



# fsi

forensic science ireland

**Tuarascáil  
Bhliantúil**

**2022**



# Clár

Réamhrá	02
Réamhrá	04
Na Daoine agus an Obair	05
Cásanna	08
Forbairt agus Forás na Seirbhíse	15
Cásanna	34
Eolaíocht, Teicneolaíocht agus Nuáil	39
An Comhar agus an Córas	45
Córais Cáilíochta	49
Timpeallacht Oiriúnach don Chuspóir	53
Sárfheabhas na nDaoine	59
Rialachas Corparáideach	62



# Réamhrá

## Is cúis áthais dom Tuarascáil Bhliantúil FSI do 2022 a fhógairt agus ionchur agus éachtaí FSI le bliain anuas a chur i láthair.

Ar an gcéad dul síos, gabhaim buíochas le foireann ar fad FSI as an méid a chuir siad leis an gcóras ceartais choiriúil le linn 2022. Chuir an fhoireann go mór le feabhsuithe ar leibhéal seirbhíse agus le dul chun cinn san eolaíocht fhóiréinseach agus tá tionchar dearfach acu ar an gcóras ceartais choiriúil. Is amhlaidh is suntasaí arís é sin agus muid ag smaoineamh ar chastacht agus ar nádúr athraitheach na timpeallachta oibre in 2022.

Tháinig athrú mór ar an gcineál cásoibre a rinne FSI le linn na bliana. Tagann méadú ar chastacht agus ar phráinn cásanna a chuirtear isteach agus a phróiseáiltear i gcónaí ar fud na seirbhísí go léir ach go háirithe in Anailís DNA agus Anailís Bhitheolaíoch. Thuairiscigh FSI ar 42 imscrúdú báis amhrasacha in 2022 – níos mó ná dhá oiread líon na mbásanna amhrasacha in 2021. Is minic a bhíonn na himscrúduithe seo casta agus éilitheach, agus go mbíonn go leor fiosrúchán, meastúchán, foilseán agus cineálacha imscrúdaithe bainteach leo. Thacaigh FSI freisin le 142 sainaitheantú coirp agus Aithint Duine ar Iarraidh in 2022, i gcomparáid le 102 le linn 2021. Tá méadú tagtha freisin ar líon na n-aighneachtaí a bhaineann le himscrúduithe ionsaithe gnéis, a raibh méadú 8% orthu in 2022.

Tá cúrsaí a bhaineann le haighneacht drugaí ag athrú fós, agus castacht ag méadú i gcineálacha cásanna agus éagsúlacht i gcur i láthair agus ceiltí a bhfuil FSI ag freagairt dóibh. Tháinig méadú 32% ar chásanna Alt 15A (a bhaineann le Díol nó Soláthar Drugaí faoin Acht um Mí-Úsáid Drugaí) in 2022; tar éis méadú 121% in 2021 i gcomparáid le 2020. D'aithin FSI roinnt cannaibionóidigh shintéiseacha nua le linn 2022 agus thuairiscigh siad iad sin do na líonraí réamhrabhaidh náisiúnta agus Eorpacha. Díróinn FSI air sin fós i bhfianaise an mhéadaithe ar a fhorleithne atá na substaintí seo in 'íteáin' tráchtála.

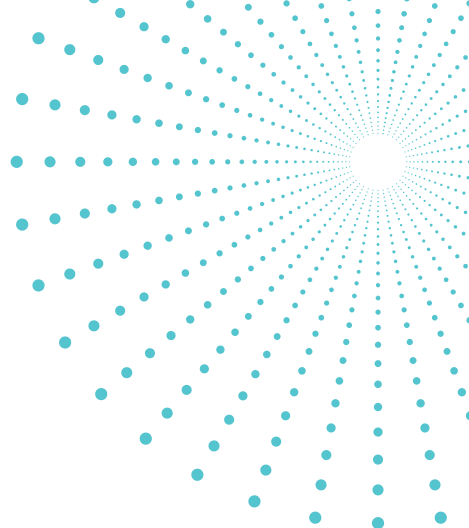
Tugann FSI tacaíocht do Chóras Faisnéise Schengen (SIS) le haghaidh slándála agus bainistiú teorainneacha san Eoraip. Phróiseáil FSI beagnach 15,000 idirbheart méarlorg SIS anuraidh - i bhfad níos mó ná an méid a rabhtas ag súil leis sular cuireadh i bhfeidhm é in 2021. Tá ár mBunachar Sonraí DNA Náisiúnta fós ina uirlis faisnéise luachmhar

le haghaidh imscrúduithe coiriúla náisiúnta agus Eorpacha araon. Tugadh faoi bheagnach 800 imscrúdú náisiúnta leis an mBunachar Sonraí DNA náisiúnta in 2022 amháin, agus tugadh faoi bhreis agus 6,000 imscrúdú ó cuireadh tús leis an mBunachar Sonraí DNA. Rinneadh os cionn 1200 meaitseáil trí mhalartuithe Prüm le 11 tír Eorpacha ó 2019.

Cé gur tháinig laghdú 9% ar líon na n-aighneachtaí in 2022 i gcomparáid leis an mbliain roimhe sin, tháinig méadú suntasach ar chineál, ar chastacht agus ar phráinn ár gcuid oibre le linn na bliana agus tá éileamh níos mó ná riamh ar ár seirbhísí. D'fhreagair an fhoireann de réir mar is gá do na hathruithe ar chineál éilimh seirbhíse. Beidh aird ar leith ar an bhfoireann a mhéadú ar fud na seirbhísí go léir ionas go mbeidh sí ag teacht le spriocleibhéal an phlean lucht oibre in 2023.

Tá ról gníomhach fós ag an bhfoireann i líonraí fóiréinseacha idirnáisiúnta agus i ngrúpaí oibre agus tá siad ag forbairt ábaltachtaí nua i rith an ama agus ag feabhsú seirbhísí fóiréinseacha. Tugadh faoi Seicheamhú DNA Miteacoindreach agus d'éirigh leis den chéad uair ar ionstraimíocht nua Seicheamhóir den Chéad Ghlúin Eile, le linn imscrúdú Duine ar Iarraidh. Beidh an cumas sin ina shócmhainn thábhachtach don chlár aitheantais atá le tosú i mbliana faoin reachtaíocht um Adhlacthaí Institiúideacha. D'fhorbair FSI seirbhís nua freisin, chun anailís a dhéanamh ar cheanastar Ocsaíd Nítriúil, in 2022. Rinne FSI ionadaíocht mhaith ag an Acadamh Eorpach um Eolaíocht Fhóiréinseach (EAFS) 2022 agus reáchtáladh roinnt ceardlanna, cur i láthair agus taispeánadh póstaer ag an gcomhdháil sin. Roghnaíodh FSI chun comhdháil EAFS 2025 a reáchtáil i mBaile Átha Cliath, a bheidh ar siúl ag an am céanna le comóradh 50 bliain FSI. Deis iontach a bheidh anseo an fhoireann chumasach agus an méid a chuireann muid leis an eolaíocht fhóiréinseach a chur os comhair an phobail ar an stáitse domhanda.

Agus muid ag breathnú chun tosaigh, bliain chinniúnach a bheidh in 2023 do FSI. Agus é seo á scríobh, táthar ag críochnú fhoirgneamh nua FSI ar Champas Saotharlainne Bhacastúin agus tá an



chéim choimisiúnaithe faoi lán seoil. Táthar ag súil go gcríochnófar an foirgneamh go hiomlán i Meitheamh 2023 agus táimid ag súil le tús a chur leis an bpróiseas aistrithe go luath ina dhiaidh sin. Aistreofar seirbhísí fóirínseacha go dtí an foirgneamh nua ar bhonn céimnithe, agus táthar ag súil le creidiúnú na gcéad seirbhísí i mbliana. Táimid ag súil go mór le bogadh go dtí an tsaoráid shaintógtha seo agus táimid an-sásta faoin iliomad bealaí a chuirtear ar fáil chun seirbhísí fóirínseacha a fhorbairt agus a leathnú don stát. Táimid buíoch as an infheistíocht chaipitil atá á déanamh sa tsaoráid seo, chomh maith leis an maoiniú aistrithe in 2023 le haghaidh costais uirlisí agus nuathionscanta.

Tá go leor ag FSI le bheith ag súil leis sna blianta amach romhainn. Táimid ag tnúth leis na tairbhí a fheiceáil a bhaineann le foirgneamh nua-aimseartha atá oiriúnach don fheidhm agus cur lenár n-ionchur agus ár dtionchar san earnáil ceartais choiriúil.

**Chris Enright**  
An tArd-Stiúrthóir FSI

## An Bhliain in Uimhreacha

**23,452**



Tuarascáil  
Fhóirínseacha

**11,963**



Cás Drugaí &  
Tocsaineolaíochta

**67,301**



Próifíl DNA ar  
an mBunachar  
Náisiúnta DNA

**796**



Cabhraíodh le  
meitseáil 796 cás  
ar an mBunachar  
Sonraí Náisiúnta DNA

**15,000**



Idirbheart Sirene le  
haghaidh Méarlorg

**119**



Finnéithe  
saineolacha sa chúirt  
119 uair

**22**



Rannpháirtithe in  
22 sainghrúpa oibre  
idirnáisiúnta

**4**



Fhoilseachán in  
irisí fóirínseacha  
idirnáisiúnta



# Réamhrá

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Is oifig ghaolmhar de chuid na Roinne Dlí agus Cirt í Eolaíocht Fhóirínseach Éireann. Oibrítear as lámha a chéile chun anailís chuimsitheach eolaíochta, tuairimíocht saineolais neamhspleách, comhairle agus oiliúint a chur ar fáil, ar na caighdeáin is fearr go hidirnáisiúnta, i ndáil leis an gcóras dlí coiriúil in Éirinn. Saotharlann Fóirínseolaíochta Éireann a tugadh uirthi ar dtús, agus bunaíodh SFI i 1975 chun seirbhís eolaíochta a sholáthar don Chóras Ceartais Choiriúil trí anailís a dhéanamh ar shamplaí arna gcur isteach ó láithreacha coireanna agus trí fhianaise shaineolach a sholáthar i dtrialacha coiriúla. I mí Meitheamh 2014, thug an tUachtarán Ó hUiginn fairsingiú ar scóip na saotharlainne i bhfeidhm nuair a shínigh sé an tAcht um Cheartas (Fianaise Dlí-Eolaíochta agus Córas Bunachair Sonraí DNA) 2014. Faoin Acht sin, ainmnítear FSI mar chumhdaitheoir ar an mbunachar sonraí sin agus athraíodh an t-ainm ón tSaotharlann Dlí-Eolaíochta go dtí Eolaíocht Fhóirínseach Éireann mar gheall ar an sainordú níos leithne.

I mí na Nollag 2019, aistríodh an cúram maidir le seirbhísí Méarloirg agus Cáipéisí & Lámhscríbhneoireachta ó Bhiúró Teicniúil Náisiúnta an Gharda go dtí Eolaíocht Fhóirínseach Éireann. Tugann sin mórchuid na hoibre fóirínsí a dhéantar sa tsaotharlann faoi scáth Eolaíocht Fhóirínseach Éireann. Tá 205 ball ar an bhfoireann ag FSI faoi láthair, daoine den Gharda ar iasacht ina measc chomh maith le lucht eolaíochta agus anailíse a bhfuil oiliúint orthu i dtástáil dlí-eolaíochta agus i modhanna tuairiscithe agus daoine gairmiúla eile i mbun cúrsaí riaracháin i leith na hoibre sin.

Tá FSI lonnaithe i gCeanncheathrú na nGardaí i bPáirc an Fhionnuisce faoi láthair ach tógadh foirgneamh nua oiriúnach don fheidhm ar champas eolaíochta Bhacastúin, Cill Droichid, agus tá coimisiúnú ar bun faoi láthair. Tá súil go dtabharfar an t-aistriú chuig an tsaoráid nua seo chun críche ar bhonn céimnithe a luaithe is féidir ina dhiaidh sin.

Is comhalta bunaidh Eolaíocht Fhóirínseach Éireann de Ghréasán Eorpach na nInstitiúidí Dlí-Eolaíochta (ENFSI), mar aon le Comhlachas na Soláthraithe Seirbhísí Dlí-Eolaíochta (AFSP) Tá na heagraíochtaí sin dírithe ar na gnáis oibre agus na modhanna taighde is fearr i gcúrsaí dlí-eolaíochta a thabhairt chun cinn agus a scaipeadh ar na comhaltaí go léir. Bíonn foireann FSI gníomhach ar na meithle oibre ar fad de chuid ENFSI agus AFSP a bhaineann le háireamh. Tá tábhacht leis an gcaidreamh idirnáisiúnta seo maidir lena chinntiú go mbíonn an fhianaise saineolais a chuirtear i láthair bunaithe ar an saothar taighde eolaíochta is deireanaí agus ar na gnáis oibre is fearr go hidirnáisiúnta.

Tá creidiúnú ag FSI i gcomhréir le caighdeán ISO17025 (2017) agus deimhniú ar leibhéal Órga maidir le Sárfheabhas na nDaoine.

# Na Daoine agus an Obair

## An Fhoireann Bainistíochta



**An tArd-Stiúrthóir**  
**Chris Enright**



**An Stiúrthóir**  
**Anailíse Fisicí**  
**An Dr Dyan Daly**



**An Stiúrthóir DNA &**  
**Anailíse Bitheolaíochta**  
**An Dr Geraldine**  
**O'Donnell**



**An Stiúrthóir**  
**Eolaíochta agus**  
**Forbartha**  
**An Dr Martina McBride**



**An Stiúrthóir Seirbhísí**  
**Corparáide**  
**An Dr Dorothy**  
**Ramsbottom**



**An Stiúrthóir**  
**Anailíse Ceimice**  
**An Dr Yvonne**  
**Kavanagh**

## An Fhoireann

Eagraíocht atá bunaithe ar eolas atá in Eolaíocht Fhóirínseach Éireann agus is é saineolas na foirne an tsócmaínn is luachmhaire atá aici. I mí na Nollag 2019, tá 25 comhalta den Gharda Síochána chomh maith le baill foirne eile de chuid an Gharda Síochána ar iasacht ag FSI i ndáil le seirbhísí Méarloirg agus Cáipéisí & Lámhscríbhneoireachta. Tá taithí agus eolas sainiúil ar na réimsí sin acusan agus is mór le FSI sin. Tá meascán idir saineolaithe an Gharda agus baill foirne eolaíochta arna n-earcú ag FSI ar na meithle sin anois. Tá 205 ball foirne ag FSI faoi láthair, lena n-áirítear comhaltaí agus foireann ar iasacht de chuid

an Gharda Síochána. Earcaíodh líon daoine nua ar na foirne eolaíochta, anailíse, TEC agus riaracháin le bliain anuas chun freastal don éileamh ar na seirbhísí reatha agus ar sheirbhísí nua maidir le hAnailís Ceimice, Anailís DNA & Bhitheolaíoch agus Fisice. Bíonn athrú seasta faoin anailís agus faoin léirmhíniú a bhaineann le heolaíocht fhóirínseach agus bíonn béim mhór dá réir sin ag FSI ar oideachas agus ar fhorbairt leanúnach. Tá buntábhacht leis sin maidir lena chinntiú go bíonn leas ag an gCóras Ceartais as an sárchleachtas idirnáisiúnta.

## Na Seirbhísí

Déanann FSI tairbhe maidir le himscrúdú ar chásanna coireachta agus leis an bpróiseas breithiúnais faoi Chóras Ceartais na hÉireann. Go ginearálta, is é a bhíonn i gceist le himscrúdú fóiréinsice scrúdú ar nithe a dtagtar orthu ar láthair coire agus modhanna oibre éagsúla a úsáid chun imscrúdú a dhéanamh ar nithe a cheanglaíonn amhrastach le híospartach agus amhrastach le láthair coire. Cuirtear bonn daingean faoi sin le meastóireacht oibiachtúil ar an gcomhthéacs agus ar fhíríic eolaíochta, beartaíocht ar minic gurb é an toradh a bhíonn uirthi amhrastaigh a chur as an áireamh maidir le gníomhartha imscrúdúcháin ina dhiaidh sin. Is beag triail shuntasach faoi chásanna coiriúlachta nach mbaineann gné éigin de shaothar FSI léi.

Réimse an DNA an réimse is seasta a bhfuil forás ar an obair ina leith, an réimse chomh maith is mó a bhfuil cora nua eolaíochta ina leith. Maidir leis an réimse DNA & Anailís Bhitheolaíoch, déantar próifíl DNA a chruthú ó nithe a chuirtear faoi bhráid agus comparáid idir iad sin agus próifíl DNA a fhaightear ó amhrastaigh ar mhaithe le cuidiú leis an imscrúdú maidir le coireanna éagsúla, buirgléireacht nó ionsaí gnéis agus dúnmharú mar shampla. Déantar Anailís ar Phatrún Fola (BPA) agus scrúdú ar dhamáiste do bhaill éadaigh chomh maith. Ó cuireadh an Bunachar Sonraí Náisiúnta DNA ar bun, tá ról tábhachtach ag an rannóg DNA & Anailís Bhitheolaíoch maidir le bainistiú a dhéanamh ar an mBunachar Sonraí i gcomhréir lena leagtar amach sa reachtaíocht chomh maith leis na bearta sárchleachtais ó thaobh cúrsaí cáilíochta agus slándála. Eisíonn an roinn tuairiscí faoi chásanna meaitseála idir lorg coire faoi leith agus amhrastach chomh maith le cásanna cnuasmheaitseála. Bíonn faisnéis á cur ar fáil go leanúnach ar an gcaoi sin don Gharda Síochána agus imscrúdú á dhéanamh maidir le coir. I gcomhréir leis an acht maidir le Fianaise Díl-Eolaíochta agus an Bunachar Sonraí DNA, déanann Coiste Maoirseachta neamhspleách i ndáil leis an mBunachar Sonraí DNA maoirseacht ar pholasaithe agus ar ghnáis oibre FSI maidir leis an mBunachar Sonraí DNA. Ón mbliain 2019 i leith, tá próifíl DNA á malartú ag FSI le tíortha eile san Eoraip faoi Chonradh Prüm. Faoi gconradh sin, tarlaíonn comparáid, go huathoibríoch agus gan ainmneacha á lua, idir próifíil sna tíortha atá ceangailte faoi gconradh agus is féidir eolas a mhalartú gan mhoill ar mhaithe le cúrsaí faisnéise.

Anailís ar ábhar a mheastar a bheith in aghaidh na nAchtanna um Mí-Úsáid Drugaí an sciar is mó den obair ar ábhar a chuirtear faoi bhráid FSI agus Anailís Ceimice an roinn a dhéanann an obair sin. Bíonn éagsúlacht mhór i gceist le cineál na gcásanna a chuirtear faoi bhráid, ó thaobh toirt an ábhair, an meascán drugaí agus castacht na gceisteanna. D'fhéadfadh substaintí sícighníomhacha nua a bheith i gceist leis na cásanna sin chomh maith le cur i láthair nua (amhail glóthacha) a bhfuil dúshláin anailíseacha ar leith ag baint leo. D'imir an mheitheal drugaí tionchar ar an reachtaíocht trí dhruaí atá ar an margadh a thabhairt chun suntais agus a dtréithe a mhíniú. Déanann an mheitheal seo freisin leibhéil íonachta na ndruaí ar an margadh a ríomh agus cuirtear eolas faoi phatrúin atá ar bun ar fáil do gheallsealbhóirí sa Gharda Síochána agus sa

Roinn Sláinte. Chomh maith le hábhar drugaí, déantar anailís agus meastóireacht freisin ar shamplaí tocsaineolaíochta a bhaineann le hionsaí gnéis

Anailís Fisice an réimse is deireanaí ar cuireadh roinn ar bun lena aghaidh in FSI. Cuireadh an roinn sin ar bun d'fhonn tairbhe a bhaint as forsholáthar réimsí oibre ar réimsí áirithe a aistriú ó Bhiúró Náisiúnta Teicniúil an Gharda Síochána agus a dtabhairt in éineacht le réimsí a ndeineadh soláthar dóibh faoi scáth FSI roimhe seo. Sa roinn seo a dhéantar an obair maidir le Méarloing agus Cáipéisí & Lámhscríbhneoireacht a ndearnadh dlúthchuid d'obair FSI di i rith na bliana 2019. Tagann san áireamh freisin raon leathan de bhearta scrúdúcháin lena ndéantar rianfhianaise a bhailítear ar láthair coire nó ó amhrastach (e.g. gloine, péint, snáithíní, iarmhairt arm thine) a chur i gcomparáid le samplaí tagartha. Déantar tacagraif fhisiciúla nó dhigiteacha a scrúdú freisin chomh maith le lorg, e.g. lorg bróige nó lorg boinn, a d'fhágfadh duine nó feithicil ag láthair coire nó ar mharcanna déantúsóra ar mhálaí plaisteacha. Déantar anailís ar shamplaí ó chásanna dóiteáin amhrasacha maidir le hábhar brostúcháin (e.g. peitreal), déantar spraeanna ionsaitheacha (mar shampla sprae piobair) a mheas agus sa roinn seo freisin a dhéantar ábhar a mbeadh amhras mar gheall air a chur faoi anailís i ndáil le hábhar pléascaigh.

An Garda Síochána a chuireann an chuid is mó den ábhar faoi bhráid le hanailís a dhéanamh air ach tagann cásanna freisin ó Choimisiún Ombudsman an Gharda Síochána, ón tseirbhís Custam & Máil agus ó Phóilíní an Airm. Cinntíonn an fhoireann fáiltithe/iontógtha cásanna go ndéantar nithe a stóráil go slán sábháilte nó a thabhairt go díreach do dhuine den lucht eolaíochta ag brath ar chúinsí an cháis. I gceachtar den dá chás, coinnítear tuairisc chruinn chúramach ar an slabhra cúraim.

Chomh maith le samplaí a chur faoi anailís sa tsaotharlann, cuireann baill foirne de chuid FSI comhairle agus oiliúint ghairmiúil ar fáil maidir leis na samplaí cuí le bailiú ar láthair coire agus ó dhaoine agus, i gcásanna áirithe, déantar freastal ar láthair coire. Cuirtear seirbhís taobh amuigh de na gnáthuaireanta oibre ar fáil freisin i gcásanna ina mbeadh gá ag Gardaí le hanailís go luath-thráthúil nó inar gá dul chuig láthair coire nó chuig láthair ina meastar saotharlann drugaí mhídhleathach a bheith ar bun.

Bíonn caidreamh díreach againn leis na Gardaí maidir le bearta imscrúdúcháin ina dtugtar chun cruinnis an ann d'fhianaise lena bhfuil fiúntas cruthúnais seachas torthaí eolaíochta nach gcuideodh leis an obair imscrúdúcháin a thabhairt chun cinn.

Cuireann baill den fhoireann fianaise saeolais i gcásanna coiriúla os comhair na cúirte. Bíonn i ndán go dtarlódh sin maidir le gach aon chás ach is mó an seans go dtiocfadh cás cúirte de thoradh na hoibre i réimsí áirithe den obair ná i réimsí eile. D'fhéadfadh cosaint dhian ar thorthaí eolaíochta agus/nó cuntas ar phróisis na ngnás oibre, leanúnachas na hoibre nó gnáis saotharlainne a bheith ag baint le fianaise os comhair cúirte.

# COLÚIN STRAITÉISE

Leagtar an tuarascáil bhliantúil amach faoi shé cinn de phríomhcheannteidil, ag teacht leis na téamaí straitéise a luaitear i bplean straitéise FSI 2019 – 2022.

1

## Forbairt agus Forás na Seirbhíse

Dírítear sa chaibidil seo ar an bhfeabhas atá á chur ar an acmhainn feidhme maidir leis na seirbhísí reatha agus ar an leathnú atá á thabhairt ar réimse na seirbhísí i dtaca leis an gcóras ceartais in Éirinn. Sa chaibidil seo freisin atá an tuairisc ar an mBunachar Sonraí DNA agus ar mhalartú DNA faoi Chonradh Prüm.

2

## Eolaíocht, Teicneolaíocht agus Nuáil

Leagtar amach an dul chun cinn atá ar bun ag an eagraíocht maidir le gnéithe den eolaíocht agus den teicneolaíocht a chur i bhfeidhm agus nuáil a dhéanamh ionas go mbíonn an toradh is fiúntaí is féidir ar an obair fhóiréinseach agus go leantar den chion tairbhe do lucht na dlí-eolaíochta go hidirnáisiúnta.

3

## An Comhar agus an Córas

Dírítear sa chaibidil seo ar an dóigh a bhfuiltear ag treisiú leis an gcaidreamh taobh istigh den chóras ceartais choiriúil agus i gcóras níos forleithne ná sin, ionas go ndéanann FSI an cion tairbhe is fiúntaí is féidir do mhuintir na hÉireann.

4

## Córais Cháilíochta

Leagtar amach an dóigh ina gcoinnítear seirbhís dlí-eolaíochta ar bun atá dírithe go docht ar an ardchaighdeán agus a oibríonn de réir ghnáis cháilíochta de scoth an domhain.

5

## Timpeallacht Oiriúnach don Chuspóir

Leagtar amach an dul chun cinn maidir le haistriú go dtí áras atá oiriúnach don chuspóir ar champas eolaíochta Bhacastúin agus na bearta bainistíochta i ndáil le réimsí baoil idir an dá linn.

6

## Sárfheabhas na nDaoine

Leagtar amach an chaoi a gcruthaítear foireann shlánchuimsitheach in FSI a oibríonn i gcomhar chun an misean a chur i gcrích.



Samplaí de phacáistiú ó mhilseáin ghlóthaí a cuireadh faoi bhráid an FSI in 2022.

# Cás-Staidéar 1

## Glóthaigh & Iteáin - nach bhfuil chomh blasta gan urchóid sin

In 2019, tháinig an FSI ar an gcéad eiseamláir de mhilseáin ghlóthaí i saicíní plaisteacha, a bhfuarthas amach, ar anailís a dhéanamh orthu, go raibh drugaí rialaithe iontu. Ag an am ní thiocfadh linn a mheas a thábhachtaí a bheadh na málaí milseán seo a raibh cuma neamhurchóideach orthu. Níl ann ach trí bliana ón am sin agus tá an tóir a bhí ar na milseáin seo tar éis fás chomh tapa sin gur leasaíodh cleachtais oibre agus nósanna imeachta seanbhunaithe i rannóg na ndrugaí in 2022 chun gur fearr an freastal a dhéanfar ar an réimse cásoibre seo atá ag dul i méid.

Ní feinioméan nua iad táirgí inite ar insileadh cannabais iontu -tá an chuid is mó de na daoine eolach ar ‘donnóga raithe’ nó ‘brioscaí cannabais’. Ach cé go mbíonn blas ‘déanta sa bhaile’ ar na cineálacha initeáin thraidisiúnta sin, tá cuma níos gairmiúla agus cuma na tráchtála i ndiaidh a theacht ar na milseáin ghlóthaí seo, rud a léiríonn straitéis dáileacháin níos leithne. Déantar iad a phacáistiú i saicíní plaisteacha atá tarraingteach, cuidsúlach agus ‘brandáilte’. In 2022, tháinig FSI ar shaicíní i gcásobair ar a raibh lipéid ar nós Jolly Ranchers, Nerds, Starburst, Skittles agus Wowheads gan ach cúpla ceann a lua.

Is minic a luaitear ar lipéid na bpacáistí seo go bhfuil ‘insileadh cannabais’ iontu nó go bhfaightear THC (teitrihidreacannaibionól) iontu, arb é an phríomh-chomhpháirt shícighníomhach i gcannabais é. Mar sin féin ar anailís a dhéanamh ar na milseáin ghlóthaí seo orthu faightear amach nach bhfuil aon THC le fáil in go leor díobh. Fuair FSI amach nach raibh THC i níos mó ná 50% de na glóthóga a tástáladh in 2022 ach ina ionad sin bhí cineál difriúil ceimiceach ann ar a dtugtar cannaibionóideach sintéiseach. Is aicme ceimiceán de dhéantús an duine iad cannaibionóidigh shintéiseacha a tháirgtear chun aithris a dhéanamh ar éifeachtaí THC sa chorp. Is beag atá ar eolas faoi éifeachtaí fiseolaíocha na gcomhdhúl seo de dhéantús an duine agus mar sin tá riosca níos mó fós ag baint leo do thomhaltóirí táirgí ná mar a thuigtear.

Gné mhaíliseach amháin de chuid na dtáirgí seo go ndéantar iad a phacáistiú ar bhealach atá chomh mealltach sin do leanaí, ach is ábhar imní chomh mór céanna é go mb’fhéidir nach bhfuil an druga atá sonraithe ar an bpacáistíocht le fáil iontu agus is é sin a fhágann gur baol chomh mór sin don tsochaí iad na milseáin seo. Rinne muid tuairisc cheana féin ar chás, a taifeadh sna meáin in 2021, áit a raibh beirt leanaí réamhscoile san ospidéal tar éis dóibh glóthóga ‘Fáinní péitseoirge Chuckles’ a aimsiú agus a ithe, inar insileadh THC. I mí na Nollag 2022, bhí imní mhór eile ann nuair a cuireadh milseáin ghlóthaí faoi bhráid an FSI ar bhain frithghníomhartha díobhálacha leo agus cuireadh triúr déagóirí san ospidéal i ndiaidh dóibh iad a ithe. Is é a bhí i gceist sa chás seo gur luadh ar lipéid glóthóga ‘Jolly Rancher’ go raibh THC iontu, agus nuair a tástáladh iad fuarthas amach go raibh an cannaibionóideach sintéiseach ADB-PINACA iontu.

Do FSI tá an réimse cásoibre seo tar éis teacht chun cinn go tapa agus is cinnte gur braitheadh in 2022 go raibh buaicphointe bainte amach aige. Ar an drochuair gach seans nach amhlaidh atá, toisc go bhfuil comharthaí ann cheana féin go bhféadfadh an raon táirgí a bheith ag leathnú ó léiriú stíl na glóthóige go liosta níos éagsúla táirgí inite. In 2022, chonaic FSI táirgí a cuireadh isteach le haghaidh tástála ar nós leathán seacláide ‘Nutella’, barraí seacláide ‘Wonka’, criospaí ‘Doritos’ agus deoch bhog ‘Fanta’, a bhfuarthas THC i ngach ceann acu. Tá sé fíordheacair treochtaí i margadh na ndrugaí a thuar ach d’fhéadfadh an meascán athraitheach sin de léirithe nua le hais an liosta de channaibionóidigh shintéiseacha nua a bhíonn ag síordhul i méid a bheith ina gcomhartha cinnte go mbeidh dúshláin shuntasacha i ndáil le tástáil drugaí agus sláinte phoiblí amach romhainn.

# Cás-Staidéar 2

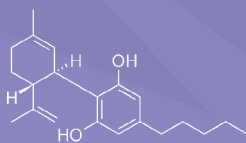
## Rúiléad Rúiseach an Phúdair Bháin

Is spás casta, neamhrialaithe agus mealltach é margadh na ndrugaí, atá ag athrú go tapa. Déanann FSI anailís ar na mílte sampla de phúdar bán gach bliain agus aimsítear sraith de chomhdhúile ceimiceacha éagsúla sna púdair seo.

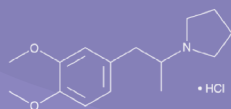
I gcás amháin chuir an Garda Síochána seacht bpaicéad de phúdar bán isteach ón amhrasán amháin. Bhí gach ceann de na paicéid agus na púdair bhána féin an-chosúil lena chéile. Ar anailís a dhéanamh orthu fuarthas amach go raibh cannaibidé-ól (CBD) sa phúdar ó cheann de na pacáistí. Fuarthas amach go raibh N-piorólaidinil-DMA sa phúdar ó phacáiste eile. Fuarthas amach go raibh ADB-Fubiata sa phúdar ó dhá cheann de na pacáistí agus fuarthas amach go raibh ADB-D-5Br-Inaca sa phúdar ó na trí phacáiste eile. Is cannabionóideach é cannaibidé-ól atá le fáil i bplandaí cannabais. Is cannabionóidigh shintéiseacha iad ADB-D-5Br-Inaca agus ADB-Fubiata nach mbaineann le cannaibionóidigh ó thaobh struchtúir de ach a cheanglaíonn leis na gabhdóirí céanna in inchinn an duine agus a dhéanann THC agus bíonn freagairt shícioghníomhach den chineál céanna mar thoradh orthu. Déantar N-piorólaidinil-DMA a chatagóiriú mar amfataimín atá ina spreagthach láidir i lárchóras na néaróg.

Cé nárbh fhéidir ceann ar bith de na púdair seo a idirdhealú óna chéile ó amharc, d'fhéadfadh na héifeachtaí a bhainfeadh le gach ceann de na substaintí seo a thógáil a bheith an-difriúil. Níl aon chinnteacht ann d'úsáideoirí drugaí nach mbeidh iarmhairtí urchóideacha neamhbheartaithe mar thoradh ar shubstaintí aindleathacha a cheannach. Leanann seirbhís tástála drugaí an FSI uirthi ag taispeáint nach mar a shíltear ar chéad amharc a bhítear i ndairíre.

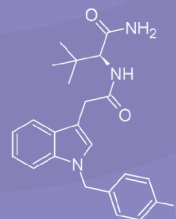
Cannaibidé-ól I (CBD)



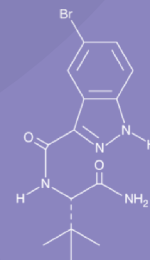
N-piorólaidinil-DMA



ADB-Fubiata



ADB-D-5Br-Inaca







## Cás-Staidéar 3

### Cabhraíonn fianaise FSI le ciontú a fháil i dtrial dúnmharaíthe Santina Cawley i mí na Bealtaine 2022

Fuarthas Santina Cawley, leanbh dhá bhliain d'aois, in árasán ar Bhóthar an Bhóithrín Mheánaigh i gCorcaigh ar an 5 Iúil 2019, agus go leor gortuithe ar a corp agus ar a ceann. Fuair sí cúnamh leighis ag an láthair agus aistríodh í go dtí an t-ospidéal, áit ar bhásaigh sí níos deireanaí. Cuireadh i leith Karen Harrington gurb ise a rinne an t-ionsaí marfach.

Rinne eolaithe ón rannóg DNA agus Anailís Bhitheolaíoch in FSI Anailís Phatrúin Lorg Fola ag an láthair agus scrúduithe fóiréinseacha bunaithe sa tsaotharlann ar earraí lenar áiríodh éadaí agus meallta gruaige a fuarthas ag an láthair. Aithníodh fuilsmearadh ar phéire luiteog do dhaoine fásta, ó sheomra leapa Iníon Harrington, ar a raibh próifíl DNA ag teacht le próifílí Santina Cawley agus Karen Harrington. Fuarthas próifíl DNA, a mheaitseáil próifíl Santina Cawley, ó mheallta gruaige a fuarthas ag an láthair. Bhí tréithe ag na meallta seo gur baineadh iad go héigeantach. I mí na Bealtaine 2022, d'éist giúiré sa Phríomh-Chúirt Choiriúil, a bhí ina suí i gCorcaigh, le fianaise finné shaineolaigh ó bheirt Eolaithe de chuid an FSI sa chás seo. Ciontaíodh Karen Harrington ina dhiaidh sin i ndúnmharú Santina Cawley.

## Cás-Staidéar 4

### Cuirtear Anailís Phatrúin Lorg Fola agus fianaise lorg coisbheart le chéile chun cabhrú le himeachtaí a athchruthú i gcás ionsaí marfach

Ionsaíodh Edward O'Sullivan go marfach ina árasán in Ardán an Gharraí Uachtaraigh, Bóthar Chaisleán an Chomair, Cill Chainnigh ar an 6 Feabhra 2020. Cuireadh i leith Garrett Smith go ndearna sé an t-ionsaí marfach.

Rinne eolaithe ó na rannóga DNA agus Anailís Bhitheolaíoch agus Anailís Fhisiciúil den FSI Anailís Phatrúin Lorg Fola (BPA) agus anailís lorg coisbheart sa chás seo. Is féidir le BPA cabhrú le cinneadh a dhéanamh faoi na gníomhaíochtaí a tharla le linn ionsaí agus is féidir le hanailís lorg coisbheart cabhrú leis an gcoisbheart a bhíodhas a chaitheamh a aithint. Thacaigh scrúdú BPA ar choisbheart agus jions Garrett Smith leis an tuairim gur shatail sé ar dhuine fuilithe. Thug an chuid is mó den fuilsmearadh a sampláladh ar an gcoisbheart agus ar na jions próifílí DNA a mheaitseáil le próifíl Edward O'Sullivan. Cuireadh boinn choisbheart Garrett Smith i gcomparáid le marcanna coisbheart ar aghaidh Edward O'Sullivan. Thug torthaí na comparáide seo tacaíocht láidir don tuairim gur bróga reatha Garrett Smith, seachas roinnt bróga reatha eile, a rinne na marcanna ar aghaidh Edward O'Sullivan. I mí Dheireadh Fómhair 2022, d'éist giúiré sa Phríomh-Chúirt Choiriúil, a bhí ina suí i gCill Chainnigh, le fianaise finné shaineolaigh ó thriúr Eolaithe de chuid an FSI sa chás seo. Ciontaíodh Garrett Smith ina dhiaidh sin i ndúnorgain Edward O'Sullivan.

# Cás-Staidéar 5

## Imscrúdú ar Ionsaithe Gnéis le go leor amhrastach

Chuaigh bean seacht mbliana déag d'aois isteach i gcarr le cúigear fear nach raibh aithne aici orthu chun síob a fháil abhaile. Deir sí go raibh gnéas faighne neamh-comhthoilúil ag na fir go léir léi. Deir sí freisin gur tharla gnéas béil neamhthoilteanach agus treá digiteach. Ainmníodh cúigear fear mar amhrastaigh sa chás seo agus dúirt gach duine acu go ndearna siad gníomhartha gnéis éagsúla leis an mbean. Dúirt gach fear go raibh an teagmháil ghnéasach comhthoilúil.

Ba é an cuspóir a bhí le hobair an FSI scrúdú a dhéanamh ar threalamh scrúdaithe cionta gnéis agus ar éadaí na mná chun a sheiceáil an raibh seamhan ann, agus próifiliú DNA a dhéanamh. Scrúdaíodh fo-éadaí ó cheathrar de na fir agus jóns ón gcúigiú fear le haghaidh seamhain seachas a gcuid féin, a d'fhéadfadh a bheith aistrithe le linn na heachtra líomhnaithe. Scrúdaíodh clúdaigh suíochán gluaisteáin ón gcarr inar tharla an eachtra le haghaidh seamhain.

Fuarthas seamhan ar mhaipíní giniúna na mban, a mionbhrístíní agus a sciorta. Rinneadh próifiliú DNA ar na maipíní agus fuarthas próifílí DNA iomlána fireanna a mheaitseáil a chéile agus a mheaitseáil próifíl DNA tagartha fhear 1 ón seamhan ar na maipíní, mionbhrístíní agus sciorta.

Fuarthas rian seamhain ar bharréide na mná. Rinneadh próifiliú DNA agus fuarthas próifíl DNA mheasctha (DNA ó níos mó ná duine amháin). Bhí cion mór fireann ann a mheaitseáil le próifíl DNA tagartha fhear 3.

Fuarthas seamhan ar an taobh istigh d'fhobhríste fhear 2. Rinneadh próifiliú DNA ar an seamhan. Fuarthas próifíl DNA mheasctha (DNA ó níos mó ná duine amháin) ón limistéar seamhan smálaithe ar an taobh istigh. Bhí cion mór agus cion beag ag baint leis an meascán seo. Bhí an chuid is mó ag teacht le próifíl DNA tagartha fhear 2 féin. Bhí an mhionphróifíl ag teacht le próifíl DNA tagartha fhear 1, a fuarthas ón seamhan ar mhaipíní faighne inmheánacha na mná freisin.

Fuarthas seamhan ar shuíochán tosaigh an phaisinéara agus ar shuíochán paisinéirí cúil an chairr. Rinneadh próifiliú DNA agus fuarthas próifíl DNA iomlán fhireann a mheaitseáil próifíl DNA tagartha fhear 1 ón dá réimse.

Cuireadh an cás seo ar a thriail i Márta 2022 agus phléadáil ceathrar de na fir neamhchiontach i gcúiseanna éignithe agus ionsaithe gnéis. Mhaígh siad go raibh aon teagmháil ghnéasach comhthoilúil. Phléadáil an cúigiú fear ciontach in éigniú. Chuir an t-eolaí fóirínseach sa chás a gcuid fianaise i láthair le linn na trialach. I mí Aibreáin 2022, fuarthas gach duine den 5 fhear ciontach i raon ionsaithe gnéis agus éignithe, agus i Mí an Mheithimh 2022 gearradh 66 bliain san iomlán orthu i bpríosún.







A close-up photograph of a person wearing a white lab coat and yellow nitrile gloves. They are holding a glass test tube containing a red liquid. The background is dark blue. The text is overlaid on the right side of the image.

# **Forbairt agus Forás na Seirbhíse**

# **1**



# Forbairt agus Forás na Seirbhíse

## Soláthar Seirbhíse

Tháinig méadú 40% ar líon na gcásanna a cuireadh isteach chuig FSI i gcomparáid le 2018. Cé go raibh líon na n-aighneachtaí in 2022 níos ísle ná 2021 agus 2020 araon, mar gheall ar chuid de chúinsí ar leith shrianta Covid, tá i bhfad níos mó aighneachtaí ann ná mar a bhí roimh an bpaindéim. Ina theannta sin, tá níos mó castachta ag baint le himscrúduithe fóiréinseacha ná mar a bhí roimhe seo. D'eisigh FSI 23,542 tuarascáil fhóiréinseach in 2022, méadú 83% i gcomparáid le 2018. Tacaíodh leis sin trí mhéadú ar chumas anailíse drugaí, leathnú seirbhíse DNA & Anailíse Bitheolaíochta agus comhtháthú seirbhíse méarloirg agus cáipéisí agus lámhscríbhneoireachta ó Bhiúró Náisiúnta Teicniúil an Gharda Síochána.

Thuairiscigh FSI ar 42 imscrúdú ar bhás amhrasach in 2022 – níos mó ná dhá oiread fhigiúr 2021 (20) agus i bhfad níos mó ná figiúirí 2019/2020 (26/bliain). Is minic a bhíonn na himscrúduithe seo casta agus éilitheach, agus go mbíonn go leor fiosrúchán, meastúchán, foilseán agus cineálacha imscrúdaithe bainteach leo. Thacaigh FSI freisin le 142 aithint coirp / Aithint Duine ar Iarraidh in 2022, i gcomparáid le 102 le linn 2021. Tháinig méadú 8% ar aighneachtaí ionsaithe gnéis in 2022. Áirítear leis sin méadú ar imscrúduithe 'éigniú strainséirí', agus chabhraigh FSI leis na himscrúduithe sin a chur chun cinn.

Níl aighneacht nádúr na ndrugaí statach agus tá fás leanúnach ag teacht ar chastacht na gcásanna agus ar an éagsúlacht i gcuir i láthair agus i gceiltí a bhfuil FSI ag freagairt dóibh. Tháinig méadú 32% ar chásanna Alt 15A in 2022; tar éis méadú 121% in 2021 i gcomparáid le 2020. D'aithin FSI roinnt cannaibionóidigh shintéiseacha nua le linn 2022 agus tuairiscíodh iad sin do na líonraí réamhrabhaidh náisiúnta agus Eorpacha. Tá béim ar leith againn air seo fós agus muid ag smaoineamh ar mhinicíocht mhéadaithe na substaintí seo i ndrugaí inite.

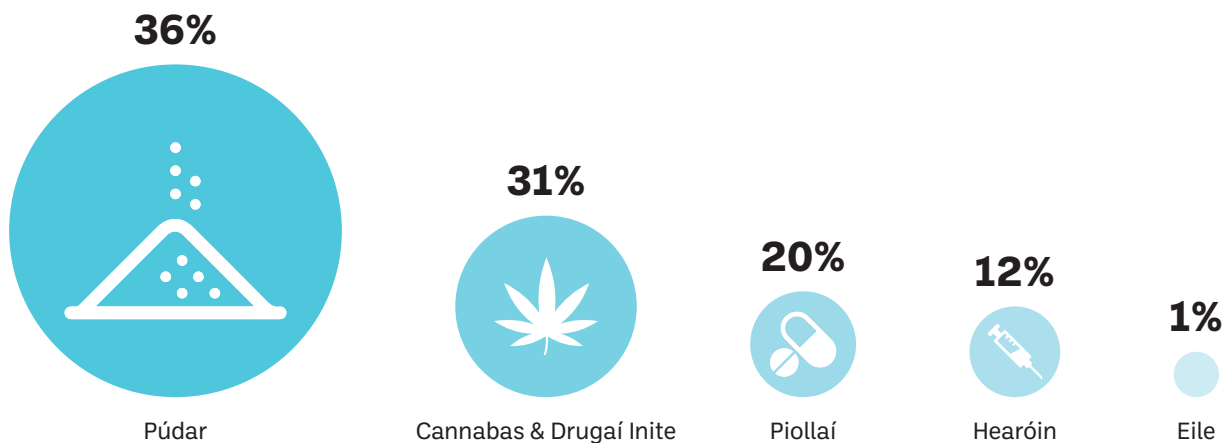
Seirbhís	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	Athrú v 2018
Cásanna Drugaí agus Tocsaineolaíochta	9,577	10,480	13,184	11,747	<b>10,072</b>	+5%
Cásanna DNA (Ionsaithe Gnéis san áireamh)	6,190	7,367	8,028	7,043	<b>6,637</b>	+7%
Méarlorg	-	-	6,072	5,478	<b>5,461</b>	-
Cásanna Ceimice, Doiciméid & Modh Fisiciúil	821	899	1,632	1,408	<b>1,109</b>	+35%
Bithmhéadracht - DNA	11,045	16,185	15,515	14,117	<b>13,240</b>	+20%
Bithmhéadracht - Méarlorg	-	-	7,928	8,177	<b>8,894</b>	-
Iomlán na gCásanna a cuireadh faoi Bhráid (gan samplaí bithmhéadrachta a áireamh)	16,588	18,746	28,916	25,676	<b>23,279</b>	+40%

Tábla 1: Cásanna a cuireadh faoi bhráid FSI (Éileamh). Is Samplaí Bithmhéadrachta na Samplaí DNA nó Méarloirg maidir le duine aonair, a cuireadh faoi bhráid FSI

Seirbhís	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	Athrú v 2018
Cásanna Drugaí agus Tocsaineolaíochta	7,717 Iomlán (4,845 casta, 2,872 Alt 3)	9,667 Iomlán (5,555 casta, 4,112 Alt 3)	8,106 Iomlán (5,267 Casta, 2,839 Alt 3)	10,440 Iomlán (5,000 Casta, 5,440 Alt 3)	11,963 (6,146 Casta, 5,817 Alt 3)	+55%
Cásanna DNA (Ionsaithe Gnéis san áireamh)	4,500	5,860	7,237	6,954	5,975	+33%
Méarlorg	-	-	5,601	5,222	4,528	-
Cásanna Ceimice, Doiciméid & Modh Fisiciúil	675	555	1,095	1,238	1,076	+59%
Bithmhéadracht - DNA	11,045	16,185	15,515	13,541	13,007	+17%
Bithmhéadracht - Méarlorg	-	-	8,434	8,077	8,894	-
Iomlán na gCásanna a cuireadh faoi Bhráid (gan samplaí bithmhéadrachta a áireamh)	12,892	16,082	22,039	23,854	23,542	+83%

Tábla 2: Cásanna a Thuairiscigh FSI in 2021

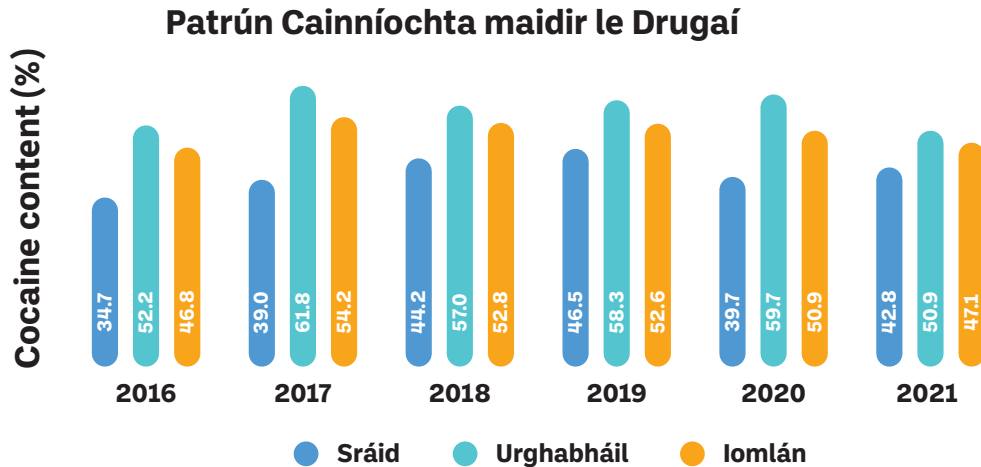
## Cineálacha na nDrugaí a cuireadh faoi Anailís in 2022



Fíor 1: Cineálacha na nDrugaí a cuireadh faoi Anailís in 2022

## Patrún Cainníochta maidir le Drugaí 2016-2021

Déantar sonraí cainníochta a chur ar fáil chun críocha faisnéise le haghaidh cócaoin, démhoirfín (hearóin), agus amfataimín. Ba iad cócaon agus démhoirfín an dara agus an ceathrú druga ba choitianta a cuireadh faoi bhráid, faoi seach, in 2021. Déantar ábhar truailmheascáin coitianta a shonrú chomh maith. Déantar anailís cainníochta ar dhá leibhéal faoi leith maidir le toirt an ábhair cócaoin agus an ábhair démhoirfín: ar leibhéal na sráide agus ar leibhéal na hiompórtála. Is iad na samplaí ar leibhéal sráide samplaí a chuirtear faoi bhráid ó urghabhálacha níos lú ná 30g, go príomha idir 25 -30 gram agus is iad na samplaí ar leibhéal na hiompórtála samplaí ó urghabhálacha os cionn 500g. I gcás amfataimín, déantar gach urghabháil os cionn 25g a mheas.



Fíor 2: Meánábhar Cócaoin ar leibhéal na sráide agus ar leibhéal na hiompórtála

### Cócaon

Cócaon an spreagthach ba mhínice a aithníodh in Éirinn i rith na tréimhse a bhí faoi scrúdú agus an dara comhdhúil ba mhínice a tugadh chun suntais (cannabas ba mhínice ar fad). In 2021, bhí cócaon i 24% de na cásanna drugaí go léir a ndearnadh anailís orthu in FSI. Léirítear i bhFíor 2 an meánábhar bliantúil cócaoin leis an leibhéal iompórtála is ísle a tugadh faoi deara thar an tréimhse 6 bliana a scrúdaíodh. Is airde an sciar den ábhar ar leibhéal na hiompórtála ná an meánsciar ar leibhéal na sráide bliain i ndiaidh bliana. Is mó an éagsúlacht a bhaineann le hábhar truailmheascáin maidir le cócaon ná leis an dá chineál eile a ndearnadh anailís ina leith. Is é beansócaon an truailmheascán is coitianta a bhraitear thar 5 de na 6 bliana a scrúdaíodh agus is é léiveamasól an dara ceann. Ba 170kg a bhí san urghabháil cócaoin ba mhó in 2021 a deineadh i gCorcaigh i mí Feabhra 2021.

### Démhoirfín (hearóin)

Táirge leathshintéiseach é démhoirfín a tháirgtear trí aicéitiliúchán a oibriú ar mhoirfín, a bhíonn ar fáil ina toradh nádúrtha in óipiam. Démhoirfín an t-ópóideach is coitianta a dtagtar air in Éirinn agus ar fud an AE agus an ceathrú comhdhúil ba mhínice a tugadh chun suntais in FSI sa bhliain 2021. In 2021, bhí démhoirfín i 12% de na cásanna drugaí go léir a ndearnadh anailís orthu in FSI. In 2021 bhí an méid is mó den ábhar ar leibhéal na sráide (39.6%) ó 2016 ann agus bhí an t-ábhar ar leibhéal iompórtála comhsheasmhach den chuid is mó leis na 6 bliana roimhe sin. Bhí os cionn 87kg san urghabháil ba mhó in 2021 deineadh i Ros Láir i mí Lúnasa 2021.

**“Léirigh 2021 an leibhéal iompórtála cócaoin is ísle le 6 bliana”**

### Amfataimín

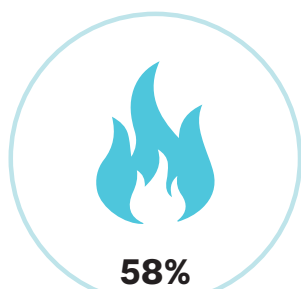
Amfataimín an dara cineál feineitiolaimín is coitianta a dtagtar trasna air in Éirinn; MDMA an cineál is coitianta ar fad. Idir 2016 agus 2021, bhí an meánábhar amfataimín bliantúil comhsheasmhach a bheag nó a mhór (raon 6.7% - 9.4%) agus ba é an meánábhar 8.7% in 2021. Is í caiféin an truailmheascán is coitianta a bhraitear in urghabhálacha amfataimín, a braitheadh i ngach ceann de na samplaí cainníochta a cuireadh faoi bhráid in 2021. Bhí os cionn 2.5k san urghabháil amfataimín ba mhó in 2021 a deineadh i mBaile Átha Cliath i mí na Samhna 2021.

**“Léirigh 2021 an méid is mó démhoirfín ar leibhéal na sráide ó 2016”**

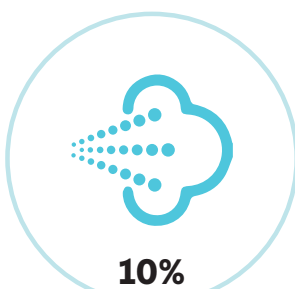
## Cásanna Ceimice, Doiciméid agus Modhanna Fisiciúla

Léirítear an éagsúlacht leathan cásanna Ceimice agus Doiciméad agus Modhanna Fisiciúla a ndéantar anailís orthu i bhFíoracha 3 agus 4. Baineann speisialtacht shonrach agus saineolas faoi leith le gach réimse faoi seach.

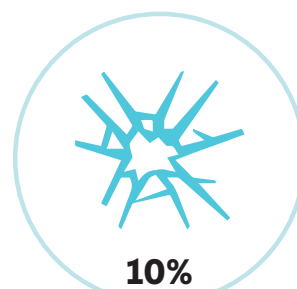
### Cásanna Ceimice a tuairiscíodh in 2022



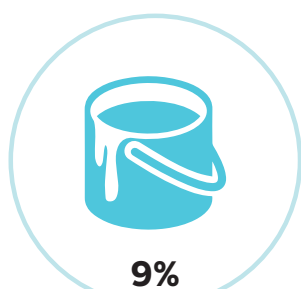
Tinte



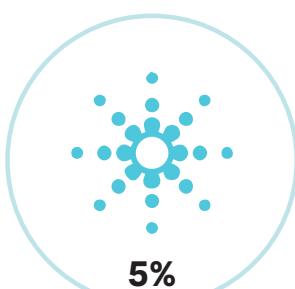
Spraeanna



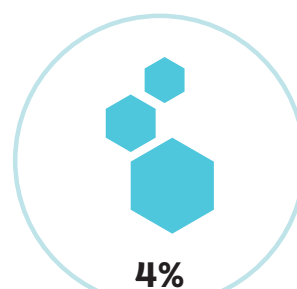
Gloine



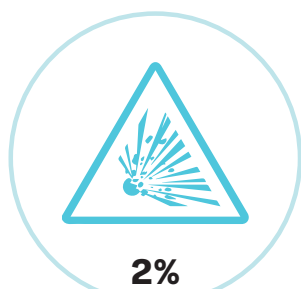
Péint



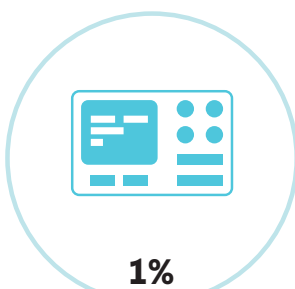
Iarmhar Arm Tine



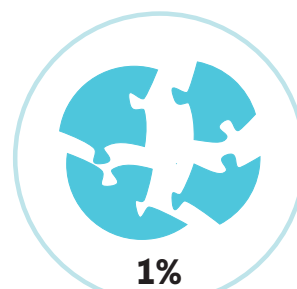
Ceimiceáin nach eol dúinn



Pléascáin



Tacagraif



Ábhar eile, lena n-áirítear oiriúintí fisiciúla

Fíor 3: Cineálacha na gcásanna ceimice ar tugadh tuairisc ina leith in 2022

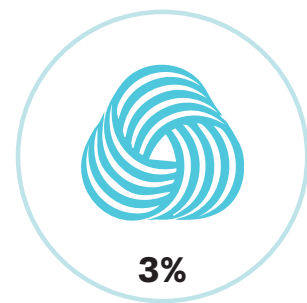
## Doiciméid agus Cásanna Modhanna Fisiciúla a Tuairiscíodh in 2022



Airgeadra, Taisteal agus  
Féiniúlacht



Peannaireacht / sínithe /  
léaráidí eangaithe



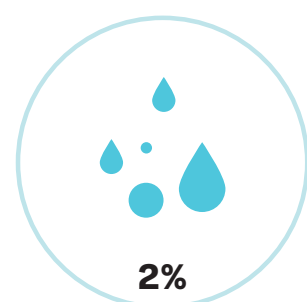
Snáithíní



Coisbheart / marcanna boinn



Málaí plaisteacha / Téipeanna  
+ Greamácháin



Dúigh + Ruaimeanna

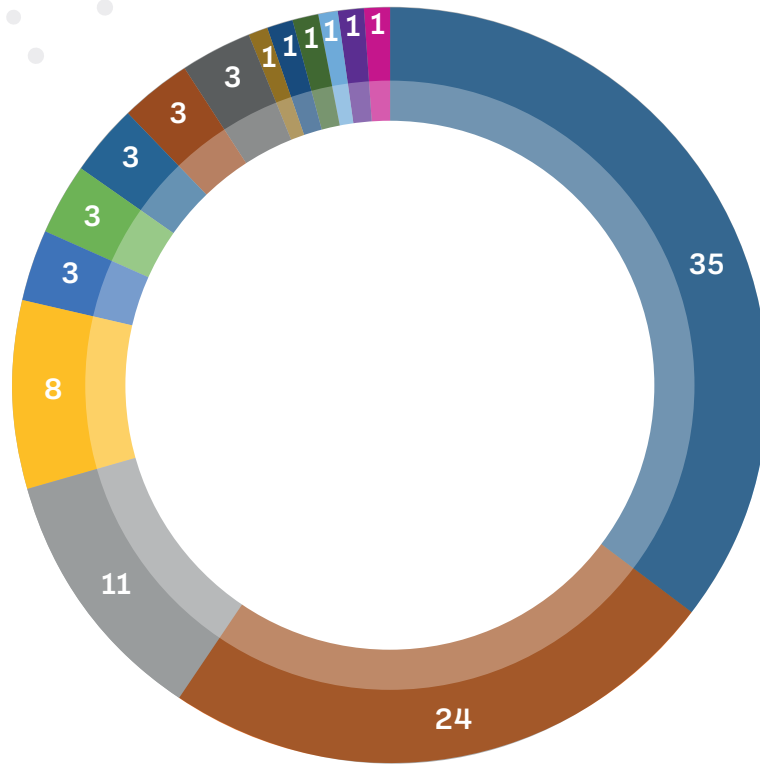


Oiriúintí fisiciúla / eile

Fíor 4: Cineálacha Doiciméad agus Cásanna Modhanna Fisiciúla a tuairiscíodh in 2022



## Méarlorg

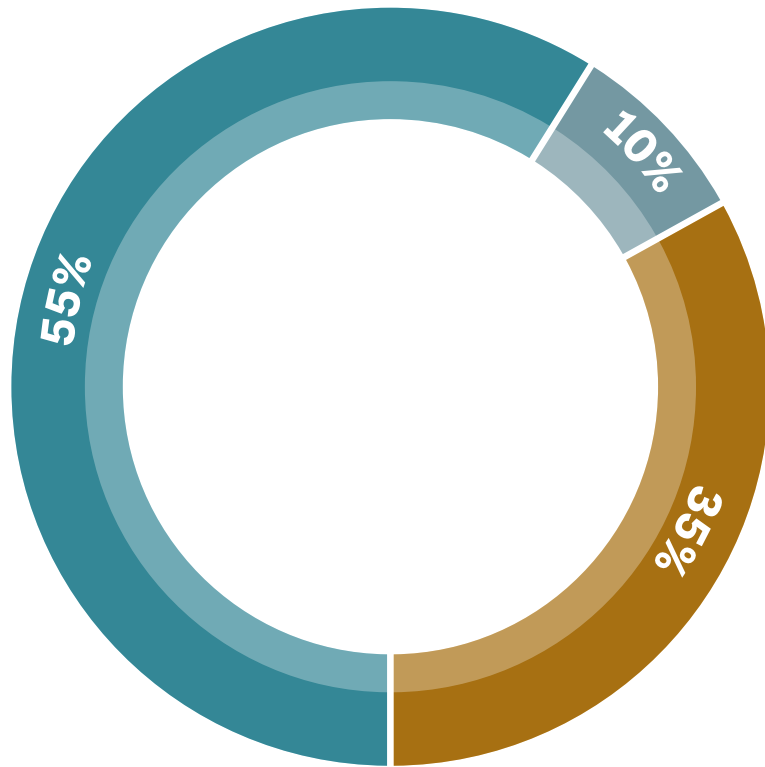


● Buirgléireacht	35%
● Robáil/Gadaíocht/Glacadh gan chead	24%
● Drogaí	11%
● Damáiste Coiriúil / Mailíseach	8%
● Trombhuirgléireacht	3%
● Arm Tine / Pléascáin	3%
● Ionsaí	3%
● Taisme Buille is Teitheadh / Tráchtá	3%
● Iarracht ar Dhúnmharú / Bás Amhrasach / Bás	3%
● Tinte	1%
● Calaois	1%
● Ionsaí Gnéis	1%
● Cur i mBaol / Príosúnú Neamhdhleathach / Fuadach	1%
● Cionta Oird Phoiblí	1%
● Eile* lena n-áirítear Aithint Coirp	1%

Léirítear i bhFíor 5 an réimse leathan imscrúduithe ar thacaigh an rannóg Méarlorg leo le linn 2022. Tá iarratais Sirene á bpróiseáil ag an rannóg méarlorg ó tosaíodh an córas in 2021, agus próiseáladh beagnach 15,000 idirbheart in 2022.

Fíor 5: Imscrúduithe méarlorg in 2022

## Cásanna DNA & Anailís Bhitheolaíoch



- Sexual Assault Team
- Serious Crime DNA Teams
- Database Team

Fíor 6: Cásanna DNA & Anailís Bhitheolaíoch a Tuairiscíodh in 2022

Leagtar amach cineálacha na gCásanna DNA ar eisigh FSI tuairisc ina leith i rith na bliana 2022 i bhFíor 6.

Baineadh leas go forleathan as fianaise DNA de chuid FSI maidir le bearta imscrúdúcháin an Gharda Síochána agus le cásanna cúirte i rith na bliana 2022, cásanna maidir le dúnmharú, ionsaí tromchúiseach, ionsaí gnéis, drugaí a gabhadh agus cionta eile a bhaineann le drongchoireacht agus le coireacht eagraithe san áireamh.

## Cion Tairbhe maidir le Cásanna Fuaraithe agus Daoine atá ar Iarraidh

In 2022, rinneadh próifíliú DNA chun cabhrú le 130 corp a aithint. Áirítear leis na cásanna sin cásanna nuair nach féidir an duine a aithint go físiúil agus go dteastaíonn deimhniú aitheantais an duine ón gCróinéir. Is féidir comparáid dhíreach a dhéanamh le DNA ó earra pearsanta ar nós scuab fiacla nó is féidir freisin gaolmhaireacht a mheaitseáil le gaolta bitheolaíoch amhail tuismitheoirí, leanaí nó siblíne an duine a fuair bás.

Stóráiltear próifíl DNA ó thaisí daonna neamhaitheanta, ó earraí pearsanta daoine atá ar iarraidh agus próifíl DNA ó dhlúthghaolta daoine atá ar iarraidh ar an mBunachar Sonraí Náisiúnta DNA. Is féidir an phróifíl DNA seo a chuardach agus a chur i gcomparáid le chéile agus is féidir iad a chur ar aghaidh freisin trí Interpol le haghaidh cuardach idirnáisiúnta.

Is bunachar sonraí domhanda DNA Interpol é I-Familia chun daoine atá ar iarraidh a aithint bunaithe ar mheaitseáil idirnáisiúnta gaolmhaireachta DNA. Mar gheall ar uasghrádú a rinneadh ar an mbunachar sonraí seo le déanaí, bhíothas in ann ríomhanna casta gaolmhaireachta a dhéanamh ar phróifíil atá stóráilte sa chóras seo. Chabhraigh I-Familia le Jason Macken a bhí ar iarraidh ó 2015 a aithint. Seoladh próifíl DNA óna mháthair agus óna shiblíne ó FSI trí Interpol agus rinneadh iad a mheaitseáil le corp gan aithint sa Ríocht Aontaithe.

Chabhraigh malartú próifíl DNA le Interpol freisin i gcás inar aimsíodh corp sa Laoi i gCorcaigh. Fuarthas próifíl DNA ag FSI ó Interpol ó mháthair Jurate Beskrovnaia a chabhraigh lena aithint.

Chabhraigh FSI le Elizabeth Redmond a aithint a tháinig i dtír ar Reachrainn. Aithníodh í tar éis comparáid a dhéanamh idir an phróifíl DNA a fuarthas óna corp lena banda gruaige (i.e. earra pearsanta an duine a fuair bás a cuireadh faoi bhráid FSI) agus an phróifíl DNA a fuarthas óna hiníon.

Fuarthas próifíl DNA ó chorp a aimsíodh ar thrá i bPort Láirge agus nuair a cuardaíodh é ar an mBunachar Sonraí DNA fuarthas meaitseáil le máthair Cathal Sweeney, an duine a bhí ar iarraidh.

Tugadh seicheamhú DNA Miteacoindreach isteach go rathúil in FSI in 2022. Ar iarratas ó Bhiúró an Gharda Síochána um Dhaoine ar Iarraidh bhíomar in ann seicheamhú miteacoindreach a dhéanamh ar shampla ó leathdheartháir John Murphy a bhí ar iarraidh ó 1982. Cuireadh é seo i gcomparáid le corp a fuarthas sa Ríocht Aontaithe agus chabhraigh an mheaitseáil a bhí mar thoradh air lena aithint.

In 2022 bhí 74 cás de Dhaoine ar Iarraidh againn inar cuireadh samplaí tagartha DNA ó ghaolta ó bhaill teaghlaigh faoi bhráid FSI le haghaidh phróifíliú DNA agus uaslódáladh iad chuig an mBunachar Sonraí Náisiúnta DNA. I rith na bliana, chabhraigh FSI le 12 Duine ar Iarraidh a aithint.

## Seirbhís Shochóirithe

Leanadh leis an gcóras chun freastal do sheirbhís Taobh Amuigh de na Gnáthuaireanta Oibre i rith na bliana 2022. Bíonn gach eolaí ar glao-dhualgas ar feadh seachtaine ag an am agus tá grúpa níos lú ar fáil chun freastal ar láithreacha nó chun obair saotharlainne phráinneach riachtanach a dhéanamh. 32 líon na ndaoine ar phainéal na n-eolaithe a chuireann an tseirbhís seo ar fáil ar bheirt eolaithe, ar mhaithe le cúrsaí acmhainne agus cúrsaí sláinte agus sábháilteachta, a thabhairt isteach sa tsaotharlann maidir le seirbhísí taobh amuigh de na gnáthuaireanta oibre. Baineadh leas as an tseirbhís seo 36 uair i rith na bliana 2022 – i ndáil le cásanna de gach uile chineál. D'fhreastail FSI ar sheacht láthair coire ionas go mbeadh saineolas ar fáil, go háirithe maidir le hAnailís ar Phatrún Fola (BPA) i ndáil le himscrúdú ar chásanna dúnmharaithe.

## Cásanna Cúirte

Tarlaíonn go mbíonn gá teacht i láthair os comhair na cúirte mar gheall ar chéatadán áirithe de na cásanna gach bliain a ndéantar scrúdú orthu. Is minic go mbaineann cás cúirte i mbliain amháin le tuairisc a eisíodh i rith na mblianta roimhe sin. D'fhreastail baill foirne ó FSI ar an gcúirt mar fhinnéithe 119 uair in 2022. Tá méadú ag teacht ar thinreamh cúirte bliain ar bhliain - bhí 104 láithreas ann in 2021, 50 in 2020 agus 108 in 2019. Tá líon an láithris le haghaidh gach disciplín le feiceáil i dTábla 3.

Foireann	Líon an láithris 2022
Cásanna DNA (Gan lonsaithe Gnéis san áireamh)	44
DNA - (Cásanna lonsaithe Gnéis)	22
Ceimic	11
Drugáí	8
Tocsaineolaíocht	11
Méarloirg	17
Doiciméid agus Peannaireacht	3
Riarachán	3

Tábla 3: Fianaise sa Chúirt (2022)

Ní raibh ach 7 gcinn de na láithrithe cúirte in 2022 fíorúil, laghdú ar an mbliain roimhe sin. Is áis í seo a cuireadh i bhfeidhm le linn shrianta Covid ach tá súil againn go leanfar ar aghaidh léi agus go bhforbrófar í sna blianta amach romhainn.

## Lucht Eolaíochta na Cosanta ar Cuairt

Thug eolaithe a bhí fostaithe ag an gcosaint cuairt ar FSI 34 uair in 2022; i gcomparáid le 24 in 2021, 14 in 2020 agus 27 in 2019. Astu sin, bhain 18 le cásanna Drugaí, bhain 13 le cásanna DNA & Anailís Bhitheolaíoch agus bhain 3 chás le Ceimic.

## Tagarmharcáil

Le linn 2021, ghlac FSI páirt i dtagarmharcáil fhoirmiúil agus neamhfhoirmiúil ar roinnt gnéithe de sheachadadh seirbhíse le baill de Chumann na gCleachtóirí Dlí-Eolaíochta (AFSP). Is saotharlanna iad sin, saotharlanna poiblí agus saotharlanna príobháideacha, a chuireann seirbhísí fóiréinseacha ar fáil ar fud na hÉireann agus na Ríochta Aontaithe. Áiríodh leis sin treochtaí éilimh, freagairtí oibriúcháin ar Covid-19 agus bearta sláinte agus sábháilteachta.



# An Bunachar Sonraí DNA

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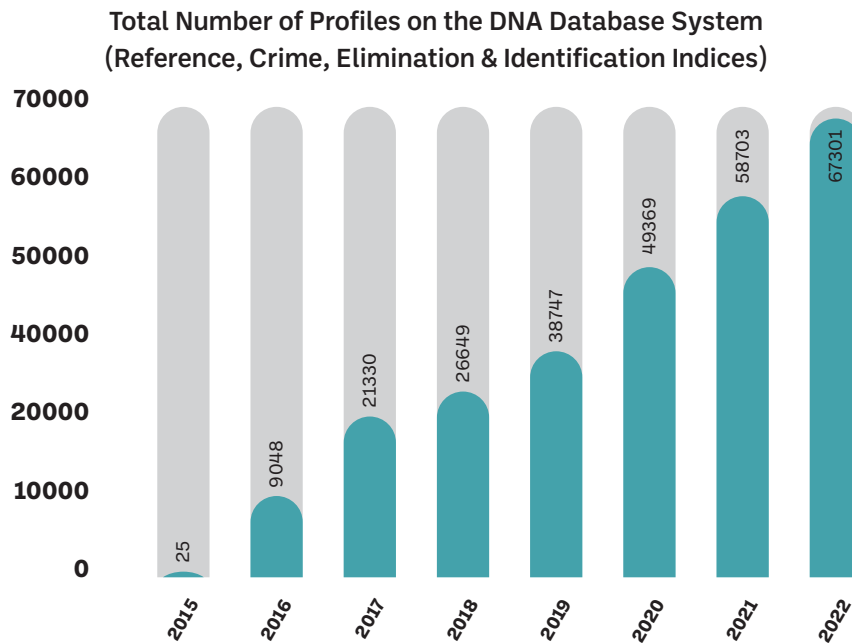
## Tugtar tuairisc anseo thíos ar fheidhmiú an Bhunachair Sonraí DNA i rith 2022, i gcomhréir leis an Acht um Cheartas Coiriúil (Fianaise Dlí-Eolaíochta agus Córas Bunachair Sonraí DNA) 2014.

Tosaíodh ar an mBunachar Sonraí DNA a fheidhmiú ar an 20 Samhain 2015 agus tá a chur i bhfeidhm ar na bearta is tábhachtaí chun cur in aghaidh na coireachta sa Stát.

Tríd an mbunachar sonraí a úsáid, cuirtear in iúl do na Gardaí má tá ceangal idir daoine agus coireanna nárbh fhéidir duine a lua leo go dtí seo. Bíonn coireanna de chineálacha éagsúla i gceist, buirgléireacht nó damáiste coiriúil mar shampla nó coireanna in aghaidh an duine, ionsaí gnéis agus bás amhrasach. Is é buntáiste atá leis an mbunachar sonraí maidir le cúrsaí imscrúdúcháin go bhfuil leide á chur ar fáil do na Gardaí faoi choireanna tromchúiseacha a bhí gan réiteach roimhe seo. Is féidir leis an mbunachar sonraí seanmhodhanna imscrúdúcháin a gcaití cuid mhór ama leo a chur ar neamhní ionas go dtarlaíonn imscrúdú níos sainiúla ina ionad. Is féidir faoin tráth seo samplaí ó dhaoine muinteartha le daoine atá ar iarraidh a choimeád mar chabhair maidir le himscrúdú ar chonablach anaithnid.

Tharla ardú i rith na bliana 2022 ar líon na dtaifead sa Bunachar Sonraí, chomh maith le dul chun cinn maidir le héifeachtúlacht an chórais agus dea-thoradh ar an saothar.

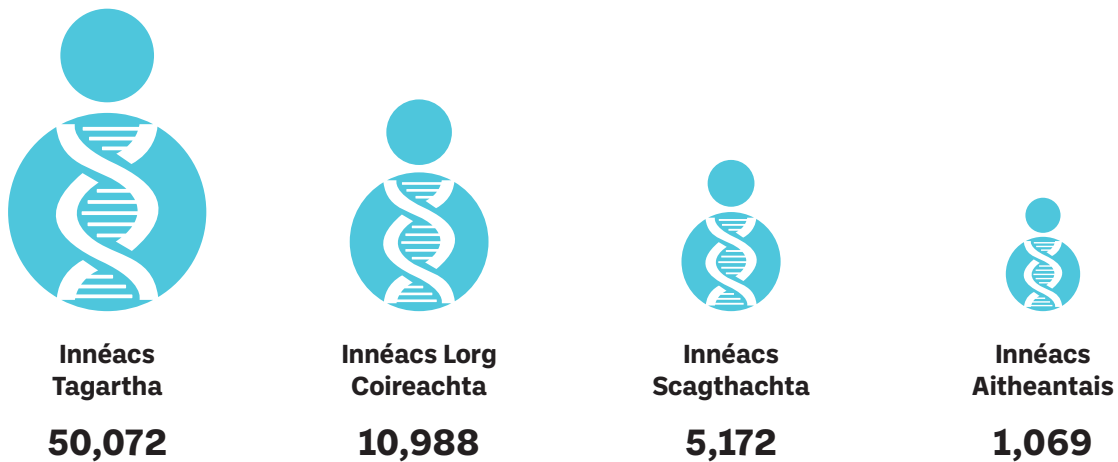
Léirítear i bhFíor 7 an leathnú foriomlán ar an mBunachar Sonraí Náisiúnta DNA ón mbliain 2015 i leith.



Fíor 7: Líon iomlán na bpróifílí aonair (lorg ó láthair coireachta nó duine) ar an mbunachar sonraí a thaispeánann fás foriomlán ó 2015. Méadú ar phróifílí in 2022: 8,598

Léirítear i bhFíor 8 líon na bpróifílí DNA a bhí i dtaisce i gceithre innéacs faoi leith an Bhunachair Sonraí Náisiúnta DNA faoi dheireadh mhí na Nollag 2022

**Profiles on the DNA Database System by Index (31st December 2022)**



Fíor 8: Córas an Bhunachair Sonraí DNA de réir Innéacs

**Briseadh síos ar phróifílí an bhunachair sonraí DNA de réir Innéacs**

**Innéacs Tagartha** – Catagóirí samplaí ó Amhrastach Aitheanta, Coirpeach Ciontaithe nó Sampla Deonach faoi Alt 28

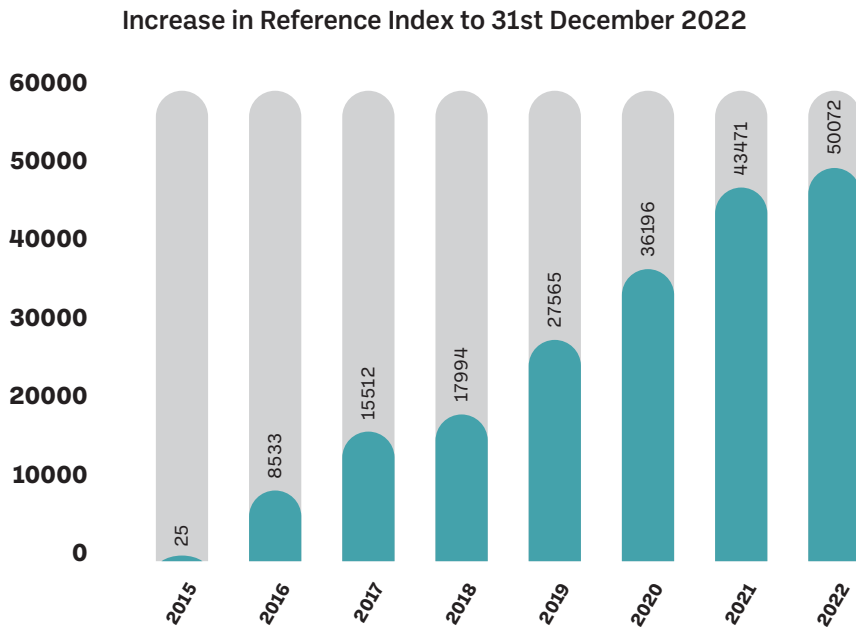
**Innéacs Lorg Coireachta** – Catagóirí samplaí fóiréinsice arna rangú faoi Anaithnid agus Measccha

**Innéacs Scagthachta** – Catagóirí samplaí le daoine de chuid FSI, an Gharda Síochána, Garda CSI, GSOC agus daoine a ainmnítear faoi Alt 44

**Innéacs Aitheantais** – Próifílí san áireamh maidir le daoine atá ar iarraidh, conablaigh daoine anaithnid, agus daoine muinteartha

## Líon na bpróifílí sa Bhunachar Sonraí DNA

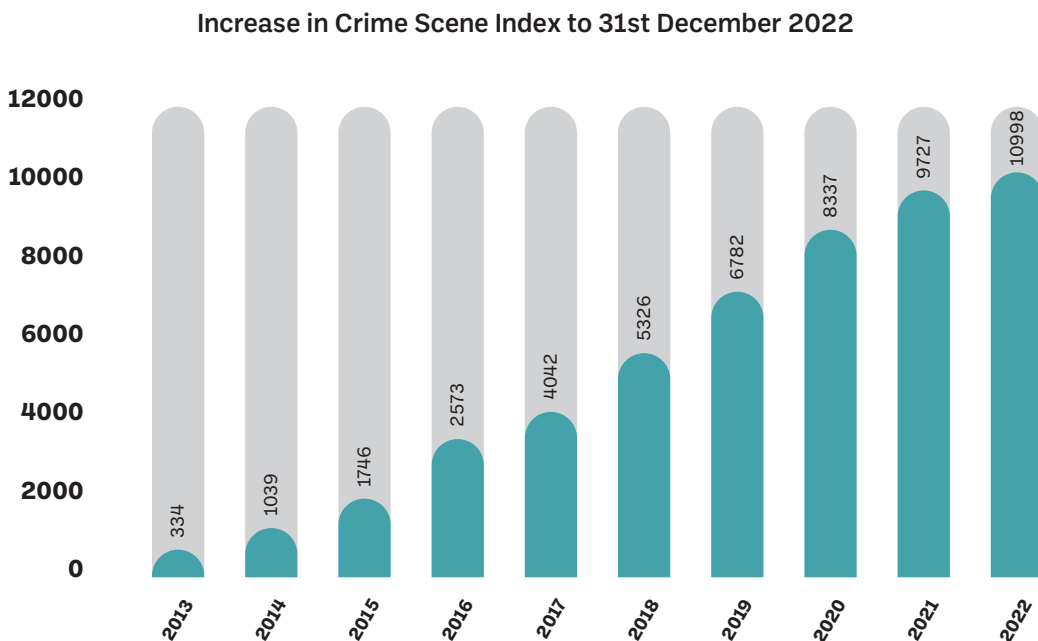
Léirítear i bhFíor 9 líon na bpróifílí ó dhaoine sa Bhunachar Sonraí DNA ó thosach feidhme anuas go deireadh mhí na Nollag 2022. Tugtar san áireamh leis an bhfigiúr sin próifíl DNA a scriosadh i gcomhréir le Cuid 10 den Acht um Cheartas Coiriúil 2014 i rith na tréimhse sin (faoi mar a léirítear i bhfíor 12)



Fíor 9: Ardú ar Líon na bPróifílí san Innéacs Tagartha

## Líon na lorg ó láthair coireachta (nach raibh ainm le lua leis an gcoir) a cuireadh leis an mBunachar Sonraí DNA

Ó dheireadh mhí na Nollag 2022, tá 10,988 lorg ó láthair coireachta nach raibh ainm le lua leis an gcoir san innéacs lorg ó láthair coireachta, agus cuireadh 1,261 lorg ó láthair coireachta leis in 2022 (Fíor 10).

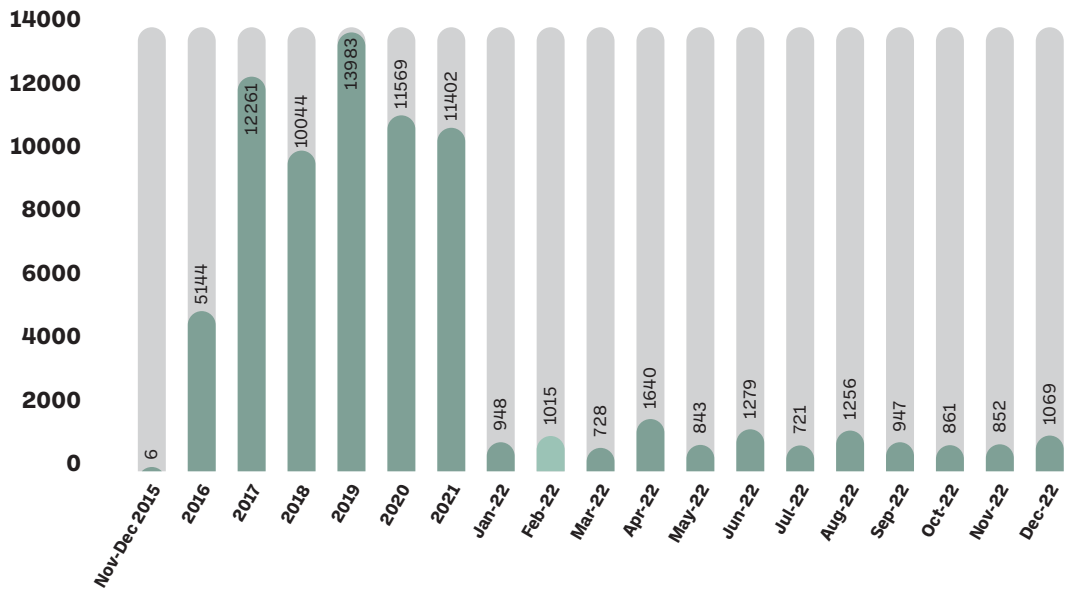


Fíor 10: An líon carnach maidir le lorg ó láthair coireachta a chur leis an mBunachar Sonraí anuas go deireadh na bliana 2022

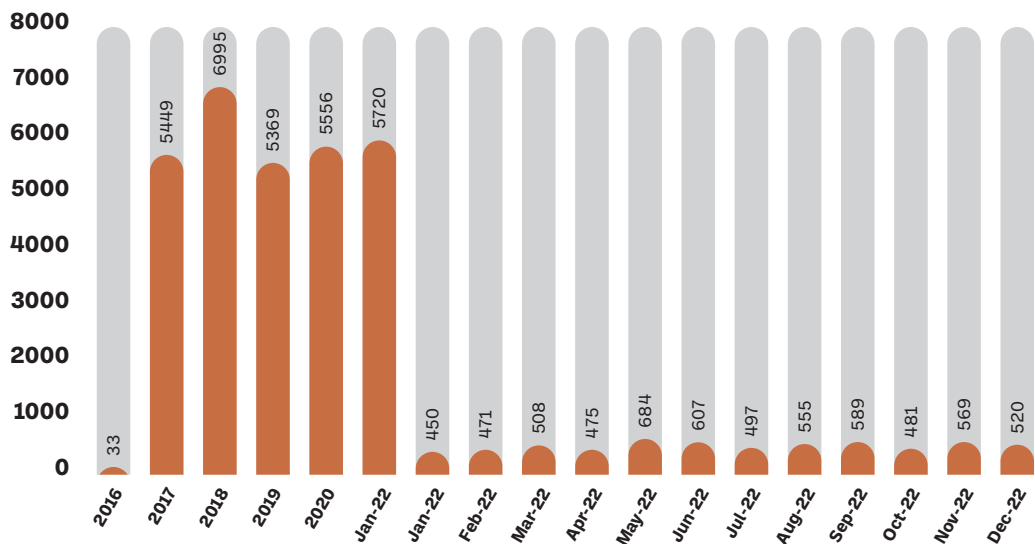


## Samplaí a scrios agus próifíl a ghlanadh as an mBunachar Sonraí DNA

Léirítear i bhFíor 11 líon na samplaí a scriosadh ó cuireadh an Bunachar Sonraí DNA ar bun (76,568 sampla a scriosadh anuas go dtí an 31 Nollaig 2022, lena n-áirítear 12,159 sampla a scriosadh i rith na bliana 2022), agus léirítear i bhFíor 12 líon na bpróifílí a glanadh as an mBunachar Sonraí DNA (35,528 anuas go dtí an 31 Nollaig 2022, lena n-áirítear 6,406 próifílí a glanadh i rith na bliana 2022).



Fíor 11: Samplaí DNA a Scrios



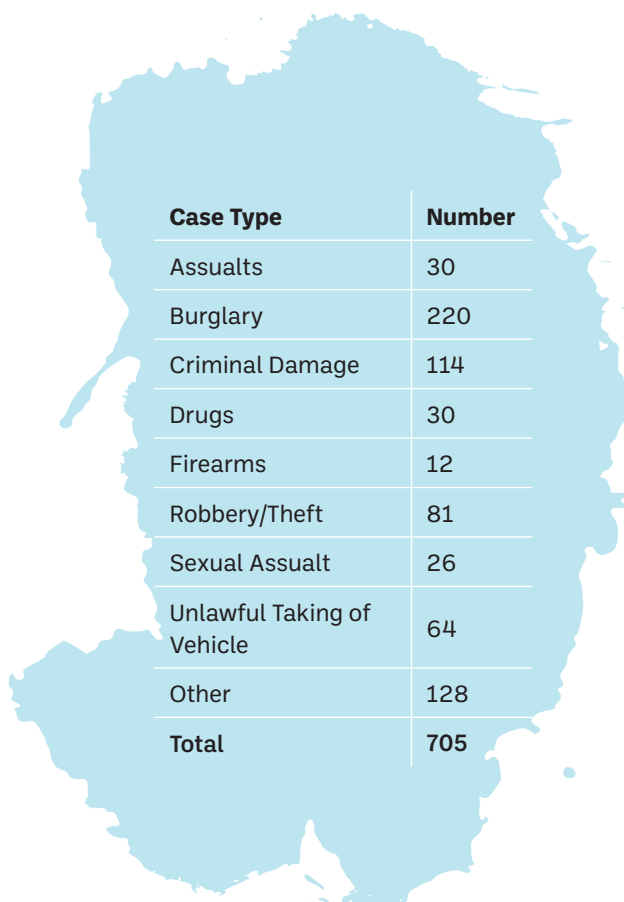
Fíor 12: Próifíl DNA a Glanadh ón mBunachar

## Ceangal idir cásanna imscrúdúcháin:

D'fhéadfadh meaitseáil de dhá chineál a theacht chun cinn ar phróifíl nuair a chuirtear leis an mBunachar Sonraí – meaitseáil idir lorg a fágadh ar láthair coireachta amháin agus lorg a fágadh ar an dara láthair coireachta lena dtabharfaí le fios go raibh ceangal idir coireanna éagsúla nó meaitseáil idir lorg a fágadh ar láthair coireachta agus duine lena dtabharfaí le fios go raibh ceangal ag an duine leis an gcoir. Tríd is tríd, aimsíodh 643 cás meaitseála ar an mBunachar Sonraí DNA i rith na bliana 2022, agus rinne sin tairbhe maidir le 796 cás imscrúdúcháin. Leagtar amach cineálacha na gcásanna inar aimsíodh meaitseáil thíos:

### (a) Daoine a ceanglaíodh le lorg a fágadh ar láthair coireachta

607 meaitseáil duine le lorg a rinneadh i rith na bliana 2022 - 413 cás inar tharla meaitseáil idir duine amháin agus cás amháin a chuidigh le 403 cás imscrúdúcháin a chur chun cinn agus 194 cás inar ceanglaíodh an duine le cásanna éagsúla ionas gur cuidíodh le 302 cás imscrúdúcháin a chur chun cinn. Rinneadh tairbhe maidir le 705 cás ar fad a chur chun cinn. Tugtar mionsonraí faoi na cásanna lenar bhain meaitseáil duine le lorg i bhFíor 13.

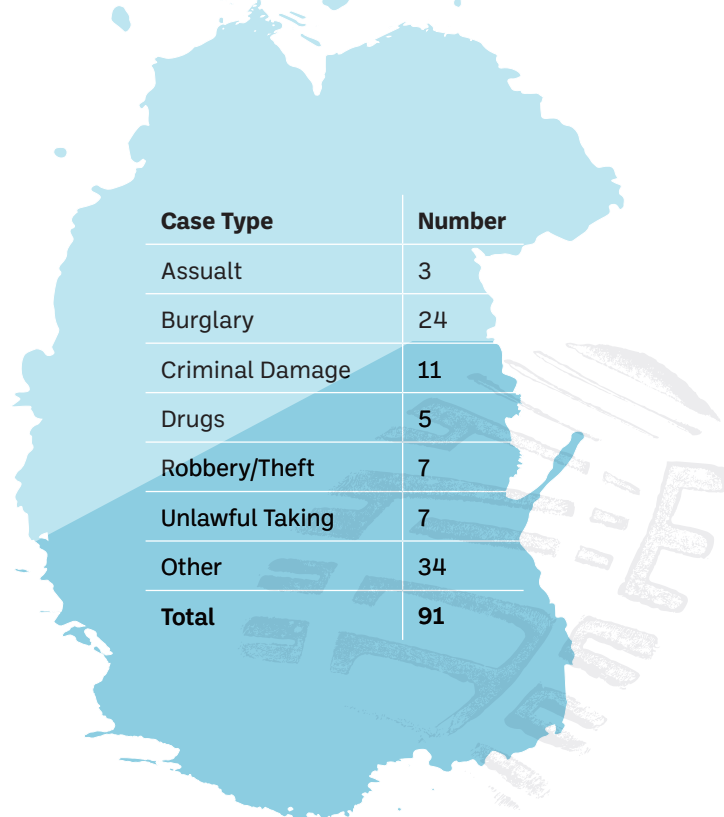


Case Type	Number
Assualts	30
Burglary	220
Criminal Damage	114
Drugs	30
Firearms	12
Robbery/Theft	81
Sexual Assault	26
Unlawful Taking of Vehicle	64
Other	128
<b>Total</b>	<b>705</b>

Fíor 13: Meaitseáil Duine le Lorg [An cineál imscrúdúcháin agus líon na gcásanna maidir le gach cineál i rith 2022]

### (b) Samplaí ó láthair coireachta amháin a ceanglaíodh le samplaí ón dara láthair coireachta

Tharla meaitseáil den sórt seo 36 uair i rith 2022. Maidir le 25 cás acu sin, tugadh tuairisc ar mheaitseáil cás le cás agus, maidir leis an bhfuilleach 11 cás, bhí naisc ó chásanna éagsúla á gceangal lena chéile. Tríd is tríd, tháinig de thoradh ar an saothar seo gur ceanglaíodh 91 cás imscrúdúcháin le chéile maidir le coireanna nach raibh ainm duine á lua leo go dtí sin - féach Fíor 14 thíos.

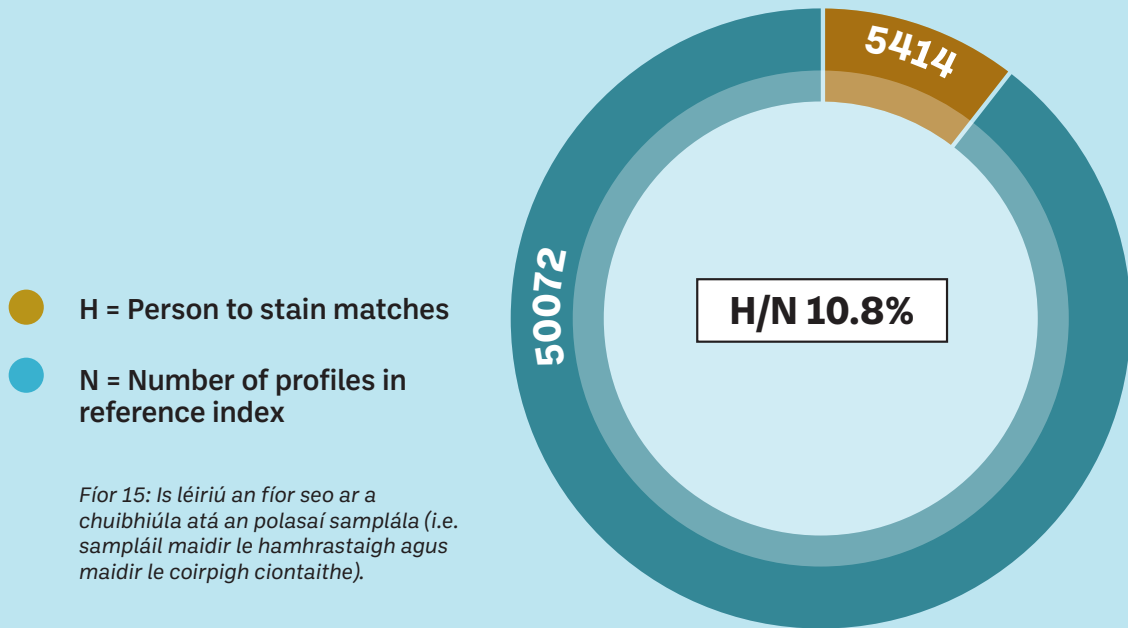


Case Type	Number
Assualt	3
Burglary	24
Criminal Damage	11
Drugs	5
Robbery/Theft	7
Unlawful Taking	7
Other	34
<b>Total</b>	<b>91</b>

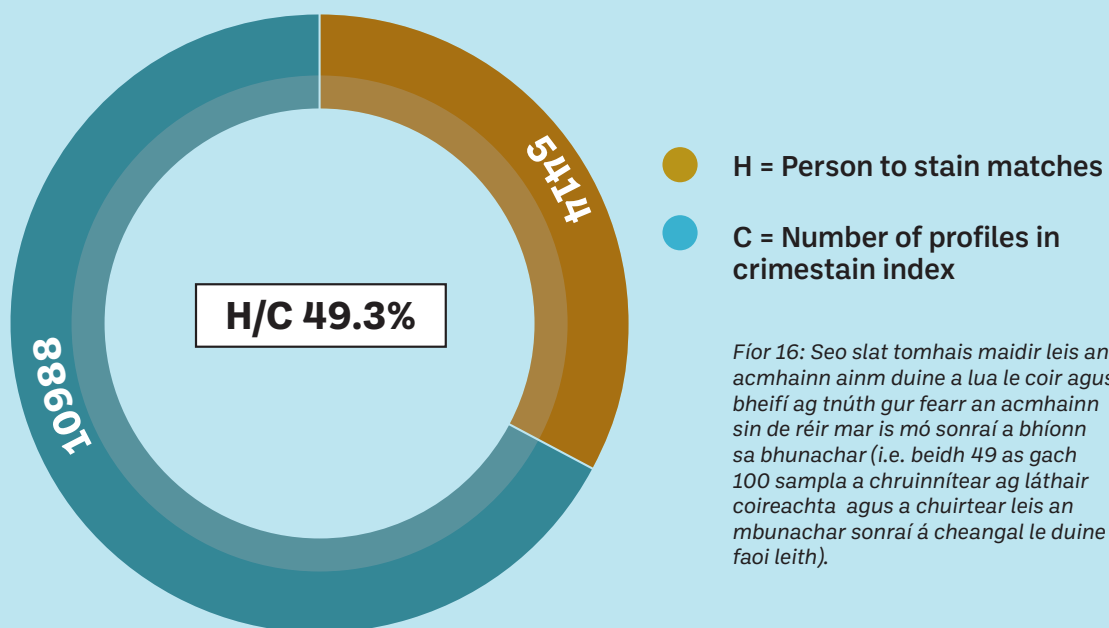
Fíor 14: Meaitseáil Lorg le Lorg [An cineál imscrúdúcháin agus líon na gcásanna maidir le gach cineál i rith na bliana 2022]

Tugtar eolas i bhFíor 15 agus i bhFíor 16 faoi shlata tomhais a úsáidtear go hidirnáisiúnta maidir le héifeachtúlacht na mbunachar sonraí a mheas. Bhí na figiúirí sin ann ag deireadh mhí na Nollag 2022.

### H/N: Líon na Meitseanna Duine le Lorg i gcoibhneas le Líon na nDaoine sa Bhunachar Sonraí



### H/C: Líon na Meitseanna Duine le Lorg i gcoibhneas le Líon na Lorg sa Bhunachar Sonraí



## Conradh Prüm

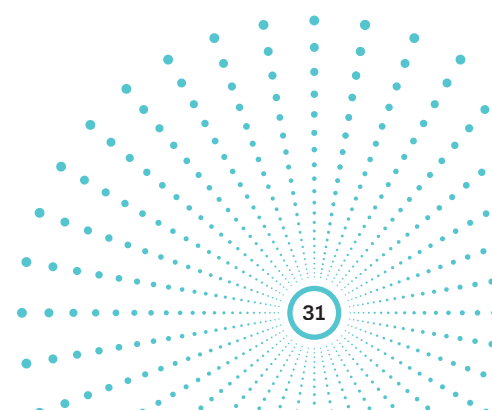
Tagann comhoibriú trasteorann ó thaobh faisnéis breithiúnais agus póilíneachta a mhalartú faoi scáth chonradh Prüm chomh maith leis an gcomhar ar mhaithe lena chéile. Maidir le malartú faisnéise, tá ceangailte ar bhallstáit na hEorpa an bunachar sonraí DNA a chur ar fáil do na Ballstáit eile maidir le cuardach uathoibríoch ar bhonn meaitseáil/neamh-mheaitseáil. Sa chás go dtarlaíonn meaitseáil, déantar sonraí pearsanta agus eolas faoin gcás a mhalartú idir tíortha trí na nósanna oibre reatha maidir le cúnamh

frithpháirteach dlí (feidhm póilíneachta nó feidhm breithiúnais).

Chuir FSI tús ar an 2 Deireadh Fómhair 2019, le malartú beo ar shonraí DNA agus bhí sonraí á malartú le haon cheann déag de Bhallstáit faoi dheireadh na bliana 2022. Taispeántar i bhFíor 17 na torthaí meaitseála a tharla idir bunachar sonraí DNA na hÉireann agus bunachar sonraí DNA gach ceann de na Ballstáit sin.

Staitisticí Meaitseála Prüm ag deireadh 2022			
	Lorg Láthair Coire in Éirinn le Duine i mBunachar Sonraí faoi Chonradh Prüm	Lorg Láthair Coire i mBunachar Sonraí faoi Chonradh Prüm le Duine i mBunachar Sonraí na hÉireann	Lorg Láthair Coire le Lorg Láthair Coire in Éirinn
An Ostair	22	21	3
An Laitvia	4	1	0
An Ísiltír	16	14	6
An Ríocht Aontaithe	522	286	39
An tSlóvaic	2	2	0
An Pholainn	5	7	1
An tSualainn	2	14	1
An Eastóin	1	1	0
Málta	0	0	0
An Ghearmáin	17	93	11
An Fhrainc	25	83	8
<b>Iomlán</b>	<b>616</b>	<b>522</b>	<b>69</b>

Fíor 17: Figiúirí Meaitseála faoi Chonradh Prüm





## Cás-Staidéar 6

### Imscrúdú ar Ionsaithe Gnéis

I mí na Samhna 2022, nuair a bhí bean amuigh ag siúl lena madra, tharraing fear nach raibh aithne aici air ón gcúl í agus rinne ionsaí gnéis uirthi. Bhrúigh an fear olann isteach ina béal le linn an ionsaithe. Throid an bhean in aghaidh an ionsaitheora, scríob sí a aghaidh agus bhain sí plaic as a lámh. Tháinig beirt fhear a bhí sa pháirc i gcabhair uirthi agus theith an fear ón láthair.

Cuireadh maipíneacht ingne agus éadaí a tógadh ón mbean faoi bhráid na saotharlainne le haghaidh anailíse. Fuarthas próifíl DNA fireann anaithnid faoi ingne na mná.

D'ainmnigh na Gardaí duine a raibh amhras faoi trína gcuid imscrúduithe agus cuireadh sampla DNA uaidh faoi bhráid FSI. Bhí próifíl DNA faoi ingne na mná ag teacht le próifíl tagartha DNA Vadim Veste. Dúirt Vadim Veste gur tharla achrann idir é féin agus an bhean ach nach ndearna sé ionsaí gnéis uirthi.

Cuardaíodh a áit chónaithe agus tógadh hata olla lena scrúdú. Fuarthas seile agus fuil ar an hata agus bhí an phróifíl DNA a fuarthas ó na háiteanna a raibh smál fola agus seile ag teacht le próifíl DNA tagartha na mná.

Phléadáil Vadim Veste ciontach i dtromionsaí gnéis i Márta 2023 agus táthar ag fanacht le pionós a ghearradh air.

# Cás-Staidéar 7

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## Oibríocht Thor

Mar chuid d'Oibríocht Thor an Gharda Síochána a dhíríonn ar dhronganna coireachta eagraithe a bhfuil baint acu le buirgléireachtaí, cuireadh foilseáin faoi bhráid na saotharlainne tar éis buirgléireachta ar áitreabh tionsclaíoch i dTrá Lí.

Druileáladh poll trí bhalla an áitribh agus rinneadh damáiste ar fiú na mílte euro é agus baineadh taisceadán ina raibh €30,000 euro ón mballa agus goideadh é. Cuireadh earraí lena n-áirítear tóirse, siséal, béalmhír druilire agus paicéad toitíní faoi bhráid na saotharlainne le haghaidh anailís DNA.

Fuarthas próifílí DNA meaitseála ó pháipéir na dtoitíní agus ón tóirse agus bhí an phróifíl DNA sin ag teacht leis an sampla tagartha DNA ó dhuine de na daoine a raibh amhras fúthu. Fuarthas gnéithe DNA a bhí ag meaitseáil leis an duine a raibh amhras faoi ón siséal freisin. I mí an Mhárta 2022, d'éist giúiré sa Chúirt Chuarda, Luimneach, le fianaise finné shaineolaigh ó eolaí FSI sa chás seo.



## Cás-Staidéar 8

### Meaitseálacha sa bhunachar sonraí DNA

#### Meaitseáil 1:

I mí na Samhna 2011, bhí bean ag siúl abhaile tar éis oíche amuigh trí pháirc agus stop beirt fhear í agus bhí gnéas ag duine de na fir léi gan a toiliú. Fuarthas seamhan tar éis a scrúdaithe leighis. Ag am an fhiosraithe ainmníodh ceathrar fear a raibh amhras fúthu ach ní raibh DNA ag teacht le ceachtar acu. Ní bhfuarthas aon mheaitseáil ar an mBunachar Náisiúnta DNA. I mí an Mheithimh 2022, áfach, nuair a roinneadh an phróifíl Anaithnid faoi chonradh Chomhairle Prüm, fuarthas meaitseáil sa Ríocht Aontaithe agus cuireadh in iúl d'Eagraíocht Idirnáisiúnta na bPóilíní Coireachta é.

#### Meaitseáil 2:

Réitíodh cnuasach coireanna trí úsáid a bhaint as uirlisí imscrúdaitheacha an Bhunachair Sonraí DNA. Bhain sé sin le cúig chás a tharla in Earrach 2021. Buirgléireacht amháin agus 4 chás a bhain le damáiste choiriúil. Tharla ceithre cinn de na heachtraí ar an aon oíche amháin, agus tharla an cúigiú ceann coicís roimhe sin sa cheantar céanna i mBaile Átha Cliath. Bhí na cásanna sin nasctha trí DNA mar mheaitseáil lorg ar lorg ach i samhradh na bliana 2022 cuireadh sampla tagartha DNA isteach le haghaidh ciontóir amhrasta lena chur san áireamh ar an mBunachar Sonraí Náisiúnta DNA, agus mheaitseáil sé le gach ceann de na cúig chás.

## Cás-Staidéar 9

### Rinneadh meaitseáil idir oiriúint fhisiciúil ó chros chéasta agus DNA duine a raibh amhras faoi agus corp loite

Thángthas ar chorp loite an phinsinéara, Ann Butler cúig lá tar éis di bheith buailte, sáite agus a scornach a bheith gearrtha, agus fuarthas píosa mór cairtchláir i gcúl a béil freisin. Aithníodh an corp trí phróifiliú DNA ag baint úsáid as sampla a a thug an té a meastar gurb í iníon an duine a fuair bás í.

D'aithin an Garda Síochána an té a raibh amhras faoi, Trevor Rowe trí rianú siar ar thrí ghlaoch 999 gan ainm. Cé gur admhaigh Trevor Rowe gur mharaigh sé bean ag seoladh i gCill Chainnigh, dhiúltaigh sé a rá cén fáth. D'admhaigh sé féin gur ionsaí brúidiúil a bhí ann. Fuarthas DNA a mheaitseáil DNA Trevor Rowe ó shoitheach ólacháin i dteach an phinsinéara chomh maith le cros adhmaid.

Tar éis scrúdú teicniúil a dhéanamh ar theach Trevor Rowe, fuarthas lámhainní fuilteacha agus dealbh d'Íosa. Rinneadh próifiliú DNA ar an smál fola agus rinneadh é a mheaitseáil le Ann Butler.

Scrúdaíodh an dealbh d'Íosa ó áit chónaithe Trevor Rowe agus an chros adhmaid ó áit chónaithe Ann Butler chun a fháil amach an as an ngrúpa céanna Céasta iad ar dtús. Scrúdaíodh na smálta ar dhealbh Íosa agus an cros adhmaid agus bhí siad ag teacht lena chéile ó thaobh datha, cuma, tréithe micreascópacha agus comhdhéanamh ceimiceach de. Bhí na poill ar an gcros adhmaid ag teacht le poill i ndealbh Íosa, agus chuir sé seo, chomh maith le háiteanna céanna na smál ar an gcros agus ar dhealbh Íosa araon, tacaíocht thar a bheith láidir ar fáil gur tháinig an chros adhmaid agus dealbh Íosa ón ngrúpa céanna Céasta ar dtús.

Níor thóg sé ach uair an chloig agus 19 nóiméad ar an ngiúire chun diúltú d'aon ghuth go raibh Trevor Rowe faoi thionchar an óil agus drugaí, cosaint a chuir sé féin chun cinn, agus é ag maíomh gur chuir na drugaí agus an t-alcól an lá sin bac air teacht ar an smaoineamh Iníon Butler a mharú nó a ghortú go trom. Ciontaíodh Trevor Rowe i ndúnmharú Ann Butler ina teach féin.







# Eolaíocht, Teicneolaíocht agus Nuáil

# 2



# Eolaíocht, Teicneolaíocht agus Nuálaíocht

## Aithníonn FSI gur bunchlocha iad ardáin agus córais láidre na Teicneolaíochta Faisnéise le haghaidh feidhmíocht oibríochtúil chomhsheasmhach chomh maith le nuálaíocht.

Príomhfhócas do FSI in 2022 ba ea roinnt córais nua TF a thabhairt isteach a chuirfeadh feabhas ar éifeachtúlacht agus éifeachtacht laistigh de FSI agus a chuirfeadh bonn seasmhach ar fáil do ghnólacht nuathionscanta ar champas Bhacastúin. In éineacht le comhghleacaithe i Rannán Athraithe, Teicneolaíochta agus Nuálaíochta na Roinne Dlí agus Cirt (CTI), chomh maith le Rannán Teicneolaíochta Faisnéise agus Cumarsáide an Gharda Síochána, rinneadh dul chun cinn maith, agus cuireadh roinnt príomhthionscadal i gcrích nó sceidealaíodh iad le cur i gcrích laistigh den chéad leath de 2023. Tá ár gcórais TFC chomh criticiúil d'oibríochtaí laethúla agus atá aon ionstraimíocht anailiseach – dá réir sin, tá corpas mór d'obair forbartha agus chobhsaithe TFC fós le déanamh sna 12 mhí amach romhainn.

Thug FSI faoi athnuachan crua-earraí deisce iomlán agus rinneadh comhtháthú iomlán ar fhearann líonra FSI laistigh de líonra na Roinne Dlí agus Cirt in 2022. Soláthraíonn sé seo slándáil fheabhsaithe agus cothabháil agus tacaíocht leanúnach. Cheadaigh sé seo freisin uasghrádú córais, lena n-áirítear bunú Chomhchóras Innéacs DNA (CODIS) in 2022. Braitheann níos mó agus níos mó de sheirbhísí FSI ar mhalartú sonraí cruinn agus tráthúil, go náisiúnta agus go hidirnáisiúnta. Tá tuilleadh uasghrádaithe agus cobhsaithe beartaithe do 2023 agus é sin á chur san áireamh.

Cuireadh tús le tionscadal chun an Córas Aitheantais Uathoibríthe Méarlorg (AFIS) a uasghrádú in 2021 agus tá sé beartaithe anois é a chur i gcrích in 2023. Áirítear leis an uasghrádú sin na halgartaim chuardaigh / mheaitseála is déanaí, rud a cheadaíonn cuardach agus comparáid níos tapa agus níos cruinne a dhéanamh ar lorg amhrasta agus lorg neamhfholas a ghlactar ó láithreacha coireachta, chomh maith le huasghráduithe crua-earraí agus stáisiúin oibre úsáideora. Cuirfidh sé ar chumas FSI seirbhís saotharlainne méarlorg níos éifeachtaí a fhorbairt agus a chur ar fáil. Tá an tionscadal seo á chómhaoiniú ag an nGarda Síochána agus ag an Roinn Dlí agus Cirt. Ina theannta sin, cuireadh tús le tionscadal chun anailís teicneolaíochta, margaidh, beartais agus tagarmharcála a dhéanamh a chuirfidh bonn eolais faoi athsholáthar AFIS níos fadtéarmaí. Is meastóireacht ilghníomhaireachta trasearnála é seo a chabhróidh le hinfeistíochtaí amach anseo i gcórais AFIS na chéad ghlúine eile a mhúnlú. Is mór an t-údar misnigh é go bhfuil an meascán seo d'fheabhsuithe garthéarmacha agus d'fhorbairtí straitéiseacha fadtéarmacha ag tarlú ag an am céanna.

Rinneadh dul chun cinn freisin ar fheidhmchlár nua chun sonraí DNA a ghineann ionstraimí uathoibríthe DNA FSI a ghabháil, a stóráil agus a chur i gcomparáid lena chéile. Tá níos mó ná 50% den obair forbartha agus tástála críochnaithe agus táthar ag súil go mbeidh sí ar fáil i Samhradh 2023.

Tá tús curtha cheana féin le feistiú TFC i bhfoirgneamh nua FSI ar champas Bhacastúin. Is deis iontach í seo bonneagar agus córas oiriúnach don fheidhm a chur ar fáil a thacaíonn le saoráid nua FSI agus lenár seirbhísí.

Tá dul chun cinn déanta ar an obair freisin chun FSI a chomhtháthú leis an Mol Oibríochta um Cheartas Coiriúil. Ligeann an t-ardán seo do chomhlachtaí éagsúla laistigh den earnáil dlí agus cirt sonraí a mhalartú go huathoibríoch faoi na comhaontuithe rialachais sonraí iomchuí. Cuireadh tús le hobair scóipe ar fhaisnéis a mhalartú ó na Seirbhísí Cúirte le FSI ionas gur féidir tús áite a thabhairt do chásanna ar bhealach níos éifeachtúla.

Cuirfidh uathoibríú próiseas agus comhtháthú éifeachtach sonraí ar chumas FSI a bheith níos éifeachtúla lena sheirbhísí agus níos éifeachtaí laistigh den chóras ceartais choiriúil – beidh sé sin fós ina phríomhfhócas do FSI sna blianta amach romhainn.

Leanann an fhoireann uirthi ag sárú theorainneacha na heolaíochta agus na teicneolaíochta agus tugadh teicnící nua isteach i gcleachtas fóirínseach le linn 2022. Dhirigh muid go mór ar ullmhúcháin don fhoirgneamh nua agus a chinntiú go bhfuil an teicneolaíocht is déanaí ar fáil againn chun tacú le réimse agus méid na seirbhísí a chuirtear ar fáil, rud atá an-tábhachtach ós rud é go mbeidh FSI ag cothabháil seirbhísí creidiúnaithe in áiseanna reatha agus ionstraimíocht nua á coimisiúnú ar champas Bhacastúin.

Fuarthas oiliúint shaineolach i Seicheamhú DNA Miteacoindreach, ag baint úsáid as Seicheamhóir teicneolaíochta den Chéad Ghluin Eile agus úsáideadh é seo chun cabhrú le himscrúdú Duine ar Iarraidh gan réiteach in 2022. Beidh sé seo agus teicneolaíochtaí eile riachtanach chun tacú leis an gClár Aitheantais a leagtar amach san Acht um Adhlacthaí Institiúideacha. Cuireadh bogearraí nua i bhfeidhm agus dearbhaíodh iad chun meascán daoine gaolmhara a mheas go staitistiúil. Dheimhnigh obair chomhoibrítheach le hOifig an Phaiteolaí Stáit úsáid cártaí FTA chun daoine a aithint tar éis scrúdú iarbháis.

Deimhníodh leictreonmhicreascóip scanacháin nua (SEM) chun anailís a dhéanamh ar iarmhar arm tine agus tá siad in úsáid le haghaidh cásoibre. Forbraíodh seirbhís nua freisin chun anailís a dhéanamh ar cheanastar ocsaíd nítriúil in 2022.

Rinneadh próisis a fhorbairt agus a bheachtú le haghaidh ullmhú samplach drugaí inite ina raibh drugaí aindleathacha chomh maith le lorg cócaoin. Tá taighde leanúnach á dhéanamh freisin ar aimsiú cócaoin ó urghabhálacha drugaí neamhghnácha agus casta.

Tá foireann FSI gníomhach in 22 ghrúpa oibre AFPS agus ENFSI éagsúla. Tá gá leis sin ionas go gcoinnítear suas le forbairt dea-chleachtais sa phobal fóirínseach agus go gcuirfead leis an bhforbairt sin. Chuir FSI go gníomhach le hAcadamh Eorpach um Eolaíocht Fhóirínseach (EAFS) i Stócólm in 2022. Is é EAFS an t-imeacht eolaíocht fhóirínseach Eorpach is mó agus tarlaíonn sé uair amháin gach 3 - 4 bliana. Tugann sé le chéile os cionn 1000 cleachtóir eolaíocht fhóirínseach, páirtithe leasmhara agus comhpháirtithe ó gach cearn den phobal eolaíocht fhóirínseach chun méid agus fairsinge na bhforbairtí san eolaíocht fhóirínseach a thaispeáint. I measc ionchur FSI reachtáladh ceardlann ar straitéis samplála chun léirmhíniú agus meastóireacht a dhéanamh ar chásanna líomhnaithe lonsaithe Gnéis, ceardlanna agus cur i láthair maidir le hullmhú do Scrúdú Eolas Ginearálta Fóirínseach, cur i láthair ar éabhlóid seirbhísí cás-iontógála agus cur i láthair póstaer ar shonraí cainníochta maidir le drugaí in Éirinn. Bhí FSI ina chathaoirleach freisin ar roinnt cainteanna agus imeachtaí le linn EAFS agus rinne sé ionadaíocht ar a Choiste Eolaíoch. Chuir FSI tairiscint isteach chun EAFS 2025 a óstáil i mBaile Átha Cliath. D'éirigh linn sa tairiscint sin agus roghnaíodh muid mar óstaigh don chomhdháil thábhachtach sin. Is deis iontach é sin do FSI an réimse buanna agus cumais a thaispeáint ar stáitse na hEorpa arís agus imeacht speisialta nach ligfead i ndearmad a dhéanamh de EAFS 2025.

Anuraidh, ghlac FSI páirt i gclár a fuair maoiniú Eorpach chun bonn eolais agus inniúlachtaí na hEorpa a chur chun cinn in go leor disciplíní eolaíocht fhóirínseach. Is é aidhm an tionscadail seo deis a thabhairt d'Eolaithe Fóirínseacha i ngach disciplín eolas fóirínseach bunúsach a fheabhsú. Mar chuid d'obair an tionscadail sin, cuirtear siollabas le chéile a chlúdaíonn réimsí bunúsacha na heolaíochta fóirínseach. Bheadh sé seo úsáideach go háirithe d'eolaithe a rinne staidéar ar na heolaíochtaí bunúsacha seachas eolaíocht fhóirínseach agus tabharfaidh sé deis dóibh cáilíocht a bhaint amach. Cuirfead 'Léitheoir' ar fáil d'iarrthóirí a dhéanfaidh scrúdú ar líne tar éis tréimhse ama agus a bhainfidh cáilíocht amach.

## Foilseacháin:

Ball foirne de chuid FSI is ea an t-údar nó duine de na comhúdair ar na páipéir seo a leanas a foilsíodh i rith na bliana:

- 1 C. Murphy agus J. Ryan, *Eolaíocht & Ceartas* 62 (2022) 448–454: Cur chuige luachmhar maidir le haistriú seamhain i gcás ionsaithe gnéis líomhnaithe. Cás-Staidéar: Léirmhíniú agus tuairisciú próifíl DNA measctha ó sheacht saotharlann fhóirínseacha sa Ríocht Aontaithe agus in Éirinn.

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- 2 Ben Mallinder, Susan Pope, Jim Thomson, Lesley-Ann Beck, Andrew McDonald, Dorothy Ramsbottom, Denise Syndercombe Court, Des Vanhinsbergh, Michael Barber, Ian Evett, Kevin Sullivan, Jonathan Whitaker. ‘Léirmhíniú agus tuairisciú próifíl DNA measctha ó sheacht saotharlann fhóirínseacha sa Ríocht Aontaithe agus in Éirinn’; *Eolaíocht Fhóirínseach Idirnáisiúnta: Géineolaíocht* 58 (2022) 102674.

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- 3 J. Finnis, G. Davidson, I. Fraser, C. Murphy, C. Hargreaves, N. Stevenson, S. Doole, C. Rogers. Na buntáistí agus na teorainneacha a bhaineann le foinsí solais fóirínseacha. *Eolaíocht & Ceartas* (2022), doi: <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.scijus.2022.12.001>.

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- 4 C. Murphy, K. Alexander, M. Stark and G. Davidson. Modhanna aisghabhála nua d’ábhair bhitheolaíocha i gcásanna ionsaithe gnéis líomhnaithe: Focal rabhaidh. *Eolaíocht agus Ceartas, Imleabhar* 62, Eagrán 5, Meán Fómhair 2022, Leathanaigh 621-62.

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# An Comhar agus an Córas

# 3



# An Comhar agus an Córas

**Tá an chaibidil seo dírithe ar an gcaoi a bhfuiltear ag cur dlús breise leis an gcaidreamh le dreamanna eile agus ag treisiú le dlúthpháirt FSI sa chóras ceartais choiriúil in Éirinn agus i réimsí níos leithne den saol.**

Rinne FSI roinnt mhaith dul chun cinn maidir leis sin i gcaitheamh na bliana, agus pleanáladh nó cuireadh i bhfeidhm roinnt athruithe.

Ba iad an Garda Síochána a sheol formhór na n-aighneachtaí fianaiseacha isteach chuig FSI. Mar sin, tá comhoibriú agus comhar ríthábhachtach ionas gur féidir le FSI a chuid acmhainní a dhíriú ar an gcaoi is éifeachtaí. Sampla den chomhoibriú seo is ea an feidhmchlár soghluaiste nua, ‘KopShop’ a forbraíodh agus a seoladh in 2022. Ba iad FSI, Foireann Athraithe, Teicneolaíochta agus Nuálaíochta (CTI) na Roinne Dlí agus Cirt agus Foireann Seirbhísí Digiteacha agus Nuálaíochta an Gharda Síochána i gcomhar le chéile a d’fhorbair an feidhmchlár agus tá ábhar treorach luachmhar ar fáil ar ghléasanna móibíleacha (lena n-áirítear foirmeacha, cuir i láthair agus físeáin) ar dhea-chleachtais i leith fianaise a bhailiú ó láithreacha coireachta. Seoladh an feidhmchlár seo in 2022 agus tá aiseolas an-dearfach á fháil aige ó úsáideoirí go dtí seo.

D'oibrigh FSI go dlúth freisin leis an nGarda Síochána, agus ar fud na hearnála ceartais in 2022, chun an úsáid is fearr a bhaint as an acmhainn atá ar fáil sa tsaotharlann, maidir le cásanna drugaí go háirithe. In 2022, cuireadh oiliúint ar 231 comhalta den Gharda Síochána ó 22 ceantar agus fuair siad deimhniú in úsáid Tástáil Drugaí Réamh-mheasta (PDT). Is féidir le comhalta oilte den Gharda Síochána PDT a dhéanamh i stáisiún Gardaí le haghaidh roinnt substaintí drugaí a bhraitear faoi Alt 3 den Acht um Mí-Úsáid Drugaí – d'fhéadfadh sé sin roinnt cásanna a atreorú ó FSI, rud a ligeann dó díriú ar chásanna eile. Chuir FSI ceardlann ar fáil maidir le hAnailís Drugaí agus úsáid PDT leis na Breithiúna in 2022, agus d'fhorbair sé moltaí maidir le reachtaíocht nua a chuireann PDT ar bhonn reachtach níos láidre. Bunaíodh línte díreacha rialta cumarsáide idir FSI agus Láithreoirí Cúirte i roinnt dúichí cúirte chun a chinntiú go ndéantar tuairisciú tráthúil ar chás-obair fhóiréinseach roimh éisteachtaí cúirte.

B'fhócas ar leith do FSI in 2022 é a gcuid rannpháirtíochta le líonraí drugaí luathrabhaidh, i bhfianaise cannaibionóidigh shintéiseacha nua agus substaintí drugaí nua eile a bheith á n-aithint. Ina measc sin, bhí an grúpa oibre Luathrabhaidh agus Treochtaí Éiritheacha (EWET), faoi chathaoirleacht na Roinne Sláinte agus an Lárionaid Faireacháin Eorpaigh um Dhrugaí agus Andúil i nDrugaí (EMCDDA).

Bhí ionchur gníomhach ag FSI i roinnt cláir oiliúna i rith na bliana. Áiríodh orthu sin oiliúint d'Aonaid na Roinne do Sheirbhísí Cosanta (DPSU) nua. Tá bunú DPSU i ngach Rannán de chuid an Gharda Síochána mar chuid de phróiseas forbartha chun cur chuige comhsheasmhach agus gairmiúil a chinntiú i dtaca le himscrúdú coireachta a bhaineann le híospartaigh leochaileacha i gcás ina mbeadh baol tromchúiseach díobhála ann. Bíonn FSI sásta a bheith ag cur go gníomhach leis na cláir oiliúna sin.

Ghlac FSI páirt i dtionscadal taighde trasearnála, inar dhirigh siad féin agus an Garda Síochána, an Roinn Dlí agus Cirt agus Seachadadh Seirbhísí Inimisce (ISD), ar thuiscint a fháil ar na roghanna fadtéarmacha chun an Córas Aitheantais Uathoibríthe Méarlorg (AFIS) a ionadú. Cuirfidh an tionscadal seo bonn eolais faoi riachtanais na chéad ghlúine eile de chóras náisiúnta AFIS sna blianta amach romhainn.

Bhí plé forleathan ag FSI leis an Roinn Leanaí, Comhionannais, Míchumais, Lánpháirtíochta agus Óige (DCEDIY) i rith 2022 mar ullmhúchán don Chlár Aitheantais atá leagtha amach san Acht Adhlachtaí Institiúideacha. Bronnann an reachtaíocht seo freagracht shuntasach ar FSI as Clár Aitheantais, agus bunachair sonraí ghaolmhara, a sholáthar chun tacú le hAdhlachtaí Institiúideacha amhail Áras Máithreacha agus Leanaí Thuama. Beidh raon feidhme an TFC, na hoibre oibríochta agus eolaíochta atá os comhair FSI an-suntasach.

Ghlac FSI páirt freisin sa chéad Phlean Earnála Straitéiseach um Cheartas Coiriúil, go háirithe maidir le comhoibriú, comhtháthú sonraí agus forbairt eagraíochtúil a fheabhsú. Díreítear anseo ar an earnáil ina hiomláine a chur ar bhonn níos éifeachtaí agus níos éifeachtúla.

Forbraíodh caidreamh freisin le gníomhaireachtaí comhpháirtíochta atá lonnaithe i gCampas Saotharlainne Bhacastúin, lena n-áirítear an tSaotharlann Stáit agus an Roinn Talmhaíochta, Bia agus Mara (RTBM). Cabróidh an caidreamh sin le FSI fadhbanna comhroinnte a réiteach ar an gcampas agus tacóidh sé le forbairt straitéiseach fhadtéarmach an champais.

Lean FSI lena chomhpháirtíocht le hEolaíocht Fhóiréinseach Thuaisceart Éireann (FSNI) i gcaitheamh na bliana. Bhí an chomhpháirtíocht seo an-tacúil agus táirgiúil le bliain anuas, inar comhroinneadh go gníomhach eolas agus tacaíocht. Forbraíodh plean 2 bhliain le haghaidh comhair maidir le tacaíocht cáis agus forbraíodh comhroinnt saineolais in 2021 agus tá sé sin ar siúl anois.

D'fhreagair FSI 8 n-iarratas saorála faisnéise (SF) agus 37 Ceist Pharlaiminte (PQ) le linn na bliana. D'fhreagair muid freisin roinnt iarratas ó na meáin, lena n-áirítear nuachtáin, raidió agus teilifís chun feasacht an phobail a mhéadú ar an obair a dhéanann FSI thar ceann an chórais ceartais choiriúil.







# Córais Cháilíochta

# 4



# Córais Cháilíochta

**Is den bhunriachtanas go mbíonn córas docht daingean cáilíochta ar bun ag FSI ionas gur féidir leis na geallsealbhóirí a bheith lánmhuiníneach as na seirbhísí agus as na torthaí.**

Is bailíochtú tábhachtach ar ár gcóras cáilíochta é creidiúnú do chaighdeán idirnáisiúnta. In 2022, rinneadh athmheasúnú rathúil ar FSI maidir le comhlíonadh chaighdeán ISO-17025 (2017). Déanann Bord Creidiúnaithe Náisiúnta na hÉireann (INAB) an t-athmheasúnú cuimsitheach seo gach 5 bliana, le measúnuithe faireachais gach bliain eile. Rinneadh cloí FSI leis an gcaighdeán seo a mheas le bearta mionbhreithnithe ar an gcóras cáilíochta, ar na córais bhainistíochta, ar na gnáis oibriúcháin agus ar na tuairiscí bailíochta ar fud na réimsí oibre fóiréinseacha ar fad i rith na bliana.

Rinneadh dhá shíneadh nua ar sheirbhísí creidiúnaithe scóip FSI in 2022. Bhain siad sin le dhá ionstraim GCMS nua sa rannóg drugaí agus dhá leictreonmhicreascóp scanacháin sa rannóg Ceimice.

Tá córas láidir cáilíochta mar bhonn agus mar thaca ag an gcreidiúnú rathúil agus ag síntí leanúnacha ar scóip an chreidiúnaithe gach bliain, córas a nglacann an fhoireann go léir leis. Le linn 2022, ghlac FSI páirt in 46 iniúchadh inmheánacha a rinne measúnú ar gach gné de chórais bhainistíochta FSI, lena n-áirítear iniúchtaí Bainistíochta Cáilíochta, iniúchtaí ingearacha, iniúchtaí finnítithe, leathnú ar iniúchtaí scóipe agus iniúchtaí oiliúna. Ghlac FSI páirt freisin in 60 triail comharoibre/oilteachta in 2022. Is saotharlanna fóiréinseacha Eorpacha agus cuideachtaí 3ú páirtí a dhear na trialacha seo d'fhonn leibhéal inniúlachta i ndisciplíní fóiréinseacha ar fud na hEorpa a mheas agus a chalabhrú go leanúnach. Chuir FSI na trialacha sceidealaithe go léir i gcrích in 2022 agus cabhraíonn sé le roinnt trialacha Eorpacha a dhearadh ionas go mbeidh ardmheas ar inniúlacht i measc ár bpiaraí Eorpacha.





# **Timpeallacht Oiriúnach don Chuspóir**

# **5**



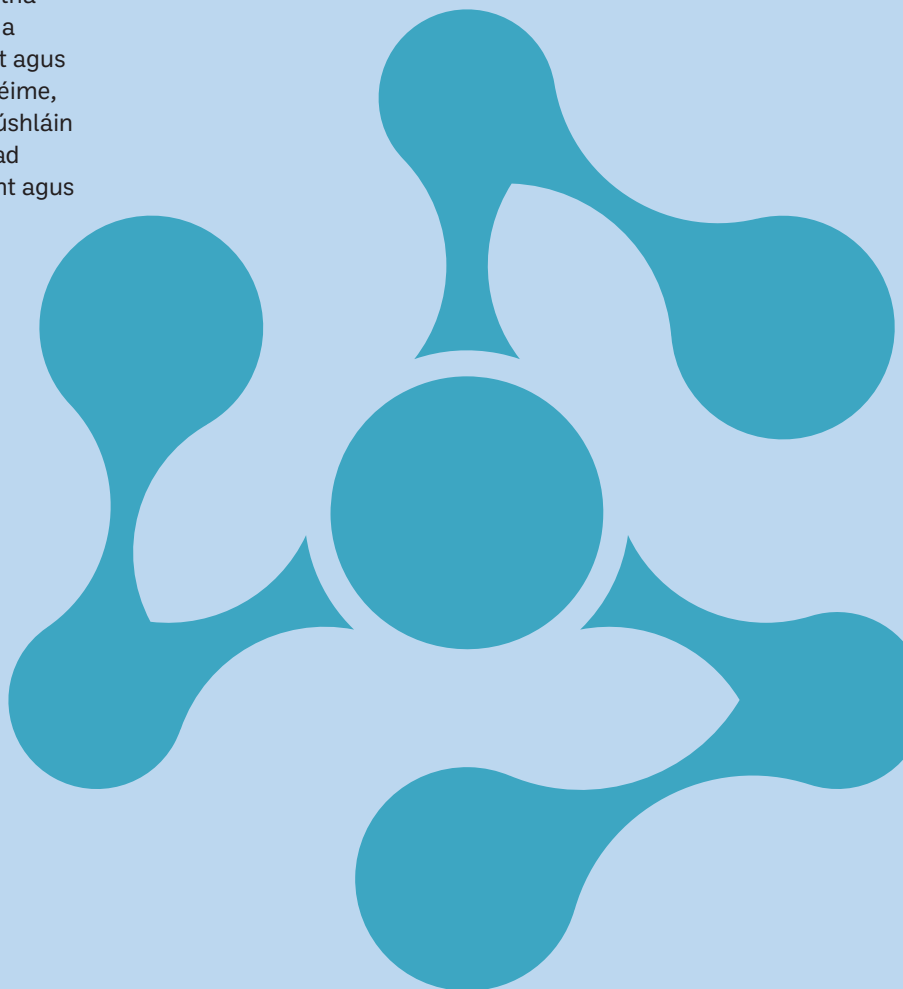


# Timpeallacht Oiriúnach don Chuspóir

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Tá dhá phríomhspríoc ag FSI maidir leis an timpeallacht oibre – aistriú chuig foirgneamh nua oiriúnach don fheidhm ar Champas Saotharlainne Bhacastúin i gContae Chill Dara, agus rioscaí na foirne agus na seirbhísí a bhainistiú idir an dá linn.

Cuireadh fáilte mhór roimh dheireadh a chur le srianta Covid-19 san ionad oibre go luath in 2022, go háirithe scaradh sóisialta. Cé gur coinníodh na seirbhísí fóiréinseacha go léir le linn na paindéime, cheadaigh sé seo gach gníomhaíocht oiliúna agus forbartha pearsanta agus comhoibríthe trasfheidhmiúil a thabhairt ar ais. Bhí gairmiúlacht, solúbthacht agus tiomantas na foirne an-soiléir le linn na paindéime, agus d'éirigh go maith leis arís in 2022. Bhí dúshlán ar leith ag baint le roinnt athchóirithe san ionad oibre le linn 2022 agus is mór againn tacaíocht agus inoiriúnaitheacht na foirne.

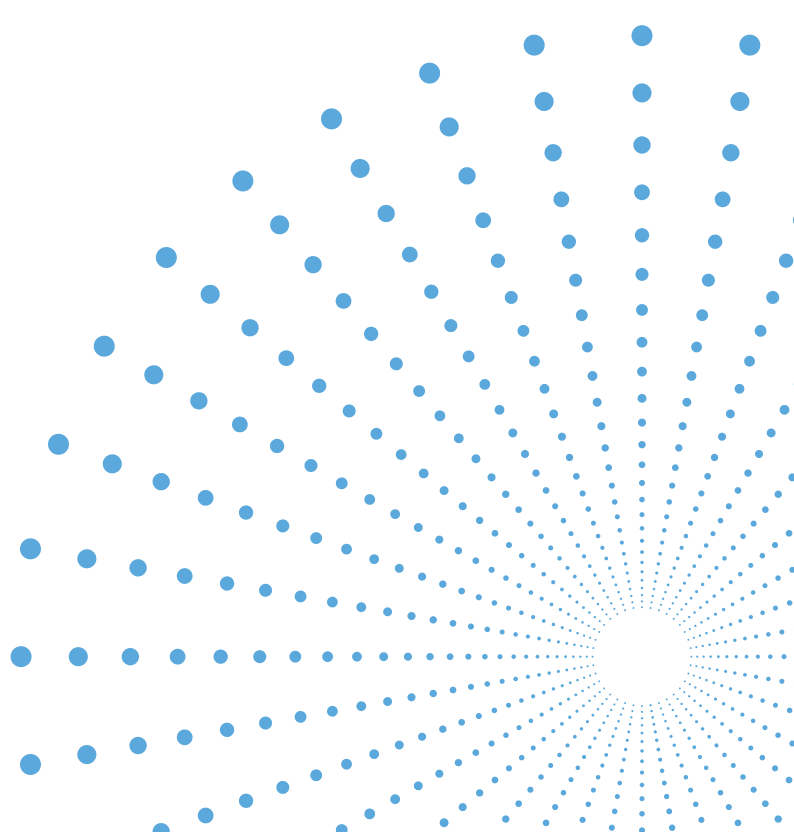


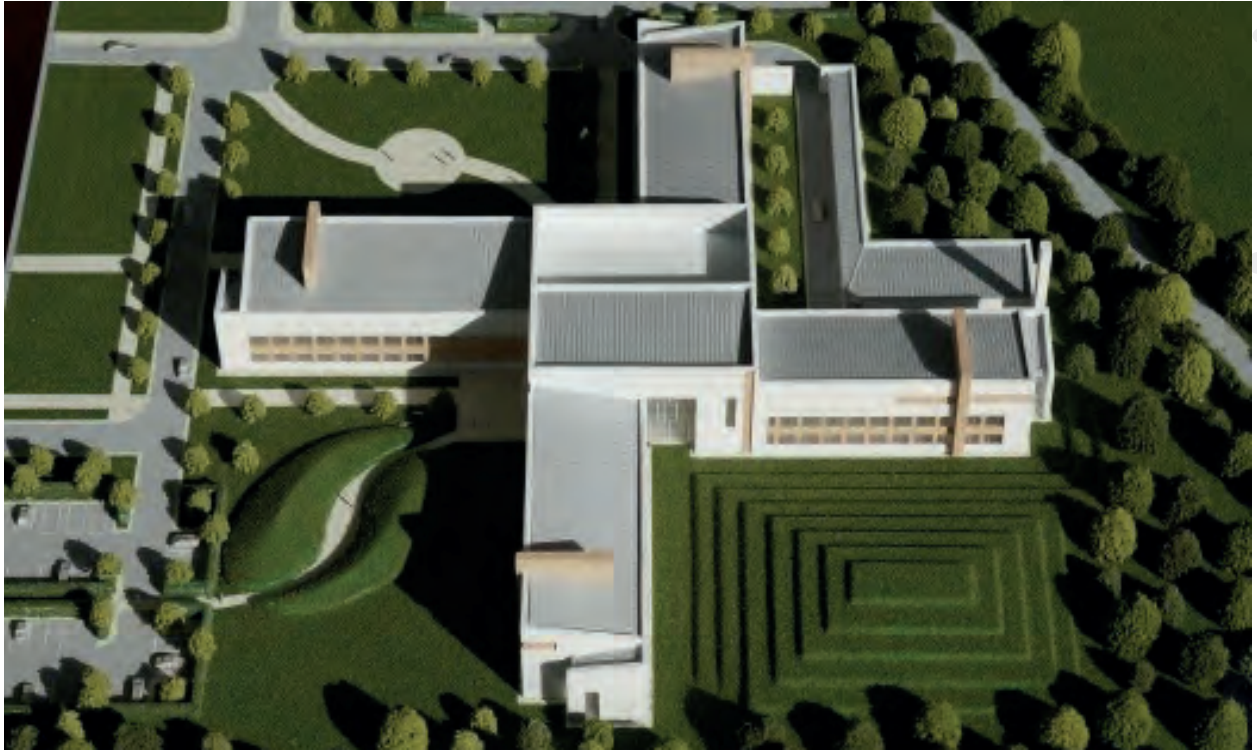
Críochnaíodh céim tógála an fhoirgnimh nua, atá á bainistiú ag Oifig na nOibreacha Poiblí thar ceann FSI, den chuid is mó in 2022. Cé go rabhthas ag súil go gcríochnófaí an foirgneamh agus go gcuirfí tús le tréimhse an aistrithe i samhradh 2022, cuireadh moill air sin go dtí 2023. Agus é seo á scríobh, táthar ag tabhairt faoi chéim dheireanach an phróisis coimisiúnaithe (céim 5) ar an bhfoirgneamh, agus táthar ag súil go gcuirfear tús leis an aistriú i mí na Meitheamh 2023. Cuireadh tús cheana féin le feistiú an fhoirgnimh roimh chéim aistrithe FSI. Tarlóidh an t-aistriú de réir a chéile ar bhonn céimnithe thar thréimhse 9 – 12 mhí ionas gur féidir le FSI soláthar na seirbhísí go léir ó na háiseanna reatha a choinneáil agus creidiúnú a bhaint amach san fhoirgneamh nua. Bhí baill foirne ó gach seirbhís fhóirínseach in FSI chomh maith le foireann thrasfheidhmiúil gnóthach le linn 2022 ag ullmhú le haghaidh an fhoirgnimh nua agus an aistrithe. Rinneadh go leor machnaimh ar leagan amach agus ar dhearadh na saotharlann, spásanna oifige chomh maith le spásanna comhroinnte agus comhoibritheacha ionas gur féidir le FSI an leas is fearr a bhaint as an áis nua.

Is togra mór caipitil é seo in earnáil an Cheartais lena mbaineann infheistíocht mhór sna seirbhísí fóirínseacha in Éirinn san am atá romhainn. Athrú suntasach é seo freisin don fhoireann ar fad – is deireadh ré atá ann ar go leor bealaí agus tús le haistear nua. Táthar ag tnúth le hoscailt an ionaid agus leis an gcéad tuairisc fhóirínseach ar chás a eisiúint as an bhfoirgneamh nua amach sa bhliain!

Tá coinníollacha agus sonraí faoi leith le sásamh maidir leis an áras. Ar an gcéad dul síos, ní mór na seomraí cuardaigh san fhoirgneamh, áit a ndéanfar rianfhianaise a bhailiú as ábhar samplach, a bheith ag teacht leis an gcaighdeán ISO 14644. Is caighdeán seomra íonghlan é seo a shonraíonn an timpeallacht rialaithe a theastaíonn le haghaidh obair seomra cuardaigh. Ní mór chomh maith soláthar a dhéanamh

san fhoirgneamh do na seirbhísí fóirínseacha éagsúla a chuireann FSI ar fáil, do líon breise na gcásanna de réir a chéile agus do réimsí breise maidir lena gcineál – lena dtugtar san áireamh obair maidir le méarlorg a aimsiú agus a bhreithniú agus le cáipéisí agus lámhscríbhneoireacht a mheas a aistríodh le tamall anuas ó Bhiúró Náisiúnta Teicniúil an Gharda Síochána. Tacaíonn sé freisin le cumais agus seirbhísí nua laistigh d’Anailís Cheimiceach, Fhisiciúil agus DNA & Bhitheolaíoch a rachaidh chun tairbhe don chóras ceartais choiriúil – seicheamhú na Chéad Ghlúine Eile san áireamh (don Chlár Aitheantais faoin reachtaíocht le déanaí um Adhlachtaí Institiúideacha). Ní foláir an foirgneamh a bheith ag teacht chomh maith leis na Rialacháin is deireanaí maidir le Rialú Foirgníochta (2014) agus na coinníollacha a shásamh faoin Treoir maidir le Feidhmíocht Fuinnimh Foirgnimh (2018), lena n-áirítear coinníollacha maidir le Foirgnimh ar ráta úsáide fuinnimh a bheadh gar do nialas (le córas aerúcháin nádúrtha agus córais tíosach ar fhuinneamh. Ní mór chomh maith, an foirgneamh agus na córais ann, an teicneolaíocht TFC agus na gnáis oibriúcháin, a bheith ag teacht leis an gcaighdeán ISO-17025, an bhunsraith faoi sheirbhísí creidiúnaithe FSI.





*Fíor 18: Macasamhail an Fhoirgnimh (le caoinchead Oifig na nOibreacha Poiblí)*



*Fíor 19: Grianghraf le déanaí den fhoirgneamh críochnaithe (Le caoinchead Oifig na nOibreacha Poiblí)*







# Sárfheabhas na nDaoine





# Sárfheabhas na nDaoine

## Tá de sprioc faoin téama straitéise seo foireann shlánchuimsitheach a chothú in FSI atá dírithe ar fheabhsú leanúnach na seirbhísí agus meon a chothú ar fud na heagraíochta lena mbaineann macántacht, meas agus an comhar.

I measc na réimsí fócais ar leith in 2022 bhí earcú foirne nua agus oiliúint & forbairt na foirne go léir.

Bhí dúshlán ar leith ag baint leis an tírdhreach earcaíochta do ról ghairmiúla agus riaracháin in 2022. Cé gur tháinig 32 ball foirne nua isteach san eagraíocht in 2022, d'imigh 20 ball foirne ar scor nó d'éirigh siad as chun deiseanna gairme eile a bhaint amach, sa státseirbhís den chuid is mó. Cé go bhfuil FSI maoinithe go hiomlán dá spriocleibhéal foirne, tá ár gcomhlánú foirne reatha i bhfad níos ísle ná an sprioc mar gheall ar dhúshlán earcaíochta agus achar ama. Is réimse leanúnach fócais é seo dúinn agus is é an sprioc atá againn an líon iomlán foirne a bheith againn nuair a bhogfar go campas Bhacastúin.

Tá béim ar leith ag an bhfoireann ar oiliúint agus ar fhorbairt leanúnach foirne. Baineann oiliúint agus meantóireacht fhóirínseach leis sin agus tá tábhacht le disciplín chomh maith le hoiliúint níos leithne i gcleachtas fóirínseach. Cuireadh cláir oiliúna ar fáil le linn 2022 maidir le Tuairim Shaineolach Mheastóireachta (EEO), Scileanna Cúirte agus Oiliúint Shaineolach Finné. Cuireadh turais feasachta fhóirínseacha agus turais seomra cúirte ar fáil i rith na bliana freisin chun feasacht a mhéadú maidir leis an áit a n-oibríonn FSI laistigh den chóras ceartais choiriúil.

Tá Grúpa Forbartha Foirne gníomhach agus coiste sóisialta ag FSI a dhíríonn ar an bhfoireann a fhorbairt go gairmiúil, timpeallacht oibre shláintiúil a chruthú agus oibriú le chéile i dtreo athruithe.

Tá ionchur fós ag an bhfoireann Aistrithe ina bhfuil roinnt den fhoireann saotharlainne i bhfoirgneamh nua Bhacastúin. Tagann siad le chéile go rialta chun

saincheisteanna amhail áiseanna bialainne, iompar agus timpeallacht oifige laistigh den áis nua a phlé chomh maith le dul i ngleic le saincheisteanna teicniúla. Tá sé tábhachtach go mbeadh gach ball foirne in ann a thuairimí a chur in iúl agus an t-aistriú a mhúnlú.

Seolfaidh FSI seirbhís comhairleoireachta don fhoireann go foirmiúil i mí na Nollag. Fostaíodh Spectrum Life chun seirbhís comhairleoireachta ar éileamh a chur ar fáil don fhoireann agus Inspire Wellbeing chun seirbhís speisialaithe comhairleoireachta i gcás tráma a sholáthar. Eagraíodh oiliúint bhreise freisin do lucht tacaíochta Piaráí.

Cé gur oibrigh gach ball foirne sa tsaotharlann a luaithe a mhaolaigh srianta Covid, rinne FSI beartas obair chumaisc inbhuanaithe a fhorbairt agus a chur i bhfeidhm in 2022 i gcomhairle leis an bhfoireann. Aithnítear sa bheartas gur eagraíocht eolaíoch ar leith é FSI a bhfuil feidhm dírithe ar an gcustaiméir aige ach aithnítear freisin go bhfuil forbairt mhór tagtha ar chórais TFC le 3 bliana anuas agus gur féidir cur chuige cumaisc i leith oibre a éascú. Táimid ag súil go dtiocfaidh tuilleadh forbartha air sin tar éis an aistrithe go dtí an foirgneamh nua.

Bhí áthas ar FSI aitheantas a thabhairt do sheirbhís fhada agus an méid a rinne triúr eolaithe agus beirt Ghardaí ar iasacht ag deireadh na bliana.

Glacann FSI páirt freisin sa chlár 'Excellence Through People' (arna bhainistiú ag an Údarás um Chaighdeán Náisiúnta na hÉireann) agus i mbliana choinnigh sé a chreidiúnú Óir agus rinneadh feabhsuithe i ngach réimse iniúchta.



# Rialachas Corparáideach

## 1. Comhaontú Soláthair Feidhmíochta

Gné lárnach den chaidreamh Rialachais idir an Roinn Dlí agus Cirt agus Eolaíocht Fhóirínseach Éireann is ea Comhaontú Soláthair Feidhmíochta bliantúil (PDA). Leagtar amach thíos achoimre ar an gcaoi ar éirigh le FSI leis an PDA do 2022.

Tá spriocanna cainníochta a bhaineann le seirbhísí fóirínseacha agus spriocanna eile in PDA FSI. Léirítear iad sin i bhFíor 20 agus 21 thíos, faoi seach.

Réimse nó tionscnamh aschuir	Méadrach	Cuspóir Straitéiseach a Bhaineann leis <sup>1</sup>	Sprioc 2022	Sprioc 2022
Comhtháthú Seirbhísí GNTB	Líon na gcásanna Biúró Teicniúil nó Iarratais Mheaitseála le cúnaimh ó fhoireann FSI <sup>2</sup>	<sup>3</sup> 6.1	5,500	5,710
Anailís Cheimiceach	Líon na gcásanna casta drugaí/tocsaineolaíochta a tuairiscíodh	<sup>4</sup> 1.2	5,250	6,146 <sup>5</sup>
DNA - Aitheantais	Líon na n-imscrúduithe duine ar iarraidh nó aitheantas coirp	1.2	80	142
DNA - Comhroinnt faisnéise	Líon na mBallstát ag a bhfuil nascacht agus malartú gníomhach Prüm	<sup>6</sup> 1.5	14	11
Cás-tuarascálacha faoi Chomhaontú Leibhéal Seirbhíse idir FSI agus an Garda Síochána	lomlán na gcásanna FSI a tuairiscíodh	<sup>7</sup> 1.3	21,000	23,542

Fíor 20: Spriocanna Cainníochtúla

1 Ó Phlean Straitéiseach FSI 2019-2022

2 Cásanna FVL, AFIS, Doiciméid agus Lámhscríbhneoireachta agus seiceálacha Méarlorg QC arna ndéanamh ag eolaithe FSI

3 Plean Straitéiseach 6.1: Disciplíní saotharlann-bhunaithe Bhiúró Náisiúnta Teicniúil an Gharda Síochána a chomhtháthú go héifeachtach in FSI.

4 Plean Straitéiseach 1.2: Cumas na seirbhísí a thairgtear inniu a mhéadú, trí dhírú ar ionstraimíocht, uathobriú, feabhsú próisis, táirgiúlacht agus soláthar foirne.

5 Lena n-áirítear 276 Cás tocsaineolaíochta; 5870 Alt 15/15A/17 Cásanna drugaí

6 Plean Straitéiseach 1.5: Líon na mBallstát a bhfuil nascacht agus malartú gníomhach Prüm acu leis na tíortha rannpháirteacha uile a leathnú.

7 Sprioc Straitéiseach 1.3: Tionchar agus éifeachtacht na n-acmhainní don Chóras Ceartais agus don tsochaí a uasmhéadú.

Níor chuir FSI tús le malartú DNA faoi chonradh Prüm le haon tír nua in 2022, ach choinnigh siad malartuithe leis na 11 tír a nascadh sna blianta roimhe sin. Rinneadh uasghrádú suntasach ar bhonneagar TFC FSI le linn 2022, lena n-áirítear comhtháthú fearainn agus bogearraí nua CODIS. Thóg sé tréimhse ama é sin a chur i bhfeidhm agus a chobhsú agus ní fhéadfaí aon tír nua a chur leis le linn na tréimhse sin.

Réimse nó tionscnamh aschuir	Spríoc	Cuspóir Straitéiseach a bhaineann leis	Toradh
Aistriú chuig saoráid nua ar Champas Eolaíochta Bhacastúin.	<p>An chéad aistriú foirne (faoi réir críochnaithe an 28 Iúil 2022) faoi dheireadh Ráithe 3.</p> <p>An Chéad Mheasúnú creidiúnaithe ag an suíomh nua roimh dheireadh Ráithe 4.</p> <p>Creidiúnú á bhronnadh ar sheirbhís dlí-eolaíochta amháin ar a laghad faoi dheireadh Ráithe 4.</p> <p>Cuirfidh FSI na chéad tuarascálacha creidiúnaithe ó shaoráid nua ar fáil faoi dheireadh Ráithe 4.</p>	Timpeallacht oiriúnach don chuspóir	Níor baineadh an spríoc sin amach in 2022 mar gheall ar mhoilleanna ar chríochnú agus coimisiúnú fhoirgneamh nua FSI.
Feidhmíocht oibríochtúil rathúil nuathionscanta agus láidir a chumasú i suíomh nua	<p>Na tionscadail seo a leanas a chur i gcrích go rathúil roimh an aistriú chuig campas Bhacastúin i Ráithe 3-2022.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>— Cobhsú AFIS</li> <li>— Aip Nua Hamilton</li> <li>— Titim Fearainn FSI</li> </ul>	Eolaíocht, Teicneolaíocht agus Nuálaíocht	<p>Baineadh an spríoc sin amach i bpáirt in 2022. Tá an tionscadal ‘FSI Domain Collapse’ curtha i gcrích den chuid is mó, agus tá roinnt obair chobhsaithe fanta.</p> <p>Rinneadh dul chun cinn ar thionscadal Cobhsaithe AFIS agus tionscadal Hamilton App ach cuireadh moill ar an gcur i gcrích go dtí Meitheamh 2023 faoi seach.</p>
Creidiúnú	Creidiúnú a choinneáil do Chaighdeán Cáilíochta ISO: 2017 17025 i roinnt áiteanna atá ann faoi láthair agus creidiúnú a fháil don fhoirgneamh nua.	Córais Cháilíochta	Baineadh an spríoc seo amach d’áiseanna reatha FSI.

Fíor 21: Spríocanna Eile

## 2. Cód Cleachtais

Dearbhaíonn FSI go sásaítear na coinníollacha éagsúla sa Chód Cleachtais maidir le Comhlachtaí Stáit a Rialú. Dearbhaítear go háirithe:

- 1 Go bhfuil an Comhaontú Maoirseachta i leith na bliana 2022 aontaithe leis an Roinn Dlí agus Cirt agus go gcomhlíonann FSI, ina chomhlacht neamhrechtúil gan Bord Stiúrtha, na coinníollacha faoin gCód Cleachtais maidir le Comhlachtaí Stáit a Rialú a bhaineann le hábhar.

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- 2 Go gcloíonn FSI leis na gnéithe den Chód maidir le Caiteachas Poiblí a bhaineann le hábhar.

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- 3 Go bhfuil córas bainistíochta maidir le hábhar baoil curtha i bhfeidhm ag FSI trína sonraítear na príomhréimsí baoil chomh maith leis na bearta bainistíochta a dhéantar chun dul i ngleic leis na réimsí baoil agus, chomh mór agus is féidir sin, chun iad a mhaolú. Tá clár réimsí baoil leagtha amach ar a ndéantar na príomhréimsí baoil a thagann i gceist maidir le Eolaíocht Fhóirínseach Éireann a shonrú, a mheas agus a rangú de réir tábhachta. Tugtar achoimre thíos ar na príomhréimsí baoil a shonraítear maidir le FSI i rith na bliana 2022 agus ar na straitéisí maolúcháin ina leith.
  - a Easpa spáis maidir le hábhar a ghlacadh isteach agus a stóráil, don fhoireann oibre agus don obair saotharlainne. Tharla dul chun cinn áirithe i rith na bliana 2021 maidir le cóir a dhéanamh do bhreis foirne ach bhí dul ar gcúl maidir le réimsí eile i gceist ar mhaithe leis sin.

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  - b Tá maolú á dhéanamh ar bhaol éillíochta, mar gheall ar dhearadh árais/saoráide, trí chóras rialála a oibriú maidir le héilliú a sheachaint agus le próisis oibre chuige sin go sonrath. Tá maolú tréan ar an mbaol ina leith seo i gceist leis an dearadh atá ar an áras nua.

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  - c Níl cothromaíocht idir an t-éileamh agus an acmhainn feidhmiúcháin ar fud réimsí éagsúla saothair FSI agus baol dá réir go dtarlódh tuairiscíocht neamhiomlán, earráideach nó mall ar chásanna don chúirt. Cé go bhfuil pleananna leagtha amach chun cur leis an acmhainn feidhmiúcháin, tá castacht na gcásanna atá á gcur faoi bhráid ar ardú ag ráta níos tréine. Déantar bainistíocht i leith an réimse baoil seo faoi láthair le próiseas atá aontaithe leis an nGarda Síochána, agus a luaitear sa Chomhaontú Leibhéal Seirbhíse idir an dá eagraíocht, maidir le hord tábhachta na gcásanna a leagan amach.

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  - d Ní leor an plean foirne chun spriocanna cáis, obair aistrithe agus gealltanais eile a choinneáil (mar gheall ar mhoilleanna ar earcaíocht agus gan dóthain iarrthóirí a mhealladh). Cuireann cailliúint taithe ar fud disciplíní (e.g. mar gheall ar oibrithe ag dul ar scor) ualach breise ar an bhfoireann atá fágtha.

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  - e Tarlóidh maolú ar an acmhainn feidhmiúcháin mar gheall ar éagobhsaíocht maidir leis na córais TEC, an Córas Uathoibríoch maidir le Meaitseáil Méarloirg san áireamh, agus d'fhéadfadh cur isteach ar dhéanamh seirbhíse a theacht dá bharr. D'fhonn an t-ábhar baoil ina leith seo a mhaolú, tá bearta feabhsúcháin TEC leagtha amach, cobhsaíocht bhreise sa Chóras Uathoibríoch maidir le Meaitseáil Méarloirg san áireamh.

## 3. Ráiteas faoi Rialú Inmheánach

### Scóip na Freagrachta

Admhaím, thar ceann Eolaíocht Fhóiréinseach Éireann, freagracht as a chinntiú go mbíonn córas éifeachtúil maidir le rialú inmheánach ar bun agus á chur i bhfeidhm. Tugtar san áireamh leis an bhfreagracht sin na coinníollacha faoin gCód Cleachtais chun Comhlachtaí Stáit a Rialú (2016).

### An Cuspóir atá leis an gCóras Rialaithe Inmheánaigh

Tá an córas rialaithe inmheánaigh leagtha amach chun riosca a bhainistiú a d'fhágfadh an riosca ar leibhéal inseasta seachas é a chur ar neamhní ar fad. Is deimhniú réasúnta dá réir sin agus ní deimhniú iomlán go ndéantar sócmhainní a chaomhnú, idirbhearta a cheadú agus tuairisc mar is cóir a choinneáil orthu, agus earráid nó mírialtacht ábhartha a chosc nó a thabhairt chun aire go tráthúil is féidir a thabhairt leis an gcóras. Bhí córas rialaithe inmheánaigh, ag teacht leis an treoir a d'eisigh an Roinn Caiteachais Phoiblí agus Athchóirithe, i bhfeidhm ag Eolaíocht Fhóiréinseach Éireann i ndáil leis an mbliain dár chríoch an 31 Nollaig 2022.

### An Acmhainn a bheith in ann Ábhar Baoil a Láimhseáil

Tugann Eolaíocht Fhóiréinseach Éireann tuairisc faoi gach ábhar a bhaineann le cúrsaí iniúchta do Choiste Iniúchta na Roinne Dlí agus Cirt. Feidhmíonn ardbhainistíocht Eolaíocht Fhóiréinseach Éireann mar Choiste Baoil ag an gcomhlacht féin. Thug bainisteoirí sinsearach de chuid Eolaíocht Fhóiréinseach Éireann an obair ar chlár réimsí baoil chun críche i rith na bliana 2022 agus cuireadh toradh na hoibre ar fáil don Roinn Dlí agus Cirt. Déanann an tAonad maidir le hIniúchadh Inmheánach sa Roinn Dlí agus Cirt iniúchadh maidir le cúrsaí airgeadais agus le bearta rialála eile in Eolaíocht Fhóiréinseach Éireann. Thug an t-iniúchadh is déanaí, a rinneadh i Ráithe 1 de 2022, dearbhú dearfach ar éifeachtacht na rialuithe atá i bhfeidhm in FSI. Tá polasaí bainistíochta maidir le réimsí baoil tugtha chun cinn ag ardbhainistíocht Eolaíocht Fhóiréinseach Éireann ina leagtar amach an cineál baoil a bhfuiltear sásta glacadh leis, na próisis bainistíochta atá i bhfeidhm i ndáil le hábhar baoil agus na ról atá ag daoine den fhoireann agus na réimsí freagrachta a ghabhann leo maidir le cúrsaí baoil. Cuireadh an polasaí sin ar fáil don uile dhuine den fhoireann a n-éilítear orthu oibriú de réir pholasaithe bainistíochta Eolaíocht Fhóiréinseach Éireann i ndáil le cúrsaí baoil, d'fhonn an lucht bainistíochta a chur ar a n-aire maidir le réimsí baoil atá ag teacht chun cinn, a chur i mbun súil a choinneáil ar réimsí laige agus freagracht a ghlacadh as ábhar baoil agus as bearta rialála maidir lena réimse féin den obair.

### An Creat Riosca agus Rialaithe

Tá córas bainistíochta i bhfeidhm ag Eolaíocht Fhóiréinseach Éireann trína sonraítear na príomhréimsí baoil agus na bearta bainistíochta a dhéantar chun dul i ngleic leis na réimsí baoil sin agus, chomh mór agus is féidir sin, chun iad a mhaolú. Tá clár réimsí baoil leagtha amach ar a ndéantar na príomhréimsí baoil a thagann i gceist maidir le Eolaíocht Fhóiréinseach Éireann a shonrú, a mheas agus a rangú de réir tábhachta. Déanann an ardbhainistíocht an clár a bhreithniú agus a leasú ar bhonn rialta. De réir thoradh na measúnuithe sin a dhéantar pleanáil agus dáileadh ar acmhainní ionas go ndéantar an chontúirt ó gach réimse baoil a mhaolú go dtí gur féidir a sheasamh. Tugtar mioneolas sa chlár rioscaí ar na rialuithe agus na bearta atá ag teastáil chun maolú a dhéanamh ar rioscaí agus ar an bhfreagracht as rialuithe a oibriú a leagtar ar bhaill foirne ar leith.

Deimhním go bhfuil timpeallacht rialaithe i bhfeidhm ar gnéithe dá cuid iad seo a leanas:

- tá tuairisc scríofa ar na gnáis oibre maidir leis na príomhphróisis ghnó;
- sannadh freagrachtaí airgeadais ag leibhéal bainistíochta le cuntasacht chomhfhreagrach
- córas buiséadaithe iomchuí ann agus buiséad bliantúil a bhíonn faoi athbhreithniú ag an ardbhainistíocht
- tá córais i bhfeidhm d'fhonn na córais teicneolaíochta faisnéise agus cumarsáide a choinneáil slán. Cuireann rannóg TFC na Roinne Dlí agus Cirt seirbhísí TFC ar fáil d'Eolaíocht Fhóirínseach Éireann. Tá ráiteas ráthaíochta curtha ar fáil ag an rannóg sin ina leagtar amach na próisis rialála atá i bhfeidhm;
- tá córais ar bun d'fhonn sócmhainní Eolaíocht Fhóirínseach Éireann a choinneáil slán. Cinntítear leis na gnáis rialála maidir le cistí deontais do ghníomhaireachtaí seachtracha go dtarlaíonn rialú leordhóthanach maidir le deontais a cheadú agus monatóireacht agus athbhreithniú ar na dreamanna a fhaigheann na deontais ionas go gcinntítear go bhfuil na cistí deontais á gcaitheamh de réir an chuspóra;
- Cuireann an Oifig Náisiúnta um Sheirbhísí Comhroinnte seirbhísí Acmhainní Daonna agus Párolla ar fáil. Eisíonn an Oifig Náisiúnta um Sheirbhísí Comhroinnte dearbhú bliantúil maidir leis na seirbhísí a chuirtear ar fáil. Déantar iniúchadh ar an Oifig sin de réir phróiseas deimhniúcháin ar chaighdeán ISAE 3402.

## Monatóireacht agus Athbhreithniú Leanúnach

Tá modhanna foirmeálta leagtha síos maidir le monatóireacht a dhéanamh ar na próisis rialaithe agus cuirtear aon easnamh rialaithe in iúl go tráthúil don té atá freagrach as beart cúitimh a dhéanamh agus don bhainistíocht, nuair is cuí sin. Dearbhaím go bhfuil na córais monatóireachta seo a leanas i bhfeidhm:

- Tá na príomhréimsí baoil agus na bearta rialaithe ina leith leagtha amach go soiléir agus próisis ar bun ionas go ndéantar monatóireacht ar oibriú na bpríomhbhearta rialaithe agus go dtugtar tuairisc ar aon easnamh a thugtar chun suntais;

- Déanann an tAonad maidir le hiniúchadh Inmheánach sa Roinn Dlí agus Cirt iniúchadh maidir le cúrsaí airgeadais agus le bearta rialála eile gach 2 bhliain;
- Tá socruithe tuairiscíochta curtha ar bun ar na leibhéil ar fad a bhfuil freagracht as bainistíocht airgeadais leagtha amach ina leith; agus
- Déanann an ardbhainistíocht athbhreithniú go rialta ar thuairiscí faoi chúrsaí feidhmíochta agus airgeadais, tuairiscí bliantúla agus tuairiscí níos minice ná sin, a ndéantar comórtas iontu idir torthaí feidhmiúcháin agus buiséid/réamh-mheastacháin.

## Soláthar

Dearbhaím go bhfuil gnáis oibre ar bun ag Eolaíocht Fhóirínseach Éireann d'fhonn a chinntiú go sásaítear na rialacha agus na treoirlínte reatha maidir le gnóthaí soláthair agus go ndearna Eolaíocht Fhóirínseach Éireann de réir na ngnás sin i rith na bliana 2022.

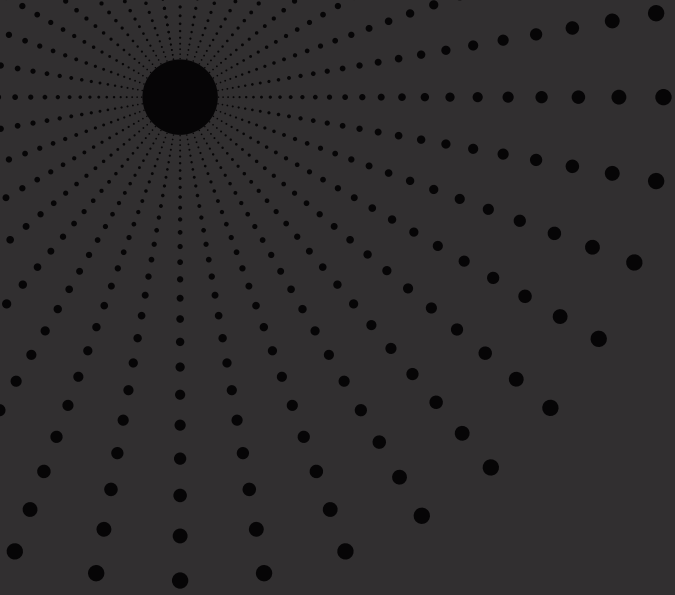
## Athbhreithniú ar Éifeachtacht

Dearbhaím go bhfuil gnáis oibre ar bun ag Eolaíocht Fhóirínseach Éireann chun monatóireacht a dhéanamh ar a éifeachtúla atá na gnáis oibre maidir le bainistíocht ar chúrsaí baoil agus le cúrsaí rialála.

Tagann monatóireacht agus athbhreithniú Eolaíocht Fhóirínseach Éireann ar a éifeachtúla atá an córas inmheánach maidir le rialú airgeadais faoi anáil obair na n-iniúcháirí inmheánacha agus na n-iniúcháirí seachtracha, an Choiste Iniúchta agus fhoireann na hardbhainistíochta. An ardbhainistíocht in Eolaíocht Fhóirínseach Éireann atá freagrach as creatchóras inmheánach maidir le rialú airgeadais a thabhairt chun cinn agus a choinneáil ar bun. Dearbhaím go ndearna Eolaíocht Fhóirínseach Éireann athbhreithniú bhliantúil ar éifeachtúlacht na mbearta rialaithe inmheánaigh i leith na bliana 2022. Is fiú a lua go ndeachaigh sin níos faide ná bearta rialaithe maidir le cúrsaí airgeadais agus go ndearnadh scrúdú chomh maith ar na bearta rialaithe maidir le TFC, gnáis bainistíochta agus próisis rialachais eile.

## Saincheistanna maidir le Rialú Inmheánach

Níor tháinig aon ábhar laige maidir leis an rialú inmheánach chun suntais maidir leis an mbliain 2022 ar ghá a nochtadh sna ráitis airgeadais.



## **Eolaíocht Fhóirínseach Éireann**


Ceanncheathrú an Gharda / Páirc an Fhionnuisce / Baile Átha Cliath 8 / D08 HN3X

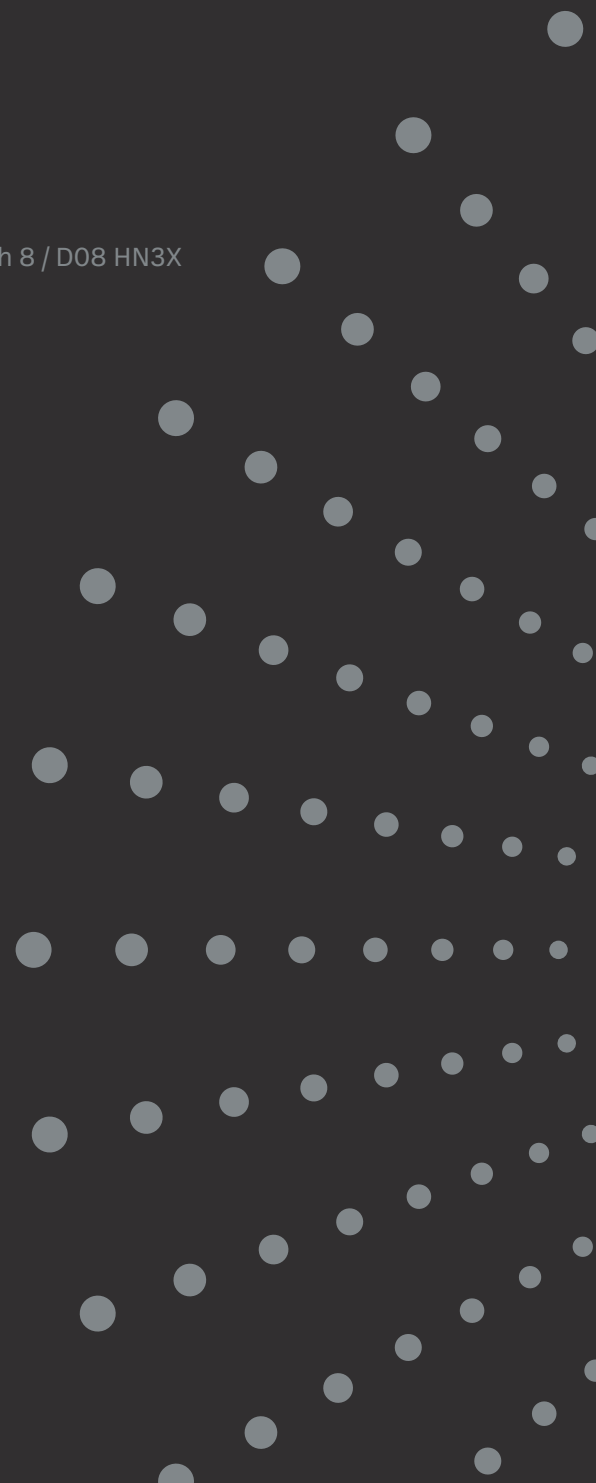
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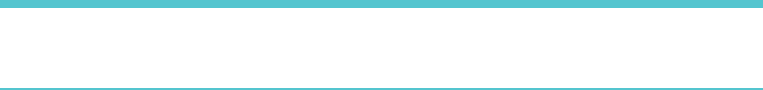




**fsi**

forensic science ireland

**Annual  
Report  
2022**



# Contents

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Foreword	02
Introduction	04
Who Are We and What We Do	05
Case Studies	08
Service Development and Growth	15
Case Studies	32
Science Technology and Innovation	39
Partnership and Integration	44
Quality Systems	49
Fit-For-Purpose Environment	53
Excellence Through People	59
Corporate Governance	60





# Foreword

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It is my pleasure to give this foreword to FSI's Annual Report and present FSI's contributions and achievements over the past year.

Firstly, my thanks to all the staff at FSI for their significant contributions to the criminal justice system over the course of 2022. Our staff have contributed very strongly to improvements in service levels and advances in forensic science that are having a positive impact on the criminal justice system. This is all the more impressive considering the complex and changing nature of our operating environment in 2022.

The nature of FSI's casework has changed considerably over the past 3 years. The complexity and urgency in cases submitted and processed continues to increase across all services but especially so in DNA and Biological Analysis. FSI reported on 42 suspicious death investigations in 2022 – more than double the number in 2021. These investigations are often complex and demanding in nature, with many lines of inquiry, suspects, exhibits and investigation types. FSI also supported 142 body identification and Missing Person Identifications in 2022, compared to 102 during 2021. There has also been an increase in submissions relating to sexual assault investigations, which increased by 8% in 2022.

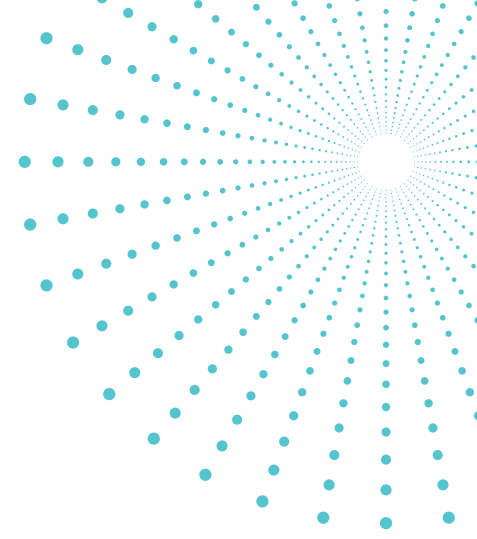
The nature of drugs submission continues to change, with increased complexity in case types and variation in presentations and concealments that FSI is responding to. Section 15A cases (relating to Sale or Supply of drugs under the Misuse of Drugs Act) increased by 32% in 2022; following an increase of 121% in 2021 over 2020. FSI identified several novel synthetic cannabinoids over the course of 2022 and reported these to the national and European early warning networks. This remains a significant focus for FSI considering the increased incidence of these substances in commercial 'edibles'.

FSI continues to support the Schengen Information System (SIS) for security and border management in Europe. FSI processed almost 15,000 SIS Fingerprint transactions last year - significantly more than the anticipated volume prior to go-live in 2021.

Our National DNA Database continues to be an invaluable intelligence tool in both national and European criminal investigations. Both the fingerprint and DNA national databases each assisted in almost 800 investigations during 2022 alone. Over 6,000 investigations have been aided since commencement of the DNA Database in 2015. Over 1200 matches have been made through Prüm exchanges with 11 European countries since 2019.

While there has been a 9% reduction in the volume of submissions in 2022 compared to the previous year, the nature, complexity and urgency of our work has significantly increased over the year and the demands on our services have never been greater. Our staff have responded as necessary to the changes in service demand type. Increasing staffing levels across all services to our target workforce plan levels will be a key focus for us in 2023.

Our staff continue to play an active role in international forensic networks and working groups and are continuously developing new capabilities and enhancing forensic services. Mitochondrial DNA Sequencing was carried out successfully for the first time on new Next Generation Sequencer instrumentation, assisting in a Missing Person investigation. This capability will be an important asset for the identification programme due to commence this year under the Institutional Burials legislation. FSI has also developed a new service, for the analysis of Nitrous Oxide, in 2022. FSI was well represented at the 2022 European Academy of Forensic Science (EAFS) and hosted a number of workshops, presentations and posters at this conference. FSI has been selected to host the 2025 EAFS conference in Dublin, which will coincide with FSI's 50-year anniversary. This will be a great opportunity to showcase our talented staff and our many contributions to forensic science on the global stage.



Looking forward, 2023 will be a landmark year for FSI. At the time of writing, the construction of FSI's new building at the Backweston Laboratory Campus has been completed and the commissioning phase is well underway. Substantial completion of the building is expected by June 2023 and we expect to start the transition process shortly afterwards. Forensic services will transition to the new building on a phased basis, with accreditation of first services expected this year. We very much look forward to moving to this purpose-built facility and are excited about the many avenues it provides to grow and expand forensic services for the state. We are appreciative of the capital investment being made in this facility, as well as the transition

funding in 2023 for instrument and start-up costs. FSI has a lot to look forward to in the coming years. We look forward to realising the benefits from a modern fit-for-purpose building and to growing our contribution and impact in the criminal justice sector.



**Chris Enright**  
Director General FSI

## A Year in Numbers

**23,452**



Forensic Reports

**11,963**



Drugs & Toxicology cases reported

**67,301**



DNA Profiles on Database at present

**796**



Cases assisted by matches on the National DNA Database

**15,000**



Sirene Transactions for Fingerprints

**119**



Occasions in court as expert witnesses

**22**



International expert working groups with active FSI participation

**4**



Publications in international forensic science journals.

# Introduction

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Forensic Science Ireland is an associated office of the Department of Justice. We work together to deliver, to best international standards, comprehensive scientific analysis, independent expert opinion, advice and training to support the Irish Criminal Justice system. Originally known as the Forensic Science Laboratory, FSI was established in 1975 to provide a scientific service to the Criminal Justice System by analysing samples submitted from crime scenes and providing expert evidence in criminal trials. In June 2014, President Higgins extended our scope when he signed into law the Criminal Justice (Forensic Evidence and DNA Database System) Act 2014. Under this act, FSI is named as the custodian of that database and our name was changed from Forensic Science Laboratory to Forensic Science Ireland to recognise this broader remit.

In December 2019, the responsibility for the Fingerprints and Documents and Handwriting services transferred from the Garda National Technical Bureau to Forensic Science Ireland. This consolidates most laboratory-based forensic work under Forensic Science Ireland. FSI currently has 210 staff, including seconded Garda members, scientists and analysts trained in forensic testing and reporting techniques, supported by administration professionals.

FSI is currently based in Garda Headquarters in the Phoenix Park but the construction of a new fit-for-purpose building on the scientific campus at Backweston, Celbridge has been completed, with commissioning currently underway. The transition to this new facility will be completed on a phased basis as soon as possible afterwards.

FSI is a founding member of the European Network of Forensic Science Institutes (ENFSI), as well as the Association of Forensic Service Providers (AFSP). These organisations are focused on developing and sharing best international forensic practices and research within its members. Our staff are active on all the relevant ENFSI and AFSP working groups. This international engagement is important in ensuring that expert evidence presented is grounded in the most recent scientific research and best international practice.

FSI is accredited according to ISO17025 (2017) and holds a Gold Excellence through People certification.

# Who Are We and What We Do

## Our Management Team



**Director General**  
**Chris Enright**



**Director of  
Physical Analysis**  
**Dr. Dyan Daly**



**Director of DNA &  
Biological Analysis**  
**Dr. Geraldine O'Donnell**



**Director of Science &  
Development**  
**Dr. Martina McBride**



**Director of  
Corporate Services**  
**Dr. Dorothy Ramsbottom**



**Director of  
Chemical Analysis**  
**Dr. Yvonne Kavanagh**

## Our Staff

Forensic Science Ireland is a knowledge-based organisation and the expertise of our staff is its most valuable attribute. In December 2019, 25 Garda members as well as a number of Garda staff seconded to FSI to support the Fingerprints and Documents and Handwriting services. They have brought a wealth of experience and expertise within their fields that is very much appreciated by FSI. Both of these services now have a blend of expert Garda members and scientific staff recruited by FSI within the teams. FSI currently has 210 staff, including seconded Garda

members and staff. We have recruited a number of new scientific, analytical, ICT and administrative staff over the last year to meet the demands of current and new services in Chemical Analysis, DNA & Biological Analysis and Physical Analysis. Forensic science analysis and interpretation are always evolving and consequently FSI places a significant emphasis on ongoing education and development. This is vital in ensuring that the Justice System has the benefit of international best practice.

## Our Services

FSI contributes to both the investigation of crime and the judiciary process within the Irish Justice System. In broad terms, forensic investigations involve the examination of items recovered from crime scenes and the use of various techniques to investigate links between suspects and victims, and between suspects and scenes. This is underpinned by an objective evaluation of context and scientific facts, frequently leading to the elimination of suspects from investigations. There are few major criminal trials that do not feature some contribution from FSI.

The area of most sustained growth is DNA, which is also the discipline of greatest recent developments. In the DNA & Biological Analysis area, DNA profiles are generated from submitted items and compared with DNA profiles obtained from suspects to assist the investigation of crimes ranging from burglaries to sexual assaults and murder. Blood Pattern Analysis (BPA) and the examination of damage to clothing is also carried out. Since the establishment of the National DNA Database, the DNA & Biological Analysis department plays a key role in managing the Database in accordance with the legislation as well as quality and security best practices. This department reports on matches between individual crime stains and suspects as well as cluster matches. This offers on-going intelligence to An Garda Síochána in the investigation of crime. In accordance with the Forensic Evidence and DNA Database, FSI's policies and practices relating to the DNA Database are overseen by an independent DNA Database Oversight Committee. Since 2019, FSI has been exchanging DNA profiles with other European countries through the Prüm Treaty. This treaty allows for the automated anonymous comparison of profiles among participating countries and enables fast information exchange for intelligence purposes.

The analysis of materials thought to contravene the Misuse of Drugs Acts constitute the highest number of submissions to FSI and are supported by the Chemical Analysis Department. Case submissions vary widely in size, drug mix and complexity. These cases can involve new psychoactive substances as well as new presentations (such as jellies) that pose particular analytical challenges. The drugs team have influenced legislation through the identification and characterisation of drugs in the market place. This team also quantifies drug purity levels in the market and provides trend information to stakeholders in An Garda Síochána as well as the Department of Health. In addition to drugs submissions, toxicology samples associated with sexual assault cases are analysed and evaluated.

The Physical Analysis area is the most recently formed department in FSI. This department was formed to take advantage of the overlaps between disciplines moving from the Garda National Technical Bureau (GNTB) and disciplines that existed previously within FSI. This department includes the Fingerprints and Documents & Handwriting disciplines that integrated into FSI in 2019. It also includes a diverse range of examinations where trace evidence recovered from scenes or suspects (e.g. glass, paint, fibres, firearm residue) is compared to reference samples. Physical or digital tachographs and marks/impressions are also examined e.g. footwear or tyre impressions left at crime scenes or manufacturing marks on plastic bags. Debris samples from suspicious fires are analysed for accelerants (e.g. petrol), offensive sprays (such as pepper spray) are evaluated and suspect materials are also analysed for explosives within this department.

The majority of cases for analysis at FSI are submitted by An Garda Síochána, but material is also received from Garda Síochána Ombudsman Commission (GSOC), Customs & Excise and Military Police. Cases are accepted by FSI reception/case intake staff who ensure that items are safely and securely stored or passed directly to a scientist depending on the situation. In either situation, the chain of custody is carefully recorded.

In addition to analysing samples in the laboratory, staff from FSI provide professional advice and training on the appropriate samples to be taken from crime scenes and individuals and, in some circumstances, attend crime scenes. We also operate an out-of-hours service for situations where investigating Gardaí need access to time-critical analysis or when it is necessary to visit crime scenes, or suspected clandestine drug laboratories.

We liaise directly with the Garda on investigations where we identify there is probative evidential value rather than where scientific findings would not help progress the investigation.

Staff provide expert testimony in criminal trials. There is the potential for this to occur in all cases, but some areas of work are more likely to result in court cases than others. Attendance at court can involve robust defence of scientific findings and/or an outline of routine processes related to continuity or laboratory procedures.

# STRATEGIC PILLARS

This annual report is organised under six main headings, corresponding to the strategic themes identified in FSI's strategic plan 2019 – 2022.

1

## Service Development and Growth

This section focuses on how we are improving the capacity of services we are delivering today and how we are increasing the breadth of services in support of the justice system in Ireland. This section also includes a report on the DNA Database and Prüm DNA exchange.

2

## Science Technology and Innovation

This section focuses on how the organisation is progressing our application of science and technology, innovating to maximise the impact of forensic science and maintaining our standing within the international forensic community.

3

## Partnership and Integration

This section focuses on how we are strengthening relationships within the criminal justice system and beyond, to maximise FSI's contribution to society.

4

## Quality Systems

This section focuses on how we maintain a robust quality-focused forensic science service and operate to the very best international practices.

5

## Fit-for-purpose Environment

This section outlines progress in transitioning to a new fit-for-purpose facility at the Backweston scientific campus and how we manage risk in the intervening period.

6

## Excellence through People

This section focuses on how we build an inclusive and integrated team within FSI that helps us collectively achieve our mission.





Examples of packaging from jelly sweets submitted to FSI in 2022.

## Case Study 1

### Jellies & Edibles – not so sweetly innocent

In 2019 FSI encountered the first submission of jelly sweets in plastic sachets, which on analysis were found to contain controlled drugs. At the time we couldn't have anticipated the significance of these innocent looking bags of sweets. In three short years the popularity of these sweets has grown so rapidly that in 2022 work practices and long standing procedures in the drugs section have been amended to better accommodate this growing area of casework.

Cannabis-infused edible products are not a new phenomenon -most people are familiar with 'hash brownies' or 'cannabis cookies'. But while these types of traditional edibles have a more 'homemade' feel, the emergence of these jelly sweets has taken on a more professional and commercial appearance, which points to a wider distribution strategy. They are packaged in attractive, eye catching 'branded' plastic sachets. In 2022, FSI encountered sachets in casework labelled as Jolly Ranchers, Nerds, Starburst, Skittles and Wowheads to name but a few.

These packages are often labelled as being 'cannabis infused' or containing THC (tetrahydrocannabinol), which is the main psychoactive component in cannabis. However upon analysis many of these jelly sweets are not found to contain any THC. FSI has found that more than 50% of the jellies tested in 2022 did not contain THC but instead contained a different type of chemical known as a synthetic cannabinoid. Synthetic cannabinoids are a class of man-made chemicals that are produced to mimic the effects of THC in the body. Little is known about the physiological effects of these man-made compounds and so they pose an even greater risk to product consumers than is realised.

The fact that they are packaged in a way that is so alluring to children is one sinister element to these products, but that they may not contain the drug specified on the packaging is an equally worrying factor that makes these sweets such a danger to society. We had already reported on a case, documented in the media in 2021, where two pre-school children were hospitalised after finding and consuming 'Chuckles peach ring' jellies which had been infused with THC. In December 2022 there was further concern when jelly sweets were submitted to FSI that caused adverse reactions and subsequent hospitalisations of three teenagers. This incidence involved 'Jolly Rancher' jellies labelled as containing THC, which when tested were found to contain the synthetic cannabinoid ADB-PINACA.

For FSI this area of casework has evolved rapidly and 2022 certainly felt like it had reached a crescendo. Unfortunately this may not be the case, as there are already signs that the product range may be expanding from the jelly sweet style of presentation to a more varied edible product list. In 2022 FSI also saw products submitted for testing like 'Nutella' chocolate spread, 'Wonka' chocolate bars, 'Doritos' crisps and a 'Fanta' soft drink, all of which were found to contain THC. It's notoriously difficult to predict drug marketplace trends but this evolving combination of novel presentations in parallel with the ever expanding list of new synthetic cannabinoids may well indicate further significant drug testing and public health challenges ahead.

# Case Study 2

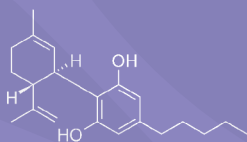
## White Powder Russian Roulette

The drug marketplace is a complex, rapidly evolving, unregulated and deceptive space. FSI analyses thousands of samples of white powder each year and an array of different chemical compounds are detected in these powders.

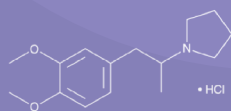
In one instance An Garda Síochána submitted seven packets of white powder from a single suspect. Each of the packets and the white powders themselves were visually very similar. On analysis the powder from one of the packs was found to contain cannabidiol (CBD). The powder from another pack was found to contain N-pyrrolidinyl-DMA. The powder from two of the packs was found to contain ADB-Fubiata and the powder from the remaining three packs was found to contain ADB-D-5Br-Inaca. Cannabidiol is a cannabinoid that is found in cannabis plants. ADB-D-5Br-Inaca and ADB-Fubiata are synthetic cannabinoids that are structurally unrelated to cannabinoids but bind to the same receptors in the human brain as THC resulting in a similar psychoactive response. N-pyrrolidinyl-DMA is categorised as an amphetamine which is a strong central nervous stimulant.

While each of these powders were visually indistinguishable from each other, the effects of consuming each of these substances are potentially very different. Drug users have no guarantee that purchasing illicit substances won't result in unintended sinister consequences. FSI's drug testing service continues to show that all is not what it seems at face value.

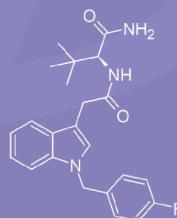
Cannabidiol (CBD)



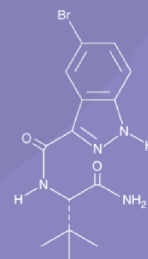
N-pyrrolidinyl-DMA



ADB-Fubiata



ADB-D-5Br-Inaca







## Case Study 3

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### FSI evidence helps secure a conviction in the Santina Cawley murder trial in May 2022

Santina Cawley, a two-year old child, was found in an apartment at Boreenmanna Road, Cork on the 5th of July 2019, with multiple injuries to her body and head. She received medical assistance at the scene and was transferred to hospital where she later died. Karen Harrington was accused of carrying out the fatal assault.

Scientists from the DNA and Biological Analysis section of FSI carried out Bloodstain Pattern Analysis at the scene and laboratory based forensic examinations on items including clothing and clumps of hair recovered at the scene. Bloodstaining was identified on a pair of adult leggings, from Ms Harrington's bedroom, with DNA profiles matching those of Santina Cawley and Karen Harrington. A DNA profile, matching that of Santina Cawley, was obtained from clumps of hair found at the scene. These clumps had features characteristic of forceful removal. In May 2022, a jury at the Central Criminal Court, sitting in Cork, heard expert witness testimony from two FSI Scientists in this case. Karen Harrington was subsequently convicted of the murder of Santina Cawley

## Case Study 4

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### Bloodstain Pattern Analysis and footwear mark evidence combine to help reconstruct events in a fatal assault case

Edward O'Sullivan was fatally assaulted in his apartment at High Hayes Terrace, Castlecomer Road, Kilkenny on the 6th of February 2020. Garrett Smith was accused of carrying out the fatal assault.

Scientists from the DNA and Biological Analysis and the Physical Analysis sections of FSI carried out Bloodstain Pattern Analysis (BPA) and footwear mark analysis in this case. BPA can help determine the activities that took place during an assault and footwear mark analysis can help identify the footwear involved. The BPA examination of the footwear and jeans of Garrett Smith supported the view that he had stamped on a bleeding individual. Most of the bloodstaining sampled on the footwear and jeans gave DNA profiles matching that of Edward O'Sullivan. The soles of Garrett Smith's footwear were compared to footwear marks on Edward O'Sullivan's face. The findings of this comparison provided strong support for the view that Garrett Smith's runners, rather than some other runners, made the marks on Edward O'Sullivan's face. In October 2022, a jury at the Central Criminal Court, sitting in Kilkenny, heard expert witness testimony from three FSI Scientists in this case. Garrett Smith was subsequently convicted of the manslaughter of Edward O'Sullivan.

# Case Study 5

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## Sexual Assault Investigation with multiple suspects

A seventeen year old female got into a car with five males unknown to her to get a lift home. She said that all of the males had non-consensual vaginal sex with her. She also said that non-consensual oral sex and digital penetration occurred. Five males were nominated as suspects in this case and each said they had engaged in various sexual acts with the female. Each male said that the sexual contact was consensual.

The purpose of FSI's work was to examine the female's sexual offences examination kit and clothing for the presence of semen, and carry out DNA profiling. Underwear from four of the males and jeans from the fifth male were examined for semen other than their own, that may have been transferred during the alleged incident. Car seat covers from the car in which the incident occurred were examined for semen.

Semen was found on the female's genital swabs, panties and skirt. DNA profiling was carried out on the swabs and full male DNA profiles matching each other and matching the reference DNA profile of male 1 was obtained from the semen on the swabs, panties and skirt.

A trace of semen was found on the female's top. DNA profiling was carried out and a mixed DNA profile (DNA from more than 1 person) was obtained. There was a major male contribution that matched male 3's reference DNA profile.

Semen was found on the inside front of male 2's underpants. DNA profiling was carried out on the semen. A mixed DNA profile (DNA from more than 1 person) was obtained from the semen stained area on the inside front. There was a major contribution and a minor contribution to this mixture. The major contribution matched male 2's own reference DNA profile. The minor profile matched the reference DNA profile of male 1, which was also obtained from the semen on the female's internal vaginal swabs.

Semen was found on the front passenger seat and the rear passenger seat of the car. DNA profiling was carried out and a full male DNA profile matching male 1's reference DNA profile was obtained from both areas.

This case went to trial in March 2022 and 4 of the men pled not guilty to charges of rape and sexual assault. They maintained that any sexual contact was consensual. The fifth male pled guilty to rape. The forensic scientist in the case presented their evidence during the trial. In April 2022 all 5 of the men were found guilty of a range of sexual assaults and rape, and in June 2022 were sentenced to a total of 66 years in prison.







A close-up photograph of a person wearing a white lab coat and orange nitrile gloves. The person is holding a glass test tube containing a red liquid. The background is a dark, solid color. The text 'Service Development and Growth' is overlaid in a bold, teal font, and a large teal number '1' is positioned in the bottom right corner.

# Service Development and Growth

1





# Service Development and Growth

## Service Delivery

Case submissions into FSI have increased by 40% compared to 2018. While the volume of submissions in 2022 was lower than both 2021 and 2020, due to some of the unique circumstances of the Covid restrictions, they are far in excess of pre-pandemic levels. In addition, the complexity in forensic investigations is far greater than previous years. FSI issued 23,542 forensic reports in 2022, an increase of 83% compared to 2018. This was supported by an increase in Drugs analysis capacity, expansion of DNA & Biological Analysis services and the integration of Fingerprints and Documents & Handwriting services from the Garda National Technical Bureau.

FSI has reported on 42 suspicious death investigations in 2022 – more than double the 2021 figure of 20 and far greater than the 2019/2020 figures of 26/year. These investigations are often complex and demanding in nature, with many lines of inquiry, suspects, exhibits and investigation types. FSI also supported 142 body identification / Missing Person Identifications in 2022, compared to 102 during 2021. Sexual assault submissions have increased by 8% in 2022. This includes an increase in ‘stranger rape’ investigations, where FSI have assisted in progressing these investigations.

The nature of drugs submission is not static and there continues to be a growth in the complexity of cases and variation in presentations and concealments that FSI is responding to. Section 15A cases increased by 32% in 2022; following an increase of 121% in 2021 over 2020. FSI identified several novel synthetic cannabinoids over the course of 2022 and reported these to the national and European early warning networks. This remains a significant focus for us considering the increased incidence of these substances in edibles and other drug types.

Service	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	Change vs 2018
Drugs and Toxicology Cases	9,577	10,480	13,184	11,747	<b>10,072</b>	<b>+5%</b>
DNA (including Sexual Assault Cases)	6,190	7,367	8,028	7,043	<b>6,637</b>	<b>+7%</b>
Fingerprint Cases	-	-	6,072	5,478	<b>5,461</b>	-
Chemistry, Documents & Physical Method Cases	821	899	1,632	1,408	<b>1,109</b>	<b>+35%</b>
Biometrics - DNA	11,045	16,185	15,515	14,117	<b>13,240</b>	<b>+20%</b>
Biometrics - Fingerprints	-	-	7,928	8,177	<b>8,894</b>	-
Total Cases Submitted (excludes biometric samples)	16,588	18,746	28,916	25,676	<b>23,279</b>	<b>+40%</b>

Table 1: Case Submissions Into FSI (Demand).

Biometric Samples are DNA or Fingerprint samples of individuals submitted to FSI

Service	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	Change vs 2018
Drugs and Toxicology Cases	7,717 Total (4,845 complex, 2,872 Section 3)	9,667 Total (5,555 complex, 4,112 Section 3)	8,106 Total (5,267 Complex, 2,839 Section 3)	10,440 Total (5,000 Complex, 5,440 Section 3)	<b>11,963</b> (6,146 Complex, 5,817 Section 3)	<b>+55%</b>
DNA (including Sexual Assault Cases)	4,500	5,860	7,237	6,954	<b>5,975</b>	<b>+33%</b>
Fingerprint Cases	-	-	5,601	5,222	<b>4,528</b>	-
Chemistry, Documents & Physical Method Cases	675	555	1,095	1,238	<b>1,076</b>	<b>+59%</b>
Biometrics - DNA	11,045	16,185	15,515	13,541	<b>13,007</b>	<b>+17%</b>
Biometrics - Fingerprints	-	-	8,434	8,077	<b>8,894</b>	-
Total Cases Reported (excludes biometric samples)	12,892	16,082	22,039	23,854	<b>23,542</b>	<b>+83%</b>

Table 2: Cases Reported by FSI in 2021

## Types of Drug Analysed in 2022

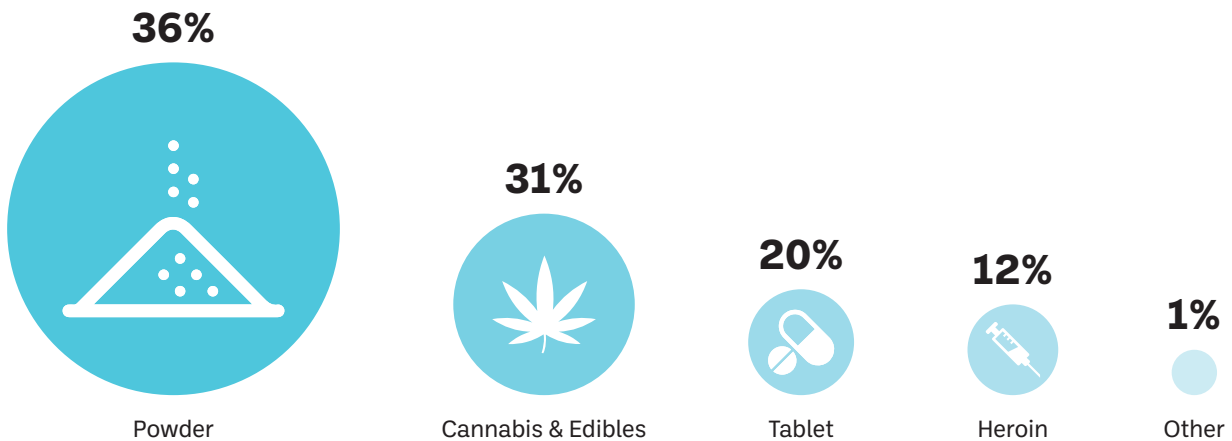


Figure 1: Types of Drug Analysed in 2022

## Drug Quantification Trends 2016-2021

Quantification data is produced for intelligence purposes for cocaine, diamorphine (heroin), and amphetamine. Cocaine and diamorphine were the second and fourth most commonly submitted drugs, respectively, in 2021. Commonly identified adulterants are also identified. Two distinct levels of seizure are analysed for quantification of cocaine and diamorphine: street level and importation level. Street level samples are defined as those submitted from seizures less than 30g, primarily between 25 -30 grams while importation level samples are defined as those submitted from seizures over 500g. For amphetamine, all seizures over 25g are quantified.

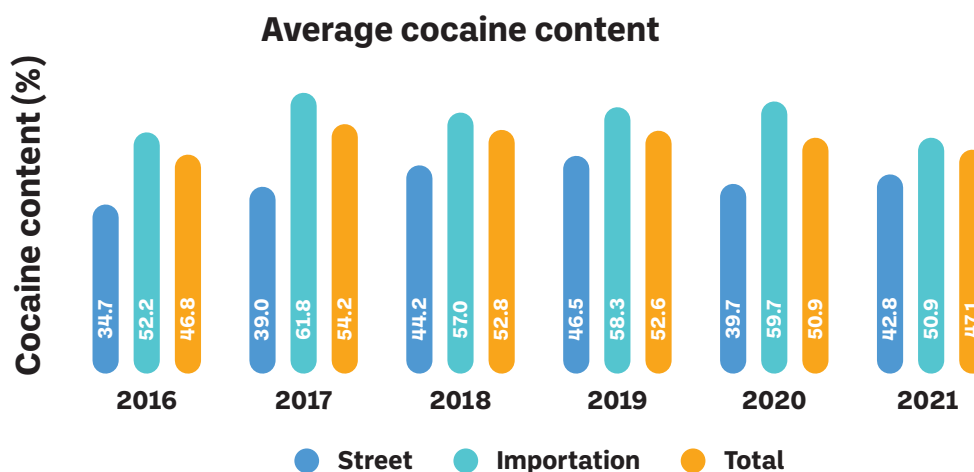


Figure 2: Average Cocaine content at street and importation level

### Cocaine

Cocaine was the most commonly identified stimulant in Ireland across the period examined and the second most commonly identified compound after cannabis. In 2021, 24% of all drugs cases analysed in FSI contained cocaine. Figure 2 illustrates the annual average cocaine content with the lowest importation level noted over the 6 year period examined. The importation level content is consistently higher than the average at street level. Of the three analytes examined, cocaine demonstrates the widest variety in adulterants. Benzocaine is the most commonly detected adulterant across 5 of the 6 years examined followed by levamisole. The largest cocaine seizure in 2021 was 170kg in Cork in February 2021.

### Diamorphine (heroin)

Diamorphine is a semi-synthetic product produced by the acetylation of morphine, which occurs as a natural product in opium. Diamorphine is the most commonly encountered opioid in Ireland and throughout the EU and was the fourth most commonly identified compound in FSI in 2021. In 2021, 12% of all drug cases analysed in FSI contained diamorphine. 2021 saw the highest street level content (39.6%) since 2016 while importation level content remained largely consistent with the 6 previous years. The largest seizure in 2021 was over 87kg in Rosslare in August 2021.

“2021 showed the lowest importation level cocaine in 6 years”

### Amphetamine

Amphetamine is the second most commonly encountered phenethylamine in Ireland, after MDMA. Between 2016 and 2021 the annual average amphetamine content has remained broadly consistent (range 6.7% - 9.4%) with an average content of 8.7% seen in 2021. Caffeine remains the most commonly detected adulterant in amphetamine seizures, detected in all of submitted quantification samples in 2021. The largest amphetamine seizure in 2021 was over 2.5kg in Dublin in November 2021.

“2021 showed the highest street level diamorphine since 2016”

## Chemistry, Documents and Physical Methods Cases

The broad variety of Chemistry and Documents and Physical Methods cases analysed is represented in Figures 3 and 4. Each discipline represents a unique speciality and field of expertise.

### Chemistry Cases Reported in 2022

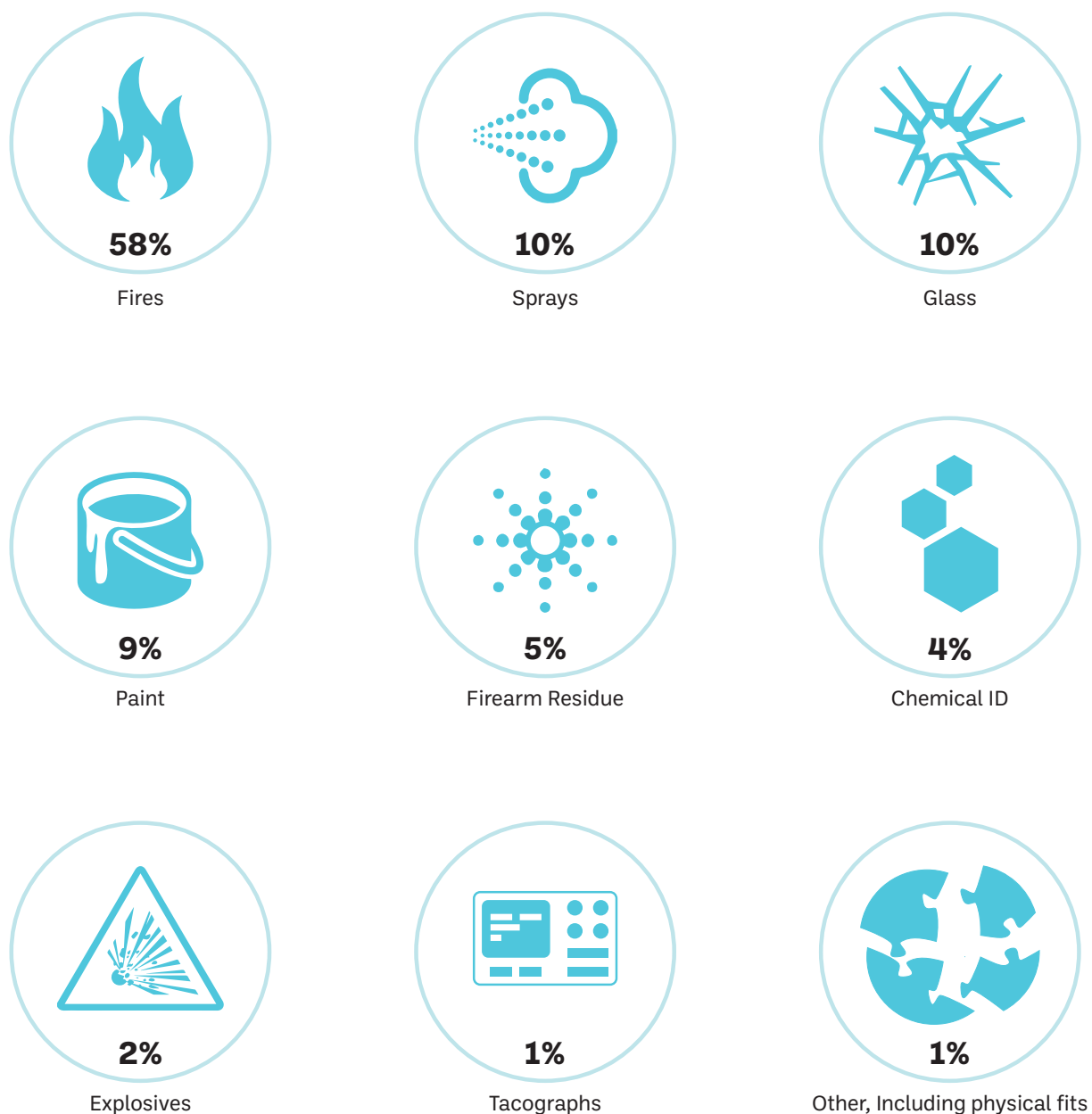


Figure 3: Types of chemistry cases reported in 2022

# Documents and Physical Methods Cases Reported in 2022

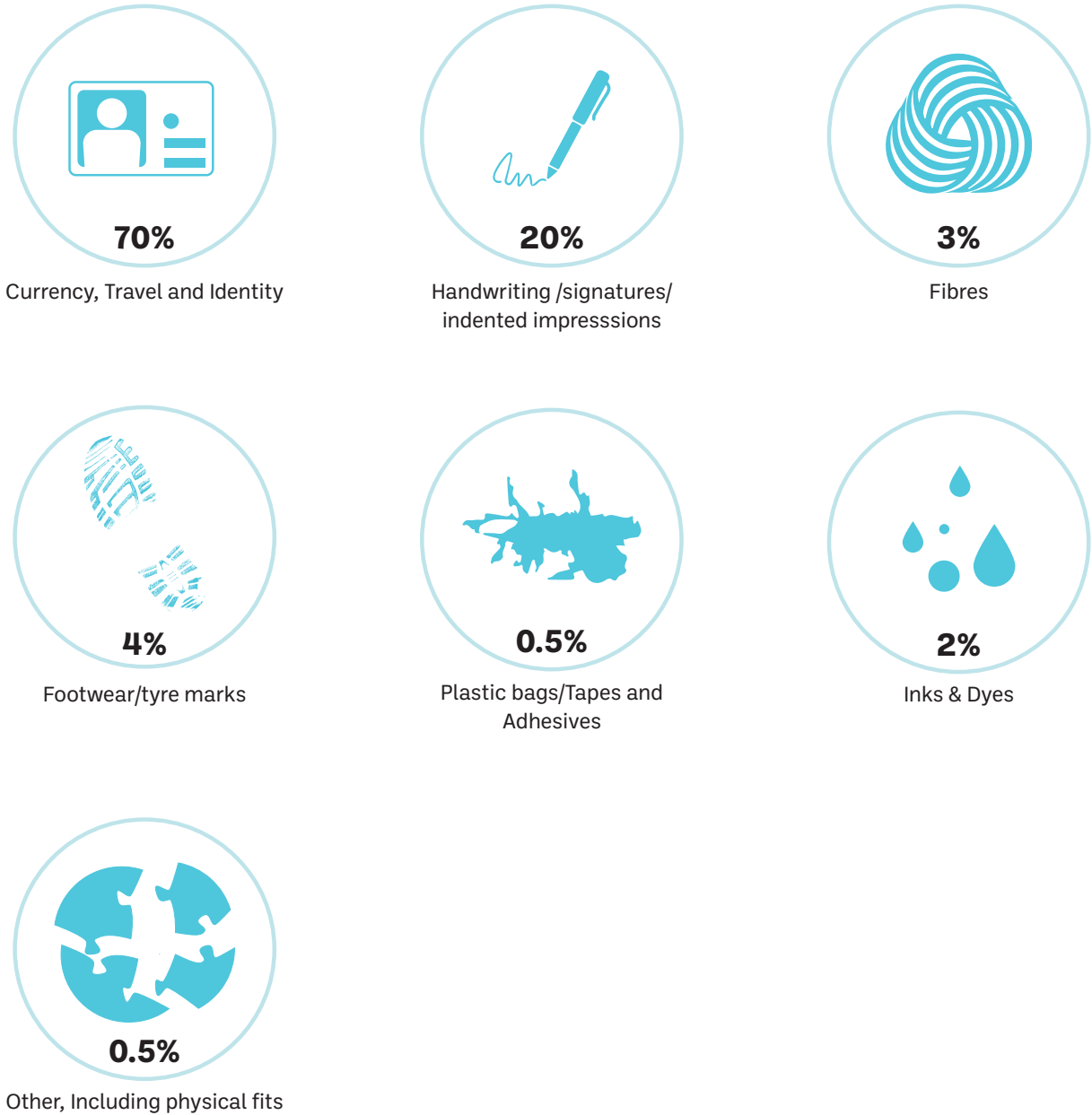
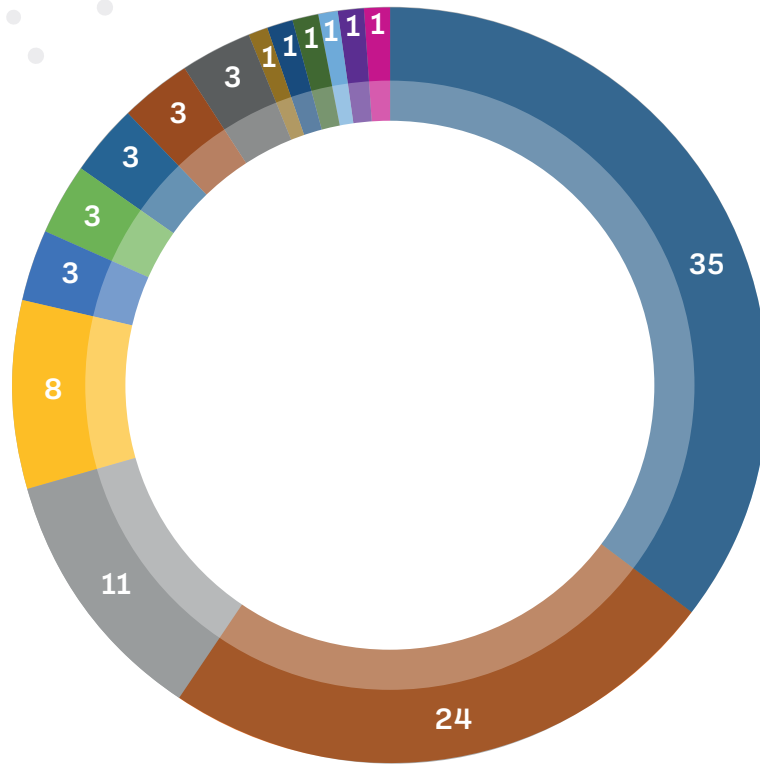


Figure 4: Types of Documents and Physical Methods cases reported in 2022



## Fingerprints

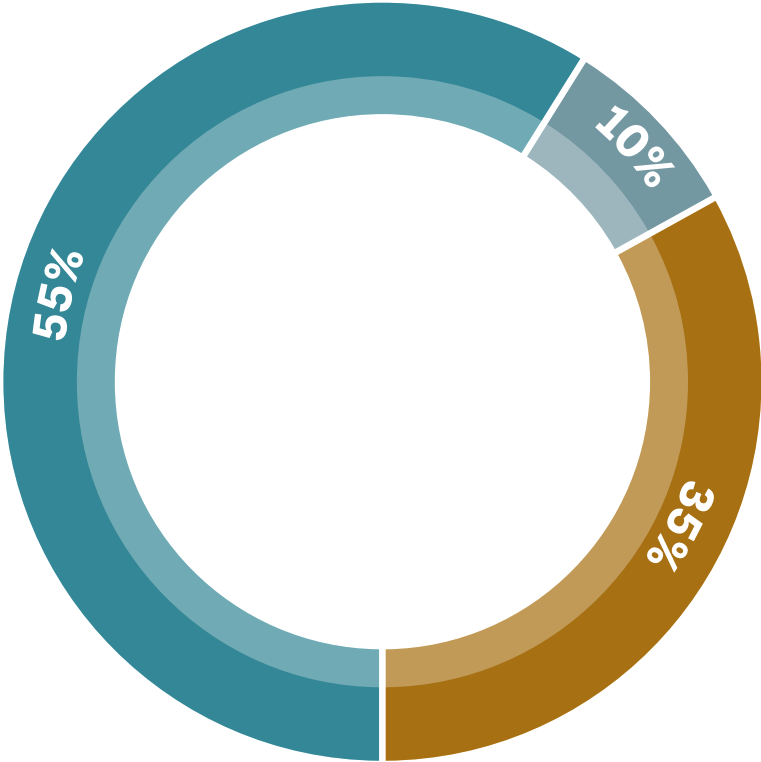


● Burglary	35%
● Robbery/Theft/Unlawful taking	24%
● Drugs	11%
● Criminal/Malicious Damage	8%
● Aggravated Burglary	3%
● Fire Arms/Explosives	3%
● Assault	3%
● Hit and Run/Traffic Accident	3%
● Attempted Murder/Suspicious Death/Death	3%
● Fires	1%
● Fraud	1%
● Sexual Assault	1%
● Endangerment/False Imprisonment/Hijacking	1%
● Public Order Offences	1%
● Other* including Body ID	1%

Figure 5 represents the broad range of investigations supported by the Fingerprint section over the course of 2022. The fingerprint section has been processing Sirene requests since the system went live in 2021, with almost 15,000 transactions processed in 2022.

Figure 5: Fingerprint Investigations in 2022

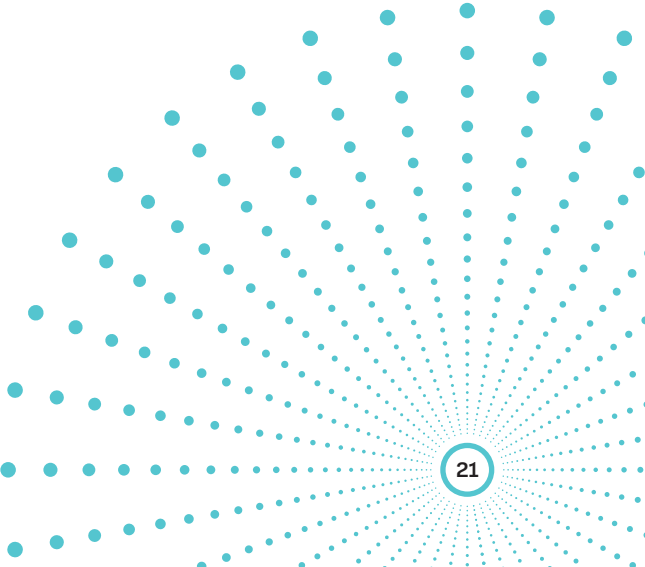
# DNA & Biological Analysis Cases



- Sexual Assault Team
- Serious Crime DNA Teams
- Database Team

DNA evidence from FSI was used extensively in Garda investigations and court cases in many murders, serious assaults, sexual assaults, drug seizures and other offences associated with gangland and organised crime throughout 2022.

Figure 6: DNA & Biological Analysis Cases Reported in 2022



## Contribution to Cold Case and Missing Person investigations

In 2022, DNA profiling was carried out to assist in the identification of 130 bodies. These cases include those where a visual identification of the person is not possible and confirmation of the person's identification is needed by the Coroner. A direct comparison can be made to DNA from a personal item such as a toothbrush or identification can also be assisted by kinship matching to biological relatives such as parents, children or siblings of the deceased.

DNA profiles from unidentified human remains, from personal items of missing persons and DNA profiles from close relatives of missing persons are stored on the National DNA Database. These DNA profiles can be searched against each other and can also be forwarded via Interpol for international searching.

I-Familia is a global Interpol DNA database for identifying missing persons based on international DNA kinship matching. Recent upgrading of this database has now enabled complex kinship calculations to be performed on profiles stored in this system. I-Familia assisted in the identification of Jason Macken who had been missing since 2015. DNA profiles from his mother and a sibling were sent from FSI via Interpol and matched to an unidentified body in the UK.

The exchange of DNA profiles with Interpol also assisted in a case where a body was recovered from the River Lee in Cork. A DNA profile was received at FSI from Interpol from Jurate Beskrovnaja's mother which helped with his identification.

FSI assisted in the identification of Elizabeth Redmond whose body was washed up on Lambay Island. An identification was made after comparison of the DNA profile obtained from the remains with her hair tie (i.e. personal item submitted to FSI from the deceased) and the DNA profile obtained from her daughter.

A DNA profile was obtained from a body found on a beach in Waterford and when searched on the DNA Database a match was found to the mother of missing person Cathal Sweeney.

Mitochondrial DNA sequencing was successfully introduced to FSI in 2022. Following a request from the Missing Persons Bureau of An Garda Síochána we were able to carry out mitochondrial sequencing on a sample from the half-brother of John Murphy who had been missing since 1982. This was compared with a body found in the UK and the resultant match aided in his identification.

In 2022 we had 74 Missing Persons cases where DNA reference samples from family members were submitted to FSI for DNA profiling and uploaded to the National DNA Database. Throughout the year FSI assisted in the identification of 12 Missing Persons.

## Service Flexibility

The system to facilitate an Out of Hours service continued in 2022. Each scientist carries an on-call phone for a week at a time and a smaller group are available to attend scenes or to carry out necessary urgent laboratory work. This service is provided by a panel of 32 scientists with two scientists being called in to the laboratory for out of hours services, for capacity and health and safety reasons. This service was availed of on 36 occasions over the course of 2022 – covering the full gamut of case types. FSI attended 7 crime scenes to provide specialist knowledge, particularly for Blood Pattern Analysis (BPA) in murder investigations.

## Court Cases

A percentage of the cases examined by FSI result in court attendances each year. Frequently these cases relate to reports issued in earlier years. Staff from FSI attended court as witnesses on 119 occasions in 2022. Court attendances are increasing year-on-year - there were 104 appearances in 2021, 50 in 2020 and 108 in 2019. The number of court appearances for each discipline is tabulated in Table 3.

Team	Number of court appearances 2022
DNA – (Excluding Sexual Assaults Cases)	44
DNA – (Sexual Assault Cases)	22
Chemistry	11
Drugs	8
Toxicology	11
Fingerprints	17
Documents and Handwriting	3
Administrative	3

Table 3: Evidence in Court (2022)

Only 7 of the court appearances in 2022 were virtual, a reduction on the previous year. This is a facility that was put in place during Covid restrictions but that we hope to see continue and grow in the coming years.

## Visits from Defence Scientists

Scientists employed by the defence visited FSI on 34 occasions in 2022; compared to 24 in 2021, 14 in 2020 and 27 in 2019. Of these, 18 related to Drugs cases, 13 related to DNA & Biological Analysis cases and 3 related to Chemistry cases.

## Benchmarking

Throughout 2022, FSI engaged in informal benchmarking on several aspects of service delivery with members of the Association of Forensic Science Practitioners (AFSP). These are laboratories, public and private, providing forensic services around the UK and Ireland. This included demand trends, operational responses to Covid-19 and health and safety measures.





# DNA Database

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## **This section is a report on the operation of the DNA Database in 2022, in compliance with the Criminal Justice (Forensic Evidence and DNA Database System) Act 2014.**

The DNA Database commenced operation on the 20th November 2015 and is one of the most important crime fighting tools within the State.

Using the database, information is supplied to the Gardaí about links between people and unsolved crimes. These crimes have ranged from burglary/criminal damage to crimes against the person, sexual assaults and suspicious deaths. The power of the database as an investigative tool is that it is providing Gardaí with investigative leads in previously unsolved serious crimes. The database can replace more traditional and time consuming police investigative methods and provide more focus to a criminal investigation. It is now also possible to retain samples from relatives of missing persons to aid in the investigation of unknown remains.

Overall 2022 saw an increase in the volume of Database records, as well as an increase in the impact and effectiveness of the system.



Figure 7 displays the overall growth in the National DNA Database since 2015

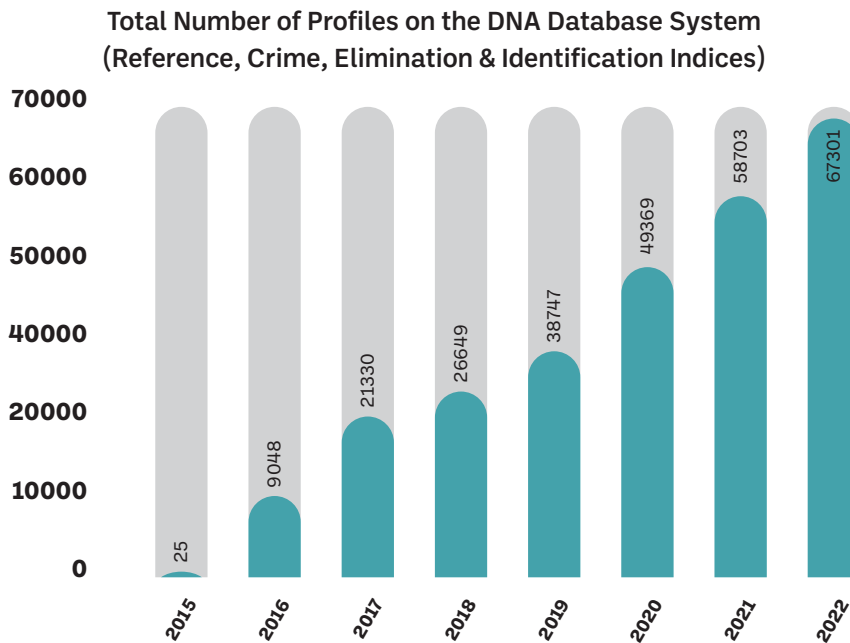


Figure 7: Total numbers of individual profiles (person or crime stain) on the database displaying overall growth since 2015. Increase of profiles in 2022: 8,598

Figure 8 shows the numbers of DNA profiles held in the four indices of the National DNA Database at the end of December 2022

### Profiles on the DNA Database System by Index (31st December 2022)

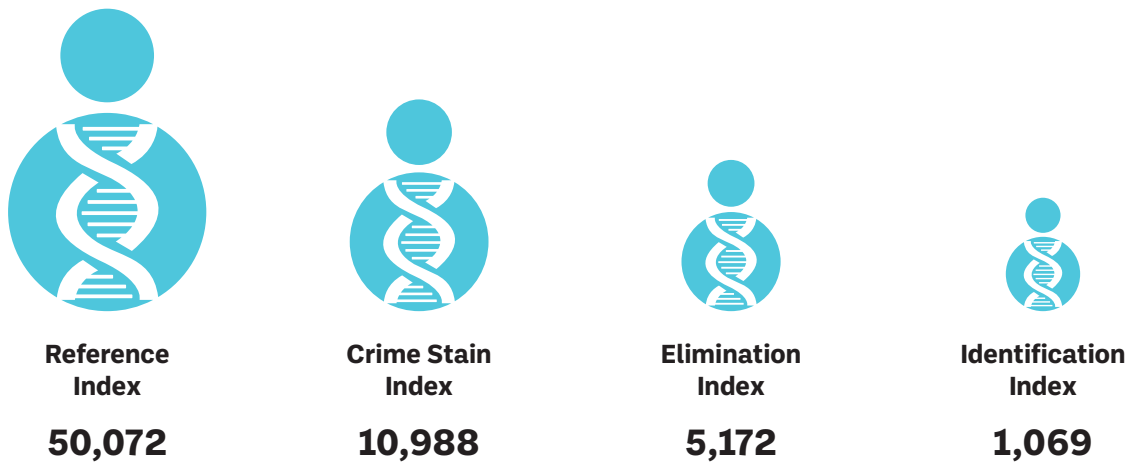


Figure 8: DNA Database System by Index

### Breakdown of profiles on the DNA database system by Index

**Reference Index** – Includes the Suspect Known, Convicted Offender and Section 28 Volunteer specimen categories

**Crime stain Index** – Includes the Forensic Unknown and Forensic Mixture specimen categories

**Elimination Index** – Includes FSI, Garda, Garda CSI, GSOC and S44 Prescribed Person specimen categories

**Identification Index** – Includes profiles from missing persons, unidentified human remains and relatives

## Number of persons' profiles on the DNA Database System

Figure 9 shows the number of profiles from persons on the DNA Database from the date of commencement to end of December 2022. This figure takes account of the significant numbers of DNA profiles from persons destroyed in compliance with part 10 of the Criminal Justice Act 2014 over this period (as illustrated in figure 12)

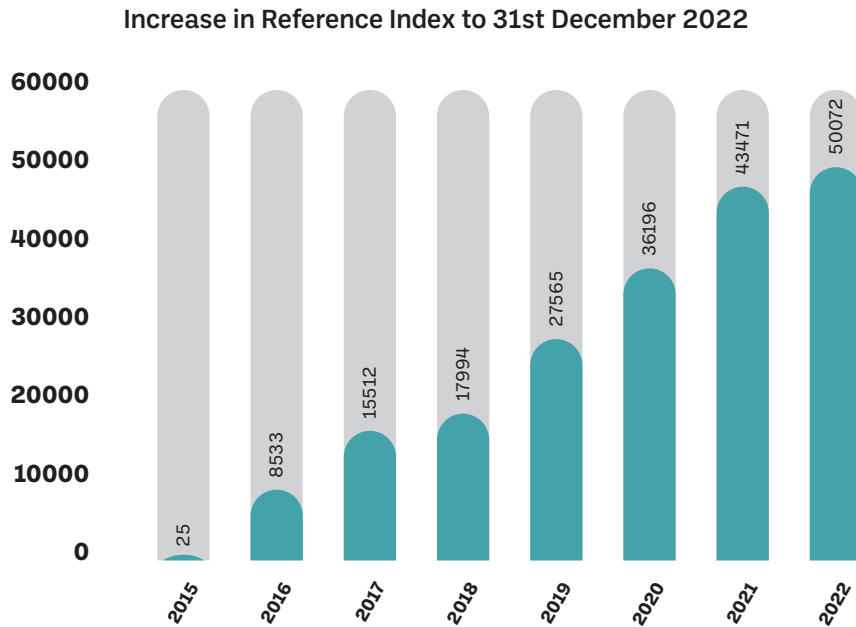


Figure 9: Increase in Profiles on Reference Index

## Number of unsolved crime stains added to the DNA Database System

As of the end of December 2022, there are 10,988 unsolved crime stains in the crime stain index, with 1,261 crime stains added in 2022 (Figure 10).

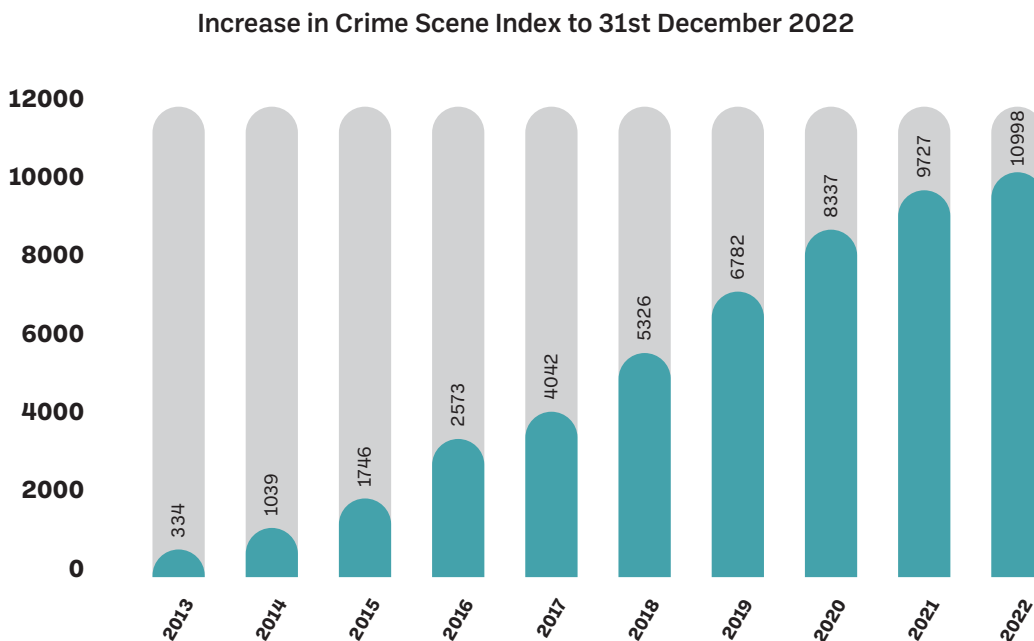


Figure 10: Cumulative number of crime stains uploaded to the Database to the end of 2022

## Sample destruction and profiles removal from the DNA Database System

Figure 11 shows the number of samples destroyed since commencement of the DNA database (76,568 samples destroyed up to 31st December 2022, 12,159 samples destroyed in 2022), while Figure 12 shows the number of profiles removed since commencement of the DNA database: 35,528 profiles were removed up to 31st December 2022, with 6,406 profiles removed in 2022).

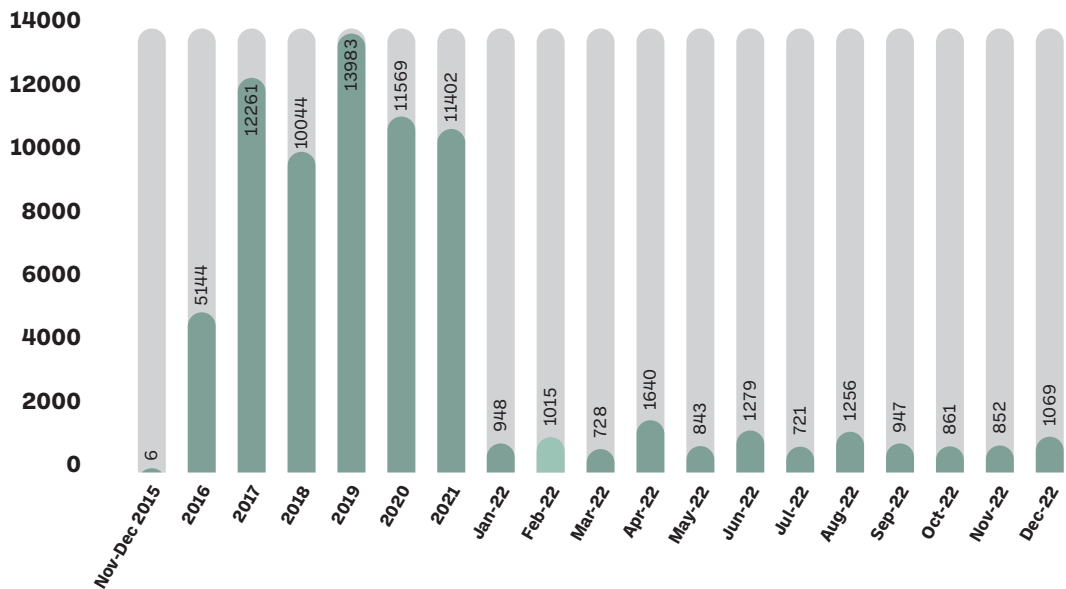


Figure 11: DNA Sample Destruction

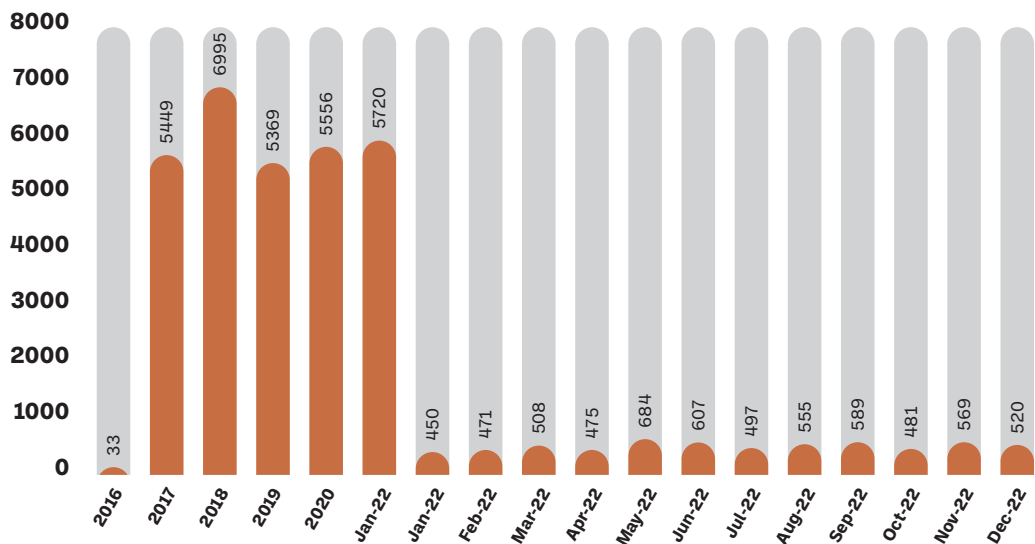


Figure 12: DNA Profile Removal

## Investigative links:

Two potential matches can occur when an additional profile is added to the Database – a crime stain can match another crime stain suggesting a link between crimes or the crime stain can match to a person suggesting a link between the person and the crime. Overall, the DNA Database identified 643 hits in 2022, which assisted 796 cases. The types of hits are detailed below:

### (a) Persons linked to crime stains

There were 607 person-to-stain matches in 2022- 413 of these were person to single case matches providing assistance to 403 investigations while in 194 cases the person was linked to multiple case matches providing assistance to 302 investigations. In total 705 cases have been aided. The details of the cases involving person to stain matches is available on Figure 13.

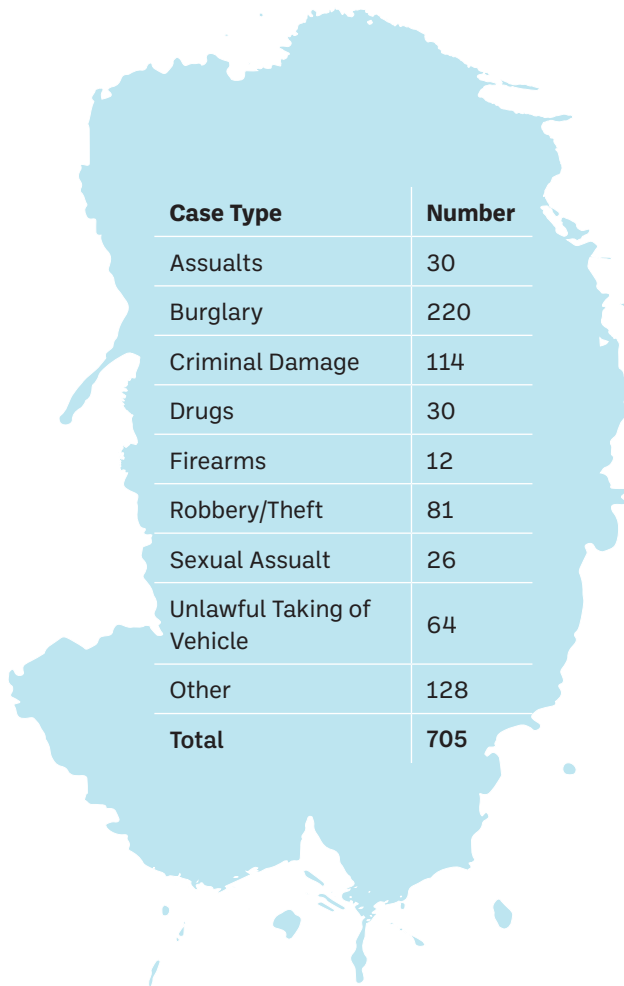


Figure 13: Person to Stain matches [Types of investigations and the number of each involved in 2022]

### (b) Crime scene samples linked to other crime scene samples

This type of match occurred 36 times in 2022. In 25 such cases, a case-to-case match was reported while in the other 11 cases, there were clusters of cases associated with each other. Overall, this resulted in 91 investigative links ('hits') between unsolved crime stains - see Figure 14 below.

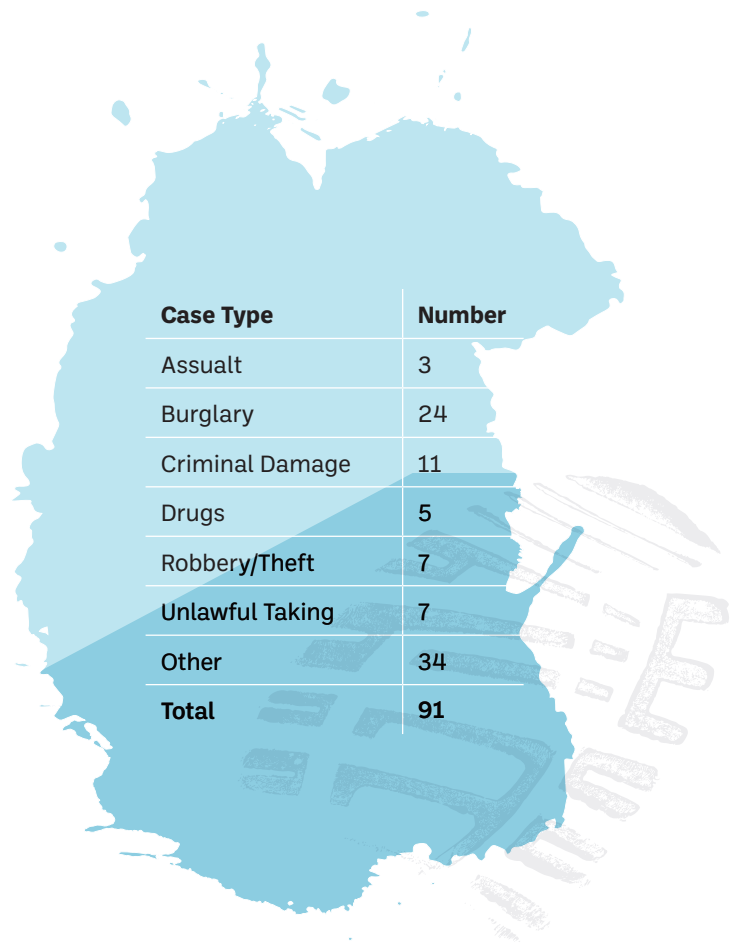


Figure 14: Stain to Stain matches [Types of investigations and the number of each involved in 2022]



Metrics used internationally to assess the effectiveness of databases are available in Figures 15 and 16. These figures were as of the end of December 2022.

### H/N: The Number of Person to Stain Matches Relative to the Number of Persons Included in the Database

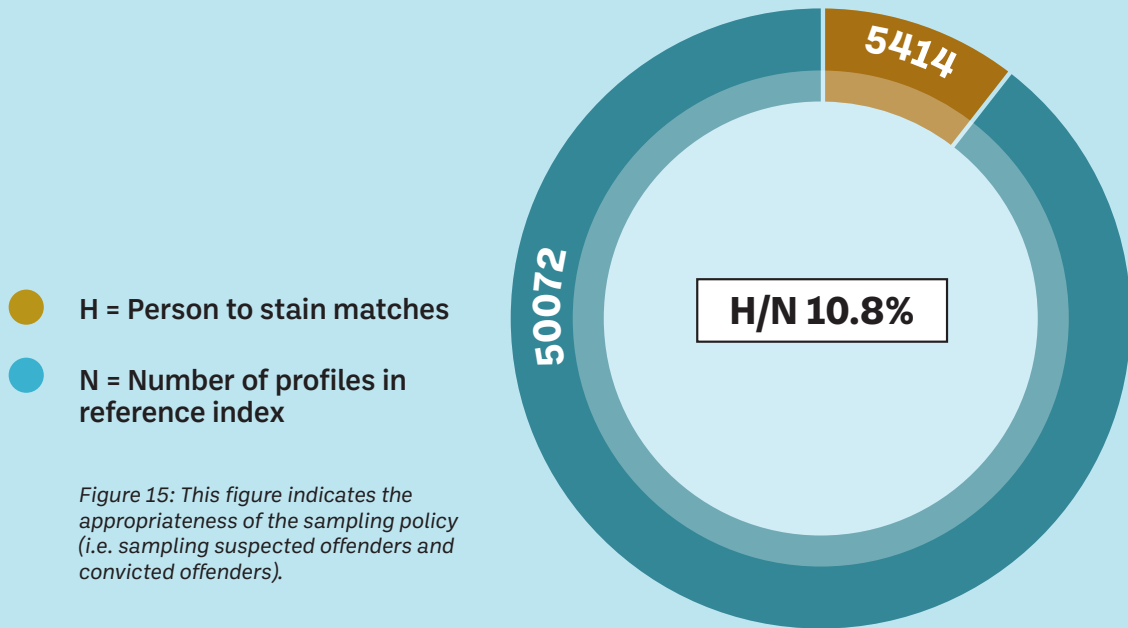


Figure 15: This figure indicates the appropriateness of the sampling policy (i.e. sampling suspected offenders and convicted offenders).

### H/C: The Number of Person to Stain Matches Relative to the Number of Stains Included in the Database

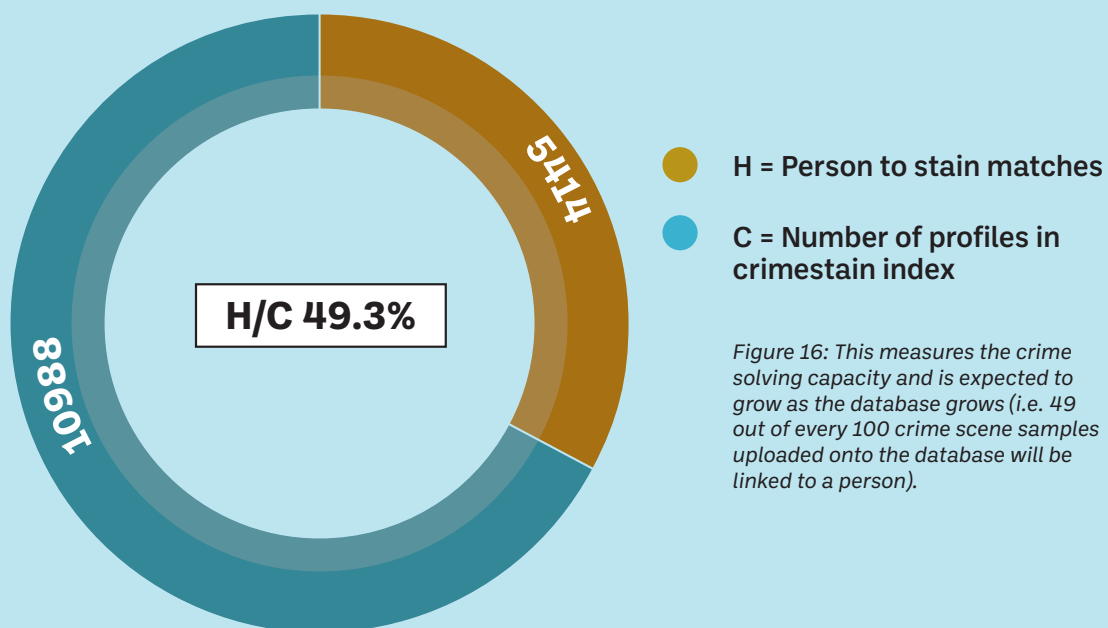


Figure 16: This measures the crime solving capacity and is expected to grow as the database grows (i.e. 49 out of every 100 crime scene samples uploaded onto the database will be linked to a person).

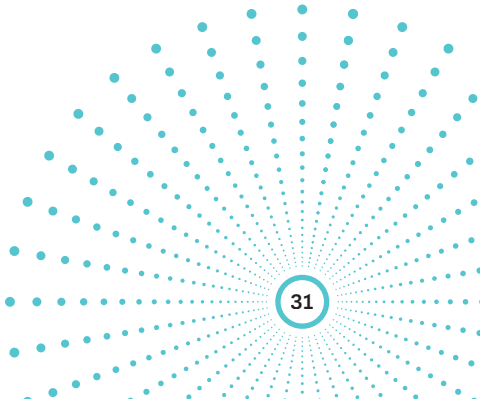
### Prüm Treaty

The Prüm treaty includes cross-border cooperation by means of exchanging judicial and police information and by providing mutual assistance. With regards to the exchange of information, each participating European member state has to make its DNA database available to other Member States for automated searches on a hit/no hit basis. After a match, personal data and case information are exchanged between countries by existing mutual legal assistance procedures (police or judicial).

On the 2nd of October 2019, FSI began live exchange of DNA data and at the end of 2022 was exchanging data with eleven Member States. Figure 17 shows the match results obtained between the Irish DNA database and the DNA databases of the eleven Member States.

Prüm Match Statistics to end December 2022			
	Irish Crime Stain to Prüm person	Prüm Crime Stain to Person on Irish Database	Prüm Crime Stain to Ireland Crime Stain
Austria	22	21	3
Latvia	4	1	0
Netherlands	16	14	6
United Kingdom	522	286	39
Slovakia	2	2	0
Poland	5	7	1
Sweden	2	14	1
Estonia	1	1	0
Malta	0	0	0
Germany	17	93	11
France	25	83	8
<b>Total</b>	<b>616</b>	<b>522</b>	<b>69</b>

Figure 17: Prüm Match Statistics





## Case Study 6

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### Sexual Assault Investigation

In November 2022, a woman, while out walking her dog, was dragged from behind by a man unknown to her, who sexually assaulted her. The man shoved a woollen item into her mouth during the assault. The woman fought her attacker, scratching his face and biting his hand. Two men in the park came to her aid and the man fled the scene.

Fingernail swabs and clothing taken from the woman was submitted to the laboratory for analysis. An unknown male DNA profile was found under the woman's fingernails.

Gardai through their investigations nominated a suspect and a DNA sample from him was submitted to FSI. The DNA profile under the woman's fingernails matched the DNA reference profile of Vadim Veste. Vadim Veste said that he was in an altercation with the woman but did not sexually assault her.

His residence was searched and a woollen hat was taken for examination. Saliva and blood was found on the hat and the DNA profile obtained from the blood and saliva stained areas matched the reference DNA profile of the woman.

Vadim Veste pleaded guilty to aggravated sexual assault in March 2023 and is awaiting sentencing.

# Case Study 7

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## Operation Thor

As part of Garda Operation Thor which targets organised crime gangs involved in burglaries, exhibits were submitted to the laboratory following a burglary carried out at an industrial premises in Tralee.

A hole had been drilled through the wall of the premises causing thousands of euro worth of damage and a safe containing €30,000 euro was removed from the wall and stolen. Items including a torch, a chisel, a drill bit and a packet of cigarette papers were submitted to the laboratory for DNA analysis.

Matching DNA profiles were obtained from the torch and cigarette papers and this DNA profile matched the DNA reference sample from one of the suspects. DNA elements matching this suspect were also obtained from the chisel. In March 2022, a jury at the Circuit Court, Limerick, heard expert witness testimony from the FSI scientist in this case.



## Case Study 8

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### DNA database Hits

#### Hit 1:

In November 2011, a woman was walking home after a night out through a park and two men approached her. One of the men had sex with her without her consent. Semen was found following her medical examination. At the time of the investigation four men were nominated suspects but all were excluded by DNA. No matches were obtained on the National DNA Database. However in June 2022, when the Unknown profile was shared through the Prüm Council agreement, a match was obtained with UK and communicated to Garda Interpol.

#### Hit 2:

A cluster of crimes were solved using the investigative tools of the DNA Database. This involved five cases that occurred in Spring 2021 - one burglary and 4 criminal damage cases. Four of the incidents occurred on the one night, and the fifth had happened two weeks previously in the same area of Dublin. These cases had been linked through DNA as stain to stain matches but in the Summer of 2022 a DNA reference sample was submitted for a suspected offender for inclusion on the National DNA Database, and it matched all five cases.



## Case Study 9

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### Physical fit of crucifix and DNA evidence link suspect to Murder Victim

The body of pensioner, Ann Butler was discovered in a mutilated state five days after she had been beaten, stabbed and had her throat slit, while a large piece of cardboard was also found in the back of her mouth. The body was identified by DNA profiling using a sample donated by the putative daughter of the deceased.

The suspect Trevor Rowe, identified himself to An Garda Síochána through trace back of three anonymous 999 calls. Although Trevor Rowe made some admissions that he had killed a woman at an address in Kilkenny, he refused to say why. By his own admission it was a brutal attack. A DNA profile matching Trevor Rowe's was recovered from a drinking vessel at the home of the pensioner along with a wooden cross.

Following a technical examination of the home of Trevor Rowe, a pair of bloodstained gloves and a Jesus statue were recovered. The DNA profile from the bloodstaining matched that of Ann Butler's.

The Jesus figure from Trevor Rowe's residence and the wooden cross from Ann Butler's residence were examined to determine if they were originally from the same Crucifix unit. Staining on the Jesus figure and wooden cross was examined and it matched with regard to colour, appearance, microscopic characteristics and chemical composition. Holes on the wooden cross aligned with holes in the Jesus figure, and this finding, in addition to the correlating locations of the matching staining on both, provided extremely strong support that the wooden cross and Jesus figure were originally from the same crucifix unit rather than not.

A jury took just one hour and 19 minutes to unanimously reject a defence of intoxication put forward by Trevor Rowe, who said that the amount of drink and drugs consumed by him that day had prevented him from forming an intent to kill or cause serious injury to Ms Butler. Trevor Rowe was found guilty of the murder of Ann Butler in her own home.





# Science, Technology and Innovation

# 2



# Science, Technology and Innovation

**FSI recognises that robust Information Technology platforms and systems are cornerstones for consistent operational performance as well as innovation.**

A key focus for FSI in 2022 was to introduce some new IT systems that improve our efficiency and effectiveness within FSI and would provide a stable basis for a start-up at the Backweston site. Together with colleagues in the Department of Justice Change, Technology and Innovation (CTI) Division, as well as the Garda ICT Division, good progress was made, with some key projects completed or scheduled to be completed within the first half of 2023. Our ICT systems are as critical to day-to-day operations as any analytical instrumentation – as such, a large body of ICT development and stabilisation work remains over the next 12 months.

FSI completed a full desktop hardware refresh and fully integrated the FSI network domain within the Department of Justice network in 2022. This provides enhanced security and on-going maintenance and support. This also allowed for system upgrades, including the Combined DNA Index System (CODIS) to be completed in 2022. More and more of FSI's services rely on accurate and timely data exchange, both nationally and internationally. Further upgrades and stabilisation is planned for 2023 with this in mind.

A project to upgrade the Automated Fingerprint Identification System (AFIS) started in 2021 and is now scheduled for completion in 2023. This upgrade includes the most recent search/match algorithms, allowing faster and more accurate searching and comparison of reference marks with latent marks recovered from crime scenes, as well as hardware and user workstation upgrades. It will allow FSI to expand and provide a more efficient fingerprint laboratory service. This project has been co-funded by An Garda Síochána and the Department of Justice. In addition, a project was initiated to conduct technology, market, policy and benchmarking analysis that will inform a longer-term replacement biometric system for Ireland. This is a cross-sectoral multi-agency evaluation that will help shape future investments in next generation AFIS systems. It's very encouraging that this combination of near-term improvements and longer-term strategic developments are happening in parallel.

Work has also progressed on a new application to capture, store and compare DNA data generated by FSI's automated DNA instruments. Development and testing work is more than 50% complete and is expected to go-live in Summer 2023.

The ICT fit-out has already commenced in FSI's new building at Backweston. This presents a great opportunity to have fit-for-purpose infrastructure and systems that support FSI's new facility and our services.

Work has also progressed to integrate FSI with the Criminal Justice Operational Hub. This platform allows for different bodies within the justice sector to exchange data automatically under the appropriate data governance agreements. Scoping work has commenced on exchanging information from the Court Services with FSI so that cases can be prioritised more efficiently.

The automation of processes and effective integration of data will enable FSI to be more efficient with its services and more effective within the criminal justice system – this will remain a key focus for FSI in the coming years.

Our staff continue to push the boundaries with science and technology and introduced new techniques into forensic practice over the course of 2022. Much of our focus was on preparations for the new building and ensuring that we have the latest technology available to support the range and volume of services provided, particularly important given that FSI will be maintaining accredited services in current facilities while commissioning new instrumentation at Backweston.

Expert training was received in Mitochondrial DNA Sequencing, using Next Generation Sequencer technology and this was used to assist in an unsolved Missing Person investigation in 2022. This and other technologies will be necessary to support the Identification Programme outlined in the Institutional Burials Act. Collaborative work with the Office of the State Pathologist validated the use of FTA cards for post-mortem human identification.

New scanning electron microscopes (SEMs) for the analysis of firearm residue have been validated and are in use for casework. A new service was also developed for the analysis of nitrous oxide in 2022.

Processes were developed and refined for sample preparation of edibles containing illicit drugs as well as trace levels of cocaine. There has also been continued research into cocaine extraction from unusual and problematic drug seizures.

FSI staff are active in 22 international working groups, including all relevant AFSP and ENFSI working groups. This is necessary so that we keep abreast of and contribute to best practice development in the forensic community. FSI contributed actively to the European Academy of Forensic Science (EAFS) in Stockholm in 2022. EAFS is the biggest European forensic science event and occurs once every 3 - 4 years. It brings together over 1000 forensic science practitioners, stakeholders and partners from across the forensic science community to showcase the depth and breadth of developments in forensic science. FSI contributions included a workshop on a sampling strategy for the interpretation and evaluation of alleged Sexual Assault cases, workshops and presentations on preparation for the Basic General Forensic Knowledge Examination, presentations on the evolution of case-intake services and poster presentations on drugs quantification data in Ireland. FSI also chaired several talks and events over the course of EAFS and was represented on its Scientific Committee. FSI submitted a bid to host EAFS 2025 in Dublin. We were successful in that bid and have been chosen as the hosts for this important conference. This is a great opportunity for FSI to showcase the range of talents and capabilities on the European stage again and make EAFS 2025 a memorable event.

Last year FSI participated in a European-funded programme to advance the European knowledge-base and competencies in many forensic science disciplines. The aim of this project is to provide an opportunity for Forensic Scientists in all disciplines to improve their basic forensic knowledge. The work of the project involves putting together a syllabus covering areas considered fundamental to forensic science. This would be particularly useful for scientists who have studied the basic sciences rather than forensic science and will allow them an opportunity to gain a qualification. A 'Reader' will be produced which will be sent to candidates who after a period of time will take an online exam and gain a qualification.





## Publications:

The following papers were authored or co-authored by staff in FSI over the course of the year.

- 1 C. Murphy and J. Ryan, *Science & Justice* 62 (2022) 448–454: Evaluative approach to semen transfer in a case of alleged sexual assault. A Case Study: Interpretation and reporting of mixed DNA profiles by seven forensic laboratories in the UK and Ireland.

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- 2 Ben Mallinder, Susan Pope, Jim Thomson, Lesley-Ann Beck, Andrew McDonald, Dorothy Ramsbottom, Denise Syndercombe Court, Des Vanhinsbergh, Michael Barber, Ian Evett, Kevin Sullivan, Jonathan Whitaker. 'Interpretation and reporting of mixed DNA profiles by seven forensic laboratories in the UK and Ireland'; *Forensic Science International: Genetics* 58 (2022) 102674.

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- 3 J. Finnis, G. Davidson, I. Fraser, C. Murphy, C. Hargreaves, N. Stevenson, S. Doole, C. Rogers. Illuminating the benefits and limitations of forensic light sources. *Science & Justice* (2022), doi: <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.scijus.2022.12.001>.

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- 4 C. Murphy, K. Alexander, M. Stark and G. Davidson. Novel recovery methods for biological materials in cases of alleged sexual assault: A word of caution. *Science and Justice*, Volume 62, Issue 5, September 2022, Pages 621-62.

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# Partnership and Integration

# 3

## Partnership and Integration

**This section focuses on how we are strengthening relationships and improving FSI's integration within the criminal justice system and beyond.**

FSI made some good progress in this regard over the course of the year, with several changes implemented and others planned.

An Garda Síochána accounts for the vast majority of evidential submissions into FSI. As such, collaboration and cooperation are crucially important so that FSI can focus its resources in the most effective manner. An example of this collaboration is the development and launch of a new mobile application, 'KopShop' in 2022. The application was developed in a collaboration between FSI, the Department of Justice Change, Technology & Innovation (CTI) and the Garda Digital Services and Innovation Team and contains valuable guidance material available on mobile devices (including forms, presentations and videos) on best practices in gathering evidence from crime scenes. This application was launched in 2022 and has been receiving very positive feedback from users to date.

FSI also worked closely with An Garda Síochána, and across the justice sector in 2022, to ensure the best use of capacity available in the laboratory, particularly in relation to drugs cases. In 2022, 231 Garda members from 22 districts were trained and certified in the use of Presumptive Drugs Testing (PDT). A PDT can be done by a trained Garda member in a Garda station for some drug substances detected under Section 3 of the Misuse of Drugs Act – this can divert some cases away from FSI, allowing it to focus on other cases. FSI provided a workshop on Drugs Analysis and use of PDTs with the Judiciary in 2022, and developed proposals on new legislation that places PDTs on a stronger legislative footing. Direct regular lines of communication have been established between FSI and Court Presenters in several court districts to ensure timely reporting of forensic case-work before court hearings.

Engagement with early warning drugs networks was a particular focus for FSI in 2022, given the identification of new synthetic cannabinoids and other novel drug substances. These included the Early Warning and Emerging Trends (EWET) working group, chaired by the Department of Health and the European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction (EMCDDA).

FSI actively contributed to several training programmes over the course of the year with An Garda Síochána and the Road Safety Authority. These included training for the new Divisional Protective Services Units (DPSU). The establishment of Divisional DPSUs in all Garda Divisions is part of a development process to provide a consistent and professional approach to the investigation of crime involving vulnerable victims where there is serious risk of harm. FSI also provided training to front line staff in the Road Safety Authority to help identify the production standards, techniques and security features in Identity Documents surrendered to obtain Driver permits for Ireland. FSI is happy to be an active contributor to these training programmes.

FSI participated in a cross-sectoral research project, with An Garda Síochána, The Department of Justice and Immigration Service Delivery (ISD), focused on understanding the long-term options for replacing the Automated fingerprint Identification System (AFIS). This project will inform the requirements of the next generation national AFIS system in years to come.

FSI engaged extensively with the Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth (DCEDIY) throughout 2022 in preparation for the Identification Programme outlined in the Institutional Burials Act. This legislation confers significant responsibility on FSI for providing an Identification Programme, and associated databases, in support of Institutional Burials such as the Tuam Mother and Baby Home. The scope of ICT, operational and scientific work ahead of FSI will be very significant.

FSI also participated in the first Criminal Justice Strategic Sectoral Plan, particularly in relation to improving collaboration, data integration and organisational development. The focus here is on making the sector as a whole more effective and efficient.

Relationships have also been developed with partner agencies based in the Backweston Laboratory Campus, including the State Lab and the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine (DAFM). These relationships will help FSI solve shared problems on campus and support the long-term strategic development of the campus.


FSI continued its partnership with Forensic Science Northern Ireland (FSNI) over the course of the year. This has been a very supportive and productive partnership over the past year, with active knowledge sharing and support. A 2-year plan for cooperation on case support and sharing of expertise was developed in 2021 and this plan is being implemented.

FSI responded to 8 Freedom of Information (FOI) requests and 37 Parliamentary Questions (PQs) over the course of the year. We also responded to a number of media requests, including newspaper, radio and TV to increase public awareness of the work that FSI does on behalf of the criminal justice system.









# Quality Systems

# 4



# Quality Systems

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**It is imperative that FSI maintains a robust quality system so that all our stakeholders have confidence in our services and our findings.**

Accreditation to international standards is an important validation of our quality system. In 2022 FSI was successfully re-assessed for compliance to the ISO-17025 (2017) standard. This comprehensive re-assessment is conducted by the Irish National Accreditation Board (INAB) every 5 years, with surveillance assessments each other year. Our compliance to this standard was assessed from detailed reviews of our quality system, management systems, operating procedures and validation reports across all our forensic disciplines during the year.

There were two new extensions to scope for FSI's accredited services in 2022. These were for two new GCMS instruments in the Drugs section and new scanning electron microscopes in the Chemistry section.

Our successful accreditation and continuous extensions to the scope of our accreditation each year, are underpinned by a robust quality system that is embraced by all our staff. Over the course of 2022 FSI participated in 46 internal audits that assessed all aspects of FSI's management systems, including Quality Management audits, vertical audits, witness audits, extension to scope audits and training audits. FSI also participated in 60 collaborative/proficiency trials in 2022. These trials are designed by European forensic laboratories and 3rd party companies with a view to continuously assessing and calibrating proficiency levels in forensic disciplines across Europe. FSI completed all scheduled trials in 2022 and assists in the design of some European trials so that our proficiency is highly regarded among our European peers.







# Fit-For-Purpose Environment

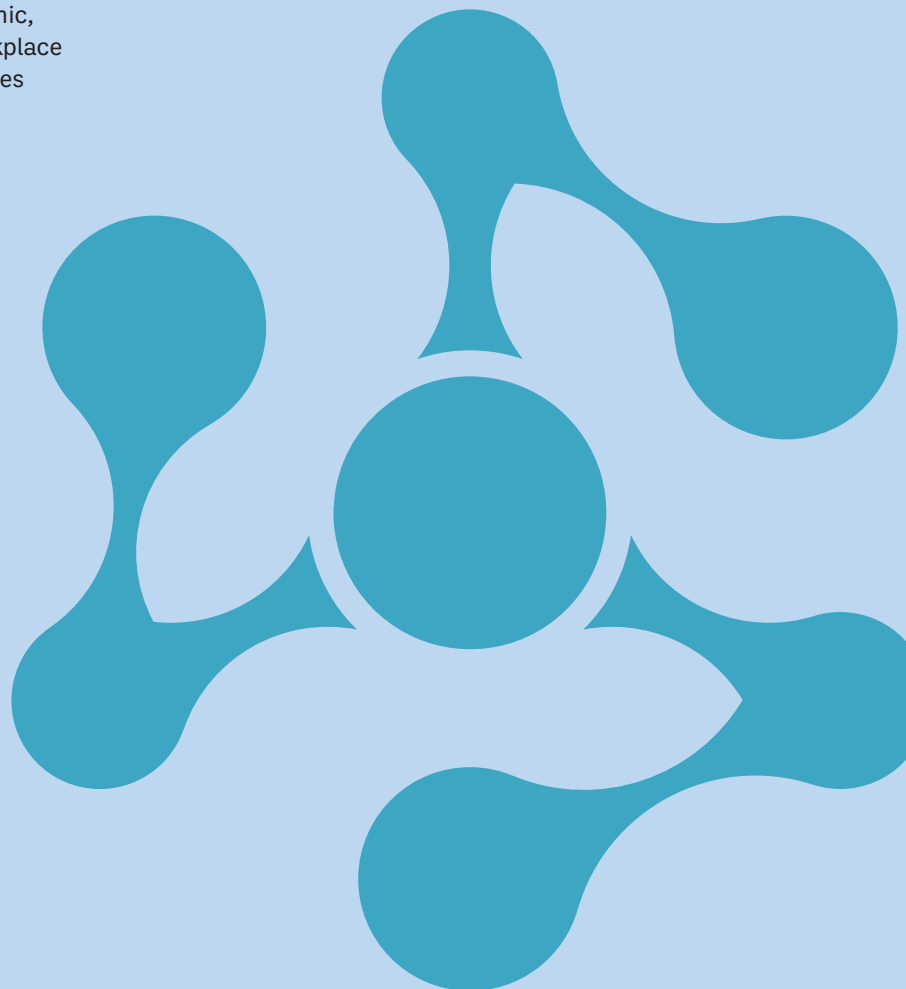
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## Fit-for-purpose Environment

**FSI has two primary goals with regards to our work environment – transition to a new fit-for-purpose building at the Backweston Laboratory Campus in County Kildare, and manage the risks to our staff and services in the meantime.**

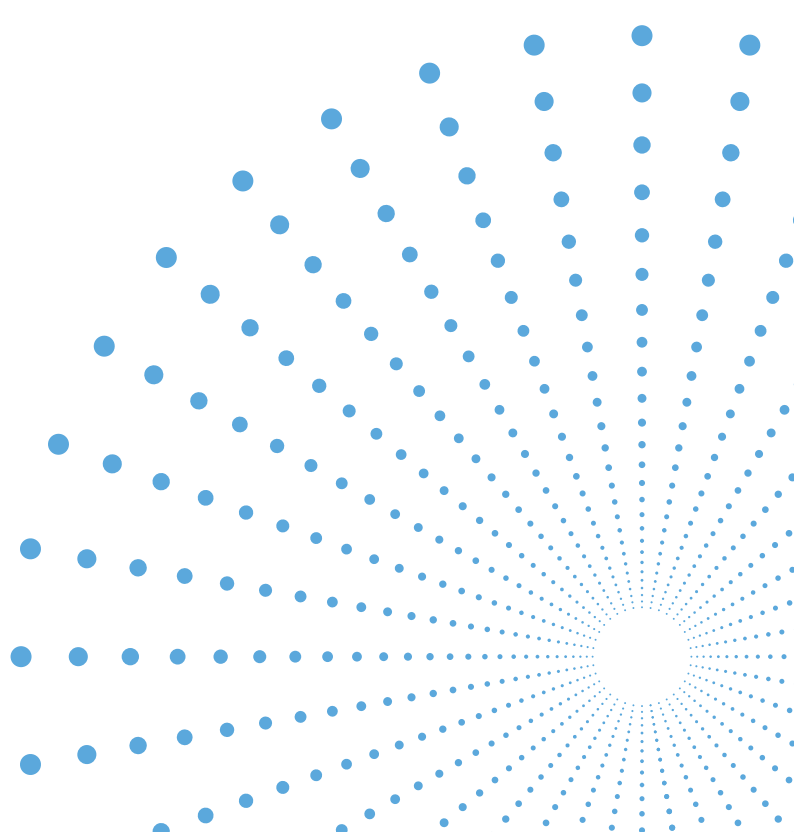
The removal of Covid-19 workplace restrictions in early 2022, in particular physical distancing, was very welcomed. While all forensic services were maintained throughout the pandemic, this has allowed the return of all in-person training and development and cross-functional collaboration activities. The professionalism, flexibility and commitment of our staff was very evident throughout the pandemic, and shone through again in 2022. Some workplace refurbishments presented particular challenges throughout 2022 and our staff's support and adaptability is very much appreciated.



The construction phase of our new building, which is being managed by the Office of Public Works on FSI's behalf, was largely completed in 2022. While Substantial Completion of the building and the start of the transition phase were expected to occur in Summer 2022, this has been delayed until 2023. At the time of writing, the building will shortly undergo the final phase of its commissioning process (phase 5), with the transition expected to start in June 2023. Fit-out of the building has already begun in advance of FSI's transition phase. The transition will occur on a phased and staggered basis over a period of 9 – 12 months so that FSI can maintain provision of all services from our current facilities while we attain accreditation at our new building. Staff from all forensic services in FSI as well as a cross-functional transition team have been busy throughout 2022 preparing for our new building and the transition to it. A lot of consideration has been given to the layout and design of laboratories, office spaces as well as shared & collaborative spaces so that FSI can make the most of the new facility.

This is a major capital project within the Justice sector and a very significant investment in the future of forensic services in Ireland. It is also a very significant transition for all our staff – it's the end of an era in many ways and the start of a new journey in a new facility. We'll look forward to the opening and issuing our first forensic case report from our new facility this year!

There are very unique requirements and specifications for the building. Firstly, the search rooms in the building, necessary for the recovery of trace evidence from exhibits, must comply with ISO 14644. This is a cleanroom standard that specifies the controlled environment required for examination of certain case work items. The facility also needs to accommodate the growing diversity and volume of forensic services that FSI supports – including fingerprint recovery and comparison work and documents & handwriting assessments which transferred from the Garda National Technical Bureau. It also supports new capabilities and services within Chemical, Physical and DNA & Biological Analysis that will benefit the criminal justice system – including Next Generation Sequencing (for the Identification Programme under recent Institutional Burials legislation). The facility must also comply with the most recent Building Control Regulations (2014) and the 2018 European Performance of Buildings Directive Requirements, including the Nearly Zero Energy Buildings (NZEB) requirement (with natural ventilation and energy efficient systems). Finally, the facility as well as our systems, ICT technology and operational procedures must support the ISO-17025 standard, which is the cornerstone of FSI's accredited services.





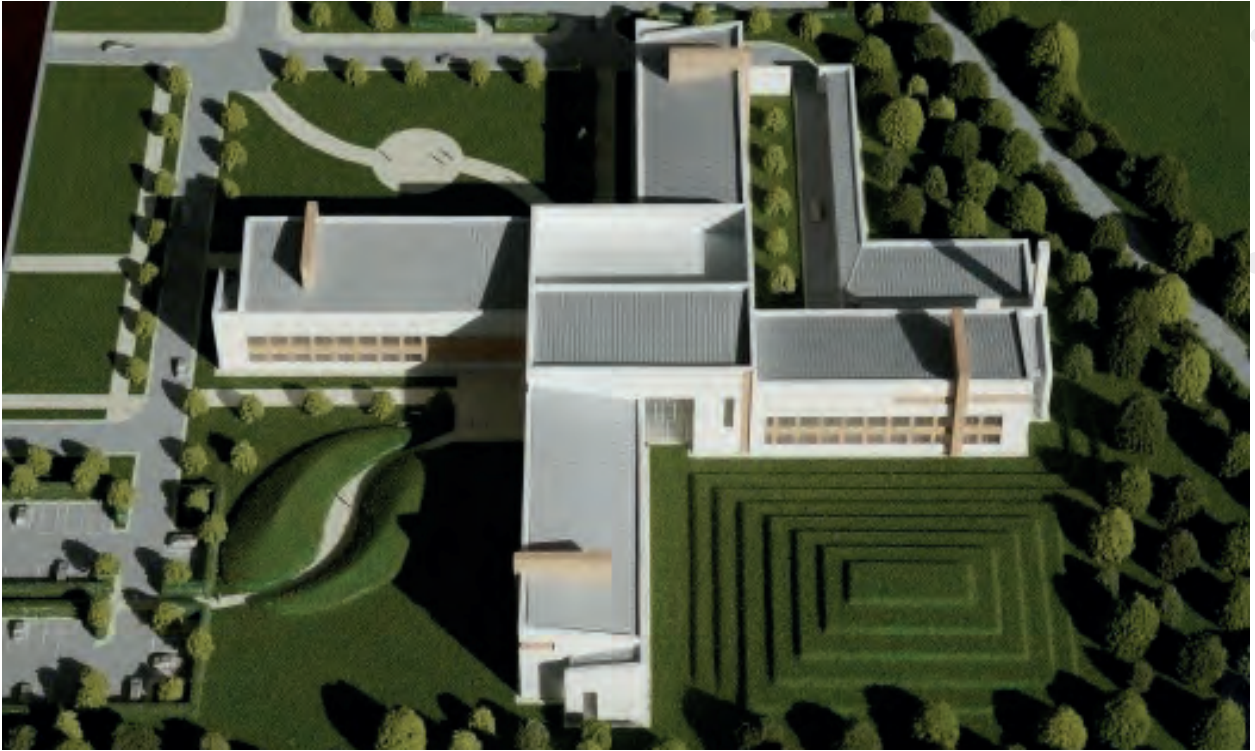


Figure 18: Drawing of the completed building (Courtesy of OPW)



Figure 19: Recent photo of completed building (Courtesy of OPW)







# Excellence through People





# Excellence through People

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**The goals of this strategic theme are to build an inclusive, integrated team within FSI that focuses on continuously improving our services and to promote an open, collaborative and respectful climate across the organisation.**

Particular focus areas in 2022 included recruitment of new staff and training & development of all staff.

The recruitment landscape for professional and administrative roles was particularly challenging in 2022. While 32 new staff joined the organisation in 2022, we also lost 20 staff to retirements or resignations for other career opportunities, mainly in the civil service. While FSI is fully funded for its target staffing level, our current staff complement is significantly lower than target due to recruitment challenges and timeframes. This is a continued area of focus for us and our goal is to have our full staffing complement when we have completed our transition to Backweston.

On-going training and development of staff is a significant focus for our staff. This consists of forensic discipline-specific training and mentorship as well as broader training in forensic practice. Training programmes in Evaluative Expert Opinion (EEO), Court Skills and Expert Witness Training were provided over the course of 2022. Broader forensic awareness tours and court-room tours were also provided during the year to increase the awareness of where FSI serves within the criminal justice system.

FSI has an active Staff Development Group and a social committee focused on developing our staff professionally, creating a healthy work environment and working through changes collectively.

Our Transition team who are made up of a cross-section of laboratory staff continue to have input

into the new building in Backweston. They meet regularly to discuss issues such as restaurant facilities, transport and office environment within the new facility as well as addressing technical issues. It is important that all staff have a mechanism of expressing their views and shaping the transition.

FSI formally launching our counselling service for staff in December. We engaged specialist service providers to provide an on-demand counselling service and a specialised trauma counselling service. We also arranged further training for our group of Peer supporters.

While all staff worked in the laboratory together as soon as Covid restrictions eased, FSI did develop and implement a sustainable blended working policy in 2022 in consultation with staff. The policy recognises that FSI is a unique scientific organisation with a customer-facing function but also recognises that our ICT systems have evolved considerably over the past 3 years and can facilitate a blended approach to working. We expect this to evolve further after the transition to our new building.

FSI was delighted to recognise the long-service and many contributions of 3 scientists and 2 seconded Gardaí in person at the end of the year.

FSI also participates in the 'Excellence Through People' programme (managed by the National Standards Authority of Ireland) and this year maintained its Gold accreditation with improvements registered in all areas audited.

# Corporate Governance

## 1. Performance Delivery Agreement

A core element of the Governance relationship between the Department of Justice and Forensic Science Ireland is an annual Performance Delivery Agreement (PDA). A summary of how FSI has performed to the PDA for 2022 is outlined below.

FSI's PDA contains quantitative targets relating to forensic services and other targets. These are represented in Figures 20 and 21 below, respectively.

Output area or initiative	Metric	Associated Strategic Objective <sup>1</sup>	2022 Target	2022 Performance
Integration of GNTB Services	Number of Technical Bureau cases or Match Requests assisted by FSI staff <sup>2</sup>	<sup>3</sup> 6.1	5,500	5,710
Chemical analysis	Number of complex drugs/toxicology cases reported	<sup>4</sup> 1.2	5,250	6,146 <sup>5</sup>
DNA - Identifications	Number of missing person case investigations or body identifications	1.2	80	142
DNA – Information sharing	Number of Member States with active Prüm connectivity & exchange	<sup>6</sup> 1.5	14	11
Case reports under Service Level Agreement between FSI and An Garda Síochána	Total FSI cases reported	<sup>7</sup> 1.3	21,000	23,542

Figure 20: Quantitative Targets

1 From FSI Strategic Plan 2019 - 2022

2 FVL, AFIS, Documents and Handwriting Cases and Fingerprint QC checks conducted by FSI scientists

3 Strategic Plan 6.1: Effectively integrate the laboratory-based disciplines of the Garda National Technical Bureau into FSI.

4 Strategic Plan 1.2: Increase the capacity of services offered today, through a focus on instrumentation, automation, process improvement, productivity and staffing.

5 Includes 276 Toxicology cases; 5870 Section 15/15A/17 Drugs cases

6 Strategic Plan 1.5: Expand number of member states with active Prüm connectivity and exchange to all participating countries.

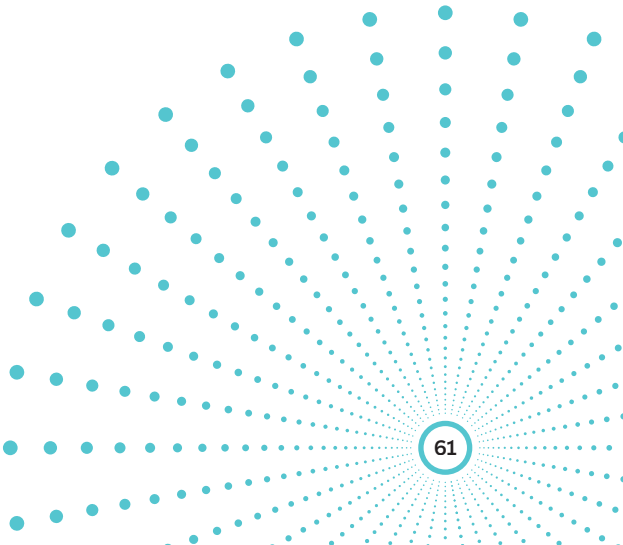
7 Strategic Goal 1.3: Maximise the impact and effectiveness of resources to the Justice System and to society.



FSI did not commence DNA exchange under the Prüm agreement with any new country in 2022, but did maintain exchanges with the 11 countries that were connected in previous years. There were substantial upgrades to the FSI ICT infrastructure during 2022, including domain integration and new CODIS software. This took a period of time to implement and stabilise and no new countries could be added during this period.

Output area or initiative	Target	Associated Strategic Objective	Outcome
Transition to new facility at the Backweston Science Campus.	<p>1st staff transition (subject to substantial completion on 28th July 2022) by end Q3.</p> <p>1st Accreditation assessment at new location by end Q4.</p> <p>Accreditation awarded for at least one forensic service by end Q4.</p> <p>FSI produces first accredited reports from new facility by end Q4.</p>	Fit-for-purpose environment	<b>This target was not achieved in 2022 due to delays in completion and commissioning of FSI's new building.</b>
Enabling successful start-up and robust operational performance in new location	<p>Successfully complete the following projects prior to Backweston transition in Q3-2022.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>— AFIS Stabilisation</li> <li>— New Hamilton App</li> <li>— FSI Domain Collapse</li> </ul>	Science Technology and Innovation	<p><b>This target was partially achieved in 2022. The 'FSI Domain Collapse' project was completed, with some outstanding stabilisation work carried into 2023.</b></p> <p><b>The AFIS Stabilisation and Hamilton App projects have progressed but completion has been delayed until Summer 2023.</b></p>
Accreditation	Maintain accreditation to ISO:2017 17025 Quality Standard in multiple current locations while securing accreditation for the new building.	Quality Systems	<b>This target has been met for FSI's current facilities.</b>

Figure 21: Other Targets



## 2. Code of Practice

FSI confirms its compliance with the relevant requirements of the Code of Practice for the Governance of State Bodies. In particular, FSI confirms that:

- 1 The Oversight Agreement for 2022 has been reached with the Department of Justice and that, as a non-statutory body without a Board, FSI is compliant with the relevant requirements of the Code of Practice for the Governance of State Bodies.

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- 2 FSI is adhering to the relevant aspects of the Public Spending Code.

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- 3 FSI has implemented a risk management system which identifies and reports key risks and the management actions being taken to address and, to the extent possible, to mitigate those risks. A risk register is in place which identifies the key risks facing FSI and these have been identified, evaluated and graded according to their significance. The principal risks identified for FSI in 2022, and associated mitigation strategies are summarised below.
  - a Inadequate space for receipt and storage of exhibits, staff accommodation and laboratory work. Some improvements were made in 2021 to accommodate more staff but with some trade-offs.

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  - b Contamination risks based on building/facility design are being mitigated through contamination control and workflow processes. The new building design offers a robust mitigation of this risk.

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  - c Demand and capacity are not matched across multiple disciplines within FSI, risking incomplete, erroneous or late reporting of cases for court. Although there are plans to increase capacity, the complexity of submissions is increasing at a faster rate. This risk is being managed currently through a prioritisation process agreed with An Garda Síochána and reflected in the Service Level Agreement between both organisations.

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  - d Staffing plan insufficient to maintain case targets, transition work and other commitments (due to delays in recruitment and not attracting sufficient candidates). Loss of experience across disciplines (e.g. due to retirements) places additional burden on remaining staff.

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  - e Instability of ICT systems, including Automated Fingerprint Identification System (AFIS) will lead to reduced productivity and may lead to service disruptions. To mitigate these risks, a roadmap of ICT improvements has been defined, including the stabilisation of the AFIS system.

## 3. Statement of Internal Control

### Scope of Responsibility

On behalf of Forensic Science Ireland, I acknowledge responsibility for ensuring that an effective system of internal control is maintained and operated. This responsibility takes account of the requirements of the Code of Practice for the Governance of State Bodies (2016).

### Purpose of the System of Internal Control

The system of internal control is designed to manage risk to a tolerable level rather than to eliminate it. The system can therefore only provide reasonable and not absolute assurance that assets are safeguarded, transactions are authorised and properly recorded and that material errors or irregularities are either prevented or detected in a timely way. The system of internal control, which accords with guidance issued by the Department of Public Expenditure and Reform has been in place in Forensic Science Ireland for the year ended 31 December 2022.

### Capacity to Handle Risk

Forensic Science Ireland reports on all audit matters to the Audit Committee in the Department of Justice. Forensic Science Ireland's senior management team acts as the Risk Committee for the body. Senior managers from Forensic Science Ireland completed a risk register in 2022 and shared the findings with the Department of Justice. The Internal Audit Unit of the Department of Justice carry out audits on financial and other controls in Forensic Science Ireland. The most recent audit, conducted in Q1 of 2022 provided positive assurance on the effectiveness of controls in place in FSI. Forensic Science Ireland's senior management team has developed a risk management policy which sets out its risk appetite, the risk management processes in place and details the roles and responsibilities of staff in relation to risk. The policy has been issued to all staff who are expected to work within Forensic Science Ireland's risk management policies, to alert management on emerging risks and control weaknesses and assume responsibility for risks and controls within their own area of work.

### Risk and Control Framework

Forensic Science Ireland has implemented a risk management system which identifies and reports key risks and the management actions being taken to address and, to the extent possible, to mitigate those risks. A risk register is in place which identifies the key risks facing Forensic Science Ireland and these have been identified, evaluated and graded according to their significance. The register is reviewed and updated by the senior management team on a regular basis. The outcome of these assessments is used to plan and allocate resources to ensure risks are managed to an acceptable level. The risk register details the controls and actions needed to mitigate risks and responsibility for operation of controls assigned to specific staff.

I confirm that a control environment containing the following elements is in place:

- procedures for all key business processes have been documented;
- financial responsibilities have been assigned at management level with corresponding accountability;
- there is an appropriate budgeting system with an annual budget which is kept under review by senior management;
- there are systems aimed at ensuring the security of the information and communication technology systems, The ICT division of the Department of Justice provide Forensic Science Ireland with some ICT services. They have provided an assurance statement outlining the control processes in place;
- there are systems in place to safeguard Forensic Science Ireland's assets. Control procedures over grant funding to outside agencies ensure adequate control over approval of grants and monitoring and review of grantees to ensure grant funding has been applied for the purpose intended;
- The National Shared Services Office provide Human Resource and Payroll Shared services. The National Shared Services Office provide an annual assurance over the services provided. They are audited under the ISAE 3402 certification processes.

## Ongoing Monitoring and Review

Formal procedures have been established for monitoring control processes and control deficiencies are communicated to those responsible for taking corrective action and to management, where relevant, in a timely way. I confirm that the following ongoing monitoring systems are in place:

- Key risks and related controls have been identified and processes have been put in place to monitor the operation of those key controls and report any identified deficiencies;
- An audit of financial and other controls is carried out by the Department of Justice Internal Audit Unit every 2 years;

- Reporting arrangements have been established at all levels where responsibility for financial management has been assigned; and
- There are regular reviews by senior management of periodic and annual performance and financial reports which indicate performance against budgets/forecasts.

## Procurement

I confirm that Forensic Science Ireland has procedures in place to ensure compliance with current procurement rules and guidelines and that during 2022 Forensic Science Ireland complied with those procedures.

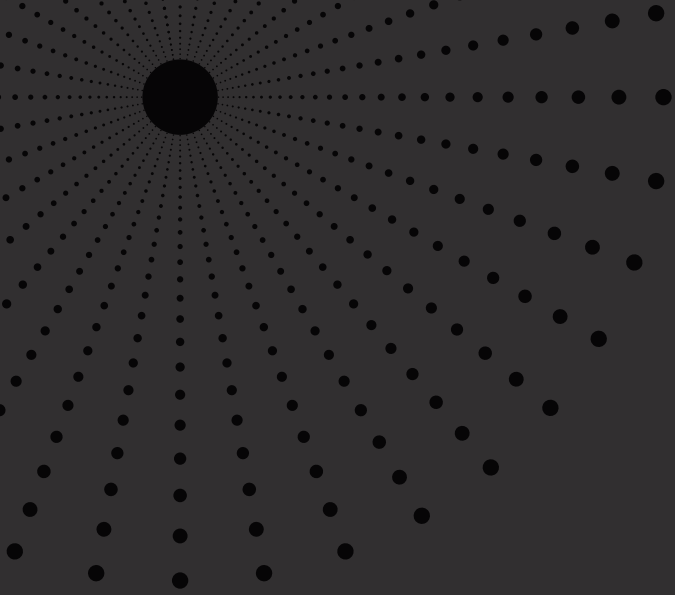
## Review of Effectiveness

I confirm that Forensic Science Ireland has procedures in place to monitor the effectiveness of its risk management and control procedures.

Forensic Science Ireland's monitoring and review of the effectiveness of the system of internal financial control is informed by the work of the internal and external auditors, the Audit Committee, and the senior management team. The senior management within Forensic Science Ireland is responsible for the development and maintenance of the internal financial control framework. I confirm that Forensic Science Ireland conducted an annual review of the effectiveness of the internal controls for 2022. It should be noted that this extended beyond financial controls and examined ICT controls, management practices and other governance processes.


## Internal Control Issues

No weaknesses in internal control were identified in relation to 2022 that require disclosure in the financial statements.



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