



CIGIREACHT AN GHARDA SÍOCHÁNA
GARDA SÍOCHÁNA INSPECTORATE

Statement from Chief Inspector Mark Toland on the dissolution of the Garda Síochána Inspectorate

1 April 2025

The Garda Síochána Inspectorate was established in 2006 and dissolved on the 2nd April 2025 upon commencement of the Policing, Security and Community Safety Act 2024. The inspection function of the Inspectorate and some of its current team will transfer to the Policing and Community Safety Authority, a new garda oversight body established under the Act. The new Authority will also take over the role of monitoring the progress of recommendations from Inspectorate reports that are not yet implemented. I offer them my best wishes for the future and I am confident that they will continue to drive improvements in policing services.

During its lifetime, the Inspectorate examined virtually all aspects of policing in Ireland and made recommendations aimed at ensuring the resources available to the Garda Síochána are used efficiently and effectively. I am pleased that the implementation of many of these recommendations has led to significant change in areas such as organisational structure, the introduction of new technology and equipment and enhanced supervision and training. Our ultimate goal was always to help the Garda Síochána to improve its delivery of policing services. The attached timeline shows the inspections, advices and reviews that have been completed along with some examples of the positive outcomes from the reports.

None of this work would have been possible without the help and support of a multitude of stakeholders. In particular, I would like to thank all of the garda personnel that the Inspectorate has engaged with over the years, as well as State agencies, non-governmental organisations, academics and service providers that so freely gave us their time. Their co-operation, insight and suggestions for change enriched our reports and added a depth of knowledge not otherwise available.

It was critically important to our work that we captured the experiences of those who are affected by crime in Ireland and so I would especially like to thank all of the victims of crime and their families who so willingly engaged and bravely shared their deeply personal experiences with us.

I feel immensely proud to have led the Garda Inspectorate since 2017 and privileged to have worked with so many wonderful and talented people. I would like to acknowledge the high-quality work completed by the Inspectorate since it was established in 2006. Our goal has always been to make Ireland a safer place and to drive the delivery of better policing services for the people of Ireland. I believe that our work has led to significant change in policing practices and major improvements in policing services.