

Hi Eddie, I would like to see greater powers given to the Gardai as often is the case that when a complaint is brought by a member of the public the Gardai generally say there is nothing they can do. One thing that annoyed me recently was on the Joe Duffy show a man who had all his tools robbed from a van was told by Gardai to go to the markets and see if he could locate the tools at the stalls, another was told by a Garda Supt that they could get his tools back but how much would he pay to get them back. These are hearsay as its on radio but if things like this go on it's the Gardai that should be searching the market stalls with Revenue to put a stop to this.

Also most criminals these days are armed in one way or another. As much as we can be proud of policing by consent, the time has passed where all Gardai need to be armed to at least be able to protect themselves. If they can't protect themselves they certainly can't protect us. As a military policeman for 12 years I never went on duty without my sidearm. In that time I never shot anyone or had to draw down on anyone but it was always good to know it was there!!