

12/08/2009

Press Statement 7th December 2009

For immediate release

GARDA INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS IN CRISIS - AGSI

The industrial relations machinery of the gardaí is now in crisis, states the Association of Garda Sergeants and Inspectors.

“Last week AGSI was engaged in extremely tough and demanding talks on our sectoral agreement and we felt that a full agreement was possible,” said General Secretary Joe Dirwan, “however the Government has not been serious about the discussions and they just pulled the plug without letting them arrive at a conclusion.”

“We are now extremely fearful that unjust decisions will be made in the budget. They will be made without consent and they will be unfair.” The association has written recently to the Department of An Taoiseach protesting at their exclusion from the central pay talks. “It now appears that the Government will deal with public sector pay into the future by diktat – an intolerable situation.”

“The Government decision has effectively destroyed any negotiating rights which we had under social partnership on decisions which will affect the future pay and conditions of AGSI members,” continued Mr Dirwan.

“We completely understand the feelings within the GRA and we also share their anger and frustration at the Government’s decision to collapse the pay talks with the social partners,” said Mr Dirwan.

The serious situation will be reviewed at a meeting of the AGSI National Executive on Wednesday 9th December.

Ends

**For further information contact Joe Dirwan on 086 8554613, John Redmond on
087 2464228
or Austin Kenny on 087 2418155**