

RECOMMENDATIONS

EXPERIENCES OF POLICING AMONGST BRAZILIANS AND PEOPLE OF AFRICAN DESCENT IN IRELAND

TO GOVERNMENT, POLICING OVERSIGHT BODIES AND AN GARDA SIOCHANA

RACIAL PROFILING:

IDENTIFY AND ELIMINATE ANY POLICING PRACTICES THAT TARGET SPECIFIC GROUPS EXPERIENCING RACISM, INCLUDING THROUGH RACIAL OR ETHNIC PROFILING.

- ADOPT COMPREHENSIVE DEFINITION & GUIDANCE ON RACIAL PROFILING
- ADD PROHIBITION TO GARDA DECISION-MAKING MODEL
- REVIEW STOP-AND-SEARCH & OTHER OPERATIONS TO REDUCE BIAS
- CREATE RECORDING PROCESS
- PUBLISH COMPLAINT NUMBERS

CONDUCT & OVERSIGHT:

- REFERENCE RACIAL DISCRIMINATION IN CONDUCT REGULATIONS
- ESTABLISH ROBUST MECHANISMS ON RACIAL DISCRIMINATION IN FIOSRÚ AND PCSA
- FULLY IMPLEMENT CUSTODY PROTECTIONS FROM ARREST

REGULATION:

- PROHIBIT RACIAL PROFILING IN LAW
- LEGISLATE VEXATIOUS CHARGES
- SEPARATE IMMIGRATION ENFORCEMENT FROM SERVICES
- LEGISLATE FOR ETHNIC DATA COLLECTION & PUBLICATION

INTERCULTURAL PARTNERSHIP:

- STRUCTURES IN EACH DIVISION
- OUTREACH & TRUST BUILDING
- DIALOGUE
- REVIEW OF POLICY & PRACTICE
- PROMOTE RIGHTS AWARENESS
- ENCOURAGE REPORTING
- PROMOTE GOOD COMMUNITY RELATIONS

MONITOR IMPACT:

- CAPTURE DATA ON SATISFACTION OF MINORITY ETHNIC AND MIGRANT GROUPS
- ASSESS COMMUNITY IMPACT OF POLICING OPERATIONS

KEY FINDINGS

EXPERIENCES OF POLICING AMONGST BRAZILIANS AND PEOPLE OF AFRICAN DESCENT IN IRELAND

REPORTING CRIMES

- LOW LEVELS OF TRUST IN GARDA RESPONSES
- VICTIMS REPORT NOT BEING BELIEVED, NEGATIVE REPERCUSSIONS AND HOSTILE TREATMENT
- HATE CRIME RECORDING REMAINS INCONSISTENT
- COMMUNITY ADVOCATES FEEL LET DOWN

"THEY TREATED ME LIKE I WAS THE CRIMINAL. I CALLED FOR HELP AND ENDED UP TERRIFIED OF THEM."

GARDA CONDUCT AND FORCE

'THE POLICE START TO LOSE THEIR NERVE, AND THEY GET MORE AGGRESSIVE.'

- ESCALATIONS FROM MINOR INCIDENTS TO ARREST
- EXCESSIVE OR DISPROPORTIONATE USE OF FORCE.
- GARDA CONDUCT PERCEIVED AS LACKING TRANSPARENCY AND ACCOUNTABILITY

"I WAS SEARCHED SO MANY TIMES I STOPPED GOING OUT. I FELT LIKE A SUSPECT JUST FOR BEING ME."

STOPS

- POOR COMMUNICATION OF RIGHTS BY GARDAI
- AWARENESS OF STOP-AND-SEARCH RIGHTS VARIABLE
- MANY MISUNDERSTAND OR FEAR ASSERTING RIGHTS.

"THEY STOPPED ME IN FRONT OF MY KIDS, MADE ME FEEL LIKE NOTHING."

"WE'RE NOT SAFE WITH GARDAÍ, BUT WE'RE NOT SAFE WITHOUT THEM EITHER."

COMPLAINTS

- ONLY 1 IN 5 BELIEVE THEY WOULD BE TREATED FAIRLY IN COMPLAINT
- FEAR OF RETALIATION DETERS COMPLAINTS.

'THE PROCESS OF MAKING A COMPLAINT IS VERY COMPLICATED