



**PCSA**

Údarás Póilneachta  
& Sábháilteachta Pobail

Policing & Community  
Safety Authority

## FOI Publication Scheme

March 2026

## Introduction

Section 8 of the Freedom of Information Act 2014 requires FOI bodies to prepare and publish as much information as possible in an open and accessible manner on a routine basis outside of FOI, having regard to the principles of openness, transparency and accountability as set out in the Act. This allows for the publication or giving of records outside of FOI provided that such publication or giving of access is not prohibited by law. The scheme commits FOI bodies to make information available as part of their normal business activities in accordance with this scheme.

This Publication Scheme should be read in conjunction with the Model Publication Scheme Guidance published by the Minister under Section 8 of the Freedom of Information Act 2014.

## Purpose of Scheme

The Scheme is designed to facilitate the provision of information to the greatest extent possible, except for information exempted under the Act and in preparing, reviewing or revising a Publication Scheme, an FOI body shall have regard to the public interest in:

- a) allowing public access to information held by the FOI body;
- b) the publication of reasons for decisions made by the FOI body; and
- c) publishing information of relevance or interest to the general public in relation to its activities and functions generally.

## Scheme Format and Access:

This Scheme is presented as a pdf document under six headings as set out below, with web links to further information where appropriate. This Scheme will be updated as provided for under the Act.

- Who we are and what we do
- Services provided
- Corporate information
- Financial information
- Procurement
- Other information
- How we make decisions.

## Who we are and what we do

**Who we are:** The Policing and Community Safety Authority (PCSA) was established on 2 April 2025, following the commencement of the [Policing, Security and Community Safety \(PSCS\) Act 2024](#). The PCSA is an independent, statutory agency responsible for the oversight of An Garda Síochána and it supports the effective provision and continuous improvement of policing services in Ireland. For more information see [Who We Are](#).

**Functions:** The objective, functions and powers of the PCSA are described in Section 122 of the PSCS Act 2024. For information on our functions see [What we do](#).

**Authority Members:** The Members of the PCSA were appointed by the Government following selection processes run by the Public Appointments Service. The PSCS Act 2024 provides for the Authority to have a total of nine members – a Chairperson and eight ordinary members. For more information on the Authority Members see [The Authority](#).

## Services Provided

**Authority Meetings:** The Authority meets with the Garda Commissioner every month except in the month of August. The meetings are held in public every second month and live-streamed on our website and YouTube channel.

See our website for information on [next and upcoming meetings](#) and on [previous meetings](#). Recordings of meetings in public can be found under the previous meetings section.

The minutes of Authority meetings are published under the [previous meetings](#) section for each meeting.

## Services Provided

**Policing Oversight:** Section 122(1) of the Act states that the objective of the Authority is to oversee and assess in an independent and transparent manner the performance by An Garda Síochána of its function relating to policing services. This is in order to support the effective provision and continuous improvement of such services for the benefit and safety of the public. The PCSA publishes regular Assessments of Policing Performance, which can be seen on the [News](#) section of our website.

**Inspections:** Section 143 of the PSCS Act 2024 sets out that the Authority may, in the furtherance of its objectives, carry out inspections in relation to such aspects of the operation and administration of An Garda Síochána relating to policing services as it considers appropriate. The Act requires the Authority and the Garda Commissioner to agree an MOU concerning the conduct of inspections.

The [Memorandum of Understanding](#) can be viewed on our website. An Inspection Plan is published annually. Inspection Plans and Reports arising from the Inspection function are routinely published on our website under [Publications](#).

**Policing Priorities:** The PCSA has a statutory function to determine Policing Priorities for An Garda Síochána. These Priorities establish what the PCSA wants An Garda Síochána to give the most attention to in any given period. They assist the Garda Commissioner in identifying areas that require extra focus and/or investment of resources to improve the service delivered to the public and the enhancement of the Garda organisation. See [Policing Priorities](#) for more information.

**Outreach and Engagement:** A key aspect of the PCSA's work is listening to and understanding communities' experiences of policing and being policed. We do this through a programme of meetings and engagements with community stakeholders and groups but also through public consultations, information campaigns and events. These are listed on our website as they arise. See [Outreach and Engagement](#) for more information on:

## Services Provided

- Consultations
- Campaigns
- Events
- Community Safety Partnerships

**Research:** An important function of the PCSA is to undertake, commission or assist in research projects and other activities in respect of matters relating to policing services.

The aim of such research may be to: promote improvements in standards of policing services and public awareness of such services; promote improvements in inter-agency collaboration and community engagement to improve community safety, or to contribute to a reduction in the number of complaints against members of garda personnel or An Garda Síochána in relation to policing services, and make recommendations to the Garda Commissioner and the Minister arising from those projects or activities. Published reports arising out of such research can be found under the [Publications](#) section of our website.

## Corporate Information

**Corporate Governance:** Effective corporate governance is central to enabling the Policing, Security and Community Safety Authority (PCSA) to complete its statutory duties with integrity in accordance with its statutory requirements. Corporate governance is an essential part of the proper and effective management of our organisation.

Our Governance Framework describes the structures, policies and processes in place to carry out these duties. It also provides for objective assessment of management and corporate performance. The purpose of the Governance Framework is to ensure that systems of accountability and responsibility, and compliance arrangements, are effective, clear and identifiable.

See the [Corporate Governance](#) section of our website for our:

## Corporate Information

- Governance Framework
- Standing Orders
- Schedule of Delegations
- Code of Conduct
- Customer Charter
- Data Protection Policy

**Annual Reports:** The first Annual Report of the PCSA will be submitted to the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration in March 2026 and will be published on our website thereafter.

**Strategy Statement:** The PCSA Strategy Statement 2026-28 has been submitted to Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration in March 2026 and will be published on our website thereafter.

**Business Plan:** Annual business plans are published on our website and can be found under [Publications](#).

**Location and Contact details:** Details of the address, telephone number and relevant email addresses of the PCSA can be found on the [Contact Us](#) section of our website.

**Oversight Agreement:** An Oversight Agreement between the PCSA and the Department of Justice, Home Affairs and Migration is in place. This [Oversight Agreement](#) is published on our website.

**Audit and Risk Committee:** The Audit and Risk Committee (ARC) is part of the PCSA's control environment, tasked with providing independent advice to the Accounting Officer and the Authority Members of the PCSA and supporting them in their responsibilities for issues of risk, internal control and governance. Information on ARC members, the ARC Charter and the minutes of ARC meetings can be viewed under the Audit and Risk Committee section of our website.

## Financial Information

**Financial allocation:** The financial allocation for the Authority is set out each year in the Estimates of Public Expenditure published by the Department of Public Expenditure & Reform. The Budget Estimates are produced as part of the annual Budget-day documentation and a further detailed breakdown of the proposed allocations is presented in the [Revised Estimates Volume](#) (REV) which is published and voted on by the Dáil. Information on the budget provision for the Authority is published under Vote 41.

**Financial statements:** The financial statements of the PCSA are published under the Annual Report. The first Annual Report of the PCSA will be submitted to the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration in March 2026 and will be published on our website thereafter.

**Prompt payments:** Prompt payment reports pursuant to Government Decision S29296 of 2 and 8 March 2011 are routinely published on our website under [Publications](#).

## Procurement

**Procurement Policy:** All PCSA procurement activity is guided by the Public Spending Code published by the Department of Public Expenditure and Reform and a Corporate Procurement Plan is in place and updated annually. A Purchase to Pay Procedure is in place for the procurement of goods and services. Formal sanction is sought from the Department of Public Expenditure, National Development Plan Delivery and Reform, where appropriate, for expenditure above an agreed threshold.

**OGP Frameworks and eTenders:** The PCSA avails of the services of the Office of Government Procurement (OGP) to source the contracts under which the majority of our goods and services are procured. The OGP publishes its pre-tender, tender and award notices on the eTenders

## Procurement

website and related information on the OGP website. In the event that there are Authority specific tenders which do not fall within the remit of that Office, we will publish these directly on the eTenders website in accordance with public sector procurement requirements.

## Other Information

**FOI Disclosure Log:** The PCSA publishes a list of all non-personal FOI requests received by the PCSA. This can be found under the Freedom of Information section of our website.

**Climate Action:** The PCSA publishes its Climate Action Roadmap annually in line with the Climate Action and Low Carbon Development (Amendment) Act 2021. The Climate Action Roadmap can be found on our website under [Publications](#).

**Career opportunities:** The PCSA is a modern, progressive employer, priding itself on its professional and agile workforce and friendly and supportive culture. As a civil service employer, the PCSA provides an excellent working environment and appropriate career development opportunities. Information on vacancies can be found on the [Career Opportunities](#) section of our website.

## How we make decisions

The PCSA has a governance structure in place which guides the decisions made in the fulfilment of its statutory duties. This includes: the Governance Framework and its associated documents; the Strategy Statement; the Annual Business Plan; the Memorandum of Understanding for Inspections; the Annual Inspections Plan; the Oversight Agreement

## How we make decisions

with the Department; the Corporate Procurement Plan, and the Climate Action Roadmap. Further information is provided in the sections above.

Consultation is a core element in the development of the PCSA Strategy Statement and the Policing Priorities. The details of consultations and campaigns can be found under the [Outreach and Engagement](#) section of our website.