



TISPOL Bulletin, 29 January 2013

Dear Colleague,

On Wednesday and Thursday last week, members of the TISPOL Executive Committee were in Dublin. Central to the visit was a meeting to discuss the issue of road safety and the transition to road policing, with Irish Garda Síochána (Police) Commissioner Martin Callinan, Transport Minister Leo Varadkar and Minister for Justice Alan Shatter. It was particularly pleasing to hear the words from Commissioner Callinan and both ministers, noting the success of Ireland's strategic move from 'traffic policing' to 'roads policing'.



TISPOL President Koen Ricour said that Ireland was recognised internationally as one of the good performers in the EU in road safety, and he praised the reduction in road deaths seen year on year since 2006. "We believe that much can be learnt by other European countries from the achievements in Ireland," he said, adding that TISPOL would work to identify specific Irish initiatives that could be replicated elsewhere.

Minister Shatter spoke about alcohol limits and said that no one in public life should encourage individuals over the legal limit to drive. Minister Varadkar said that EU Member States could "achieve so much more on road safety if they work together". He announced that he is to launch a new seven-year Road Safety Strategy in March of this year.

Garda Commissioner Callinan said that TISPOL had facilitated the easy crossing of borders and boundaries to "bring all EU Police forces together, with the vital goals of reducing fatal and serious injury collisions. At the same time police are intercepting and detecting criminals who use the roads." He added that criminals in Ireland travel by road to carry out their illegal activities, and that there had been many successes in targeting travelling criminals involved in burglaries and other serious criminal activity across Ireland.

Shortly afterwards, a press conference on the themes of road safety and road security took place. The event was well attended by various members of national media and television, and gave Koen Ricour, on behalf of TISPOL, the opportunity to praise Ireland for its recent road safety achievements and to consider how police can work with politicians and policy makers to ensure that road casualties continue to fall.

I believe this to have been a very worthwhile occasion, where TISPOL's profile and value has been noted at ministerial level. Finally, I should like to thank members of An Garda Síochána for making us so welcome and working hard to ensure the success and widespread impact of the event.

Ian Hamill, TISPOL General Secretary

Ireland's continued casualty reduction

Senior representatives of TISPOL, the European Traffic Police Network, have been Dublin to support the Irish



German action on speeding is working

Specific action against speeding drivers in the German federal state of North Rhine-Westphalia during



government and Garda in highlighting progress made in road casualty reduction.



2012 has brought a 32% reduction in road fatalities.



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Murder of Detective Garda Aidan Donohue

TISPOL wishes to extend its sympathy to the family of Aidan Donohue, a detective in Ireland's National Police Service, who was fatally injured following a shooting incident in Dundalk last Friday night.



Understanding the latest technology

TISPOL's Law Enforcement Technology Working Group is responsible for guiding future opportunities for the use of technology. We talk to the Group's Chairman, Peter van de Beek.



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Video feature: Finland winter driver training

A group of police officers and other emergency service training professionals are in Finland to take part in a winter driving course offered by Finland's National Traffic Police. You can view highlights of the first day [here](#).



Video interview: Henk Stipdonk of SWOV

Henk talks to us about his work leading SWOV's road safety assessment department, where he undertakes data analysis and prepares forecasts. In particular, he focuses on cycle safety issues.



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