



Minutes of the Monaghan Local Community Safety Partnership meeting
held on 15th January 2026

Monaghan Local Community Safety Partnership	
Date:	15 th January 2026
Time:	9.37am
Venue:	Level 4, Rooftop Space, Peace Campus, Monaghan

Attendance	Detective Supt. John O Flaherty, Lisa Anderson, Cllr. Raymond Aughey, Aoife Bailey, Cllr. Seán Conlon, Cllr. Sinéad Flynn, Cllr. Alan Johnston, Patricia Monahan, Cllr. Niamh McCooey, Supt. Pat O'Connell, Jennifer Arthur, Laura Cotter, Lorraine Cunningham, Paddy Gollogly, Luciano Gungo, Alesha Hamid, Francis Morris, Colin McAree, Francis McCarron, Maureen McIntyre, Siobhán McKenna, Ursula McKenna, Andy Ogle, Cathal O'Gorman, Caitriona Sinnott, Zoe Wells, Barry Eaton, Coordinator, Sarah Moore, Administrator.
Quorum:	Yes
Apologies:	Cllr. Noel Keelan, Edita Vaitkaitiene, Cllr. Sean Gilliland.
Non – Attendance	Robert Bradley
1. Declaration of Interest – None Received	
2. Confirmation of minutes of previous meeting – On the proposal of Cllr. McCooey and seconded by C. O'Gorman, the Minutes of the Meeting held on 27 th November 2025 were adopted.	
3. Matters Arising – None	
4. Item A - Presentation on Rural Crime – Detective Supt. John O' Flaherty	
Detective Supt. O'Flaherty gave a presentation on his role within An Garda Síochána, to include the coordination of cross border activity and his role of the Joint Agency Task Force. Discussion followed among the members and questions were raised to Supt. O'Flaherty.	
5. Item B – Report from An Garda Síochána – Supt. Pat O'Connell	
Supt. O'Connell provided a report to include updates on crimes and the categories and trends across the county.	
1. Discussions ensued in relation to driving under the influence of drugs. 2. The group discussed the need for increased Garda visibility on the streets. On the proposal of Cllr. Johnston and seconded by Cllr. McCooey, it was agreed that the Partnership write to the Department seeking an increase of Garda Patrol Officers for Co. Monaghan. 3. The members discussed issues of antisocial behaviour and the feeling of fear it creates within the community. 4. The members discussed the issue of road safety and, in particular, issues surrounding the N2 and liaising the Council to improve road safety on this route. The members agreed that work with local employers, schools etc. would need to be conducted in the area of road safety also, and a piece of work to be completed on the safe use of E-Scooters.	

5. The group discussed the need for CCTV in all towns and Supt. O'Connell noted that applications were well advanced for Carrickmacross and Castleblayney but that similar progress needed to be made in relation to Clones and Ballybay.

6. Item C – Updates from Statutory Agencies

- **P. Monahan – Monaghan County Council**

P. Monahan provided an update on Local Authority activities which were ongoing with regard to community safety.

1. Concern was raised with regard to the lighting at the Zebra Crossings in many locations around County Monaghan. On a proposal from Cllr. McCooley and seconded by Cllr. Conlon, it was agreed that *“the Monaghan LCSP recommend to the three Municipal Districts that a safety assessment is carried out for all zebra crossings and courtesy crossings in their District and to implement any recommendations arising from the assessment”*.
2. The members also discussed the issue of funding with regard to implementing Actions that are raised in the Community Safety Plan. B. Eaton advised that the fund for this year's Community Safety Fund would open in April and that the members would need to agree on one good project to submit under this fund. Cllr. Johnston advised that any project that was put forward would be agreed by all members before an Application was submitted. He also stated that he would be raising the issue of funding with the Department at a meeting being held on 5th February 2026.

- **Aoife Bailey – HSE**

A. Bailey provided an updated from the HSE to include Winter Vaccine Schemes (to include nasal vaccines being rolled out in local schools) and Smoking & Vaping Campaigns.

1. Discussion ensued regarding the use of facilities in Monaghan Hospital be looked at, especially in terms of the medical unit, to help alleviate overcrowding within the main hospitals.
2. The members discussed the lack of counselling services, particularly in relation to drugs and alcohol and roles within these areas for the county being vacant for long periods. The members felt that opportunity could arise to work with the HSE for funding to tackle lack of services within the county.

- **Lisa Anderson – Tusla**

L. Anderson provided an update on the work being carried out by Tusla at present, particularly in regard to children in long term foster care. She also noted the structural changes taking place at present within the organisation.

1. The members noted that improving working relationships amongst all the organisations, particularly in the area of case management was key to progressing matters.
2. There was also discussion regarding the amount of residential care units within the county and the supports available locally to the different organisations in helping deal with issues affecting young people.

Cllr. Johnston noted the discussions which had taken place and commented that he felt the right people had been appointed to the Partnership as we were seeing what was happening on the ground and were being able to see a wider scope of Community Safety issues in the area, which as a Partnership working collaboratively, would endeavour to improve.

7. Item D – Proposals from Local Community Safety Plan Steering Committee: -

- **Draft Monaghan Local Community Safety Plan - Consultation Strategy**

Draft Monaghan Local Community Safety Plan – Questionnaire	
Cllr. Johnston advised that following the first meeting of the Steering Committee on 12th December 2025, a Draft Consultation Strategy and Questionnaire had been compiled. Three Public Consultations will take place in February with dates and locations being set out in the Consultation Strategy. He stated that the Partnership would conduct a strong social media campaign in the coming weeks advertising the Consultations. He thanked Supt. O’Connell, who agreed to endeavour to have a member of his team present at each of the consultations in an effort to gain interest from the public. On the proposal of Cllr. Flynn and seconded by F. McCarron, the Consultation Strategy was adopted. On the proposal of Cllr. McCooley and seconded by S. McKenna, the Questionnaire was adopted.	
8. Item E – Review of Standing Orders – Removal of 1(c) and 10 (c), which relates to attending meetings remotely.	
Cllr. Johnston spoke to the members and advised that, given that there was going to be occasion where sensitive matters were being discussed at meetings going forward, the option to hold meetings remotely may not be suitable for this type of forum. Following some discussion, it was agreed to remove the option to attend the meetings remotely but that this needed to be reviewed on a yearly basis. On the proposal of U. McKenna and seconded by Cllr. Flynn, it was agreed that “to remove item 1(c) and 10 (c) from the Standing Orders at this time but this matter will be reviewed when the Standing Orders are reviewed at the start of each year”.	
9. Item E – AOB –	
Presentations Proposed for Future Meetings	
- The members agreed to the presentations proposed for the 2026 meetings. - Agreed - Detective Inspector Adrian Durcan to give a presentation on Drug Intimidation. - Colin McAree would also like to be included to provide a presentation.	
Cllr. Johnston thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 12.40pm.	
Next Meeting	
Date:	16th April 2026
Time:	9.30am
Venue:	Monaghan Peace Campus
Prepared by Sarah Moore	Barry Eaton Monaghan Local Community Safety Partnership Coordinator
Adopted by LCSP	16-04-26
Chairperson Signature	

