

Report of the Garda Síochána Inspectorate

PROGRESS ON IMPLEMENTATION OF RECOMMENDATIONS

FRONT-LINE SUPERVISION

APRIL 2

A REVIEW OF THE IMPLEMENTATION STATUS OF RECOMMENDANTIONS CONTAINED IN THE EIGHTH REPORT OF THE GARDA SÍOCHÁNA INSPECTORATE ON RESOURCE ALLOCATION

REVIEW OF REPORT DECEMBER 2021

Recommendation Number	Recommendation	Accepted (A); Accepted with Modification (AM); Rejected (R).	Inspectorate Assessment of the Progress of the Recommendation
1	The Inspectorate recommends that, in conjunction with the Deputy Commissioner Operations' development of a new strategy for a more effective and efficient delivery of police services, the Garda Síochána conduct an immediate review of the roles, locations and status of all personnel in the organisation. This process should determine how each member contributes to service delivery. The review should also inform Garda management as to the levels of supervision required.	A	While some progress has been made, subsequent inspections found that the recommendation was not yet fully implemented. As it is the subject of additional recommendations in subsequent Inspectorate reports, and it is part of the part of the action plan for implementation of the report of the Commission of the Future of Policing in Ireland, the recommendation in this report will not be subject to further monitoring.
2	The Inspectorate recommends an immediate review of each sergeant's current role to determine how support staff and improved business processes can ease administrative burdens and release sergeants for front-line deployment. The Inspectorate also recommends a fundamental review of duty patterns to ensure greater sergeant coverage at night.	A	While some progress has been made, subsequent inspections found that the recommendation was not yet fully implemented. As it is the subject of additional recommendations in subsequent Inspectorate reports, and it is part of the part of the action plan for implementation of the report of the Commission of the Future of Policing in Ireland, the recommendation in this report will not be subject to further monitoring.

3	The Inspectorate recommends that the Garda Síochána assign a sergeant for outdoor supervisory duty of front-line staff to each station operating a 24/7 front-line patrol service.		Subsequent inspections found that the recommendation was not implemented. As it is the subject of additional recommendations in subsequent Inspectorate reports, the recommendation in this report will not be subject to further monitoring.
4	The Inspectorate recommends that sergeants be responsible for all processes relating to detained persons. Stations designated for detentions greater than six hours should be rationalised. These stations should be staffed by sergeants on a 24/7 basis. Processing of detainees who are likely to be released in a speedy manner continues to occur at local stations, but a sergeant should still oversee initial processing.	R 4.1 and 4.3 AM 4.2	Although two parts of the recommendation are rejected, they are the subject of further recommendations in subsequent reports. With regards to the rationalisation of the stations used for custody, although some progress has been made, the recommendation is not fully implemented. As it is the subject of additional recommendations in subsequent Inspectorate reports, the recommendation in this report will not be subject to further monitoring.
5	The Inspectorate recommends that the decision making process on prosecuting straightforward offences that exist in the DMR be replicated in other regions to the greatest extent possible.	А	The recommendation is implemented.

6	The Inspectorate recommends that the Garda Síochána develop a system which authorises experienced Gardaí to assist more junior members with case management of certain prosecution files. The system would address high volume, straightforward offences, and would ease administrative burdens on sergeants, freeing them to perform front-line supervisory duties.	R	The recommendation is rejected.
7	The Inspectorate recommends that the procedures for court presentation, prosecution and attendance that exist in the DMR be replicated in other regions to the greatest extent possible.	А	The recommendation is implemented.
8	The Inspectorate recommends that the Garda Síochána develop an effective system for supervision of court attendance, thereby reducing unnecessary overtime and time spent away from critical front-line activity.	A	While some progress has been made, subsequent inspections found that the recommendation was not yet fully implemented. As it is the subject of additional recommendations in subsequent Inspectorate reports, the recommendation in this report will not be subject to further monitoring.
9	The Inspectorate recommends that training be provided to new sergeants immediately following promotion. Refresher supervisory courses should be provided as part of the Continuous Professional Development programme.	А	The recommendation is implemented.

10	The Inspectorate recommends that divisional control rooms become a focal log-in point for all front-line Gardaí. Front-line staff should inform the control room of their presence when going on and off duty, and should regularly provide updated availability status. Systems and practices for signing on and off duty should be improved and applied uniformly at all levels of the organisation.	A	While some progress has been made, subsequent inspections found that the recommendation was not yet fully implemented. As it is the subject of additional recommendations in subsequent Inspectorate reports, and it is part of the part of the action plan for implementation of the report of the Commission of the Future of Policing in Ireland, the recommendation in this report will not be subject to further monitoring.
11	The Inspectorate recommends that the subject of resource allocation, availability and visibility be given the highest priority. The effective supervision and deployment of resources should be a standing agenda item at all accountability meetings throughout the organisation.	A	While some progress has been made, subsequent inspections found that the recommendation was not yet fully implemented. As it is the subject of additional recommendations in subsequent Inspectorate reports, the recommendation in this report will not be subject to further monitoring.