

# An Garda Síochána.

Coimisinéir Cúnta,  
Póilíníú Bóithre agus Bainistiú  
Móirmeachtaí /Éigeandálachtaí  
Ceanncheathrú An Gharda Síochána,  
Páirc an Fhionnuisce,  
Baile Átha Cliath 8.

Tel/Teileafón: + 353 1 6661963.

Fax/Facs: + 353 1 6661958.

*Bí linn/Join us*



Assistant Commissioner,  
Roads Policing and Major Event /Emergency  
Management,  
Garda Headquarters,  
Phoenix Park,  
Dublin 8.

Láithreán Gréasáin/Web Site: [www.garda.ie](http://www.garda.ie)

Riomhphoist/E-mail:

[Commissioner\\_Roads\\_Policing@garda.ie](mailto:Commissioner_Roads_Policing@garda.ie)

*Luaigh an uimhir thagartha seo a leanas,  
le do thoil:  
Please quote the following  
Reference Number **TB137.194309/16***

**Secretary General  
Each Government Department.**

**Re: National “Slow Down” Day – 7.00 hrs Friday 21<sup>st</sup> October to 7.00 hrs Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> October 2016.**

An Garda Síochána will conduct a national speed enforcement operation “Slow Down”, supported by the Road Safety Authority and other stakeholders for a 24 hour period from 07.00 hrs on Friday 21<sup>st</sup> October to 07.00 hrs on Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> October 2016.

Although 2015 saw a very welcome reduction in road deaths, resulting in 162 road deaths, the joint lowest on record, there has been a marked increase in road deaths in 2016. Excessive and inappropriate speed is a major contributory factor in road traffic collisions, further confirmed by the recent RSA report on fatal collisions between 2008 and 2012 which found that excessive speed was a contributory factor in one third of all fatal collisions during that time. The higher the speed, the greater the likelihood is of a collision happening and the more severe the outcome of that collision. As a general rule a 1% reduction in average speed will bring about a 4% reduction in fatal collisions, and this is why reducing motorists’ speed is essential to improving road safety.

The objective is to reduce the number of speed related collisions, save lives and reduce injuries on our roads. The aim of “Slow Down” is to remind drivers of the dangers of

Ráiteas Misin / Mission Statement:

Ag obair le Pobail chun iad a chosaint agus chun freastal orthu / Working with Communities to Protect and Serve

speeding, increase compliance with speed limits and act as a deterrent to driving at excessive and inappropriate speed.

The operation will consist of high visibility speed enforcement activities as well as the delivery of a road safety message through the use of national and local media. In addition, Garda personnel will provide display stands in key venues to provide road safety advice and distribute road safety leaflets.

Furthermore, I ask that you take the opportunity to circulate the key message to “Slow Down” to all employees and contractors, through all communication mechanisms open to you, including internet, intra-net, and social media, and, whether driving for business or private purposes, to always drive within the speed limit and at a speed appropriate to the prevailing conditions.

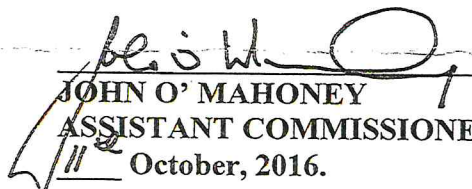
Drivers are also asked to turn dipped headlamps on to show support and increase their visibility.

---

An accompanying poster in both English and Irish will be available in due course on the Garda website and social media sites.

To acknowledge support of this operation please email [road\\_safety@garda.ie](mailto:road_safety@garda.ie).

Yours sincerely,



**JOHN O' MAHONEY**  
**ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER.**  
11 October, 2016.