the right of removal of members of the media who interrupt the proceedings or who otherwise misconduct themselves,
- All mobile telephones or other communication apparatus to be switched off,
- No recording equipment is permitted,
- Members of the media must be in the public gallery before the commencement of the meeting in order to ensure entry to the meeting.

23. Information and documents produced should be made available to the media, unless there are legal reasons why this would not be possible or it would not be in the public interest to do so.

Consideration of Certain Matters

24. The Local Community Safety Partnership or subgroup shall not consider a matter if:

- it would endanger the security of one or more individuals;
- it relates to an individual – individuals shall not be discussed or named. An individual's right to privacy and the provisions of the European Convention on Human Rights Act 2003 must be adhered to;it involves information received by the Garda Síochána or the local authority in confidence;
- it would, or would be likely to, prejudice the prevention or detection of crime or the apprehension or prosecution of offenders; or
- it is deemed prejudicial to a Garda operational matter, such as the deployment or composition of specialist units, or involves material of a sensitive nature.

Quorum

25. The quorum for a meeting of the Local Community Safety Partnership shall be eleven. There should

be a minimum of 4 representatives from among the public and non-public membership respectively.

26. If eleven members are not present within fifteen minutes after the time appointed for the holding of a Meeting, the Meeting shall stand adjourned to a day to be determined by the Chairperson.

Minutes

27. Minutes of the proceedings of a meeting of the Safety Partnership shall be drawn up by the Safety Partnership staff or in their absence by a nominated local authority official.
28. The Minutes shall include -

- The date, place and time of the meeting,
- The names of the members present at the meeting and the name of Chairperson,
- Apologies Received
- Reference to any report submitted to the members at the meeting,
- Items Discussed
- Decisions made and//or actions agreed and any conflicts of interest declared during the course of decision making
- Actions to be taken
- Status of outstanding actions

- Where there is a roll call vote, the number and names of members voting for and against the motion and of those abstaining,
- Particulars of all decisions passed at the meeting,
- Such other matters considered appropriate.

29. Draft minutes of a meeting shall be circulated to all Safety Partnership members within 15 working days of

meeting.

30. Minutes of a meeting shall be submitted for confirmation as an accurate record at the next following meeting, where practicable, or where not, at the next following meeting and recorded in the minutes of that meeting.
31. When confirmed with or without amendment, the minutes of a meeting shall be signed by the Chairperson to whom they shall be submitted for confirmation and any minutes claiming to be so signed shall be received in evidence without proof.
32. A copy of the confirmed minutes shall be provided to any person applying for them, on payment of such reasonable sum, being a sum not exceeding the reasonable cost of supplying the copy.
33. Appropriate arrangements shall be made for safe keeping of the minutes by Safety Partnership Co-ordinator.

Record of attendance at meetings

34. The Local Community Safety Partnership Co-ordinator shall maintain a record of attendances at meetings.
35. The attendance of each member present at a meeting shall be entered by that member in a record kept for that purpose by the Safety Partnership Co-ordinator on behalf of the Safety Partnership.

Order of Business

36. The agenda and all documentation relevant to the business of the Local Community Safety Partnership shall be circulated to all members not less than 4 working days in advance of any meeting of the Partnership
37. The Order of Business at all Meetings of the Safety Partnership, other than at Public Meetings, shall be as follows:

- Confirmation of Minutes
- Matters Arising
- Declaration of Interest
- Reports
- General Items
- Members Interest Items
- Correspondence
- Local Community Safety Plan – Outcome/Actions Update (Following publication of the Local Community Safety Plan)

When a member wishes to include an item under Members Interest Items, an outline of the matter plus any related questions must be submitted in writing to the Chairperson not less than 7 days in advance of any meeting of the Partnership.

Order of Debate

38. No member shall address the Safety Partnership for more than three minutes without the permission of the Chairperson. A member may only speak once in relation to any item on the Agenda. Members should be succinct with their input
39. Except with the permission of the Chairperson, no member shall address the meeting for more than one minute under Matters Arising.
40. The Chairperson shall have the sole discretion in determining the order in which members are permitted to speak.
41. A member, while speaking, shall address only the Chairperson.
42. The Chairperson's decision in determining a point of order or personal explanation shall be final.
43. When two or more members at the same time offer to speak, the member called upon by the Chairperson shall have precedence.
44. A member speaking shall not be interrupted except upon a question of order, but may give way to a member desiring to make a personal explanation.
45. The Chairperson is the sole judge of order in the meeting and has authority to maintain order and enforce prompt obedience to his / her ruling.

Declaration of Interest

46. A member must exclude themselves from a meeting or a part of a meeting and must not participate in any discussion relating to any matter in respect of which it could be reasonably perceived that a conflict of interest would result from their presence at the meeting or participation in a discussion on the matter.
47. A Register of Interests shall be completed/maintained, and all members will have to certify their position before each meeting. A Declaration of Interests form will be submitted annually, which will include a statement of understanding on the requirement to declare interests as they arise. Members will also be required to declare any conflict of interest that may occur due to an unexpected item arising.
48. For the purposes of clarification, conflict of interest shall be deemed as "a set of circumstances that creates a risk that a professional judgement or actions regarding a primary interest will be unduly influenced by a secondary interest."

Decisions of the Local Community Safety Partnership 17

49. Votes/Decisions should be made through a collaborative approach. Where possible, they should be made by consensus, and if this is not possible, a majority vote will apply:
    a. Each member of the partnership is eligible to vote.
    b. Vote shall be taken from those members present at the meeting.
    c. In the event where there is no majority, the Chair shall have the deciding vote.

50. At decision-making level, neither public members nor any single interest group shall represent more than 49% of the voting rights of the Local Community Safety Partnership.

A Register of Interests shall be completed/maintained, and all members will have to certify their position before each meeting.

51. Members will be required to declare any conflict of interest that may occur due to an unexpected item arising. For the purposes of clarification, a conflict of interest can be described as any form of personal interest, which may affect, or might reasonably be thought to affect, on an individual's impartiality in decision-making**.**

Sub-Groups

52. The Chairperson, in consultation with the Local Community Safety Partnership, may appoint a Sub- Group for any specific purpose.
53. When appointing a Sub-Group, the members shall determine the number and names of the Members who are to serve on it and who will Chair it.
54. The Chairperson shall fix the quorum, which shall not be less than three, that will apply in respect of a Sub-Group.
55. The term of office of a Sub-Group shall be for such period as the Chairperson may determine.
56. The Chairperson of each Sub-Group shall be responsible to the Members for the general management of the business entrusted to the Sub-Group.
57. A copy of any report of a Sub-Group to be submitted to the Local Community Safety Partnership shall be transmitted to each Member at least three days before any meeting at which it is to be discussed.
58. A non-member may be invited to attend a meeting and speak, if considered appropriate by the Safety Partnership or subgroup, to a particular agenda item, for example, representatives of statutory agencies where the committee or subgroup considers that their particular expertise is required.

Presentations

59. In order to accommodate presentations at meetings, provision is made in these Standing Orders for Meetings to commence at Xpm. Such meetings will continue for no longer than three and a half hours.
60. Presentations on relevant issues can be held at the commencement of Safety Partnership meetings, subject to the agreement of the Chairperson. Speakers will address the meeting for ten minutes, and ten minutes will be allowed for Q & A.
61. A maximum 2 people will be permitted to attend and speak on the subject.

62. The subject matter to be presented on will be notified in writing to the Safety Partnership Co-ordinator at least 7 clear days before the date of the meeting, together with any presentation.
63. On completion of the presentation, the presenters shall withdraw from the meeting.
64. A non-member may be invited to attend a meeting and speak, if considered appropriate by the Safety Partnership or subgroup, to a particular agenda item, for example, representatives of statutory agencies where the committee or subgroup considers that their particular expertise is required.

Disorderly Conduct

65. If, in the opinion of the Chairperson, any member of the Safety Partnership has been or is disorderly by persistently disregarding the ruling of the Chairperson, or by behaving irregularly, improperly or offensively, or by otherwise obstructing the business of the meeting, and the Chairperson has conveyed his or her opinion to the members present by naming the member concerned, then the Chairperson or any member may move “that the member named leave the meeting” and the motion, if seconded, shall be put and determined without discussion.
66. Where the Local Community Safety Partnership decides in accordance with the above that a member leave a meeting, that member shall immediately leave the meeting and shall not be entitled to speak or to take any further part in that meeting on that day.
67. The Chairperson may adjourn the meeting for such period as he or she considers necessary in the interest of order.

Suspension of Standing Orders

68. Standing Orders may, at any time, be suspended without notice for the purpose of enabling specific business to the interest of the Safety Partnership to be considered and dealt with, subject to the requirement that at least two-thirds of the members present vote in favour.
69. A request for suspension of Standing Orders shall be submitted in writing to the chairperson, or if the office of chairperson is vacant or if he/she is unable to act, to the vice chairperson, not later than 12 noon on the day before the meeting. The chairperson/vice chairperson, at his/her total discretion, can accept such a request before the commencement of the meeting, if he/she considers the subject of the request to be a matter of urgency and expediency concerning the Safety Partnership.

Standing Orders

70. The XXXX Local Community Safety Partnership may, by resolution for which at least one half of the total number of members of the partnership vote in favour, amend or revoke standing orders and make new standing orders.
71. A copy of standing orders shall be sent by the Safety Partnership Co-ordinator to each member of the Safety Partnership.
72. A copy of any amendment to standing orders shall likewise be supplied to each member.

73. The Chairperson will have power to deal with any matter not covered by Standing Orders.
74. The Chairperson’s ruling on any question or interpretation of the Standing Order will be final.

3. Safety Partnership Members Code of Conduct

The aim of this conduct of conduct is to set out the guiding principles, practices and obligations that are required of all members during their term of appointment to the Safety Partnerships.

I. Guiding Principles

Members work should be guided by the guiding principles of Local Community Safety Partnerships as set out in the Guidance for the Operation of Local Community Safety Partnerships

II. Community Responsibility

Members have responsibility to act in the interests of the community rather than the interests of any group they represent or self-interest.

III. Integrity

Members should act with honesty, fairness and transparency. Members should not use their role for personal gain.

IV. Conflicts of Interest

Where there are conflicts of interests, members are obliged to declare these.

V. Accountability

All members commit to being active participants in the identification and delivery of community safety responses in the Safety Partnership. They also commit to attending meetings and events of the Safety Partnership, where needed, and to fulfil any actions they have committed to undertaking.

VI. Openness and Transparency

Members should be as open as possible about the decisions, positions and actions that they take.

VII. Collaboration and Partnership

Members are committed to working collaboratively to co-create initiatives to improve community safety and to advance the shared goals of the Safety Partnership.

VIII. Respectful dialogue and Inclusion

Members should respect the experience and contribution of all other members regardless of their backgrounds or opinions. Members will work with all other stakeholders respectfully regardless of their background or opinion. Discussions should be kept in focus

on the issue, not the individual and not extend to individuals being subjected to unreasonable and excessive personal attack.

IX. Equality

Members should recognise the value of diversity in Safety Partnerships and commit to promoting equality and non-discrimination. People should be treated with respect regardless of their, race, ethnicity, gender identity, sexual orientation, disability status, socio-economic status, health status, religion.

X. Confidentiality.

Members commit to not disclosing any confidential information that is discussed in the course of the work of the Safety Partnership.

Acknowledgement and Agreement

I confirm that I have read and understood the Safety Partnership Code of Conduct. I agree to abide by the principles and behaviours outlined above throughout my term as a member of the Local Community Safety Partnership.

Name: _____

Organisation (if applicable): _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____

4. Conflict of Interest Declaration

XXX Local Community Safety Partnership Terms of Reference states that members are required to certify their position and declare any Conflict of Interest in advance of a meeting in the below table which should be returned to the XXX Local Community Safety Partnership Coordinator.

Members are also required to declare any Conflict of Interest that may occur due to an unexpected item arising.

For the purposes of clarification, Conflict of Interest shall be deemed as "*a set of circumstances that creates a risk that a professional judgement or actions regarding a primary interest will be unduly influenced by a secondary interest.*"
Conflicts can and are expected to arise from time to time; where a Conflict of Interest is declared by a member, that person must absent themselves from deliberations relating to the declaration. The declaration of interest will be formally recorded in meeting minutes.

Date of Meeting	**Agenda Item**	**Nature of interest**	**Will/Did you absent yourself from deliberations (Yes/No)**

Member Name(Please Print): _____

Member Signature: _____

Date: _____

5. Chair Nomination Form

Sample Chair Nomination Form	
Nominee Name	
Proposer Name (where different to Nominee)	
Please outline how you feel you/this person has the experience to fulfil the role of the Chair of XXXX Local Community Safety Partnership. In completing this section you should refer to the Safety Partnership chairperson role description	
Nominee Signature	
Proposer Signature	
Date	

6. Declaration of Assurance for Chairpersons of Safety Partnerships

For the Position of Chairperson, [Name of] Local Community Safety Partnership

I, [Your Full Name] declare the following in relation to my appointment for the role of Chairperson of the [Name of] Local Community Safety Partnership (LCSP).

- Role of the Chairperson

- I confirm that I have read role description and that understand the role of the Chairperson of the Local Community Safety Partnership

- I possess the necessary skills, experience, and commitment carry out the role the Chairperson as described in the role description.

- Commitment to Community Safety

- I affirm my dedication to promoting community safety, inclusivity, and collaboration among stakeholders, including An Garda Síochána, local authorities, community groups, and residents.

- I will act in the best interests of the community and uphold the Guiding Principles of Local Community Safety Partnerships.

- Time Commitment.

- I confirm that I understand that the role of Chairperson is a high level voluntary position and that I can dedicate the necessary time to effectively carry out the duties of Chairperson, including attending meetings, engaging with stakeholders, and representing the Safety Partnership as needed.

Name: _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____

7. Meeting Minutes Template

[NAME]	
Date:	
Time:	
Venue:	

Attendance	
Quorum:	**YES/NO**
Apologies:	
1. Declaration of Interest	
2. Confirmation of minutes of previous meeting DD MMMM YYYY	
3. Matters Arising	
4. Item A	
5. Item B	
6. Item C	
7. Members' Interest Items	
8. AOB	
Next Meeting	
Date:	
Time:	
Venue:	
Prepared by	**Name** **Local Community Safety Partnership Coordinator**

Adopted by XXX Local Community Safety Partnership	**DD/MM/YY**
Chairperson Signature	

MEMBERSHIP ATTENDANCE LOG

NAME SURNAME	Representative Body	In Attendance Yes/No

Total Membership	**X/30 filled**	**X Vacancies**
Total Attendance	**XX**	**X**
% of Members in Attendance	**X%**	**X/30**

Additional Resources[16]

Community safety policy

- Commission of the Future of Policing in Ireland Report
- Department of Justice, Home Affairs and Migration Community Safety Policy
- Policing, Security and Community Safety Act 2024
- National Community Safety Steering Group regulations
- Local Community Safety Partnership regulations
- National Community Safety webpage

Community engagement

- Values and Principles for Collaboration and Partnership Working with the Community and Voluntary Sector
- A Guide for Inclusive Community Engagement in Local Planning and Decision Making
- Participation Matters – Guidelines on implementing the obligation to meaningfully engage with disabled people in public decision making
- Tusla Child and Youth Participation Toolkit
- Hub na nÓg – Young voices in decision making

Policing and community safety

- An Garda Síochána strategy statements
- Policing and Community Safety Authority Policing Priorities for An Garda Síochána
- Cross Border Policing Strategy 2025-2027

Health

- Healthy Ireland Framework 2021–2025 Here
- Sláintecare Implementation Strategy Here
- Public Health (Alcohol) Act 2018 Here
- National Drugs Strategy: Reducing Harm, Supporting Recovery 2017–2025 Here
- Report of the Citizens' Assembly on Drug Use Here

[16] Contents of this section will be added to over time as LCSP teams request specific support from the National Office for Community Safety or the National Office identifies resources that may be beneficial to LCSPs.

Mental Health

- Sharing the Vision: A Mental Health Policy for Everyone (2025–2027) Here
- Connecting for Life: Ireland's National Strategy to Reduce Suicide 2015–2024 Here
- Connecting for Life: Suicide Prevention in the Community Here
- CAMHS (Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services) Operational Guidelines Here
- HSE Mental Health Engagement & Recovery Framework Here

Children and young people

- Young Ireland National Policy Framework for Children and Young People 2023-2028 Here
- Tusla Corporate Plan 2024 -2026 Here
- Child and youth participation strategy 2019 – 2023 Here
- Participation of Children and Young People in Decision-Making Action Plan 2024-2028 Here
- National Framework for Children and Young People's Participation in Decision – Making Here

Education

- Wellbeing Policy Statement and Framework for Practice 2018- 2023 Here
- DEIS (Delivering Equality of Opportunity in Schools) 2024-2025 Here
- Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) to 2030: National Strategy Here

Sport and Physical Activity

- National Sports Policy 2018–2027 Here
- Local Sports and Physical Activity Plans. Here

Inclusion

- National Action Plan Against Racism (2023) here
- National Traveller and Roma Inclusion Strategy II (2024-2028) here
- National Traveller and Roma Inclusion Strategy II, Action Plan (2024-2026) here
- National Traveller and Roma Inclusion Strategy II, Executive (2024-2028) here
- Migrant Integration Strategy, Blueprint (2017–2020) here
- Migrant Integration Strategy, Progress Report (2017–2020) here

- National LGBTIQ+ Inclusion Strategy (2024-2028) here
- Disability Inclusion and Participation Plan (in development)

Responses and interventions

- An Garda Síochána Crime prevention by environmental design factsheet (CPTED)
- Towards Safe(r) Space: Disability and Everyday Spaces of Un/Safety and Hostility in Ireland
- Restorative Justice Service Map (Ireland)
- What works to prevent youth violence: A summary of the evidence (Scotland)
- Youth Endowment Foundation: YEF Toolkit - what works to prevent children and young people becoming involved in violence (UK)
- United National Office on Drugs and Crime: Handbook on the Crime Prevention Guidelines Making them work

Statistics and Data

- POBAL Maps
- National Census Atlas
- Health Region, IHA, CHN and ED Profiles (Census 2022)