GRA condemns traumatic on attack on home of Garda and young family

Ennis calls for Commissioner to expedite review of compensation for damage to Garda property

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The Garda Representative Association has condemned an attack on a garda's home in Dundalk overnight.

GRA General Secretary Pat Ennis said gardaí in the border region have been repeatedly attacked for reasons connected to their work.

This is the third attack on a Garda's home in and round Dundalk in the past 18 months and there was also an attack in the Cavan/Monaghan Division.

"On behalf of all GRA members, I extend our support to the affected Garda.

"This was a truly traumatic incident for our member and his family. He had two small children and an expectant wife and had to evacuate the house after neighbours raised the alarm.

"We have had attacks on members' property in the past and they are still waiting resolution to their claims for compensation and financial support for security measures to be put in place at their home.

"The current Garda provision for compensation for damage to property arising from work as garda is outdated and grossly inadequate.

"We have engaged directly with the Garda Commissioner on this matter in the past and he has undertaken to review the relevant provisions.

"We are now calling on him to expedite this review in light of what happened last night.

"Members have been known to spend over €2,500 on home security without any financial contribution from their employer.

"This latest incident shows the need for regular risk assessments to be carried out for gardaí investigating violent and serious crime.

"Attacking the property of committed public servants who have been targeted for carrying out their duty is a serious crime and I very much hope those responsible are brought to justice as soon as possible and dealt with appropriately by the courts.

"I urge anyone with information about this attack to contact gardai."