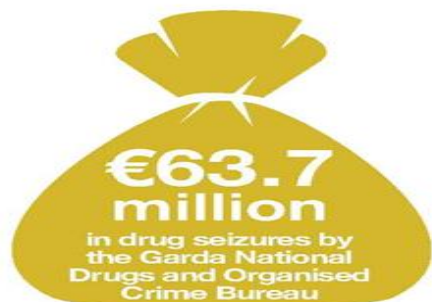




AN TÚDARÁS PÓILÍNEACHTA
POLICING AUTHORITY



fall in residential burglaries since November 2015

Over **1,000 Garda personnel** of all ranks and grades have now completed the 12-week bespoke training in human rights



Over **1.7 million** social media followers



an increase of

13%

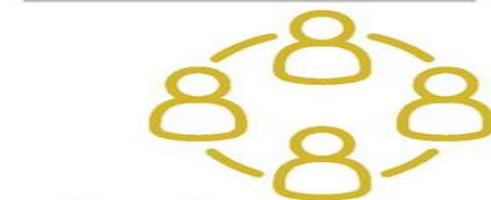


45,283

contacts and attempted contacts with **victims of domestic abuse** since April 2020



Over **70 young people** from across the country recognised at National Youth Awards



28

interns commenced employment in December 2021, representing a variety of diverse groups

More than **4,600** mobility devices deployed by the end of 2021



KOPS – Keeping Our People Supported wellbeing app launched

Over **432,000** vetting applications were processed

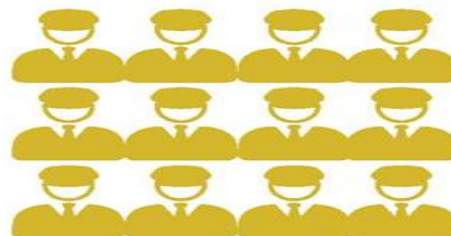


an increase of **12%**



Successfully connected to Schengen Information System (SIS) with **110 arrests** under SIS Article 26 and **88 arrests** under European Arrest Warrants (EAW)

340 Probationer Gardaí were allocated, as part of the pandemic operational response, to Garda stations nationwide



Over **900** Garda personnel signed up for the organisation's **Fáinne Gaeilge** initiative



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Guidelines for Joint Policing Committees



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Treoirínte maidir le Comhchoistí Póilíneachta

Joint Policing Committees

New Guidelines (2022)

Observations from a Governance Perspective

- Clarity of overall purpose and expectations
- Clarity of role and responsibilities – on paper and in practice
- Clear leadership/‘drive’ for JPC
- Structured approach – strategy, workplan, agendas*
- JPC size/composition/diversity
- Engaged members, able to contribute, ideas... engaged community
- Information flows – timely, quality
- Clear actions, owners and accountability
- Alignment with relevant partner plans (e.g. AGS)
- Group reflection and evaluation
- Transparency/Communications

Session 1 – Implementing the Guidelines

Q. What are the likely key challenges for your JPC in implementing these guidelines? (and being as effective/impactful as possible)

Q. What key opportunities for your JPC in implementing these guidelines?



Challenges

- **Representation/diff groups** – communicating with, awareness raising (who is in?), managing expectations, admin, induction/training, getting the right people around the table, decision makers / influence/ authority), broaden voices (not same people), make-up
- **Resources** to implement/action (incl LA staff, bud)
- **Transparency** (vs local policing forum), problem solving happens elsewhere,
- Reducing LA voice / representation on JPC
- Meetings / time constraints / focusing agenda
- Implementing action plans / outcomes / follow-up, will JPC have an influence
- Communications – thru local media – what was achieved etc. rather than meeting per se
- Influencing Garda model (JPC input?)
- JPC size / scale / scope of CSP Plan
- Different local area maps for diff agencies
- National drugs strategy – linkage/input
- Fear of reporting/speaking up
- Engaging young people

Opportunities

- Collective problem solving
- Improved networking, more reach-out, opportunity for community engagement (incl ethnic)
- Secure more resources/ buy-in/ commitment
- Better capacity building / **evaluation**
- More in-camera **meetings**? Greater frequency?
- Diversity – e.g. age - invite in Student Union rep
- Ring-fenced budget for JPC
- **Knowledge/experience sharing** between Chairs, Chairs Network? (property marking initiative)
- Information sharing / less emphasis on stats? Quality of life, perceptions...
- **Comms/PR** – actions/focus, openness, **social media**
- **Education** – CSPE re JPCs/community engagement (e.g. Roscommon courage awards)
- Drugs strategy/initiatives – awareness
- Highlighting cyber crime/bullying

AN GARDA SÍOCHÁNA



Drug-Related Intimidation

Detective Superintendent Sé McCormack
Garda National Drugs & Organised Crime Bureau
19th September 2022

What is intimidation?



- Drug-related intimidation is where a criminal or criminals allege monies are owed for a drug debt
- Typical scenarios:
 - A threat where a complaint is made and the normal investigative process takes over.
 - Drug related threat/intimidation where a family member owes a debt to a drug supplier and the families are unsure as to what action to take.



Forms of Intimidation

Verbal Threats

Physical Violence

Criminal Damage

Silent Intimidator Tactics

Sexual Violence

Harassment

Hostile Take Overs





Extent of the problem

July 2022 – 26 incidents nationwide

- Assault
- Burglary
- Criminal Damage
- Threat
- Conspiracy to commit crime
- Public Order
- Robbery
- Blackmail / Extortion
- Dangerous Driving

Region	2020	2021	2022*	Total
Dublin Region	134	214	140	488
Eastern Region	12	73	55	140
North Western Region	<10	24	25	56
Southern Region	<10	39	37	81
Total	158	350	257	765
*YTD 14/08/2022				

■ Contrasting with

- > €30 million in drugs seized in 2022 to date in GNDOCB-related operations alone
- < 1500 simple possession seizures in July 2022 alone
- EMCDDA report 2022 "Everything, Everywhere, Everyone"



Inspector comment

- **Scale of DRI**

"I think we're only scratching the surface of the level of intimidation that's out there."

It is difficult to get a complete picture of the problem.

The confidential nature of the reporting programme must be protected.



History

- The Drug Related Intimidation Programme was established in 2009/2010 by GNDOCB and the NFSN under actions 5 and 7 of the National Drug Strategy 2009 – 2016, first in the DMR and then expanded nationally.
- Currently the program falls under action 4.1.42 of the National Drug Strategy 2017 – 2025 Reducing Harm Supporting Recovery
- The National Family Support Network were our partner agency – ceased to function in April 2021 – now DRIVE
- There is a nominated Inspector in each Division in the country (30 Inspectors)



Action 4.1.42

- Under Action 4.1.42 of the National Drugs Strategy, Reducing Harm, Supporting Recovery 2017 to 2025, the Drug Related Intimidation Programme was evaluated in 2018 with a view to developing initiatives to promote and create awareness around the reporting programme and to strengthen the effectiveness of the programme. The final evaluation report was written by Doctor Orla Dempsey, then GSAS.
- Findings included:
 - 94% informal referrals – no complaint made
 - 6% leading to formal complaint
 - 24% of referrals came from NFSN at that time
 - Broad range of debts up to €50,000 (since higher reported)
 - DRI affects all communities, including Garda members
 - The difference is the ability and desire to pay.



Review Response

- Motive category for Drug Related Intimidation was added to PULSE and an instructional video disseminated across the Garda Portal – October 2020
- National Drug Strategy training sessions – 60 members trained to date
- DRI training for Garda Students – 600 trained
- Hosting of DRI seminars – 3 to date
- Internal promotion of DRI within An Garda Síochána
- External promotion of DRI via media outlets, campus watch
- All of these responses will continue and expand

National Drugs Strategy 2017 – 2025

Reducing Harm, Supporting Recovery



- Project Office – here to help
- Actions being implemented by GNDOCB on behalf of An Garda Síochána include improving the effectiveness and awareness of the Drug Related Intimidation Reporting Programme, supply reduction strategies and community liaison initiatives.
- In furtherance of these actions GNDOCB works collaboratively with an extensive number of stakeholders including: internal agencies, Forensic Science Ireland, Government Departments, HSE, HPRA, FSAI, N.G.O.'s working in community supports, international bodies.
- Chair of the Council of Europe Expert Drugs Online Group.
- GNDOCB supports Regions and Divisions in delivering on supply, demand and harm reduction through a number of educational awareness courses, training initiatives and expert advices.



DRI Examples

- IT executive, Dublin, has paid off hundreds of thousands, about to re-mortgage house before approaching Gardaí.
- Successful contractor, South West, has paid off hundreds of thousands, sold family business, family land, father has taken out huge loans
- Bank executive, €40,000 paid to criminals
- Family with history of criminal activity approach Gardaí: one son victim of DRI, while another son is perpetrating DRI.
- House takeovers – hold and store drugs
- Sexual threats and assaults – sex work to pay off debts
- Working for dealers – transport drugs, weapons, cash, carry out DRI
- Family paid debt in Dublin, relocated to Cork, son now being groomed by Cork criminal gang.

- Bundles of new pristine, bank-wrapped notes in cash seizures.

AN GARDA SÍOCHÁNA



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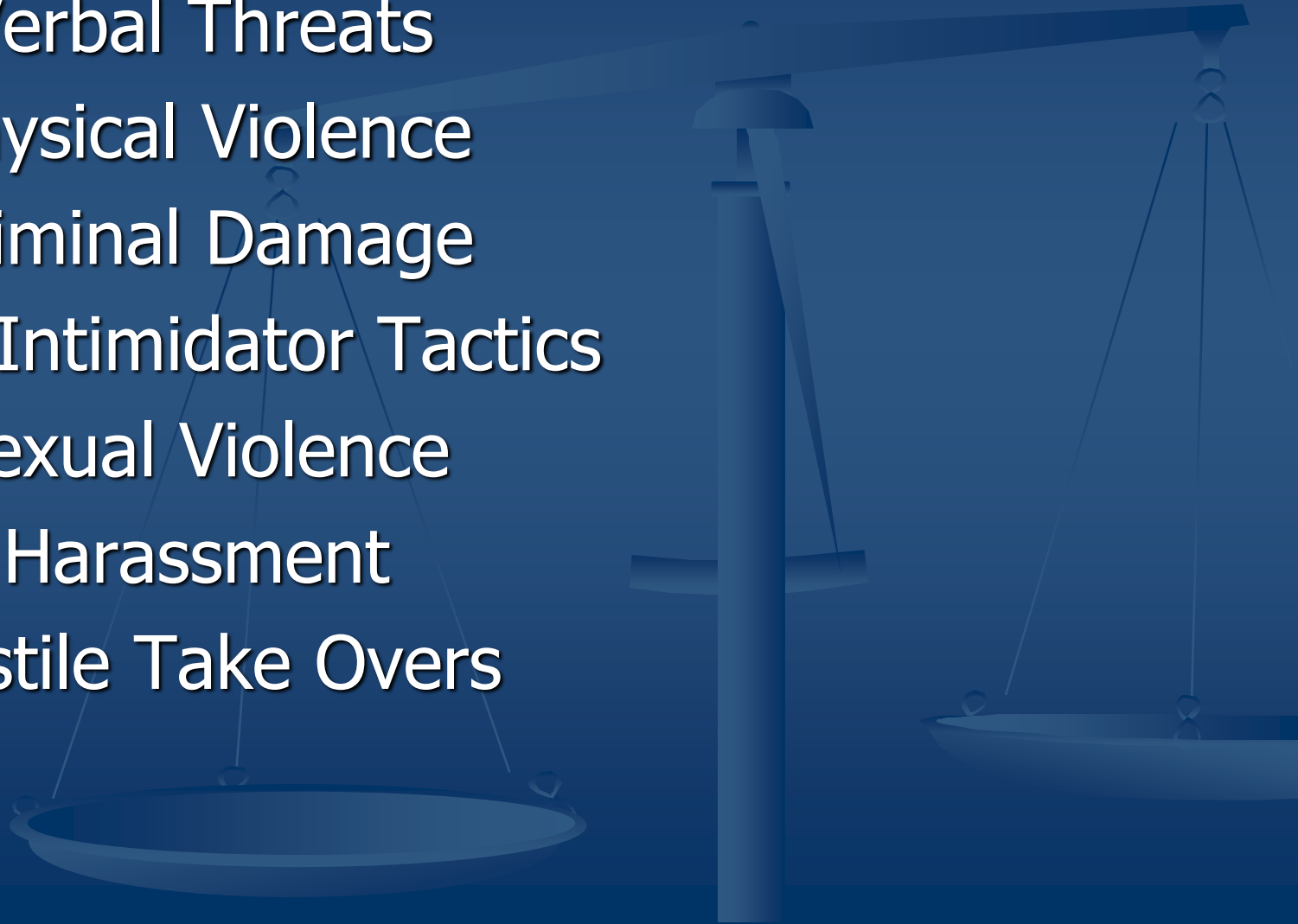
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Conclusions

- People don't talk about it: guilt, shame, embarrassment, stigma
- Future response must reach all communities, must be a collaborative response
- Significant Societal Issue – the Drugs Trade
- Stress on Families / Communities
- A Challenge to the authority/legitimacy of the State
- A Challenge which must be and can be confronted
- Education - Community Engagement – Network Disruption - Support – Investigation

Educate people about risks/options.

Stand with victims.

Support communities.

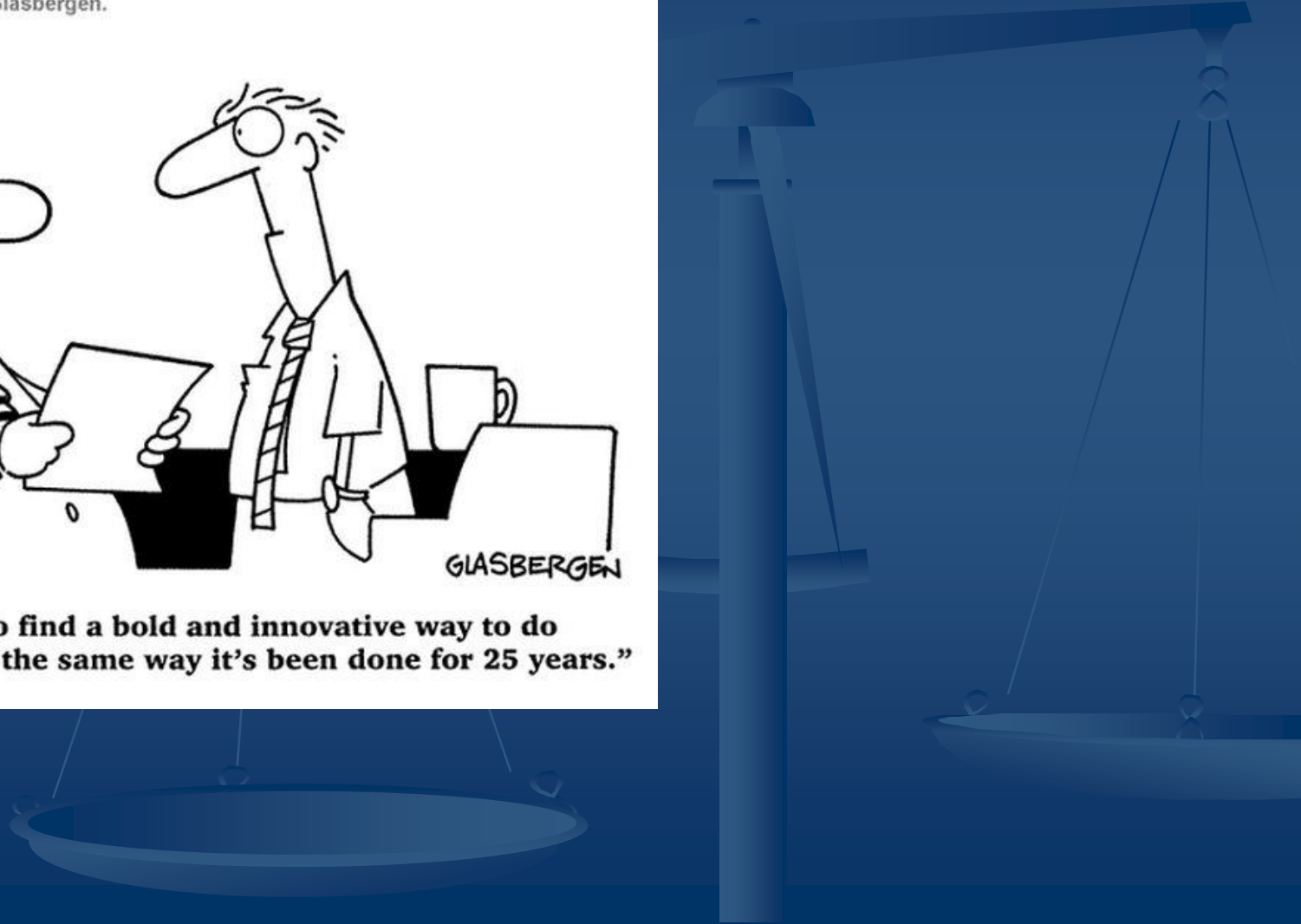


Looking to the Future

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www.glasbergen.com



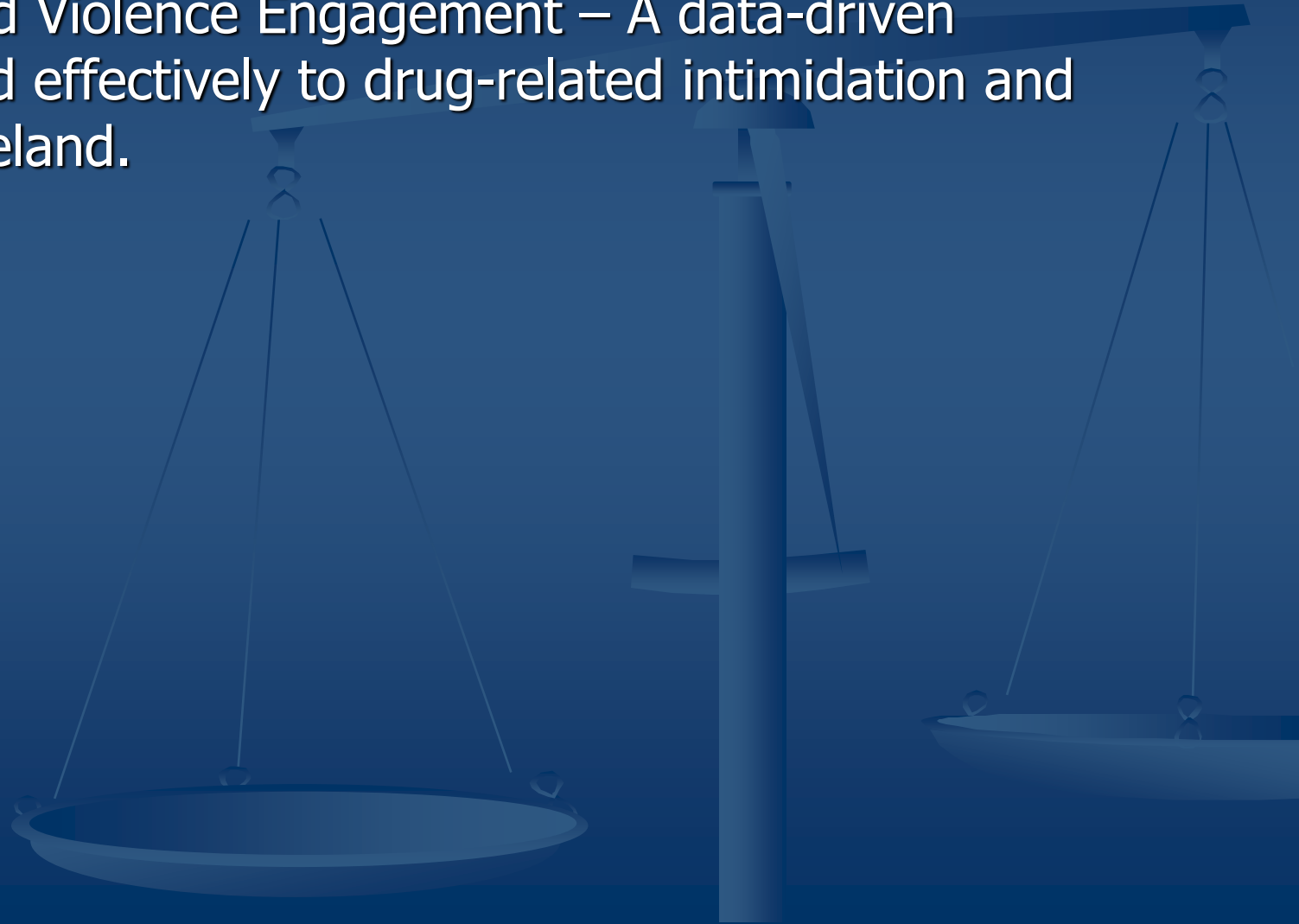
“I want you to find a bold and innovative way to do everything exactly the same way it’s been done for 25 years.”





DRIVE

- Drug Related Intimidation and Violence Engagement – A data-driven intervention model to respond effectively to drug-related intimidation and violence in communities in Ireland.





DRIVE

Drug Related Intimidation & Violence Engagement
An interagency response in Ireland



A data-driven intervention model to respond effectively to drug-related intimidation and violence in communities in Ireland.





Rationale for the project

- **Need a model or standardised approach to Drug related Intimidation**
- DRIRP more active in some areas than others
- Victims reluctant to go to Gardaí - recognise role of community based drug/family support services in the response
- Blurring of lines between victims and offenders
- Data on DRI incident - type of drug, debt, outcome, age profile, type of intimidation - to support responses
- Need central focal point of information, resources and support
- Opportunity to build on good practice already in existence and create of community of practice on DRI to share learning and develop new responses





Background to DRIVE

- DRI consistently raised as an issue by Task Forces, community representatives and support services
- Funding by Minister (strand 3) seeking national interagency approach
- Small group submitted application to commission the development of model and recruit a worker to support its implementation
- Supported by 23 DATFS, HSE, Gardaí, Community & voluntary sector & Probation Service
- Established national DRIVE oversight committee to provide governance and oversight





DRIVE Oversight Committee

Name	Role
Bríd Walsh	Chairperson DRIVE & project promoter (<i>Regional DATF Coordinator North Dublin</i>)
Antoinette Kinsella	Secretary & Regional DATF Representative (<i>Regional DATF Coordinator, Midlands</i>)
Dave Kenny	Probation Representative (<i>Regional Manager, Probation Service</i>)
Detective Superintendent Sé McCormack	An Garda Síochána Representative (<i>National Drugs and Organised Crime Unit</i>)
Joe Slattery	Community/Voluntary family support representative (<i>Coordinator, North Star Family Support project, Limerick</i>)
Hugh Greaves	Local DATF Representative (<i>Local DATF Coordinator, Ballymun</i>)
Fran Byrne	HSE National Addiction Advisory Governance Group Representative (<i>Addiction Manager, Louth/Meath</i>)

Operational lead: DRIVE Coordinator : Siobhan Maher (*employed by North Dublin Regional DATF*)



DRIVE

Drug Related Intimidation & Violence Engagement
An interagency response in Ireland



2. Data Collection and Analysis

To increase both real time and retrospective reporting of DRI, leading to increased knowledge of DRI prevalence and trends in local communities



4. Community Level Supports

To develop, design and implement data informed and evidence based community level supports to tackle DRI focused on prevention, desistence and suppression



6. Legislation and systemic change

To enable the pursuit of strategic, policy and legislative changes required to bring about increased convictions and reduce incidents of DRI



1. Capacity Building and Shared Commitment

To develop an increased understanding of DRI and improve the capacity of front line workers and relevant organisations to respond effectively.



3. Information Sharing

To connect organisations and share information to enable solution focused approaches and interventions at local, regional and national levels



5. Law Enforcement

To support responsive policing aligned to area based data ranging from harm reduction approaches to aggressive investigations & 'pulling levers'





Progress so far

- 2020: DRIVE Oversight Committee established
- 2021: Funding secured to develop DRIVE model
- 2021: Large scale consultation & Youth Justice strategy submission
- 2021: DRIVE Model finalised and launched by Minister
- 2021: Scoping exercise with HRB to develop standardised data collection system
- 2021: proposed as NDS action by Strategic Implementation Group 4
- 2022: Recruitment of DRIVE Coordinator!!! June 2022





Projected outcomes of DRIVE

- Improved understanding of DRI for all stakeholders
- Increased informal and formal reporting of DRI
- More robust data available on DRI
- Improved planning, design & resourcing of community supports
- Improved early intervention & reduction in DRI
- Improved confidence in community policing
- A shared and long term commitment to tackle DRI





Long term impact of DRIVE

- Reduction in DRI
- Healthier & Safer Communities
- Reduction in harm caused by DRI in communities





What next for JPCs?

- Strategic planning and monitoring
 - Engage with all JPC stakeholders
 - Engage with the DRIVE liaison in your communities
 - Try to reach all of your communities – and set goals
- Communication and Engagement
 - You're not the only one in this predicament
 - The power of sharing and talking
- If you see something, say something
 - Culture of reporting, involvement of all available eyes and ears – don't normalise this type of behaviour
- Environmental design and response
 - Keep areas well-lit, clean, monitored – it's not the responsibility of any one agency.





Thank you for your attention





Garda National Drugs & Organised Crime Bureau

DOCB.ProjectOffice@garda.ie

Ph: 00 353 1 6669900



Something to take away

Garda uniform

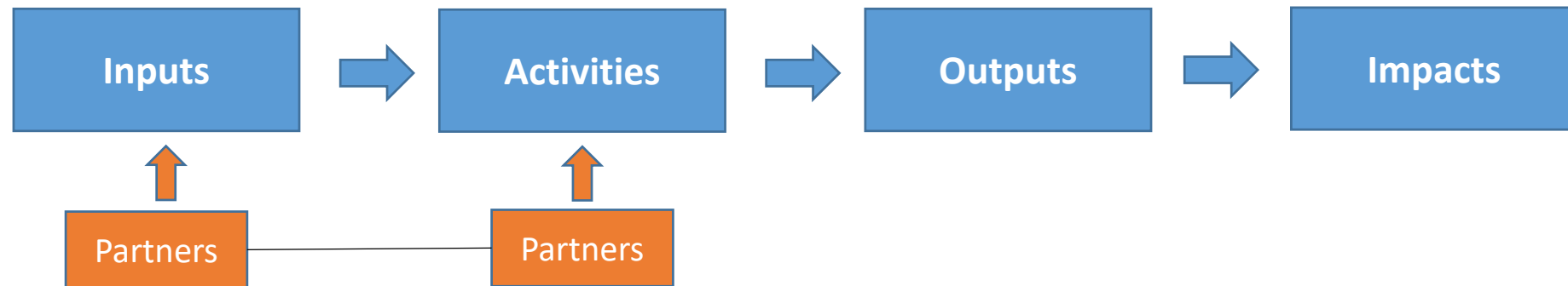
When members dress in their Garda uniform they were wearing more than a piece of clothing, added the commissioner. “Just as the garda badge is not just a logo. These are symbols not only of authority, but also of justice, of fairness, of bravery, or community.”

Commissioner Harris, 19th May 2019



Session 2 – Problem: Drug Related Intimidation

Q. How can JPCs contribute to addressing Drug Related Intimidation in our areas?



- Q1. What is the desired impact(s)?
- Q2. What (outputs) will help deliver that impact?
- Q3. What inputs and activities will we need?
- Q4. What partners do we need?
- Q5. Risks/Challenges and Opportunities



Inputs

- might be case/area specific, multi-agency (eg AGS, hse, housing agencies/orgs, child agencies/orgs, family supports, LA housing unit, credit unions)
- local drugs task force
- sports partnerships
- health agencies
- publicans/social fora
- extra resources for JPC

Activities

- targeting DRI offenders
- communications campaign (national) – encourage reporting, re supports, re DRI programme, re drugs use linkage to trade/criminality, more awareness raising re drugs etc (e.g. EP)
- Local leaflet drops with key info
- **education prog** (like road safety, case examples)
- online fora (anonymised)
- JPC / local engagement
- ID'ing risk areas, assessment (ID'ing key response actors)
- JPC education/briefings

Outputs

- Greater resourced investigators
- DRIVE rolled out
- comms strategy (national) incl re successful cases, stats on convictions and reporting, incl re family supports, who to contact
- educ strategy
- multi-agency plan/strategy
-
-
-

Impacts

- safer communities / reduced personal harm / higher levels of trust, confidence / reduced stigma
- raised awareness (incl family members)
- **reduced DRI**
- reduced drug use
-
-
-