

## NORTHERN IRELAND POLICING BOARD

### MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE NORTHERN IRELAND POLICING BOARD HELD ON THURSDAY, 2 APRIL 2009 AT 9:30AM IN WATERSIDE TOWER, BELFAST

#### PRESENT:

#### MEMBERS:

- Professor Sir Desmond Rea (Chairman)
- Mr Barry Gilligan (Vice Chairman)
- Ms Martina Anderson
- (1) Mr Tom Buchanan
- Mr Leslie Cree
- Mr Alex Maskey
- (2) Mr Basil McCrea
- (2) Mr Daithí McKay
- (1) Ms Mary McKee
- Mr Gearóid Ó hEára
- (3) Mr Ian Paisley Jnr
- (4) Mr Trevor Ringland
- Mr David Rose
- Mr Suneil Sharma
- Mr Jimmy Spratt

#### POLICE SERVICE OF NORTHERN IRELAND IN ATTENDANCE:

- (3) Sir Hugh Orde (Chief Constable)
- (3) Mr Paul Leighton (Deputy Chief Constable)
- (3) Mr Alistair Finlay (ACC Urban Region)
- (3) Mrs Judith Gillespie (ACC Rural Region)
- (3) Mr Drew Harris (ACC Crime Operations)
- (3) Mr David Jones (ACC Crime Support)
- (3) Mr Duncan McCausland (ACC Criminal Justice)
- (3) Mr David Best (Director of Finance & Support Services)
- (3) Ms Liz Young , Head of Media & PR
- (3) 2 PSNI Personnel, Command Secretariat

#### OFFICIALS IN ATTENDANCE:

- Mr Adrian Donaldson (Chief Executive)
- Dr Debbie Donnelly (D/Chief Executive)
- Mr Sam Hagen (Director of Corporate Services)
- Mr Peter Gilleece (Director of Policy)
- Mr David Wilson (Director of Planning)
- 3 Board Officials

- (1) Item number 4 to close**
- (2) Part Item number 13 only**
- (3) Item number 13 only**
- (4) Item number 3 to close**

## **1. APOLOGIES, ETC**

Apologies were received on behalf of Mrs Dolores Kelly, Mrs Rosaleen Moore and Mr Brian Rea. NOTED.

## **2. MINUTES OF MEETINGS OF THE POLICING BOARD**

### **2.1 Minutes Of The Policing Board Meeting Held On 5 March 2009**

The Board considered the draft minutes of the previous meeting.

It was:-

#### **RESOLVED:**

That the draft minutes of the Policing Board meeting held on 5 March 2009 be approved.

### **2.2 Minutes Of The Policing Board Meeting In Public Held On 5 March 2009**

The Board considered the draft minutes of the previous meeting.

It was:-

**RESOLVED:**

That the draft minutes of the Policing Board meeting in public held on 5 March 2009 be approved.

**3. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF THE MEETINGS**

**3.1 Conferences – Cross Border Conference (Item 5.1 Of Minutes Refers)**

Two Members who had attended a Cross Border Fraud, Corruption and European Union Financial Interest conference in Dublin Castle on 19/20 March 2009 gave a verbal report on the event. NOTED.

**3.2 Visit To Washington (Item 6.1.1 Of Minutes Refers)**

The Board considered a draft report of the visit to Washington and New York during 14 – 19 March 2009. Members who had taken part in the visit commented on the events that had been undertaken.

A Member suggested that an amendment should be made to the draft report to highlight the events which had focused on the policing aspects the visit.

Subject to this amendment, it was:-

**RESOLVED:**

That the report should be published on the Board's website.

**3.3 Recruitment Of Deputy Chief Constable To The PSNI (Item 6.1.2 Of Minutes Refers)**

Officials updated Members in relation to the appointment of a new Deputy Chief Constable. The closing date for applications from candidates had been set for 9 April

2009, with shortlisting planned for 7 May 2009 and interviews planned for 27 May 2009. A meeting of the Selection Panel was scheduled to be held following the conclusion of the April 2009 Board meeting. NOTED.

#### **4. CHAIRPERSON'S BUSINESS**

##### **4.1 Engagements**

The Chairman highlighted the following engagements which had undertaken on behalf of the Board:-

- Conference on Reality and Rape – Belfast – 26 March 2009 (attended by the Vice Chairman);
- 142<sup>nd</sup> Chief Police Officers' Dinner – London – 26 March 2009;
- Meeting regarding consideration of Taylor Reforms for Northern Ireland – Belfast – 31 March 2009.

NOTED.

##### **4.2 Publications**

The Chairman highlighted the following publications that had been received:-

- Ulster GAA Strategic Vision and Action Plan – 2009 – 2015;
- Children's Law Centre Annual Lecture 2009;
- The Journal of Cross Border Studies in Northern Ireland – Spring 2009.

NOTED.

##### **4.3 Correspondence**

The Chairman highlighted that the following correspondence had been received:-

- letter dated 27 February 2009 from the University of Birmingham regarding visit of Group of Chevening Fellows;
- letter dated 9 March 2009 from Life Channel regarding an announcement in relation to the Life Channel Schools Network in Northern Ireland;
- letter dated 17 March 2009 from Human Rights First enclosing statement marking the 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Rosemary Nelson's death;
- letter dated 24 March 2009 from British Irish Rights Watch regarding the use of detention;
- letter dated 25 March 2009 to Dr Michael Maguire regarding draft CJINI Work Programme 2009 – 2012.

NOTED.

#### **4.4 News Releases**

The Chairman highlighted the following news releases:-

- Top Prosecutors Stress Importance of Cross-Border Cooperation in fight against Organised Crime – Public Prosecution Service – 19 March 2009;
- Knives Ruin Lives – Make The Right Choice – NIO – 24 March 2009;
- Police Remain Resolute And Determined: Goggins – NIO – 25 March 2009;
- Government cracks down on uninsured and nuisance vehicles – NIO – 30 March 2009;
- Catholic composition with the PSNI at an all time high – Goggins – NIO – 31 March 2009.

NOTED.

#### **4.5 Assembly And Executive Review Committee: The Financial Implications Of The Devolving Of Policing And Justice – Oral Evidence – 24 March 2009**

The Chairman informed the Board about the evidence which he and the Vice Chairman had given to the Assembly and Executive Review Committee on 24 March 2009, regarding the financial implications of the Devolving of Policing and Justice.

The Chairman advised that a copy of the draft Hansard report of the oral evidence given by the Board to the Committee had now been received and would be circulated to all Members. NOTED.

#### **4.6 Launch Of 2009 – 2012 Northern Ireland Policing Plan**

The Chairman referred to the successful launch on 25 March 2009, of the 8<sup>th</sup> Policing Plan to be published by the Board. NOTED.

#### **4.7 Launch Of Report Of Thematic Inquiry On Domestic Abuse**

The Chairman welcomed the publication, on 24 March 2009, of the Board's first Human Rights Thematic Inquiry Report on Domestic Abuse.

During discussion of the launch of this report and the public release of other information relating to policing, reference was made to the release of statistics by the NIO on the recruitment of PSNI officers. Members expressed concern that the Board had not been consulted about the release of these statistics or involved in a number of initiatives, including criminal justice week. The Chairman indicated that he would give the matter further consideration. NOTED.

#### **4.8 Rape Conference**

The Vice Chairman confirmed that the conference "Rape ..... so you think you know?" which the Board had jointly hosted with the PSNI on 26 March 2009, had been over subscribed and participants had commented favourably on the event. The Community

Engagement Committee would review the arrangements for the conference and follow-up on any lessons to be learned. NOTED.

## **5. CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S BUSINESS**

### **5.1 Conferences/Seminars**

The Chief Executive informed Members about the following conferences:-

- 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Conference – Northern Ireland Human Rights Commission – Belfast – 10 April 2009;
- The Business of Peace – Community Relations Committee Conference – Newtownabbey – 30 April 2009;
- Effectively Safeguarding Children – London – 18 June 2009.

Any Member wishing to attend the conferences was asked to contact Secretariat.  
NOTED.

### **5.2 Interim Scheme For A Research Allowance To Support Political Members Of The Board**

The Board considered a paper, tabled at the meeting, in relation to the continuation of the current Members Research Allowance to support political Members of the Board.

The conditions relating to the Interim Research Allowance required that the scheme be reviewed at the end of the 2008/09 financial year.

It was:-

#### **RESOLVED:**

- to continue the Interim Scheme for Research Allowance to support political Members of the Board throughout 2009/10;

- to review the Interim Scheme on 31 March 2010 or on the devolution of policing and justice, whichever comes first.

## **6. CORPORATE POLICY, PLANNING AND PERFORMANCE COMMITTEE MEETING**

### **6.1 Minutes Of The Meeting Of The Corporate Policy, Planning And Performance Committee Held On 12 March 2009**

The Chairman of the Committee highlighted the following matter considered by the Committee and outlined Committee discussion/recommendation:-

#### **6.1.1 Date Of June 2009 Policing Board Meeting (Item 5.1 Of Minutes Refers)**

It was:-

#### **RESOLVED:**

To adopt the minutes of the meeting of the Corporate Policy, Planning and Performance Committee held on 12 March 2009.

## **7. AUDIT AND RISK MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING**

### **7.1 Minutes Of The Meeting Of The Audit And Risk Management Committee Held On 27 March 2009**

The Chairperson of the Committee highlighted the following matters considered by the Committee and outlined Committee discussions/recommendations:-

#### **7.1.1 PriceWaterHouseCoopers Internal Audit Report 2008/2009**

Members' attention was drawn to the receipt of the 2008-09 Internal Audit Report from PriceWaterhouseCoopers which provided the highest level of assurance possible, a 'substantial rating' to the Board for 2008/09.

**7.1.2 Minutes Of PSNI Audit And Risk Committee – 29 January 2009 (Item 10.1 Of Minutes Refers)**

It was:-

**RESOLVED:**

To adopt the minutes of the meeting of the Audit and Risk Management Committee meeting held on 27 March 2009.

**8. COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETINGS**

**8.1 Minutes Of The Meeting Of The Community Engagement Committee Held On 26 February 2009**

It was:-

**RESOLVED:**

To adopt the minutes of the meeting of the Community Engagement Committee meeting held on 26 February 2009.

**8.2 Minutes Of The Meeting Of The Community Engagement Committee Held On 26 March 2009**

As the minutes of the 26 March 2009 meeting were not yet available, the Chairperson of the Committee highlighted the following matters considered by the Committee and outlined Committee discussion/recommendations:-

### **8.2.1 Special Meeting – 23 April 2009**

A special meeting of the Committee had been arranged for 23 April 2009 to consider the CJINI/HMIC report on Policing with the Community. The Chairperson advised that this would also be an opportunity to consider the Board's response to the NIO consultation document on "local partnership working on policing and community safety – a way forward" on the future structure and relationship between CSPs and DPPs.

### **8.2.2 Community Engagement Public Meetings And Engagement With Loyalist And Republican Communities**

The Committee had agreed to increase the frequency of the Community Engagement public meetings to 3 per year, with the option to increase this to 4 at a later date. The Committee had discussed a number of locations where future public meetings might be held. The Chairperson of the Committee invited all Board Members to contact the Director of Community Engagement with suggestions for the most appropriate venue.

The Committee had agreed a methodology for undertaking outreach to republican and loyalist communities, as part of the Board's community engagement work.

### **8.2.3 Meeting With Gaelic Athletic Association**

An invitation had been extended to representatives of the Gaelic Athletic Association to meet with the Committee on 28 May 2009. All Board Members were invited to attend the meeting.

### **8.2.4 PSNI Six Month Report To The Board On Policing With The Community And Implementation Of The Neighbourhood Policing Framework**

The Committee had considered the PSNI 6 month report on Policing with the Community and the Implementation of the Neighbourhood Policing Framework and had agreed a number of subsequent actions. NOTED.

## **9. HUMAN RESOURCES COMMITTEE MEETING**

### **9.1 Minutes Of The Meeting Of The Human Resources Committee Meeting Held On 12 March 2009**

The Chairperson of the Committee highlighted the following matters considered by the Committee and outlined Committee discussions/recommendations:-

#### **9.1.1 Briefing On Workforce Modernisation (Item 4.1 Of Minutes Refers)**

The Chairperson highlighted the workshop on Workforce Modernisation that was being arranged and advised that all Board Members would be invited to attend once a date was finalised.

#### **9.1.2 Report On Outstanding Patten Recommendations Relating To Human Resources And Training (Item 5 Of Minutes Refers)**

#### **9.1.3 PSNI Training And Development 3 Year Strategy And Business Plan (Item 10 Of Minutes Refers)**

It was:-

#### **AGREED:**

That the Board should write to the outgoing PSNI Head of Training, Chief Superintendent Henning to express Members thanks for the work which he had carried out.

It was:-

#### **RESOLVED:**

To adopt the minutes of the meeting of the Human Resources Committee meeting held on 12 March 2009.

## **10. RESOURCES AND IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING**

### **10.1 Minutes Of The Meeting Of The Resources And Improvement Committee Held On 20 March 2009**

A Member of the Committee highlighted the following matters considered by the Committee and outlined Committee discussions/recommendations:-

#### **10.1.1 PSNI - Pensions (Item 4.1 Of Minutes Refers)**

A Member of the Committee highlighted the recent judicial review finding, advising that pension computation figures would be further backdated and that while the Home Office had indicated it would meet the extra cost in England and Wales, the NIO had not yet given the same commitment for PSNI. Officials advised that it was understood that NIO had been seeking assistance from the Home Office, but as yet no assistance had been forthcoming. Members discussed the likelihood of additional NIO/Treasury financial assistance in respect of PSNI pensions, equal pay and hearing loss claims.

#### **10.1.2 PSNI Additional Financial Bid (Item 6 Of Minutes Refers)**

The Board considered a paper in relation to an additional bid placed by PSNI to cover the extra estimated costs resulting from the recent security situation. NOTED.

## **11. INFORMATION PAPERS**

There were no information papers. NOTED.

## **12. COMMUNICATION ISSUES**

It was:

## **AGREED:**

That a new release should be issued in relation to the Board visit to Washington and New York and the final report should be placed on the Board's website.

### **13. QUESTIONS FOR THE CHIEF CONSTABLE**

The Chairman welcomed the Chief Constable and other PSNI representatives to the meeting.

On behalf of the Board the Chairman expressed condolences to the Chief Constable and his top team on the murder of Constable Stephen Carroll in Craigavon on 9 March 2009. He also expressed the Board's condolences in relation to the murder of Sappers Mark Quinsey and Patrick Azimkar murdered in Antrim on 7 March 2009. The Board observed a one minute silence as a mark of respect to the constable and the 2 soldiers.

The Board received further information in relation to:-

- the hijacking of vehicles, hoax bomb alerts and other incidents occurring in Belfast on 30 March 2009;
- police/community engagement in Lurgan/Craigavon following recent crimes in the area;
- the trend in the number of hearing loss claims received from former police officers, projected costs and options regarding settlements \*
- the PSNI additional financial bid;
- the current position regarding the provision of funding for extra costs associated with pension computation figures following the recent judicial review and in respect of equal pay claim settlements;
- the plans that PSNI had put in place to deal with any future disturbances such as those experienced recently in Lurgan and Belfast;

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\* Mr Trevor Ringland declared an interest in this item and withdrew from the meeting until discussion was concluded

- police community engagement regarding the upcoming “marching season”;
- the current threat, particularly in relation to the activity of dissident republicans;
- the visit of the Human Rights Commissioner to view facilities available to detainees in Antrim;
- financial costs associated with the investigation by West Midlands police into the death of Stephen Moran Jnr in a fatal traffic collision on 13 August 2007.

The Board then moved into public session and following the Board meeting in public the PSNI representatives left the meeting.

#### **14. ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

There were no matters arising.

#### **15. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The date of the next meeting with the Chief Constable was arranged for 7 May 2009 at Waterside Tower, Belfast.

(Meeting closed 12:25pm).

**Secretariat**

**April 2009**

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**Chairman**