

Operation Open City commenced on Sunday 9th December 2012. The operation will terminate on Monday the 24th December 2012.

The aim of Operation Open City is:

“To facilitate the movement of Public Transport and minimise traffic disruption to the general public, through high visibility and enforcement activity”.

It is the culmination of consultation between An Garda Síochána and key stakeholders (the National Transport Authority, Local Authorities, Transport Providers and the Business Community). It is designed to play a key role in the effective management of traffic during the Christmas period.

All aspects of the Road Traffic Acts will be enforced with emphasis on speeding, impaired driving, use of mobile phones, seatbelts, bus lane infringements etc.

Operation Open City runs in tandem with the Christmas Enforcement Campaign with both operations focussing on reduction in road fatalities over this busy holiday season.

Open City is a high visibility enforcement operation with Gardaí patrolling all major arterial routes and link roads during core commuter hours. There will also be particular focus on traffic management issues around car parks and major shopping centres.

Chief Superintendent Aidan Reid said today: “Our aim over the Christmas and New Year period is two fold. During core commuter hours all available Garda members will focus on facilitating safe traffic movement through enforcement and ensuring members of the public can travel to the city as easily and safely as possible. Outside of those we will then concentrate our resources on our Christmas Enforcement Campaign, with the core aim of reducing fatalities and injuries on our roads. We want all members of the public to enjoy coming into the city and to feel safe whilst doing so”

Other areas for particular attention during this operation are:

Luas services at key conflict locations;

High Visibility enforcement on Bus Lanes and QBC's;

Garda presence at late night Luas and Nitelink services;

Enhanced communication between An Garda Síochána, relevant stakeholders and the public through the use of social media (@GardaTraffic) and websites and smart phone apps

(www.transportforireland.ie)