



## **GARDA REPRESENTATIVE ASSOCIATION STATEMENT**

### **GRA to seek meeting with Harris over proposed rationalisation of Garda divisions**

**22.08.2019**

GRA General Secretary Pat Ennis has welcomed Garda Commissioner Drew Harris's indication that he is open to considering feedback from the association following publication of the proposed Garda Síochána operating model this morning.

Mr Ennis said: "I met with Garda Commissioner Drew Harris yesterday. He assured me the plan published this morning is not necessarily the last word on this issue and that the views of the GRA and others will be considered.

"I welcome this, and the fact that the Commissioner has ended the speculation around the plan which was based on a version leaked to the media.

"The absence of hard information was a concern to our members around the country – and other community stakeholders too.

"Now we have a sense of what is envisaged, our Central Executive Committee can analyse the proposals and consider a response when it convenes next month.

"If the commitment in the operating model to provide enhanced policing capabilities and support at local and regional level is delivered, then we would welcome the increased safety and welfare of our members. This would also enable us to provide a better service to the public.

"The proposed reorganisation could have a significant effect on our members' working lives and their lines of management accountability. There could also be implications for our representation structures which will need to be considered when our Executive meets in September."

**ENDS**