

27 October 2020

Overview:

International best practice indicates that a multidimensional approach is required to address the potential for violent radicalisation and our policies concerned with integration, equality, combating discrimination and building positive relationships with our minority communities are central.

Regarding Violent Right Wing Extremism, the focus of An Garda Síochána is on actors engaging in or promoting violence, while respecting the legality of the expression of right wing extremism viewpoints in a way that is neither violent nor inciting violence.

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AGS Diversity & Integration Unit

The Garda Síochána Diversity & Integration Unit are responsible for the monitoring and management of hate crime incidents, third party referrals and complaints to An Garda Síochána. This office has established a Diversity Monitoring Forum with representatives of the various strands of diverse communities to monitor progress and provide accountability in respect of the Garda Síochána Diversity & Integration Strategy. This Forum, in addition to the strong network of community and civil

society organisation engagement by the GSDIU, ensures the appropriate platform to address any incidents of concern regarding violent right wing extremism.

AGS Diversity & Integration Strategy 2019-2021:

Following steps have been taken thus far:

- Garda Diversity & Integration Strategy 2019-2021 – launched by Garda Commissioner in October 2019.
- Guidelines on Responding to Hate Crime within An Garda Síochána.
- National Implementation Action Plan for Garda Diversity & Integration Strategy 2019-2021.
- Action Plan to facilitate Hate Crime Improved Recording by An Garda Síochána.

The Garda Síochána has also developed a Policing definition of hate crime as part of its Diversity & Integration Strategy 2019-2021. The newly established Hate Crime Monitoring Unit within the Garda Diversity & Integration Unit are tasked with monitoring and supporting the management of hate crime within An Garda Síochána. The rollout of Diversity Officer Training within An Garda Síochána includes anti-radicalisation training for Community Gardaí.

The Garda National Community Policing Office is responsible for the implementation of the Garda Community Policing Framework and its associated training will enhance the response to such incidents on behalf of An Garda Síochána.

In addition to above, the Garda Community Engagement & Public Safety Bureau are developing strategies to support victims of crime and are reviewing and developing policies around hate crimes.

Garda Racial, Intercultural and Diversity Office:

The Garda Commissioner established the Garda Racial, Intercultural & Diversity Office (GRIDO) in April 2000. Staff members of the GRIDO coordinate, monitor and advise on all aspects of policing in the area of diversity. The office has a staff of 3 (1 Sergeant, 1 Garda and 1 Clerical Officer). GRIDO staff members are available to members of the public and the Garda organisation for advice and support in the GRIDO area of expertise.