

**Crime and Security issues in South Tipperary**

Data for discussion at SIM meeting, July 7<sup>th</sup>.

<p><b>Information returned by:</b>                  An Garda Síochána                  Carrick on Suir RAPID                  Clonmel RAPID                  Tipperary Rapid                  Tipperary LEADER Group                  FÁS</p>	<p>Muintir na Tire                  WRYS                  Local Area Network for violence against women (LAN)                  Knockanrawley Resource Centre (KRC)                  Probation &amp; Welfare Service (P&amp;W)                  South Tipperary Local Authorities</p>
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**1. Current services provision - annual budget for the service.**

Service provided	Budget
FÁS - Vocational Training	FAS
FÁS - Probation & Welfare service (Dept of Justice & Law reform)	80,000
Muintir na Tire: National Community Alert Co-ordinator based in Tipperary Town, Regional Development Officer, Partnership with An Garda Síochána – Liaising with Superintendent, Crime Prevention Officers and Liaison Garda., Support, assistance and training for new and existing Community Alert groups, Information Provision on funding e.g Community Support For Older People Scheme (in 2002 42.3% of groups in receipt of funding were C.A groups), publicity, newsletters etc. Represented on the National Crime Council, Links with National Safety Council, Information campaigns targeting Older People. <a href="http://www.muintir.ie">www.muintir.ie</a>	€39,404.06 is allocated to the South Eastern Region
Three Projects managed by the Waterford Regional Youth Service (WRYS), Clonmel Community Based Drug Initiative, Clonmel Youth Resource Centre & Clonmel Youth Diversion	€50,000 €60,000 €95,000
Publication & distribution of information booklet for women (2000 euro budget), Sharing of information between services. (LAN)	€2,000
KRS: Community Service Programme for offenders, provide support and counselling for survivors of domestic violence – Coan Saor Provide outreach services	
Probation & Welfare Service (P&W) – Supervision of offenders placed on probation by the courts. Administration of community service. Risk assessment of offenders. Outreach to CYTE service (80,000)	
Tipperary Town RAPID Programme: established Crime & Safety Task-Group and have developed a 16-point Action Plan based	
South Tipperary Local Authorities: Estate Management Support: Tenant Liaison Officer dealing directly with issues as a result of anti-social problems. Linking with residents to finding a solution and working with Gardai on same. Working with Res. Association to develop initiatives for a permanent solution i.e. Develop Estate Management looking at the <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Physical environmental issues</li> <li>• Developing activities for children / youth and linking with existing youth groups and agencies already working in the area or developing new initiatives where none exist</li> <li>• Building links with Res. Ass. and Gardai etc. to create awareness on issues of Crime and safety</li> </ul> Helping Residence Associations work with the Council to tackle issues to alleviate anti-social problems i.e. plan for real, the Rapid initiative in general in the Urban areas. Development of Resident Networks will provide the forum for the Rural areas to look at such issues and future infrastructure measures as preventative measure.  Continue to work with local communities, voluntary housing associations etc to identify needs, physical, social and work within existing budgets to enhance areas	
An <b>Garda Síochána</b> in Tipperary Division have produced a policing plan designed to implement 12 key strategic goals as identified for the organisation as a whole. The services we provide in accordance with these goals fall under the following headings. 1) Crime Prevention -Our full time Crime Prevention Officer is engaged in the ongoing dissemination of advice to both the commercial and community sector. He conducts security surveys on all new enterprises from housing estates to factories, filling stations and shops and	

as a result of this issues a list of guidelines to the parties concerned designed to improve the security measures at the relevant premises. He also issues advice to existing businesses and householders. Members of An Garda Siochana involved in patrolling either on foot or in patrol cars, do so from a crime prevention perspective and individual members also give advice when dealing with members of the public in situations where they feel it is required.

- 2) Drugs - Tipperary Division now has a dedicated full time drugs unit whose specific function it is to target and detect drugs users and suppliers. Other members are also involved in this activity as part of their daily duties.
- 3) Crime - District Detective Units are primarily responsible for the investigation of crime but other members also take an active role in specific investigations when required to do so.
- 4) Traffic - Our Divisional Traffic Unit are dedicated to dealing with traffic matters on a full time basis from preventing and detecting offences to prosecuting them in the courts. Other members on patrol are also involved in this area on an ongoing basis and when exigencies permit through performance of checkpoints, conducting speed checks and patrolling national and rural roads.
- 5) Community Alert/Neighbourhood Watch - These schemes are operational throughout South Tipperary with 13 schemes having been re-vitalised and re-launched during the past year. Liaison Gardai are assigned to each scheme and advice is given by the Crime Prevention Officer. Initiatives such as the provision personal protection equipment for the elderly and the provision of ongoing advice to citizens are provided in these schemes.
- 6) Public Order - Members on night patrol are involved in the arrest and prosecution of offenders for public order incidents and also in the prevention of these type of offences through active patrolling at pub and disco closing times.
- 7) Schools Programme -Liaison Gardai in each district deliver the Garda Schools Programme in schools throughout South Tipperary. This programme is aimed at 5<sup>th</sup> Class children and covers such areas as road safety and staysafe scheme. Liaison members also give presentations in secondary schools on such topics as drugs/alcohol awareness and safe driving.
- 8) Liquor Licensing - All uniform members are involved in monitoring the sale of alcohol from both on and off licensed premises. A number of detections for the sale of alcohol to underage persons have been made in South Tipperary and premises have been subjected to closure orders by the courts as a result.
- 9) Child Sex Abuse - Cases are investigated as they come to hand and investigating members are proactive in working with other agencies such as health board and social workers during the investigation in order to remove children at risk from the source of risk. One major investigation into this category of crime is underway in South Tipperary.
- 10) Anti Social Behaviour - Gardai in Clonmel are involved with Clonmel Corporation in an initiative known as Crime Prevention through Environmental Design. A report has been prepared by staff at the Garda National Crime Prevention Office and Superintendent at Clonmel is in consultation with local authorities with regard to implementation of recommendations in a number of housing estates in the town. These recommendations are designed to prevent anti social behaviour.
- 11) Domestic Violence - Scenes of Domestic Violence are attended to by Gardai on duty when the report is received. Depending on the evidence in each case, offenders are arrested and prosecuted.
- 12) Major Emergency Plans - A Major Emergency Plan is in place to deal with a major emergency should one occur in the division. This plan covers an integrated response from all agencies, which include fire service, ambulance service, local authorities etc. The plan will be activated in the event of such emergencies as Air Disaster, Train Disaster, Industrial Accident, etc. In addition the Gardai provide a first line and immediate response to lesser emergencies such as road traffic accidents, sudden deaths and crime scenes.
- 13) Firearms, Fines, Warrants - The Gardai are responsible for the issue of all firearms licences in Co Tipperary and for their renewal, which includes the collection of relevant fees, on an annual basis. We also collect all fines as a result of on the spot tickets issued in the Division for various offences. We furthermore execute all warrants issued by the District Courts for non payment of both criminal fines and civil debts and all warrants to arrest.

<b>2. Agencies future additional plans / strategies for service provision.</b>	
Description	Amount
Carrick on Suir RAPID – Strategy to be developed by Security Task Group	
Muintir na Tire: Continue to support and consolidate new and existing C.A groups, work in partnership with An Garda Síochána and provide information on relevant issues	
WRYS: Another Chance Project aimed at Early School Leavers	20,000
LAN: To ensure a continuous flow of information from service to service for women experiencing domestic violence, Implementation of 6mth plan from September 03.	
KRC: would like to engage community service participants in development programme /training	
(P&W) Administration of Restorative Justice Scheme under 2002 Childrens Act	
The Crime & Safety Task-Group Action Plan will form part of the overall RAPID Strategic Plan in Autumn 2003. (Tipp RAPID)	
<p>South Tipperary Local Authorities:</p> <p>1.New Community Development Levy scheme piloted this year in South Tipperary County Council – householders charged a community levy, which is put back into the development of community facilities.</p> <p>2.PILOT PROJECT: Development of The Second Chance Programme: This programme is designed to target the most needy families in our estates. Aiming its resources at INTERVENTION and most importantly PREVENTION. Dealing with issues of severe anti-social behaviour. Those targeted will be both children and parents. Either individuals in a family or the whole family. Training/support Programmes to be delivered in an Holistic manner so as to allow for a lasting effect.</p> <p>The service will aim to target families who have some or all of the following issues:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Non school attendance, Mental Health, Alcohol, Drugs and in general Substance Abusers, Unemployed, Disruption of the family unit i.e. separation, divorce or poor parenting, Anti-social behaviour in general, Families with poor budgeting skills, Lack of knowledge of good diet and nutrition, Families suffering from poverty and exclusion.</li> </ul> <p>Joint Agency Approach:</p> <p>Due to the complexity of the services needed it will be necessary for a joint agency approach. The main partners being The Council, Gardai, Health Board and FÁS .</p> <p>On examining the needs of the targeted families a number of training/intervention needs will be identified. The aims of this service will be to provide hands on practical support to families in need.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Intense Tenant Training, Training/support provided by the Physiological / Physicracitic services, Parenting skills, Home care and management, Diet, nutrition and Health care, Budgeting and family finance, FAS training for employment</li> </ul> <p>PILOT Target area: Wilderness / Carrigeen, Clonmel</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• An overall management team made up of the agencies</li> <li>• A sub committee of the persons working with the targeted clients to attain best practice and maximum effect for those availing of the service</li> </ul> <p>The overall aim of this project</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To support families in need before it comes to a crisis situation i.e. preventative measure</li> <li>• To ensure the family’s housing is not put at risk due to anti social behaviour</li> <li>• To curb anti-social problems within an estate</li> <li>• To give vital training and assistant to the most needy in our communities</li> <li>• To help elevate poverty and social exclusion</li> </ul> <p>Analysis of the needs for Estate Management - Profiling each electoral area, Looking at the needs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Physical and environmental, Town size, Deprivation Index, Estate Size, Anti-social problems, Isolation factor, Access to resources</li> </ul> <p>It is hoped to involve Residents Associations through the Resident Area Network to compile this information. This information will be gathered on an ongoing basis throughout the year.</p>	
An Garda Síochána : Our plans are to continue to provide the above services within available resources and in accordance with continuing organisational plans. Further to this we intend to continue to consult with community groups and social agencies to provide services and to identify areas for improvement in service delivery.	

<b>3. Location of facilities or services</b>	
Description	Location
FÁS Clonmel Youth Service – Purpose build youth centre	Wilderness, Clonmel
Muintir na Tire: 95 Community Alert Groups in South Tipperary	
WRYS: Wilderness Youth & Community Centre	Clonmel
WRYS: Elm Park Community House	Clonmel
WRYS: Youth Information Centre	Clonmel
WRYS: Youth Information Centre	Carrick on Suir
The local area network on violence against women meet in Clonmel The network is made up of representatives from local Voluntary/Community and statutory organisations.	
KRC : Community service Support & Councelling for survivors of domestic violence	KRC, Tipperary Town
Offices	Clonmel
South Tipperary Local Authorities - network of offices around the county – community houses allocated in some areas – tenant liaison officer covering the county.	
An Garda Síochána provide services at the following Garda Stations in South Tipperary  Clonmel - 24 hour opening and patrol Cahir - 24 hour opening and patrol Tipperary - 24 hour opening and patrol Carrick on Suir - 12 hour opening, 24 hour patrol Cashel - 8 hour opening, 24 hour patrol Fethard - Restricted opening, 24 hour patrol Mullinahone - Restricted opening, 24 hour patrol Kilsheelan - Restricted opening, 24 hour patrol Grangemockler - Restricted opening, 24 hour patrol Ardfinnan - Restricted opening, 24 hour patrol Ballytporeen - Restricted opening, 24 hour patrol Clogheen - Restricted opening, 24 hour patrol New Inn - Restricted opening, 24 hour patrol Bansha - Restricted opening, 24 hour patrol Cappawhite - Restricted opening, 24 hour patrol Golden - Restricted opening, 24 hour patrol Dundrum - Restricted opening, 24 hour patrol Emly - Restricted opening, 24 hour patrol	

<b>4. Suggestions re The Agenda 21 Wheel - appropriate level of service at each level in the community: Village, Small Town, County Town, Region.</b>	
Type of facility	Location
<p>Neighbour hood watch (Carrick on Suir Rapid)            Access to Educational/ Counselling re youth (Carrick on Suir Rapid)            The Community Alert Programme facilitates Crime Prevention at local level in rural areas including villages and in some cases small towns. The Development Officers often facilitate other groups such as Neighbourhood Watch Schemes in urban areas. Awareness of crime and security issues is vital and in turn providing information to enable communities to become active in preventing crime and accepting their own role in crime prevention. (Muintir na Tire)            Scheme to provide elderly with means of communication and security (beeper or phone) at garda station (KRC)            Sustained Garda Presence &amp; Response (Personnel &amp; Station), Supported Community Alert Scheme (Tipp Rapid)            South Tipperary local Authorities: The ideal is to have Gardai and community Gardai at very local level - Second change programme is a pilot – if it works the ideal would be to have this programme available to all families in need – given resources etc.  <b>An Garda Síochána: 24 hour on call service, Garda Station open intermittently</b></p>	Village
<p>Garda Youth Diversion Programme (FÁS)            Access to Educational /Counselling services (part time) (Carrick on Suir Rapid)            Neighbourhood watch / Community policing (Carrick on Suir RAPID)            Part Time Garda station (Carrick on Suir Rapid)            Clonmel Youth Training service which includes supports services for trainees on probation and who have got in trouble with the law (FÁS)            Neighbourhood watch, full access to educational counselling opportunities and full time Garda Station (including weekends) (Carrick on Suir RAPID)            (P&amp;W) Centre based Prevention Service &amp; Centre based Drug Initiative            Sustained Garda Presence &amp; Response (Personnel &amp; Station), Designated Community Garda, Effective Youth Facilities &amp; Resources for mainstream Youthwork &amp; targeted interventions for youth-at-risk (i.e. Youth Diversion Project), CCTV in Town Centre &amp; renowned ‘blight-spots’, Supported Neighbourhood Watch Scheme, Review issues of fast-food outlets as flashpoints, Review issues of Green Areas for under-age drinking, Review issues of supply/sale of alcohol to minors (Tipp RAPID)  <b>An Garda Síochána: 24-hour service, Garda Station open 8 hours</b></p>	Small Town
<p>Community Policing (WRYS)  <b>An Garda Síochána: 24 hour service, Garda Station open 24/7.</b></p>	County Town
<p>Regional Court systems, less rigid court system, (possible introduction of magisterial system) (Carrick on Suir RAPID)            Adjustment in the Educational Curriculum to emphasise the importance of civic duty and responsibility, Education &amp; Health Programmes for Youth, Review &amp; Update current Garda Area/Division boundaries  <b>An Garda Síochána: 24 hour service.</b></p>	Region

## 5. Issues in relation to crime and security

Lack of resources (Clonmel RAPID, Carrick on Suir RAPID)

Limited interagency work between relevant agencies (Carrick on Suir RAPID)

(Muintir na Tire)

As a national rural crime prevention programme issues relate to:

- Encouraging local groups to raise awareness at local level, to develop good contacts with An Garda Síochána and reporting suspicious activities,
- Highlighting individuals own responsibility in terms of Crime Prevention & Highlighting Communities own responsibility of Crime Prevention and the need to support vulnerable members of their community,
- Relocation of Gardaí from villages to larger towns making rural areas more vulnerable
- Awareness of general robberies in the home, Attacks and robberies on Older People, the types of Crime e.g increase in bogus callers
- Relevant prevention information on the types of crime happening in areas
- Providing information on the Community Support For Older people Scheme – only available once a year. The programme has a strong social inclusion ethos in terms of providing information to Older People in relation to crime prevention, entitlements and other issues of importance e.g dormant accounts, fire safety etc. Community Alert groups are encouraged to call to Older People living alone on their request on a regular basis.

(WRYS)

- ❖ Community Policing
- ❖ Underage drinking and drug misuse.
- ❖ Vandalism
- ❖ Vacant houses in the Borough Council Housing Estates.
- ❖ Early School Leaving in relation to young people becoming more involved in a host of criminal activity.

Issues from LAN group

- Frontline services i.e. Women's Refuge's face on-going security issues (for staff and residents). The clients in the service have had the crime of domestic violence committed on them. During their stay in the refuge some clients cannot go outside because of the fear of being attacked by the perpetrator or having their children taken from them. There are on-going security issues for the staff of the Refuge and the Rape Crisis Centres. Perpetrators frequently keep watch on the services, this poses a threat for staff entering and leaving the building. During the winter evenings the staff regularly have to walk some distance to their cars because of parking problems in this area, staff find this very threatening as they could be followed at any time. Out of hours staff, work alone which is a security risk, as the refuge would regularly have admissions during the night time hours. Women fleeing domestic violence during the night can be followed by the perpetrator.
- The housing department do not replace locks on doors that frequently need to be replaced because of break in's to their property. Also women enforcing barring orders need to be able to change locks on their doors, and frequently cannot afford to do this.
- Boys over the age of fourteen years cannot be admitted to refuges, a mother may have to leave her son at home unsupervised which can lead to the boys getting into crime at an early age.
- Transport for women needing to avail of the services is an on-going issue. It is the policy of the Gardai not to carry passengers in their cars. A woman may have to find her own way to a refuge and be followed by her perpetrator in the process.
- Court accompaniment by staff in frontline services for women experiencing Domestic Violence.

P&W

The growing number of young people aged 10+ living by their own rules in the larger urban areas. There is no parental supervision and in some cases, the active involvement of older youth to have them front criminal activity.

Tipperary Town RAPID

Stated Issues re: Tipperary Town RAPID Crime & Safety Task-Group (For Prioritisation):

- (1) More Gardai Walking 'The Beat' on the Street & in the Estates – Resource Issues
- (2) Crime is directly related to increased drink/drug-use – Action re: Supply of alcohol to minors
- (3) Encourage healthy respect of Gardai by youth
- (4) Greater Parental responsibility
- (5) Safety Issues of Elderly people – greater take-up and use of security features
- (6) Promote Fire Awareness Campaign and use of smoke alarms

- (7) Promote Neighbourhood Watch
- (8) Tackle local acts of vandalism
- (9) Increased policing & security in amenity & recreational areas
- (10) Intensive family supports to at-risk families (Parents & Children)
- (11) Support local committees dealing with drugs & crime
- (12) Identify issues of closing-off passageways re: anti-social behaviour
- (13) Prepare safety statements for residential areas
- (14) Support services of Cuan Saor (Womens Refuge)
- (15) Support the development of local Mens Group
- (16) Anti-social behaviour of tenants in private-rented stock

#### South Tipperary Local Authorities

Issues of vacant houses and vandalism – now trying to have as quick an allocation policy as possible so there is less vacant houses.

Vulnerable tenants such as the elderly or people with disabilities such as learning difficulties can become targets for anti social behaviour

Cost of crime – repair as a result of crime comes from a limited budget with could be used more effectively on positive actions.

Resources available for estate management from national government are very limited.

#### Garda Siochana

Along with every other sector in public services, the curtailment of resources has a detrimental effect on our service delivery as we regularly find that the demand for service exceeds our capacity to supply from within available resources.

Wider issues effecting this area in the past few years is the rapid rate of change in Demographics/Traffic Population/Sophistication and Mobility of Criminals. The urbanisation of rural towns and the lack of consultation regarding amenities and facilities for present and future population is having a detrimental effect on crime prevention.

## 6. Key unmet needs and gaps in services in relation to crime and security

The current role of garda seems to be checking on drivers re tax and insurance. Little prospect of garda on the beat. (FÁS)  
The need for community policing in the Division (Clonmel RAPID Programme) (KRC)  
The lack of visible Garda presence (Carrick on Suir RAPID)  
The lack of relevant facilities and funding specific to youth needs (Carrick on Suir RAPID)  
Lack of intervention at early stages in familial problems (the exasperation felt by agencies at the same families being the root cause of criminal behaviour over long periods) (Carrick on Suir RAPID)  
Community Support for Older People Scheme should be available throughout the year. Crime Prevention has a very low profile – There is little recognition to the efforts of volunteers involved in initiatives like Community Alert and Neighbourhood Watch - Crime Prevention Initiatives also have a Community Care programme which is often not recognised (Muintir na Tire)

(WRYS)

- ❖ Lack of Community Policing in Clonmel
- ❖ Under resourced youth services for Clonmel.
- ❖ School attendance officer

(LAN)

- Lack of opportunities for early school leavers i.e placements and training.
- The courts system is very intimidating for a woman who is seeking a safety/barring order. The woman is expected to share a waiting room with her partner while waiting for her case to be called. This can be very intimidating and frightening for her.
- Family court hearings should be held on a different day to criminal court, and separate room be made available to the women while waiting.
- Social Welfare system- child support is too low for young people, there is a vast difference between the financial needs of a 5year old and a teenager. Extra financial support for parents of teenagers would help to provide for their needs thus hoping to reduce crime among young people.
- There is a continuous lack of accommodation for women leaving refuges. This can lead to the woman returning home to the scene of the crime and posing a huge security risk for herself and her children.
- The woman who lives in remote country areas has huge difficulty implementing her Safety/Barring order.

P&W

High support comprehensive service to youth; out of school and at risk. The provision of screening (urinalysis) services for all offenders. Community Policing to help build positive relationships with communities.

Tipperary Town Rapid

- Community Policing / Designated Community Garda
- Families-at-risk
- Effective Youth resources
- Under-age drinking & Drugs
- CCTV

South Tipperary County Council: many families are presenting to all agencies with difficulties in coping – there is a need for an interagency approach i.e. family type conference on an interagency level focusing on interventions to support individual families – Second Chance programme a pilot to try and put a structure in place to focus on individual families with difficulties.

Garda Siochana

- 1) Lack of Childcare/Crèche facilities for young children in the ‘at risk’ categories is leaving a gap that is difficult to bridge when these children enter the educational system
- 2) Social issues such as housing of problem families should include an input from agencies such as Gardai and Health Board workers.
- 3) Considerable improvement in resources should be allocated to the delivery of Youth Service to the ‘Youth at Risk’ category.

## **7. Suggestions of how the delivery of services re: crime and security can be improved by interagency actions**

Working with the communities. (Clonmel RAPID Programme)

By having interagency actions - the non cooperation or lack of cooperation between various agencies reduces the effects of any action and all initiative (Carrick on Suir RAPID)

All services listed in no 4 above should be intra- agency. There should be encouraged co-operation between different government and non government agencies e.g. social workers should interact with Gardai re solving of social deprivation as well as countering criminal behaviour. (Carrick on Suir RAPID)

The delivery of effective crime and security services are best achieved through an interagency approach. The Community Alert programme operates as a partnership with Muintir na Tíre, An Garda Síochána and the Community. Community members must accept their responsibility in terms of security and crime prevention. This is increasingly more important as members of An Garda Síochána are relocated from rural areas and villages to larger towns. Muintir na Tíre has found that services for crime and security can also be delivered inline with community care services. Community Alert groups can often have an effective community care programme towards older members of the community. (Muintir na Tíre)

There is a need for effective networking between service providers in order to achieve better outcomes.

Statutory/voluntary/community groups should meet on a regular basis in order to facilitate work along agreed strategies. This will prevent duplication of work and provide a more effective/integrated service to the target groups. In the past it has been felt that clients have been with a number of service providers and at times we have played a role of "enablers" which has not always been the best for the clients, when in fact a closer liaison between all groups would allow us to provide a more focus and quality service.

Lack of out of hours services have lead to the Gardai getting involved in what in fact are Social Issues. (WRYS)

- Involvement of Legal/Court staff in local area initiatives eg Local Area Network, also the involvement of the probation and welfare system.
- Financial incentives to keep young people in school (to the parents)
- Use ordinary family courts for domestic violence crimes, plus a private waiting area for the women.
- Irish education system is currently very academic; there is a need for a more practical approach across the board. (LAN)

Some community training of Gardai with other groups who have community interests so relationships between them can be better established and gardai aren't so isolated in their work. (KRC)

P&W

Planners should meet social practitioners in relation to new developments. Finding houses we are required to visit can be difficult due to complicated layouts in some areas.

### **Tipperary Town RAPID**

- Link-Person/Co-Ordinator in each State Agency at local/County level who has clear responsibility for Crime & Safety actions within that Agency
- Agreed inter-agency Plan to encourage partnership approach to Crime & Safety
- Commitment of resources to effect actions
- Government promises of resources re: Crime & Safety to be fulfilled

South Tipperary County Council: Second Chance programme a pilot to try and put a structure in place to focus on individual families with difficulties. – see response to question 2 for outline of programme.

Garda Síochána

- 1) Consultations between relevant agencies and the provision of budgets and resources to implement relevant recommendations.
- 2) Crime prevention advice is available on a year round basis from An Garda Síochána and this service should be utilised on an interagency basis

## **8. Suggestions re discussion of policy matters in relation to crime and security**

Problems re crime and related security issues are initiated by, certain individuals. Individuals fall into the crime trap because of the environment within which they are reared, e.g. level of performance at school; sports; level of inclusion within their various contacts with society; level of support given re career guidance, job seeking assistance and relevant training given, etc. If a holistic and well balanced life path is plotted and followed up for each child, re economic; social; sport; culture; hobbies; civic duties; spiritual / moral issues etc, then the chances of these children keeping away from crime could be very high. It is pointless being reactive. A pro-active approach is essential. (Tipperary LEADER Group)

Discussion needed through public consultation at community level. (Carrick on Suir RAPID)

Continuous discussion between community groups and the Gardai (and on a regularised basis e.g. monthly meetings)(Carrick on Suir RAPID)

More open discussion about Gardai successes and failures in reacting to crime (Carrick on Suir RAPID)

More Reporting on policy allowing for public input at all levels (Carrick on Suir RAPID)

Policy matters could be effectively discussed on a county basis however from experience in the area of crime and security it is important that there are links with the structures of An Garda Síochána. This is of benefit in terms of co-operating with members of An Garda Síochána – Liaison Garda, Crime Prevention Officers and Superintendents. If crime statistics are also being studied the main source of statistics is the An Garda Síochána Annual Report, which is produced in line with garda structures. It would also be important that the structure e.g county basis would be flexible to liaise with areas bordering the defined structure. (Muintir na Tire)

The formation of subcommittees in each local area, such as the Rapid Crime, Security & Safety Task group feeding into a county committee set up to address crime and security issues. (WRYS)

- All parties be represented at the discussion forum.
- The inclusion of representatives of the Legal/Court profession's.
- The inclusion of frontline services dealing with violence against women e.g. Cuan Saor women's refuge, Victim support, Accident and emergency services, Rape crisis Centres. (LAN)

### **P&W**

- Community Policing
- Much more resourced youth facilities, both recreational and family support in all urban areas. Bernados style project for seriously at risk youth. Heads of all services should get together to source funding for the necessary developments
- Involve communities in discussions which relate to facilities being provided for them

### **Tipperary Town RAPID**

Form a County Crime & Safety Forum to review developments and make recommendations to relevant policy-makers at local and national level

Forum to meet – perhaps quarterly - made up of representatives from State Agencies network; Residents Groups network; Interested Community Groups network.

South Tipperary Local Authority: SIM is the most appropriate group to examine policy at county level. Interagency working groups such as the one to be established re Second Chance programme are the most appropriate groups at operation level – they should be feeding up issues to the SIM group as they arise on the ground

Garda Siochana: policy in this regard should incorporate input from relevant groups such as:

1. An Garda Siochana
2. Dept of Education
3. Social Workers
4. Dept of Health and Children
5. Local Authorities
6. Early Stage Intervention Agencies
7. Youth Service such as TRYs
8. Single Parents Representative
9. Probation and Welfare Officials
10. Groups working with and representing Problem Families