

AGSI rejects Bord Snip Report

16/07/2009

Association of Garda Sergeants and Inspectors

Statement

No Embargo

16th July, 2009

Cuts pose serious threat to garda service to the public – AGSI

AGSI feels that the report of An Bord Snip Nua has singled out the pay and conditions of members unfairly.

The pay and conditions of Gardaí came about as a result of agreements properly negotiated within the controlled Garda Síochána industrial relations framework. Gardaí are paid according to their expertise and the type of work they must do. And in many cases, AGSI feels, it is inadequate for the work carried out.

The Association is also disappointed that the Bord did not take cognisance of the uniqueness of the role of the Garda Síochána as identified by the two independent commissions on pay and conditions – i.e. the Conroy and Ryan Commissions.

Gardaí have already had their salaries cut by 7.5% on top of the extra taxes and levies introduced in the last two budgets.

“Other recommendations will have serious implications for the provision of Garda service including the recommendation to consider closing garda stations. This will inevitably result in a considerably reduced garda service to the public,” said AGSI General Secretary Joe Dirwan.

Closing stations would result in further isolation of rural communities and would also deprive parts of our cities of a ‘walk-in’ service, he added. “Already we have seen a stripping out of gardaí from the rural areas to provide a service in the larger towns and cities. The closure of the stations is the final death-knell to policing in many areas of the country.”

ENDS

FURTHER INFORMATION FROM:

- 1. JOE DIRWAN** GENERAL SECRETARY, ASSOCIATION OF GARDA SERGEANTS AND INSPECTORS AT 086 85 54 613,
- 2. JOHN REDMOND** DEPUTY GENERAL SECRETARY AT 087 24 64 228,