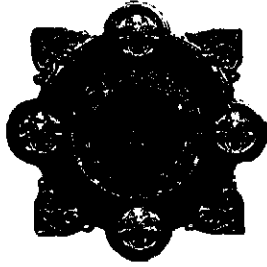


An Garda Síochána

An Rannóg Tithíochta
89-94 Sráid Céipil
Baile Átha Cliath 1



Housing Section
89-94 Capel Street
Dublin 1

Teileafón /Telephone: (01) 666 8501
Facs/Fax: (01) 872 2339

Láithrán Gréasáin/Web site: www.garda.ie
Ríomhphoist/E-mail: housing@garda.ie

Please quote the following reference number:

21.23.10.
~~2012.23.10.~~

HS 910.1/10

**Chief Administrative Officer
Garda HQ**

Re: Review of Environmental Protection Agency

With reference to your correspondence of 7 May, I wish to advise that the Commissioner has established a Group, under the chairmanship of the Executive Director of Finance and Services to prepare an Environmental Strategy for An Garda Síochána. There are two strands to the Strategy, one in relation to energy and water and a second in relation to waste management and recycling.

An Garda Síochána have spent approx. € 22m on energy, water and waste management services in 2009 and it is, accordingly, appropriate in the current financial climate to monitor usage and minimise costs for energy supply, fuel consumption and waste management.

An effective Environmental strategy will help to minimise energy, water consumption and waste generation and introduce a recycling and renewable initiative across the Garda estate, whilst optimising energy performance, in a sustainable manner over the long term. The savings accrued from minimising costs in the context can be re-diverted to support operational policing activities.

The challenge for An Garda Síochána is to implement the Environmental Strategy to deliver valuable cost, environmental and security of supply benefits for the organisation and to ensure that the organisation is compliant with all relevant legislation. Environmental management in the overall context is an all-encompassing inter related process, involving every level of the organisation. The development of the strategy is ongoing

Existing Energy Management Initiatives

The OPW is responsible for the maintenance of the Garda estate, for the provision and fitting out of office and other accommodation for AGS and for the design and delivery of the construction of new buildings, refurbishment, adaptation and conservation of existing buildings and building maintenance projects.

SEI Advice, Mentoring & Assessments Programme

Twelve Garda sites participated in Sustainable Energy Ireland's Advice, Mentoring & Assessments Programme in 2009. Each Garda site received an energy assessment and mentoring from an SEI-funded independent energy consultant. Each consultant produced a

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detailed energy report on their respective building and a number of recommendations were published for consideration.

Based on the Energy Consultant's report each site will achieve an average of well over 10% energy savings in the first year by implementing the reports higher priority recommendations.

The SEI launched a Grant Scheme last year and requested AGS to apply under the scheme using the recommendations from the consultant's reports as a basis for application.

Ensuing from a number of applications from Housing Section the SEI subsequently provided €152,000 in grant support for the implementation of 20 energy efficiency projects totalling €354,000 at the following Garda locations ; Harcourt Square, Store St, Technical Bureau, Mullingar, Drogheda, GISC Castlebar, Monaghan, Santry Stores and Archives and the Garda College, Templemore.

The projects, which have been implemented, included lighting installation, insulation, heating works, air conditioning works and installation of heating and lighting controls. In the short term savings have been identified in a number of sites.

Energy Awareness campaign

The OPW also manages an energy awareness programme at 14 of the larger Garda facilities. Energy officers and energy teams have been appointed at these facilities. The OPW plans to install energy monitoring systems in 24 additional Garda stations over the next two years.

Existing Initiatives on Water and Waste Management/ Recycling

Garda HQ and the Garda College recently installed intelligent water systems. The Garda HQ system will deliver €13,150 savings in the first year.

An initiative for new street lighting has been implemented at the Garda College, Templemore which serves as a demonstration project for progressive lighting control technology and the web based control system can be used to remotely control other sites nationally.

Garda Headquarters New Waste Recycling Project:

Overview,

- In September 2009, Garda Headquarters Facilities launched a New Recycling and Waste Management Scheme for the Complex to deliver a fully integrated waste management system incorporating all waste streams. The anticipated outcomes will make Garda Headquarters, a leader, in Environmental Recycling & Waste Management, with the objective *'To recycle 100% of non Hazardous Waste at GHQ.'*
- The dedicated Waste Infrastructure Roll out includes, *Recycling Bins* distributed to individual offices, *Organic Bins* in each kitchen Area, *Glass receptacles* in the Restaurant, Bar area, so that effectively *all Waste streams* are capable of being segregated at source by the end user, which actively encourages a Mindset and Behaviour change.
- When the waste streams are separated, they are then delivered daily to new installed clearly signposted, *Dedicated Waste / Recycling Compounds*.
- In the first quarter of operations, from September to December 2009, the Recycling rate in Headquarters has risen from effectively a low minimal base to a better than industry average of 72% recycling. This is highly significant in reputational terms. Other key points are :

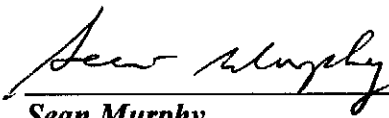
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- The Organic Waste from kitchens, Garden areas, and the Garda Mounted Unit, is collected on a non charge basis and is re-generated into carbon Clean Bio Fuel.
- 'Baler' : The Introduction of a Baler enables full compacting and recycling of Cardboard, Heavy paper, and all Packaging Waste Streams in GHQ.
- This New Garda HQ integrated system will deliver c €25,000 savings in the first year.

Garda College

It is intended that this Project will be used as a Benchmark for the organisation and the Garda College will introduce a similar integrated system to Garda Headquarters in the near future.



Sean Murphy,
Head of Accommodation

4 June 2010

