

Risk Management in Garda Custody

Scope and Terms for Inspection

In accordance with section 143 (1) of the Policing, Security and Community Safety Act 2024 (the Act), the Policing and Community Safety Authority (the Authority) considers it appropriate to conduct an inspection of Risk Management in Garda Custody. This inspection will focus on those in custody who may be more vulnerable, including those in mental distress.

In accordance with section 143 (4) (a) of the Act, the scope and terms of the inspection are to examine the garda approach to identifying, assessing and managing risks associated with persons in garda custody including:

- The effectiveness of An Garda Síochána at identifying risks to or posed by persons in custody;
- How effectively identified risks are managed/mitigated;
- The extent to which risks are reviewed during the person's time in custody; and
- In the context of risk management in garda custody, how effectively An Garda Síochána fulfils its statutory obligation to protect and vindicate human rights, in particular as they relate to:
 - protecting life;
 - preventing torture and other inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment; and
 - ensuring a fair trial.

This inspection will examine the management of risk from the arrival of a person in custody at a garda facility until their time of departure from that facility whether upon release or transfer into the custody of another person/organisation.

It will be carried out in a manner which is proportionate, accountable and transparent, and ensures the integrity and objectivity of the findings of the inspection.

A report on the findings of this inspection will be prepared in accordance with section 149 of the Act and shall contain, if appropriate, recommendations for any action that the Authority considers necessary.