



3.1 A SAFE, SECURE IRELAND

Project ID	Project	Senior Responsible Owner	Project Status	Planned End Date	Progress end June
3.1.1.1	We will progress accelerated recruitment to bring Garda numbers to 15,000, double the Garda reserve to support local patrols and crime reduction initiatives and increase further civilianisation to free up more Gardaí to focus on frontline policing services (delegating court attendances and release from desk work).	Assistant Secretary, Policing Division	On Track	Multi-Year	<p>Gardaí:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Plans are on track to recruit 800 Trainee Garda this year. 400 trainees have entered the college so far this year with two further intakes of 200 in August and November. Recruitment for these intakes is on track to be achieved - So far, since the opening of the Garda College in Sept 2014 close to 1,000 recruits have attested as members of An Garda Síochána. Another 200 recruits are due to attest on 6 July with a further 400 to attest later this year. - A new Garda competition closed on 1 June 2017 with approx. 5,200 applications received. Successful candidates from the September 2016 campaign will continue to be called from this year and into next year. It is expected that successful candidates from the new campaign will enter the Garda College from quarter 2 in 2018. <p>Civilians:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Executive Director Strategy & Change Management and Chief Medical Officer were appointed by the Policing Authority on Friday 30 June and will take up their positions shortly. The Executive Director Legal & Compliance position was advertised on 19 May and the closing date for applications was 8 June. The competition is still in process. - 43 of the initial 137 sanctioned posts are to go towards back filling vacancies created by the redeployment of Garda members to policing duties. Garda management have indicated that these positions have been identified and approved and that orders have been made for the COs and EOs who will take over these positions <p>Reserves:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - There was 2,500 applications for the Garda Reserve recruitment campaign which closed on 13 April 2017. Of these 1593 applicants were successful at Questionnaire stage and will be invited to interviews in batches. The first batch of interviews have now been completed. The aim is to recruit 300 Reserves this year.
3.1.1.2	We will support the Policing Authority, Garda Inspectorate and GSOC in the performance of their functions in relation to An Garda Síochána (AGS).		On Track	Q1 - Q4	Support continues to be provided to the Garda Síochána Inspectorate and the Garda Síochána Ombudsman Commission. Governance Agreements are in place and work is underway to ensure that a new Garda Inspectorate is in place when the term of the current members expires at the end of June. A competition to appoint new members is being run by PAS. The Department of Public Expenditure and Reform has recently sanctioned the appointment of 5 additional staff to GSOC to enable it to establish a unit to deal with protected disclosures.
3.1.1.3	We will ask the Policing Authority to oversee a review of: boundaries of police divisions and dispersment of Garda Stations to ensure both an efficient and optimum geographical distribution of stations and minimal response times; deployment and rostering arrangements with a view to strengthening this vital link with communities with a view to enhancing community policing units. Implementation of a pilot scheme to reopen 6 stations both rural and urban to determine possible positive impacts that such openings will have on criminal activity.	Assistant Secretary, Policing Division	On Track	Multi-Year	The Garda Commissioner has provided a second interim Report to the Minister and the Government has accepted the recommendation that the former Stepside Garda station be reopened. A final report is expected very shortly which is likely to lead to other stations being identified for reopening.
3.1.1.4	An Garda Síochána will bring specialist units involved in the fight against all forms of serious crime up to full strength as soon as possible.	Assistant Secretary, Policing Division	On Track	Multi-Year	A competition for appointment of Detective Gardaí and Sergeants to Special Crime Operations has been completed and vacancies in the Specialist Garda Bureaus will be filled on a staggered basis to allow for backfilling of posts in the Regions. A report setting out the current strength of the various units, the target strength and the plans including timelines for achieving those targets has been requested from AGS
3.1.1.5	We will establish Garda Business Fora in urban centres allowing Gardaí and businesses to work together to improve public safety, ensure a safe night-time economy and respond to crimes against businesses.	Assistant Secretary, Crime and Security	On Track	Q3	The Garda Business Watch scheme has been set up and is operated from the Office of the Assistant Commissioner for the Dublin Metropolitan Region.
3.1.2.1	We will drive and oversee the agreed five-year reform programme in the AGS in line with the Government Decision of 19/07/2016 in conjunction with the Policing Authority including: roll-out of Divisional policing model, development of workforce planning capacity; ensuring effective monitoring and reporting mechanisms are in place.	Assistant Secretary, Policing Division	On Track	Multi-Year	The Department has received the Commissioner's response to the Policing Authority's second report and this is currently being considered.
3.1.2.2	An Garda Síochána will introduce a National Operating Framework and Performance Accountability Framework.	Assistant Secretary, Policing Division	On Track	Q3	<p>Responsibility for these initiatives lies with the Garda Commissioner. Oversight of implementation lies with the Policing Authority as part of their monitoring of the implementation of the agreed recommendations of the Garda Inspectorate report "Changing Policing in Ireland". The updates below have been provided by An Garda Síochána.</p> <p>Performance Accountability Framework:</p> <p>A new IT system has been developed to support the implementation of the Performance Accountability Framework and each member will maintain their own personal record on the system. The roll out of training programmes has commenced with the Chief Superintendent and Superintendent ranks training schedule completed in May 2017.</p>

3.1.2.3	An Garda Síochána will implement a new intelligence led policing infrastructure, which will increase the ability of An Garda Síochána to detect crime and make our communities safer places for all.		On Track	Q1 - Q4	This is an overarching objective for the Commissioner that is being delivered through allocation of resources and the 5 year development plan.
3.1.2.4 Over-arching	We will implement the Garda Capital Programme: to upgrade ICT infrastructure, further invest in the Garda fleet and provide new and refurbished Garda Stations throughout the country.	Assistant Secretary, Policing Division	On Track	Multi-Year	<p>Garda Capital Programme: Investment in Garda fleet, ICT and the building programme is ongoing.</p> <p>Major Investigations Management Systems (MIMS): There are 3 elements involved in the development of MIMS. - An Investigations Management system will support the management of activities completed as part of an investigation, maintain a full history of the chain of events in an investigation, manage information gathered, and decisions/actions taken. This project commenced in late 2015 and is planned to commence implementation in 2018.</p> <p>- A new Property & Exhibits Management system will be used to record all property and exhibits which come into Garda possession and manage them throughout their lifecycle within the organisation from scene to court. This project commenced in late 2015 and is planned to commence pilot implementation in Q3 2017.</p> <p>- A new Enterprise Content Management System will provide An Garda Síochána with a single enterprise content repository for all documentation and multimedia content created, e.g. CCTV clips. This project commenced in late 2015 and pilot implementation commenced in Q1 2017.</p>
3.1.3.1	We will review options to bring forward the work undertaken in respect of White Paper on Crime incorporating the National Anti-Crime Strategy.	Assistant Secretary, Crime and Security	On Track	Q4	Work is ongoing on reviewing the draft White Paper/National Anti-Crime Strategy to identify the various proposals therein that, since this project was put on hold in early 2014, have either (a) been taken forward by other means or superseded by other developments or (b) could usefully be advanced further. Progress in this regard has been slower than anticipated owing to the need to deal with more pressing priorities. However, it is still intended to prepare a report with recommendations in this matter for submission to the Criminal Justice Strategic Committee in the latter part of 2017.
3.1.3.2	We will safeguard urban centres and the night-time economy by properly resourcing An Garda Síochána in targeting the sale and supply of illicit drugs on our streets.	Assistant Secretary, Crime and Security	2017 objectives achieved	Q1	<p>Resources are being monitored on an ongoing basis.</p> <p>The Misuse of Drugs Regulations 2017 have been made by the Department of Health which introduce further controls with regard to certain drugs available for illicit sale.</p>
3.1.3.3	We will Extend Garda Youth Diversion Projects for young people promoting restorative justice having regard to trends in youth crime.	Assistant Secretary, Crime and Security	On Track	Multi-Year	There are currently 105 Garda Youth Diversion Projects (GYDPs) across the State. A new approach to GYDP service delivery is currently under consideration for approval later in 2017.
3.1.3.4	We will take forward the remaining recommendations in the Garda Inspectorate Report on Crime Investigation, including liaising with the CSO with regard to their view of the issues raised.	Assistant Secretary, Crime and Security	On Track	Q4	The CSO Expert Group has finalised its report in relation to 6 of the recommendations. The report is expected to be published in the coming weeks. The other recommendations are under review in conjunction with An Garda Síochána and dialogue with the organisation is ongoing. An Garda Síochána have indicated that implementation of the Inspectorate's Report is being pursued within the framework of the Garda Modernisation and Renewal Programme. Important strategic issues being addressed include: a new Performance Accountability and Learning Framework (PALF) and IT system; a Control Room Strategy to provide for centralised handling of all requests for service from the public which would be linked to a modern Computer Aided Dispatch system; improved arrangements for Rosters and Duty Management and enhancements to Incident Management, Investigation Management and Victim Engagement. Taking account of the number and complexity of many of the recommendations, full implementation is being pursued on a phased basis.
3.1.3.5	We will take forward recommendations in the Garda Inspectorate Report on the Fixed Charge Processing System (Penalty Points) and related measures in the field of road safety, including implementation of '3rd Payment Option'.	Assistant Secretary, Crime and Security	On Track	Q4	<p>5 Fixed Charge Processing System recommendations are on track for delivery by Summer 2017, including the '3rd Payment Option' which was commenced on 1st June 2017.</p> <p>The Courts Act 2017, the purpose of which is to provide for a technical solution to give effect to the '3rd Payment Option' by amending existing Courts legislative provisions pertaining to the issue of summonses in order to link fixed charge notice and summons service processes, was commenced in full on 1st June 2017 in tandem with Part 3 of the Road Traffic Act 2010, as amended (See below).</p> <p>Arrangements for the commencement of section 44 of the Road Traffic Act 2010 providing for the '3rd Payment Option' were progressed by the Department of Transport, Tourism and Sport during Q1 and Q2 of 2017, including the preparation of new fixed charge notice templates and the preparation of consolidated fixed charge offence regulations to replace all existing fixed charge offence regulations. The latter regulations were revoked on commencement of new regulations under Part 3 of the 2010 Act on 1st June 2017.</p> <p>An Garda Síochána is progressing its tendering process with the Office of Government Procurement, the object of which is to procure an external print services provider to print all third payment documentation, i.e. fixed charge notices, summonses, etc. with the aim of procuring a service provider to commence the provision of print services before the end of the year.</p> <p>The Criminal Justice (FCPS) Working Group submitted a detailed progress report on each of the Inspectorate's recommendations to the Inspectorate, following submission of same to the Ministers for Justice and Equality and Transport, Tourism and Sport. The Inspectorate responded to this report with a number of queries for follow up with An Garda Síochána and these queries are currently with An Garda Síochána for consideration and response. Work on the remaining Fixed Charge Processing System recommendations is ongoing and the majority of these recommendations are medium to long-term in nature.</p>

3.1.3.6	We will continue to support and prioritise community crime prevention schemes including Neighbourhood Watch and Text Alert. Strive for consistency in supports for community groups and examine direct funding opportunities for community schemes and groups. Introduction of National Regional support officers in conjunction with An Garda Síochána	Assistant Secretary, Crime and Security	On Track	Q4	Proposals concerning the Text Alert Scheme have been received from Muintir na Tíre and have been discussed with An Garda Síochána. Additional observations have been sought from Internal Audit as the proposals involve an expansion of the Muintir role which may have implications for the application of financial procedures.
3.1.3.7 Over-arching	We will encourage collaborative joint planning and interagency partnership approaches by all Criminal Justice agencies.	Assistant Secretary, Crime and Security	On Track	Q1 – Q4	<p>Criminal Justice Strategic Committee: The work of the Criminal Justice Strategic Committee (CJSC) continues to be advanced in 2017 through its annual Work Programme, as implemented by various inter-agency subgroups. Reports from the following subgroups were adopted at the most recent CJSC meeting on 24th April: - Working Group on a Criminal Justice Leadership Development Programme (follow-up report); - Working Group on a Staff Secondment Scheme within the Criminal Justice sector; - Working Group on Data Needs and Interoperability (report regarding end-to-end model of the Criminal Justice system). These adopted reports are now being implemented by the relevant line Divisions, with assistance from the CJSC Secretariat and relevant Subgroup members as required. The inter-agency Secondment Scheme is to be launched at the end of June, and the Head of Human Resources is in discussions with the Institute of Public Administration (IPA) to develop the approved inter-agency Leadership Development Programme. The new Subgroup on Confidence in the Criminal Justice System held its first meeting on 17th May and is scheduled to meet again on 30th June. This group is considering the issues that may be affecting public confidence in the system and, in this context, is examining the scope and focus of an envisaged independent research project in this area.</p> <p>A number of other CJSC Subgroups are continuing their work in 2017 and are expected to continue for the foreseeable future, including the Data Needs and Interoperability Working Group, the Victim Services Group, the Article 40 Working Group and the Efficiencies Working Group. Work is also continuing in the Department and the wider Criminal Justice sector to implement a number of reports adopted by the CJSC in 2016 including development of detailed plans for a new Criminal Justice Operational Hub, establishment of a high-level inter-agency Project Board to oversee same and a comprehensive 12-month research and policy development project into serious crime networks involving children. It is envisaged that the CJSC itself will hold two further meetings in 2017 to discuss key cross-cutting developments, review progress and consider recommendations from subgroups as they arise.</p> <p>JARC (Joint Agency Response to Crime): The Youth JARC training day took place on 19th June and the groups from the respective areas have had their initial meetings to finalise the names of the participants.</p>
3.1.3.9	We will support investment in CCTV at key locations along the road network and in urban centres.	Assistant Secretary, Policing Division	Completed	Q2	The CCTV Scheme was launched on 13th April 2017.
3.1.3.10	We will implement the Recommendations of the Cost of Insurance Working Group which are relevant to this Department (Phase 1).	Assistant Secretary, Crime and Security	On Track	Multi-Year	Work on implementation to commence in the second half of 2017.
3.1.3.11	We will ensure a whole of Government approach to Penal Policy and addressing offender behaviour to reduce reoffending.	Assistant Secretary, Prisons, Probation & International Policy	On Track	Q1 – Q4	<p>An Implementation & Oversight Group set up to oversee implementation of the Penal Policy Review Group recommendations</p> <p>The Interagency Group on cooperation for a Fairer and Safer Ireland has been set up consisting of 18 members from a broad representation of public bodies. The first meeting of this Group was held in October, 2016 It is intended this group will play a very significant role in fulfilling a key objective of the Penal Policy Review Group – that of ensuring efforts to prevent and respond to crime are conducted by means of a 'whole of government' approach.</p> <p>The Department is providing continued support to strengthen and extend the Community Returns and Community Support programmes</p>
3.1.3.12	We will implement the Second National Action Plan to Prevent and Combat Human Trafficking in Ireland.	Assistant Secretary, Crime and Security	On Track	Multi-Year	Publication of the Plan in October 2016 was followed by consultation and identification of priorities in Q4 2016 and Q1 2017. Implementation of main priorities within Second National Action Plan commenced in 2017
3.1.3.13 Overarching	We will develop and manage legislative proposals for Criminal law in accordance with the Government's Programme	Assistant Secretary, Criminal Law Reform + Crime and Security	On Track	Q2 – Q4	<p>Criminal Law (Sexual Offences) Bill 2015: Parts 1, 2, 3, 4, 7 and 8 (excluding 46, 47, 51(b) & 52) commenced with effect from 27th March 2017.</p> <p>Criminal Justice (Suspended Sentences of Imprisonment) Bill 2016: Completed.</p> <p>Criminal Justice (Corruption) Bill: Awaiting final draft from the Office of the Parliamentary Counsel (OPC).</p> <p>Criminal Justice (Offences Relating to Information Systems) Bill - enactment: The Bill completed all stages on 18th May and was commenced on 12th June.</p> <p>EU Victims of Crime Directive - Criminal Justice (Victims of Crime) Bill 2016: First list of Report Stage amendments have been finalised. Work is continuing on remaining amendments.</p> <p>Criminal Justice Bill 2016: Bill completed passage through both Houses of the Oireachtas on 22nd June 2017.</p> <p>Amendment to the Communications (Data Retention) Act 2011: Significant progress has been made in drafting proposals to take account of changes to EU law in this area following the European Court of Justice (ECJ) judgments. It is intended to bring forward proposals to Government directly after the summer recess.</p> <p>Independent Reporting Commission Bill: The Bill is scheduled for Second Stage in the Dáil on 5th July.</p> <p>Work is ongoing in relation to a number of other Bills.</p>

3.1.4.1	We will develop programmes to enhance responses to security threats.	Assistant Secretary, Crime and Security	On Track	Q4	Work has been progressed with the Office of Parliamentary Counsel/Attorney General's Office on developing amendments to the law on investigatory powers with regard to electronic communications. There is ongoing close liaison with the Garda authorities in respect of security incidents and responses, including information-sharing developments and continued engagement at EU level in the internal security/counter-terrorism framework.
3.1.4.2	Actively engage with Government Departments and agencies as well as relevant partners in other jurisdictions to tackle terrorism and serious and organised crime.	Assistant Secretary, Crime and Security	On Track	Q4	Work is ongoing in this regard with relevant partners in other Departments and at EU and international level.
3.1.4.3	Contribute to the structural review of decision-making arrangements across the common areas of security and defence	Assistant Secretary, Crime and Security	On Track	Q4	Work is ongoing in this regard.
3.1.4.4	We will develop the necessary technical and legal infrastructure to give effect to other EU measures concerning police cooperation including implementing the PNR Directive (Phase 1)	Assistant Secretary, Policing Division	On Track	Q1 2018	Memo to Government has been approved. Job specification for Director has been prepared and the Department is currently awaiting sanction from the Department of Public Expenditure and Reform (DPER) to proceed with recruitment.
3.1.4.5	Advance the implementation of the Schengen Information System (SIS II) and the implementation of automated information sharing under the Prüm decisions	Assistant Secretary, Policing Division	On Track	Q1 - Q4	Projects are underway in the areas of fingerprint exchange, DNA data exchange and vehicle registration data. Detailed design scoping of SIS II is underway.
3.1.5.1	We will strengthen and develop cross border bodies and services in Northern Ireland and implement the Fresh Start Agreement.	Assistant Secretary, Crime and Security	On Track	Q3	Further dialogue and communication with counterparts in Northern Ireland (NIO and DOJNI) in respect of cross border co-operation, including the Intergovernmental Agreement on Criminal Justice Co-operation and with regard to Brexit. Given the current political situation in Northern Ireland, the ministerial meetings are paused. Awaiting time in the Dáil for the Independent Reporting Commission Bill. There is ongoing participation in the current Stormont talks in respect of legacy issues.
3.1.5.2	Support and enhance the work of the Joint Agency Task Force to tackle cross border organised crime.	Assistant Secretary, Crime and Security	On Track	Q4	The Joint Agency Task Force, as provided for under the Fresh Start Agreement, has been operational since 2016 and has delivered three reports to Ministers on its activities. The task force brings together police and other enforcement agencies under a structured and coordinated framework and has been active in addressing a wide range of cross border criminality including rural crime, drug trafficking and the sexual exploitation of children.
3.1.6.1	Cooperation with Government Departments, North and South, and with the UK Government on establishing the institutions under the Stormont House Agreement to address the legacy of conflict in Northern Ireland.	Assistant Secretary, Crime and Security	On Track	Q4	The Irish and British Governments have concluded an international agreement on the establishment of the Independent Commission on Information Retrieval (ICIR) in October 2015. Ireland is already positioned to cooperate with the HIU, when established by the UK, under the framework of international mutual legal assistance and other initiatives are being developed to ensure agreed cooperation with the HIU and with Legacy Inquests are lawfully delivered.
3.1.7.1	We will examine how communities can better engage with CAB including provision of information on the suspected local use of the proceeds of crime and the potential of a smaller CAB being established to target regional assets.	Assistant Secretary, Crime and Security	Minor Delivery Issue	Q2	A paper setting out preliminary considerations continues to be finalised and will be submitted to the Minister.
3.1.7.2	We will implement the 4th EU Money Laundering / Terrorist Financing Directive. - Criminal Justice (Money Laundering and Terrorist Financing) (Amendment) Bill.	Assistant Secretary, Criminal Law Reform	On Track	Q3	Drafting is at an advanced stage and Bill should be published early in the next parliamentary term.
3.1.7.3	We will contribute to the International Financial Action Task Force Review prior to publication in mid-2017 and undertake to implement Recommended Actions thereafter.	Assistant Secretary, Crime and Security	On Track	Q4	The week long meeting of the Financial Action Task Force (FATF) membership took place in June 2017. The Mutual Evaluation Report (MER) on Ireland was discussed by the membership (some 37 countries). As part of this process, Ireland is assessed in terms of its effectiveness with 11 Immediate Outcomes and its technical compliance with 40 Recommendations and rated accordingly. Ireland sought upgrades (from moderate to substantial) on 2 Immediate Outcomes (namely Confiscation and Terrorist Financing) but these were not approved. The final Report is likely to issue in September.
3.1.7.4	We will review the existing Proceeds of Crime legislation and we will ensure that adequate resources are provided to support the work of the Criminal Assets Bureau in tackling money laundering and to target the proceeds of crime.	Assistant Secretary, Crime and Security	On Track	Q3	The Proceeds of Crime (Amendment) Act 2016, enacted in June 2016, provided additional powers to the Bureau in response to the increased organised crime threat. The existing Proceeds of Crime legislation remains under review. A number of staff competitions for the filling of a number of vacancies in the Criminal Assets Bureau (CAB) have recently concluded. The current staffing level of the Bureau is 79. An additional €0.5m was included in the CAB budget for this year which stands at €7.585m.

3.2 ACCESS TO JUSTICE



Project ID	Project	Senior Responsible Owner	Project Status	Planned End Date	Progress
3.2.1.1	We will examine the feasibility of a new Public Defender system and report to the relevant Oireachtas Committee and Government within 6 months.	Assistant Secretary, Civil Law Reform / Courts Policy	Significant Delivery Issue	Q1	Discussed by Management Board and approved for submission to Minister with a view to deciding next steps to advance project.
3.2.1.2	We will support the delivery of the Courts Service capital Programme, including PPP Projects.	Assistant Secretary, Civil Law Reform / Courts Policy	On Track	Q4	Four new courthouses are being built in Drogheda, Letterkenny, Limerick and Wexford while substantial refurbishment and extension of existing courthouses is being undertaken in Cork, Mullingar and Waterford under Public Private Partnership arrangements. Good progress is being made across the locations to deliver all completed buildings by the end of December. There has been some minor delays in a few locations: a delay of 1 month in respect of Letterkenny and a delay of 8 to 12 weeks in respect of Mullingar. The construction and fit out of the new courthouse for Drogheda has been completed and court business is to commence in the new courthouse on 7th July.
3.2.1.3	We will transfer responsibility for criminal legal aid to the Legal Aid Board.	Assistant Secretary, Civil Law Reform / Courts Policy	On Track	Q4	Consultation has commenced with all state agencies.
3.2.1.4	We will develop mediation as an alternative to court proceedings – progression of the Mediation Bill.	Assistant Secretary, Civil Law Reform / Courts Policy	On Track	Q4	The Dáil Committee Stage was completed on 28th June 2017. Currently awaiting Report Stage.
3.2.1.5	We will commission an annual study on court efficiency and sitting times, benchmarked against international standards, to provide accurate measurements for improving access to justice.	Assistant Secretary, Civil Law Reform / Courts Policy	On Track	Q4	The President of the High Court, Mr Justice Peter Kelly, will chair a group to review and reform the administration of Civil Justice which will also address the commitment regarding an annual study of court efficiency. The Department is currently in discussion with President Kelly to finalise practical and other arrangements such as the composition and logistics of the Group.
3.2.1.6	The Courts Service will extend the Courts Service online (CSOL) programme to provide for the management and administration of all licensing applications to the Circuit and District Court including online public access to a nationwide Licensing Register.	Assistant Secretary, Civil Law Reform / Courts Policy	On Track	Q4	This project will extend the Courts Service online (CSOL) to incorporate a new system development to provide for the management and administration of all licensing applications to the Circuit and District Court. The new system will, when fully implemented, include significant online components such as electronic service of applications on notice parties, online payment of court fees and excise duties as well as online public access to a nationwide Licensing Register. The system was implemented in a total of 6 offices on a pilot basis in July 2016. Following a post implementation review of the pilot, a number of enhancements have been developed and other issues that were raised have since been addressed. It is expected that by the end of July the system will be implemented in a further 3 offices out of the 6 planned this year.
3.2.1.7	We will collaborate with criminal justice agencies on procedural reforms, cost savings and minimising actions, in particular extending the use of video conferencing to additional court venues and prisons nationwide.	Assistant Secretary, Crime and Security	On Track	Q4	Efficiencies continue to be developed. In some cases, including extended use of video link, legislative reforms are being prepared to facilitate.
3.2.1.8	Resource the Courts, particularly the Circuit Court, to deal with increased non-summary prosecutions of serious crimes.	Assistant Secretary, Civil Law Reform / Courts Policy	On Track	Multi-Year	The President of the High Court, Mr Justice Peter Kelly, will chair a group to review and reform the administration of civil justice which will also address the commitment regarding an annual study of court efficiency. The Department is currently in discussion with President Kelly to finalise practical and other arrangements such as the composition and logistics of the Group.
3.2.2.1	We will develop a new Family Court system. Policy development in respect of Family Court. Family Court Bill – to establish a dedicated Family Court.	Assistant Secretary, Civil Law Reform / Courts Policy	On Track	Q4	Second meeting of group was held on 1st June 2017.
3.2.2.2	We will establish a Family Justice Forum to identify ways to streamline and improve the broader system for resolving family difficulties.	Assistant Secretaries, Civil Law Reform / Courts Policy & Corporate Affairs	On Track	Q4	A paper outlining the proposal has been drafted and is being considered.
3.2.2.3	The Courts Service will proceed with the development of the Dublin Family Court facility at Hammond Lane – design phase.	Assistant Secretary, Civil Law Reform / Courts Policy	On Track	Q2	Meetings of the Project Committee, chaired by Mr Justice Michael White, have continued to oversee the planning and preparations of the Hammond Lane development (to comprise a Family Law court complex, the Children’s Court, Supreme Court and office accommodation). The National Development Finance Agency has started initial drafting of documentation required for the overall procurement process. Detailed project costings based on the building layouts prepared by the Office of Public Works (OPW) architects were developed by a quantity surveyor as part of the business case and have been submitted to the Department of Justice and Equality for consideration. It is anticipated that the Part 9 planning process will be undertaken during the Q3 of 2017 and that, subject to the approval of the Department of Justice and Equality, the procurement process could begin in early 2018. Due to the scale of the project we are advised that construction would take approximately three years to complete which means that the building would be complete in late 2021/early 2022. The project will also require sanction from the Department of Public Expenditure and Reform before it can proceed.
3.2.3.1	Review the thresholds and the processes for Personal Insolvency Arrangements (including SMEs) and raise where appropriate	Assistant Secretary, Civil Law Reform / Courts Policy	On Track	Q3	Awaiting final replies to consultation with deadline set as 30th June 2017.

3.2.3.2	We will monitor the impact and effectiveness of personal insolvency processes and refine and develop structures and systems where required.	Assistant Secretary, Civil Law Reform / Courts Policy	On Track	Q3	All activities are ongoing.
3.2.4.1	Develop victim support services including Garda Victim Support Offices as a single point of contact in accessing support and information.	Assistant Secretary, Crime and Security	On Track	Q4	The payment of increased funding for 2017 to victim support organisations is being progressed as the bodies provide full reports on 2016 activities. €1,218,172.82 has been paid as of 27th June 2017.
3.2.4.2	Oversee the implementation of the second National Strategy on Domestic, Sexual and Gender-based Violence (Implementation of Istanbul Convention).	Assistant Secretary, Crime and Security	On Track	Q4	The Annual Report on progress on the implementation of the Second National Strategy on Domestic, Sexual and Gender-based Violence 2016-2021 is due to go to Government on 4th July and then to be lodged in the Oireachtas Library. Requests for monitoring returns up to the end of June 2017 are about to issue to implementing organisations.
3.2.5.1	We will progress legislation to reform and update the system of judicial appointments, in line with the Programme for Government.	Assistant Secretary, Civil Law Reform / Courts Policy	2017 Objective Achieved	Q1	The Bill was published in line with target timeframe. The Bill has been progressed by the Oireachtas, with Second Stage in the Dáil commencing on June 27th 2017.
3.2.5.2	We will progress legislation to establish a Judicial Council.	Assistant Secretary, Civil Law Reform / Courts Policy	On Track	Q2	Bill was published on 1st June 2017 and is currently awaiting Second Stage in Seanad Éireann.
3.2.5.3	We will give effect in Irish law to the Data Protection Regulation and Directive. – Publication of Data Protection Bill.	Assistant Secretary, Civil Law Reform / Courts Policy	On Track	Q4	Pre-legislative scrutiny of the General Scheme of the Data Protection Bill 2017 commenced on 14th June with presentations from the Department and the Data Protection Commission. Scrutiny by the Committee is ongoing.
3.2.5.4 Over-arching	We will advance proposals for Civil Law Reform / Courts Policy in accordance with the Government's legislation programme and in consultation with stakeholders.	Assistant Secretaries Civil Law Reform / Courts Policy, Corporate Affairs, Prisons, Probation & International Policy and Policing Division	On Track	Q1 - Q4	<p>Establishment of a new dedicated court to handle mortgage arrears and other personal insolvency cases: Dedicated new court arrangements for repossessions and the option of a system of specific court sittings for repossessions at specific venues on specific dates is being actively considered.</p> <p>Civil Liability (Amendment) Bill 2017: Dáil Committee Stage completed on 29th June. Report and Final Stages and Seanad return stage are now expected to take place in the Autumn.</p> <p>Civil Law and Courts (Miscellaneous Provisions) Bill: Following approval by the Tánaiste, a draft Memorandum for Government on the General Scheme of the Bill was circulated on 13th June 2017 on eCabinet for the observations of all other Departments by 22nd June. This deadline was subsequently extended to 6th July 2017 at the request of the Office of the Attorney General.</p> <p>Courts (No. 2) Bill 2016 – Implementation of '3rd Payment Option': Entire Act commenced on 1st June 2017 by order made by the Tánaiste in co-ordination with Department of Transport, Tourism and Sport.</p> <p>Consolidated Domestic Violence Bill: Seanad Committee Stage of Domestic Violence Bill 2017 resumed in early July but is not yet completed. Work is underway involving the Civil Law Reform Division, Cosc, the Office of the Attorney General and the Office of the Parliamentary Counsel (OPC) on draft Report stage amendments to address issues raised by Senators at Committee Stage.</p>

3.3 AN EQUAL AND INCLUSIVE SOCIETY



Project ID	Project	Senior Responsible Owner	Project Status	Planned End Date	Progress
3.3.1.1 Over-arching	We will engage with civil society, the social partners and other stakeholders and lead cross-departmental collaboration to develop, publish, implement and monitor policies and strategies to promote equality and social inclusion and to overcome inequalities.	Assistant Secretary, Asylum Services, Integration & Equality	On Track	Q1 - Q4	<p>New Disability Inclusion Strategy 2016 – 2019: Observations from Government Departments have been received and the Strategy will be launched in the coming weeks.</p> <p>Strategy on the Employment of Persons with Disabilities: The Comprehensive Employment Strategy working group continues to meet and progress actions in areas across the public service.</p> <p>Migrant Integration Strategy: The first meeting of the Migrant Integration Strategy Monitoring and Implementation committee, chaired by Minister Stanton, was held on 27th June 2017.</p> <p>National Strategy for Women and Girls 2017-2020: Completed.</p> <p>National Traveller and Roma Inclusion Strategy: Completed.</p>
3.3.1.7	We will ratify the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD).	Assistant Secretary, Asylum Services, Integration & Equality	On Track	Q4	Discussions are ongoing with the Department of Health. Minister McGrath is leading weekly progress meetings of key individuals to track progress.
3.3.1.8	We will review the role of the National Disability Authority (Phase 1).	Assistant Secretary, Asylum Services, Integration & Equality	On Track	Q4	Awaiting publication of National Disability Inclusion Strategy before commencing Review. Meetings have been held with the National Disability Authority (NDA), which has consulted with its Board and staff on the review.
3.3.1.9	We will negotiate at EU Level in respect of the EU Accessibility Directive and coordinate Ireland's position across all relevant Departments and agencies.	Assistant Secretary, Asylum Services, Integration & Equality	On Track	Q4	Negotiations continue at EU Level with feed in from Advisory Group as required.
3.3.1.10	Ratify the Convention on the International Protection of Adults.	Assistant Secretary, Civil Law Reform / Courts Policy	On Track	Q4	The timetable for ratification of the 2000 Hague Convention is dependent on the establishment of the Decision Support Service and the commencement of the new decision-making support arrangements provided for in the Assisted Decision-Making (Capacity) Act 2015. A high level Steering Group was set up in June 2016 to establish and commission the Decision Support Service (DSS) within the Mental Health Commission and this work is ongoing. The Director of the DSS will perform the functions conferred on the State by the 2000 Hague Convention. The position of the Director was advertised on 7 April and it is envisaged that a Director will be in place by the end of July.
3.3.1.11	We will implement the Programme for Government commitment to require companies with 50 or more staff to complete wage surveys.	Assistant Secretary, Asylum Services, Integration & Equality	On Track	Q4	The Labour Private Members Bill was introduced in the Seanad in May 2017 and was unopposed by Government (2nd Stage). Consultations took place with the Attorney General's Office in May 2017. Options Paper is in preparation. Meetings have been scheduled in the UK, Brussels and Dublin over the summer with representatives and experts (Davies Report and EU). Meeting with the Irish Business and Employers' Confederation (IBEC) on their wage transparency preparations is currently in progress.
3.3.1.12	We will develop initiatives to increase Female Representation on State boards to 40%.	Assistant Secretary, Asylum Services, Integration & Equality	On Track	Q4	Informal meeting with Public Appointment Service (PAS) was held in June 2017. PAS will have a seat on the Implementation Strategy committee and provide independent feedback. They have requested Gender Equality Division to gather data from Local Government Management Agency (LGMA) on women in senior management roles in Local Authorities.
3.3.1.13	We will introduce a policy of providing locally delivered courses for women, comprising a series of training opportunities on self-development and work related skills, to assist a return to the labour market and promote entrepreneurship.	Assistant Secretary, Asylum Services, Integration & Equality	On Track	Q4	The EU Funds have signed grant agreements with all 18 projects. The majority of projects have now commenced activity.
3.3.1.14	We will administer EU Funding Programmes for Migrant Integration and Gender Equality.	Assistant Secretary, Asylum Services, Integration & Equality	On Track	Q4	The EU Funds have signed grant agreements with all 20 Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund projects. All 23 projects funded under the European Social Fund to support the integration and employment of migrants and gender equality have commenced activity.
3.3.1.15	We will promote equality and gender proofing in national policy proposals.	Assistant Secretary, Asylum Services, Integration & Equality	On Track	Q4	A seminar was held on 23rd January 2017 for all Government Departments in partnership with the Department of Public Expenditure and Reform (DPER) and the Irish Human Rights and Equality Commission (IHREC). The new National Strategy for Women and Girls 2017-2020 was approved by Government on 27th April and was launched on 3rd May. The Strategy included actions to promote gender proofing in national policy proposals.
3.3.1.16	We will reform Family leave to significantly increase parental leave in the first year of a child's life, over a five-year period. (Phase 1)	Assistant Secretary, Asylum Services, Integration & Equality	On Track	Q4	Further consultations are underway with relevant Departments.

3.4 A FAIR AND BALANCED IMMIGRATION AND PROTECTION REGIME



Project ID	Project	Senior Responsible Owner	Project Status	Planned End Date	Progress
3.4.1.1	We will implement improvements to State provided accommodation and related services particularly for families.	Director General, INIS, Assistant Secretary, Asylum Services, Integration & Equality	On Track	Q1 – Q4	The Food Hall facility in Mosney Accommodation Centre has been fully implemented.
3.4.2.1	We will implement the Second Phase of EU and UN resettlement and relocation programmes and promote integration of refugees in our communities.	Assistant Secretary, Asylum Services, Integration & Equality	On Track	Q1 2018	<p>Resettlement Programme (Target = 1,040): Profile of target group - Refugees displaced from areas of conflict in the Middle East. 785 refugees have been admitted to date and have been housed in 22 towns in 7 counties (Cork, Kerry, Limerick, Clare, Galway, Mayo and Wexford). Further resettlements are scheduled between now and the end of 2017 in Westmeath, Sligo and Donegal which will see the vast majority of the 785 arrived to date being housed in the community. Sufficient cases have been selected during the last mission to Lebanon in March/April 2017 to reach target of 1,040. The next arrivals are scheduled for Autumn 2017.</p> <p>EU Relocation Programme (ERP) (Target = 2,622): Profile of target group - Asylum Seekers in Greece and Italy who qualify for relocation to other EU states by virtue of their country of origin, e.g. Syria, Eritrea, etc.</p> <p>ERP Greece: Ireland is scheduled to take 1,089 persons from Greece. 459 asylum seekers have arrived in Ireland to date (273 adults and 186 children). 357 more have been security assessed for arrival and are awaiting transportation to Ireland. Of these, 73 have been granted refugee status, completed their language training and orientation and have been housed in 3 counties (Galway, Mayo and Dublin). Further resettlements in Leitrim, Carlow, Kilkenny, Sligo and through Red Cross pledges will see the majority of the 459 persons arrived to date housed by the end of 2017. Housing has been sourced through a combination of local authority housing and voluntary pledges of accommodation arising from the ongoing Irish Red Cross appeal.</p> <p>ERP - Italy: Ireland is scheduled to take 623 persons from Italy. Due to the Italian refusal to permit security assessments on their territory, Ireland has not been able to transfer any of the persons eligible for relocation. The EU Commission has yet to formally allocate the balance of 910 persons from Ireland's 2,622 quota to either Italy or Greece. This remains a legal requirement and Ireland cannot unilaterally act to assign this component elsewhere.</p> <p>Emergency Reception & Orientation Centre (EROC): All EROCs are now at full capacity. Responses to the most recent request for Expressions of Interest to find new EROCs continue to be examined but so far the only viable option is a property in the South East which was brought to the point of contract signature but fell through after the property owner pulled out last minute. Mosney continues to be used as an EROC as a stop gap.</p>
3.4.3.1	We will civilianise border posts to free up Garda resources for operational duties.	Director General, INIS	Minor Delivery Issue	Q3	A group of 15 is in training since 6th June 2017 which includes 4 supervisors and 11 officers. Approximately 200 applicants have been called for interview for Immigration Control Officer (ICO) posts. A panel has now been set up by the Public Appointments Service (PAS) and the first 20 from this panel are now in security clearance.
3.4.3.2	We will enhance Border Security including working with UK on further enhancing security of the CTA (Phase 1).	Director General, INIS	On Track	Multi-Year	Operation Weld continues in force at Dublin Airport for the purposes of detecting EU nationals the subject of UK Deportation Orders for serious criminality.
3.4.3.3	We will extend the use of Commercial Visa Application Centres as part of the British-Irish Visa Scheme (BIVS) (Phase 2).	Director General, INIS	On Track	Multi-Year	The joint evaluation of the scheme is complete, subject to confirmation from the UK Home Office. It was agreed with the UK earlier this week that the next step would involve discussions on the roll-out of the scheme to other locations. In the meantime, 3 new Visa Application Centres are opening in China on 3rd July 2017. This expands our range of such centres across China from 12 to 15, and will make it easier for Chinese Visa applicants to apply for Visas to come to Ireland.
3.4.3.4	We will introduce EU Residents Permit / Joint EU-format Residence Permit and Public Service Card for Foreign Nationals (Phase 2).	Director General, INIS	On Track	Multi-Year	Draft Contract for supply of EURP format cards was supplied to the Office of Government Procurement (OGP) for observations. Proofs of interim EURP cards have been approved for production.
3.4.4.1	We will introduce regular policy reviews of immigration including for students, retirees, workers etc. to respond to changing requirements and demands.	Director General, INIS	On Track	Q3	Reviews are on track. New schemes have been proposed and forwarded to the Office of the Secretary General and are pending decision.
3.4.4.2	Ensure effective processes for registration of non - EEA nationals, effective dealing with applicants for a wide range of immigration services and citizenship	Director General, INIS	On Track	Q4	Customer Service Training provided to staff. There has been increased stakeholder engagement including quarterly meetings with third level institutions. This has seen a 15% rise in the numbers registered compared to the same period in 2016.
3.4.4.3	We will transfer Registration Functions from AGS to INIS. (Phase 1).	Director General, INIS	On Track	Multi-Year	INIS staff are now operating the Burgh Quay Public Office and are providing Registration and Permission to remain services. The online appointment system is in place.
3.4.4.4	We will implement Process Changes to the service to improve its productivity, quality and customer service such as merging of the Registration and Visa Re-entry functions in Dublin and delivery of on-line services. (Phase 1).	Director General, INIS	On Track	Multi-Year	<p>eGates: The procurement process has been completed and Vision-Box was selected as the preferred supplier. Planning and design work on the implementation has commenced and has reached an advanced stage.</p> <p>Online Forms: Four pilot preclearance schemes were selected and policies, online forms, Asylum Information System Information Programme (AISIP) forms and website content were completed. Testing activities commenced and planning for rollout was initiated. A change in operational policy assigned the preclearance responsibility from Residence Division to Visas and this has necessitated a replan.</p>

3.4.5.1	With regard to implementing EU regulations, we will ensure a stringent and effective approach to speedily refusing bogus applications and facilitating removal from the State. We will increase cooperation with UK in cracking down on the increasing numbers of bogus asylum seekers applying for unmerited asylum status following expiry of their UK Visa. (Phase 1).	Director General, INIS	Significant Delivery Issue due to major volume of cases	Multi-Year	<p>This project covers two processing elements: (1) Visa and (2) 'in country' applications to Residence Division.</p> <p>Visa: A team has been put in place to help deal with the substantial caseload. Follow up Requests for Information are being issued, and decisions are being made with a large number of refusals to date.</p> <p>'In country': Despite continuous business process improvements and increased resources, this remains an area of pressure with 35% of the overall caseload outside the 6 month target timeframe for decision. The nature of the caseload is complex with high levels of suspected abuse of the Regulations. INIS continues to work with the Garda National Immigration Bureau (GNIB) as part of 'Operation Vantage'. Approximately 550 cases have been identified for consideration of revocation/refusal of permission through investigations by INIS, including information and intelligence gathered from information submitted by GNIB. To date, approximately 94% of the cases referred by GNIB have resulted in refusal.</p>
3.4.5.2	We will implement the new enforcement and deportation provisions in the recently enacted International Protection Act 2015 to get tougher on abuses of our migration system.	Director General, INIS	On Track	Multi-Year	Implementation of the Act is ongoing with the new provisions being used as cases progress through the system.

3.5 LEADERSHIP IN AND OVERSIGHT OF JUSTICE AND EQUALITY POLICY AND DELIVERY



Project ID	Project	Senior Responsible Owner	Project Status	Planned End Date	Progress
3.5.1.1	Progress joint strategic planning and collaborations with all Justice and Equality Bodies and other Departments	Assistant Secretary, Corporate Affairs	On Track	Q4	The Department's Strategy Statement 2016-19, developed in consultation with staff, agencies and stakeholders was laid before the Oireachtas in February 2017.
3.5.1.2	We will coordinate and report to the Management Board on delivery of the Department's Strategy and reform programmes as part of the One Plan.	Assistant Secretary, Corporate Affairs	On Track	Q4	A new facility has been implemented to enable Project Co-ordinators to issue a request to the Senior Responsible Owner (SRO) to approve the report generated in respect of an Action. A new one page guide for SROs and Co-ordinators has been created alongside a more detailed guide for SROs. These have been uploaded to the Management Reports section in the OnePlan system.
3.5.1.4	We will continue to work to integrate our Values Charter into how we work as a Department.	Assistant Secretary, Corporate Affairs	On Track	Q4	In order for the Change Team to more effectively support the change initiatives in their area, the Team participated in training which it is hoped will equip the entire group to embed the Change efforts.
3.5.1.5	Principal Officer led cross-grade Horizon groups to consider selected issues taking a longer term view.	Chair of the Principal Officer Forum	On Track	Q3	Work is continuing in the two existing horizon groups: Benchmarking and Ireland 2030. The PO Forum Committee has identified two new subjects for horizon group (Human Resource development and capacity, and legislative capacity development respectively).
3.5.2.1	We will establish the Legal Services Regulatory Authority – Implementation of the Legal Services Regulation Act 2015.	Assistant Secretary, Civil Law Reform/Courts Policy	Minor Delivery Issue	Q2	On foot of recent correspondence received, Minister Flanagan is scheduled to meet the Chair of the Legal Services Regulatory Authority (LSRA) at Leinster House on 13th July. Recruitment of a full-time Chief Executive has been completed with the candidate expected to be in place in September 2017. Submissions received on Multi-disciplinary Practices under Section 119 of the 2015 Act are currently under consideration. The same applies to submissions received under Section 120 on issues relating to barristers. The Authority is scheduled to meet with the Bar Council about the Roll of Practising Barristers and the raising of the annual levy. The Authority met on 15th June and will meet again on 11th July. Separately, a draft pre-action protocol has been finalised for circulation by the end of June to stakeholders for public consultation under Part 15 of the 2015 Act.
3.5.2.2	Follow up to enactment of Children and Family Relationships Act, 2015 – commencement of various provisions and Regulations for experts to ascertain the views of the child.	Assistant Secretary, Civil Law Reform/Courts Policy	On Track	Q4	Drafting of regulations is almost complete, subject to Minister's approval and consultation with the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs. Consultation with the Courts Service and the Legal Aid Board has concluded. A "Close to final" draft was received from the Office of Parliamentary Counsel (OPC) on 22nd June. A submission has been made regarding Ministerial consultation with the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs and approval is awaited.
3.5.2.3	Follow up to Assisted Decision-making (Capacity) Act, 2015 - to ensure structures in place to enable Act to be commenced.	Assistant Secretary, Civil Law Reform/Courts Policy	On Track	Q4	Steering Group meeting was held in June 2017. An estimate for 2018 costs of Decision Support Service (DSS) has been received from the Mental Health Commission. The Secretary General has written to the Department of Public Expenditure and Reform and the Department of Health to request a trilateral meeting at Assistant Secretary level regarding 2018 Estimates for DSS.
3.5.2.4	The Valuation Office will continue to implement the Valuation Act [SRO John O'Sullivan, Commissioner of Valuation].	Assistant Secretary, Corporate Affairs	On Track	Q4	The current phase of the national revaluation programme, REVAL 2017, covers revaluation of counties Longford, Leitrim, Roscommon, Westmeath, Offaly, Kildare, Sligo, Carlow and Kilkenny, along with the second revaluation of South Dublin County. Revaluation in these counties will be completed in September 2017 and will become effective for rating purposes from 2018 onwards.
3.5.2.5	We will implement Family Mediation [Legal Aid Board].	Assistant Secretary, Corporate Affairs	On Track	Q3	The centres in Kilkenny and Dundalk are completed. Letterkenny is expected to be operational in Q3 2017. The revised date for Tallaght is Q4 2017, subject to the review of tender fit out costs. Due to the high fit out costs for Finglas, negotiations are still ongoing. The premises identified for Portlaoise have been deemed unsuitable and a new proposal will be developed, extending the likely delivery date into 2018.
3.5.3.1	We will develop an approach to minimise the impact of Brexit in the areas under the Department's remit, support negotiations as required, and prepare a sector approach to address legislative/operational issues arising therefrom.	Assistant Secretary, Prisons, Probation & International Policy	On Track	Q4	Formal Brexit negotiations between the EU and the UK were opened on 19th June. Agreement was reached on the timetable and overall structure to the talks. There will be four more rounds of talks between the Commission Task Force and the UK taking place before the October European Council with an option to increase the frequency, if needed. Negotiating Groups, made up of the negotiating teams, have been set up to tackle the issues of Citizens' Rights; the Financial Settlement; and Other Separation Issues. Alongside the Working Groups, a separate 'Dialogue on Ireland/Northern Ireland' has been launched under the authority of the Negotiation Co-ordinators. A meeting of the Common Travel Area Forum (CTAF) took place on 28th June 2017.
3.5.3.2	Represent Ireland's interests internationally by fully participating in all relevant EU discussions including criminal, judicial and civil law co-operation, police co-operation and immigration/asylum matters, and by supporting the Tánaiste at Ministerial Councils.	Assistant Secretary, Prisons, Probation & International Policy	On Track	Q1 – Q4	Ireland's interests continue to be effectively represented in the field of EU Justice and Home Affairs activity.
3.5.4.1	We will manage Ireland's examinations under relevant UN and Council of Europe Conventions.	Assistant Secretary, Asylum Services, Integration & Equality	On Track	Q1 – Q4	A draft report of the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination (CERD) has been prepared. Further work on report pending assignment of AP to unit.
3.5.5.1	Budgetary control and Financial Management of Justice and Equality Vote.	Assistant Secretary, Corporate Affairs	On Track	Q1-Q4	Whilst it is too early in the year to identify any discernible trends, there was an underspend of €5.3m on the Justice Vote (as of the end of May 2017). The underspend is spread across a range of subheads and may increase as the year progresses.
3.5.5.2	We will operate estimates and budgetary control for the Justice Vote Group.	Assistant Secretary, Corporate Affairs	On Track	Q4	The Tánaiste has made a submission to the Department of Public Expenditure and Reform (DPER) in relation to priority areas requiring additional funding in 2018 (and beyond). These submissions (current and capital) will form the basis for estimate discussions in coming months both directly with DPER and relevant Dáil Committees. Expenditure across the vote group continues to be monitored closely in the context of the existing and new expenditure pressures emerging.

3.5.5.3	We will oversee and monitor expenditure on Justice & Equality Sector Capital Projects. We will ensure that the key prioritised Justice & Equality Sector capital projects are appropriately reflected in the Justice & Equality submission re the Capital Review.	Assistant Secretary, Corporate Affairs	On Track	Q1-Q4	Preliminary works have commenced on the new Forensic Science Ireland (FSI) Laboratory in Backweston. Initial invoices have been received from the Office of Public Works (OPW) in respect of early enabling works.
3.5.5.4	We will work with Agencies to put in place Oversight Agreements and regular monitoring in accordance with the requirements of the Department's Corporate Governance Framework and the Code of Practice for the Governance of State Bodies (2016).	Assistant Secretary, Corporate Affairs	Minor Delivery Issue	Q2	2017 Oversight Agreements (or Corporate Governance Assurance Agreements in cases of more independent bodies) have been completed in respect of Charities Regulatory Authority, Criminal Assets Bureau, Criminal Injuries Compensation Tribunal, Irish Film Classification Office, Insolvency Service of Ireland, National Disability Authority, Office of the Data Protection Commissioner, Ordnance Survey Ireland, Private Security Authority, Property Registration Authority, Property Services Regulatory Authority and the Valuation Office. There is ongoing liaison between the Civil Governance Unit and other Divisions regarding completion of other outstanding Agreements.
3.5.5.5	Enhance Irish Prison Service (IPS) organisational capacity to ensure safe and secure custody, dignity and care and rehabilitation of prisoners for safer communities.	Assistant Secretary, Prisons, Probation & International Policy	On Track	Q4	On the 7th April 2017 the Tánaiste signed three legal instruments under the Prisons Act 2015 resulting in the closure of St. Patrick's Institution.
3.5.5.6	We will support transition of the Department's Financial Shared Services to the Civil Service Financial Shared Service.	Assistant Secretary, Corporate Affairs	On Track	Q4 +	The date for the transition of the Department of Justice and Equality Vote to the new Financial Management Shared Services Centre (FMSSC) is January 2019. Currently, the design for the new financial management system is being finalised with the first of the 48 Departments and Offices due to move to the new system in mid 2018. The Financial Shared Services (FSS) have already appointed a project manager for the transition project, given the support required for its existing client base in relation to the changeover. In addition, some FSS representatives are currently very involved in a number of the project design working groups. A project manager, who will be attached to the Financial Management Unit (FMU) and will work directly with offices and agencies of the Department (attached to Vote 24), will be appointed by the end of Quarter 3 to prepare for the transition to the new financial management system and shared services centre.
3.5.5.7	We will accelerate construction of the new Forensic Science Laboratory (Phase 1) and develop a plan for the merger of the Garda Technical Bureau and FSI.	Assistant Secretary, Policing Division	On Track	Q4	Enabling site works are continuing. The start of foundation works is scheduled for August.
3.5.6.1	Support the development of the new Public Service Reform Plan and lead it in our sector, developing appropriate Delivery Plans.	Assistant Secretary, Corporate Affairs	On Track	Q4	Representatives from the Justice and Equality sector participated in the various workshops on the development of the new Framework for 2017-2020 and also met with the OECD in March to feed into their assessment of the 2014-2016 Plan. The 2016 Integrated Reform and Delivery Plan continues to be reported on in 2017 until the new Framework is in place.
3.5.6.2	We will engage with OPW on implementation of the recommendations in the Property Asset Management Delivery Plan.	Assistant Secretary, Corporate Affairs	On Track	Q4	There is ongoing engagement with the Department and the Office of Public Works (OPW) as accommodation service provider. There has been no formal meeting of the Property Asset Management Delivery Plan (PAMDP) Steering Group to date in 2017.



3.6 DEVELOP OUR PEOPLE, CULTURE, SYSTEMS AND PROCESSES



Project ID	Project	Senior Responsible Owner	Project Status	Planned End Date	Progress
3.6.1.1	Implement programme to embed our values and ensure they are lived in all aspects of our work. Support with implementation of commitments in the Human Resources Strategy.	Assistant Secretary, Corporate Affairs	On Track	Q1 – Q4	The values continue to be embedded in training and staff initiatives. Most recently, the values have been embedded into the risk management training and underperformance/disciplinary training.
3.6.1.2	Deliver sustained organisational change aligned with the Civil Service Renewal Plan.	Assistant Secretary, Corporate Affairs	On Track	Q1 – Q4	The Department's change programme continues to be implemented under Programme 3.6 Develop our People, Culture, Systems and Processes. After almost three years of implementation, the Management Board has decided to take stock of progress to date and identify new priorities for a further phase of organisation improvement. External expertise was engaged following a procurement exercise under the relevant all of Government framework. The project is expected to be completed in early October. The Organisation Structure Report is expected to be finalised shortly. It will inform changes to the structure of the Department so that it is more effectively organised to deliver on its strategic and business objectives Information has been posted with regard to the 2017 Civil Service Excellence and Innovation Awards.
3.6.1.3	Implement the Human Resources Strategy and Workforce Plan to align structures and staff with the Statement of Strategy 2016-2019 and resource the Department effectively. Provide learning and development opportunities tailored to the needs of the organisation.	Assistant Secretary, Corporate Affairs	On Track	Q1 – Q4	First draft of the Human Resources Strategy has been completed but work is continuing to align the Strategy with the Civil Service People Strategy and inclusion of Diversity commitments.
3.6.2.1	Implement the Communications Strategy – “Communicating Change”.	Assistant Secretary, Corporate Affairs	On Track	Q1 – Q4	Progress continues to be made on various Communications Strategy objectives.
3.6.3.1	We will enhance the quality of our engagement with our customers. In particular, the delivery of improvements in our correspondence response times and management systems.	Assistant Secretary, Corporate Affairs	On Track	Q4	A staff awareness campaign was completed in March, including contributions from staff members on key customer service examples. Work is ongoing (in conjunction with the Irish Government Economic Evaluation Service) in terms of developing a customer feedback mechanism - initially focussing on Citizenship customers. Approximately 300 pieces of correspondence have now been tracked on the new Lotus Notes based system. Amendments to the system are currently being implemented following feedback from Divisional users. These amendments are to be completed prior to full Departmental roll-out.
3.6.4.1	We will publish a Data Strategy.	Assistant Secretary, Corporate Affairs	Minor Delivery Issue	Q2	Redrafting of Strategy is being finalised in order to align the Data Strategy and ICT Strategy.
3.6.4.2	We will develop a Criminal Justice Operations Hub (Phase 1: design and commence build).	Assistant Secretary, Corporate Affairs	On Track	Q4	Work is ongoing. A sharing agreement has been developed with the Courts Service.
3.6.4.3	We will develop an Irish Government Economic Evaluation Service (IGEES) Research Programme.	Assistant Secretary, Corporate Affairs	On Track	Q4	A draft strategy has been reviewed in order to scope the potential for commissioning regular crime surveys. Work continues to implement the Irish Government Economic and Evaluation Service (IGEES) work programme, including a presentation at the annual IGEES conference.
3.6.4.4	We will implement in association with the OGCIO 'Build to Share Strategy' a range of applications to support administration.	Assistant Secretary, Corporate Affairs	On Track	Q1 2018	Training on e-PQ system will commence during July 2017.