

NORTHERN IRELAND POLICING BOARD

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT COMMITTEE
HELD ON 26 MARCH 2009 AT 5:00PM IN WATERSIDE TOWER, BELFAST**

PRESENT:

MEMBERS:

Mr Alex Maskey (Chairperson)
Mr Barry Gilligan (Vice Chairperson)
Mr Leslie Cree
Ms Mary McKee
Mr David Rose
Mr Suneil Sharma

**MINORITY ETHNIC GROUP
IN ATTENDANCE:**

(1) Mr Hassan Mansour
(1) Ms Jolena Flett
(1) Dr Christopher Strange
(1) Mr Bidit Dey

**OFFICIALS IN
ATTENDANCE:**

Mr David Jackson, Director of Community
Engagement
4 Board Officials

(1) Item number 11.2

1. APOLOGIES, ETC.

There were no apologies received. NOTED.

**2. MINUTES OF THE COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING
HELD ON 26 FEBRUARY 2009**

It was:-

AGREED:

That the minutes of the meeting of the Community Engagement meeting held on
26 February 2009 be agreed.

**3. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF THE COMMUNITY
ENGAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 26 FEBRUARY 2009**

3.1 Meeting With Gaelic Athletic Association (GAA) (Item 4.5 Of Minutes Refers)

The Committee was advised that officials had contacted the Gaelic Athletic Association (GAA).

It was:-

AGREED:

That GAA officials would be invited to the May 2009 Committee meeting.

**3.2 PSNI Update On Refreshing Policing With The Community Strategy (Item 6
Of Minutes Refers)**

The Committee was advised that Members had now been provided with a copy of the Board's framework for monitoring Policing with the Community. NOTED.

**3.3 Belfast District Policing Partnership Report On The Work Of The Sub
Groups For April To September 2008 (Item 7 Of Minutes Refers)**

The Committee was advised, that officials had written to Belfast DPP requesting a meeting with the Chair and V. Chair to discuss the report and seek further information on the work of Belfast DPP. NOTED.

**3.4 Progress Report From Community Engagement Branch (Item 10 Of Minutes
Refers)**

This matter was dealt with under agenda item 12.

4. CHAIRPERSON'S BUSINESS

4.1 Neighbourhood Watch Workshop – 12 March 2009

The Vice Chairperson advised the Committee that he had attended the above event in the Hilton Hotel, Templepatrick. He advised Members that there was a large attendance and a report would be published.

4.2 District Policing Partnership Briefing, Cookstown – 10 March 2009

The Vice Chairperson advised the Committee that he had attended the District Policing Partnership Briefing. He advised Members that there had been a presentation by the PSNI on their Alcohol Action Plan and Knife Crime Campaign and on the refresh of the Policing with the Community Strategy. NOTED.

4.3 District Policing Partnership Chair/Vice Chair Forum, Glenavon House Hotel, Cookstown - 24 March 2009

The Vice Chairperson advised the Committee that he had attended the above event. This had also been attended by the Chief Constable and other PSNI representatives.

The Vice Chairperson felt it would have been useful if more Board Members had attended the event.

5. CJINI/HMIC REPORT ON POLICING WITH THE COMMUNITY

This item was withdrawn.

6. PSNI SIX MONTH REPORT TO THE BOARD ON POLICING WITH THE COMMUNITY AND IMPLEMENTATION OF THE NEIGHBOURHOOD POLICING FRAMEWORK

The Committee considered the PSNI six month report on Policing with the Community and the implementation of the Neighbourhood Policing Framework.

The Committee discussed the reports provided by PSNI and discussed various issues which Members would want further information on.

Members also discussed the outstanding recommendations in the Neighbourhood Policing Framework which should be forwarded to the Human Resources Committee and the Corporate Policy, Planning and Performance Committee. Following a discussion, it was:-

AGREED:

- to request that PSNI Regional ACCs provide the Committee with further detail on what they will monitor within accountability meetings with Districts on Policing with the Community and Neighbourhood Policing;
- to refer the recommendation on training for neighbourhood police officers to the Board's Human Resources Committee to monitor in the context of its remit for monitoring the PSNI TED Strategy in reporting back to the Community Engagement Committee at 6 and 12 months;
- to refer the recommendation on developing a communication strategy for neighbourhood policing to Corporate Policy, Planning and Performance Committee to monitor within the context of its remit for monitoring the PSNI Communication Strategy.
- to request that PSNI:-
 - provide further detail on how they propose to address the issues and concerns that are being expressed in relation to the development of PACT (Partners and Comments Together);

- update the Committee further on the approaches to neighbourhood policing in 'H' District and 'B' District and to consider if these approaches might be suitable for overall adoption across Districts;
 - Further clarification from PSNI on what Policing with the Community means for officers not in Neighbourhood Policing teams and how their work will provide direct support to the Policing with the Community objectives.
- a draft copy of the Policing with the Community Strategy to be brought to the May 2009 Committee meeting.

7. UPDATE FROM PSNI ON THE REFRESH OF THE POLICING WITH THE COMMUNITY STRATEGY

The Committee considered a paper from PSNI in relation to the report on the Policing with the Community Strategy. This paper was considered along with agenda item 6.

Members requested that an official should attend future meetings of the Policing with The Community Steering Group and Challenge Panel.

8. PSNI REPORT ON PROMOTING COMMUNITY SAFETY

The Committee considered a paper on the PSNI's contribution towards the delivery of the NIO Community Safety Strategy.

It was:-

AGREED:

To request information from PSNI on the outcome of their work on community safety.

9. MINISTERIAL REVIEW OF COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIPS AND DISTRICT POLICING PARTNERSHIPS

The Committee briefly discussed this item, and it was:-

AGREED:

That a special meeting of the Community Engagement Committee would be held on 23 April 2009 to discuss this item in more detail.

10. ANTRIM DISTRICT POLICING PARTNERSHIP MEMBER'S ATTENDANCE

The Committee considered a paper which advised Members of the absence of a member from meetings of Antrim District Policing Partnership (DPP) over the period 10 October 2008 to 31 March 2009.

Following discussion, it was:-

RECOMMENDED:

That this case should be referred to the Board to consider the member's removal from the Antrim DPP.

11. PROGRESS REPORT FROM COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT BRANCH

11.1 Progress Report From Community Engagement Branch

The Committee considered the monthly progress report from the Community Engagement Branch.

An official advised Members of 2 forthcoming events:

- **16 April 2009 – Waterside Tower** – Meeting of the APA North West Community Engagement Network;
- **22 April 2009 – Europa Hotel, Belfast** – Joint PSNI Independent Advisory Group (IAG) and Board Reference Group events.

11.2 Briefing – Minority Ethnic Group

The Chairperson welcomed members of the Minority Ethnic Group to the meeting.

The Committee discussed various issues with the Minority Ethnic Group these issues centred around:-

- Policing with the Community;
- PSNI training;
- Support for victims;
- Reporting hate incidents and crime.

Following the discussion, it was:-

AGREED:

- that the Ethnic Minority Group's recommendations would be linked to the various Committees and business area within the Board;
- A proposal for a comprehensive review of relevant issues would be brought to the May 2009 Committee.

12. COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT PUBLIC MEETINGS AND ENGAGEMENT WITH LOYALIST AND REPUBLICAN COMMUNITIES

The Committee considered a paper which asked them to consider a methodology to undertake outreach to the republican and loyalist communities. The Committee discussed Level 1 and Level 2 meetings.

Level 1 meeting would be a roundtable discussion with representatives from the republican and loyalist communities and the Level 2 meeting would be the public engagement meetings similar to those which had been held in Belfast in September 2008 and Derry/Londonderry in February 2009.

Following discussion, it was:-

AGREED:

- To accept the methodology put forward in the paper;
- to hold at least 3 public engagement meetings and to consider the venues for these meetings;
- That the Committee consider at its next meeting where to hold the next public engagement meeting in June 2009, officials to advise.

13. SCHEDULE OF PRESENTATIONS 2009

The Committee noted the schedule of presentations for 2009. NOTED.

14. QUESTIONS FOR THE CHIEF CONSTABLE

It was:-

AGREED:

To draft a question for the Chief Constable on engaging with young people.

15. COMMUNICATION ISSUES

There were no matters arising.

16. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

16.1 Letter From Larne District Policing Partnership

The Committee noted a letter received from Larne District Policing Partnership (DPP) in response to press comments attributed to a member of Moyle DPP.

17. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The date of the next meeting was arranged for Thursday, 23 April 2009 at 11:00am, Waterside Tower, Belfast. The agenda would focus on:-

- the NIO Consultation on the future arrangements for DPPs and CSPs; and
- the CJINI inspection report on Policing with the Community.

(Meeting closed at 7:45pm).

Secretariat

March 2009

Chairperson