

NORTHERN IRELAND POLICING BOARD

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE NORTHERN IRELAND POLICING BOARD HELD ON THURSDAY, 6 AUGUST 2009 AT 10:00AM IN WATERSIDE TOWER, BELFAST

PRESENT:

MEMBERS:

- Mr Barry Gilligan (Chairman)
- Mr Brian Rea (Vice Chairman)
- Ms Martina Anderson
- (1) Mr Tom Buchanan
- Mr Leslie Cree
- Mrs Dolores Kelly
- Mr Alex Maskey
- (2) Mr Basil McCrea
- Mr Daithi McKay
- Ms Mary McKee
- Mrs Rosaleen Moore
- (1) Mr Gearóid Ó hEára
- (1) Mr Ian Paisley Jnr
- Professor Sir Desmond Rea
- (1) Mr Trevor Ringland
- Mr David Rose
- (1) Mr Jimmy Spratt
- (1) Mr Peter Weir

POLICE SERVICE OF NORTHERN IRELAND IN ATTENDANCE:

- (3) Mrs Judith Gillespie (Deputy Chief Constable)
- (3) Mr Alistair Finlay (ACC Urban Region)
- (3) Mr David Jones (ACC Rural Region)
- (3) Ms Liz Young, (Head of Media & PR)
- (3) Mr Michael Burton, Finance & Support Services
- (3) Mr Ian Moore, Estate Services
- (3) Chief Superintendent Michael Skuce, (District Commander 'F' District)
- (3) Superintendent, Command Secretariat

OFFICIALS IN ATTENDANCE:

Dr Debbie Donnelly (D/Chief Executive)
Mr David Wilson (Director of Planning)
Mr Peter Gilleece (Director of Policy)
4 Board Officials

- (1) Item numbers 1 & 2
- (2) Part item number 2.1 to close
- (3) Item number 2.2 only

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Mr Suneil Sharma. NOTED.

2. DRAFT PSNI ESTATE STRATEGY

2.1 PSNI STATION REVIEWS

The Chairman referred Members to documentation issued on 9 July 2009 containing PSNI proposals to dispose of 26 stations in Northern Ireland. He referred Members to the station closure templates, in respect of each station, that were included in the documentation. The Chairman also referred Members to a paper, tabled at the meeting, which detailed additional District Policing Partnerships' comments on the station reviews in respect of Greencastle, Mountpottinger, Bessbrook, Portadown, Rathfriland and Kells. The Chairman advised that Members would receive a briefing from representatives of the PSNI on their proposals later in the meeting. He advised Members that the briefing would include issues raised by the Board in January 2009, when the proposals first came to the Board for consideration.

The Chairman reminded Members that operational decisions relating to the closure of stations rested with the Chief Constable and the Board's responsibility, in relation to the police estate concerned the disposal of the asset and seeking assurance that the best use continued to be made of the resources available. The Chairman also reminded Members that the NIO had asked the Board to consider areas in which it could make efficiency savings in 2010/11. In particular, the NIO had specifically asked the Board to address the use of its assets.

The Chairman advised that he intended to conduct the meeting as follows:-

- To take introductory comments from Members;
- To invite PSNI representatives to brief Members on their proposals;
- A question and answer session with PSNI on their proposals;

- To ask PSNI representatives to withdraw from the meeting;
- To ask the Board to reach decisions regarding the PSNI proposals.

A Member sought clarification on the process the Board would adopt to decide on the PSNI proposals – would the Board consider the block of 20 stations that were already closed, then the block of 6 stations due for closure, or would it consider the disposal of each individual station? Following discussion, the Chairman stated that he would take the advice of the Board on how best to proceed following the briefing by PSNI representatives.

A number of Members sought clarity on how capital receipts from the disposal of any stations would be allocated. Officials advised that, prior to devolution, receipt up to the equivalent of current value of the property would be retained within the police budget for capital expenditure and that any surplus would be returned, via NIO, to the Treasury. The Chairman advised Members that a representative from PSNI Finance Branch would be in attendance to take questions of detail relating to the retention of capital receipts.

A Member referred to the Board's initial consideration of the PSNI proposals in January 2009. The Member enquired whether the PSNI in taking forward the Estate Strategy had, as requested by the Board, reflected on service delivery in the areas where it was proposed that a station should be disposed of, now had proposals for providing further reassurance in areas where there was a specific dissident threat and whether these matters would be included in the briefing to be provided by PSNI representatives. The Chairman confirmed that the views expressed by the Board had been brought to the attention of the PSNI Command Team and it was anticipated that these matters would be included as part of the presentation.

The Chairman and other Members emphasised the need for the Board to reflect the view that PSNI should ensure that in areas where stations were disposed of, the standard of policing was maintained and improved.

A Member referred to the consultation process which the PSNI had carried out and expressed concern that closures had taken place against the wishes of the local communities. The Member also expressed his concern that the police would withdraw to urban centres and that policing away from these centres would suffer.

2.2 PSNI BRIEFING

The Chairman welcomed the Deputy Chief Constable, ACC Rural and ACC Urban and other PSNI representatives to the meeting. A Member sought clarification on the provisions at Article 6 (1) of the Police (Northern Ireland) Act 2000 and was advised by officials that Board powers in relation to the maintenance of buildings were delegated to the Chief Constable under the Board's Management Statement and Conditions of Grant. The Deputy Chief Constable confirmed that the deployment of police resources was an operational matter for decision by the Chief Constable.

ACC Rural Region briefed Members on the PSNI proposals. A copy of the slides used in the presentation is attached at Appendix A. A booklet containing maps relating to PSNI Estate and photographs of the exterior of the 26 stations under consideration was circulated by PSNI representatives at the meeting.

During his presentation, ACC Rural Region highlighted the following:-

- The proposals related to present and future operational policing relevancy;
- It was not planned to diminish the service provided to the public;
- The safety of the public and PSNI officers were of paramount consideration during the review;
- There were no indications that the proposals would be detrimental to the public in terms of increased criminality;
- The proposals were in line with the Estate Strategy endorsed by the Board in 2005 and decisions had been made on the criteria set out in that Strategy;

- The contact methods of the public had changed and callers to stations had reduced;
- Many of the stations closed, or proposed for closure are in a poor physical state and required upgrading;
- It is estimated that budgetary savings of £1.8m per annum running costs would be achieved on the 26 stations proposed for disposal;
- It is estimated that disposal of the stations would make available a total of £5.5m for use on future capital projects;
- Future initiatives to meet public needs will include police surgeries, the use of mobile stations, and the introduction of new technology.

Members questioned the PSNI representatives about the proposals. The main areas of discussion centred on:-

- Guarantees that monies received from the sale of stations would be returned to PSNI both in the medium and longer term;
- How and when the review of police headquarters would be completed and how this would fit into the overall Estate Strategy;
- The flexibility of the Estate Strategy to cope with any changes in district boundaries brought about as a consequence of the Review of Public Administration;
- How savings in running costs would be allocated;
- In response to a number of questions, PSNI representatives advised that it was anticipated that an amount of £5.5m could be realised if the stations were disposed of in the current financial year;
- PSNI representatives indicated that the £5.5m capital had already been anticipated in the CSR Estimates;
- How savings on running costs could be used by District Commanders;
- The use of mobile stations in areas where there continued to remain a dissident republican threat;
- The delivery of local policing initiatives prior to the disposal of stations;
- Police response times in County Fermanagh;

- The psychological effect on a community when a local police station is closed and disposed of;
- The police response to consultation exercises;
- The introduction of improvements in the delivery of service prior to the disposal of stations;
- Police action in closing a station, allowing the physical building to deteriorate and then seeking disposal;
- Clarification was sought in relation to decisions to close Kesh, Mountpottinger and Dromara, and with regard to Dromara the process of communication with the DPP and public representatives concerning the closure.

It was:-

AGREED:

That PSNI would supply details of how the £1.8m saved in running costs and the £5.5m from disposals would be allocated, prior to the September 2009 Board meeting.

Members were advised by PSNI of the planned closure dates for 6 stations:-

Mountpottinger – 31 August 2009;

Kells – 31 October 2009;

Rathfriland – 31 October 2009;

Kesh – 31 October 2009;

Bessbrook – 30 April 2010;

Portadown – Autumn 2010.

The Chairman thanked the PSNI representatives for their contribution and they left the meeting.

2.3 DISPOSAL OF STATIONS

The Board considered the proposals made by the PSNI.

A Member (Mrs Rosaleen Moore) proposed a motion “that the Board should dispose of the 20 stations already closed and then consider the 6 stations that were due to close and currently operating limited opening hours or fully operational on an individual basis”. The motion was seconded (Mrs Mary McKee). A Member (Mr Jimmy Spratt) requested that a recorded vote be taken on this motion and any future motions concerning Board decisions to dispose of stations. There being an indication from more than 3 Members, the Chairman asked that a recorded vote be taken by officials.

An amendment to the motion was proposed (Mr Trevor Ringland) “that the Board should set up a sub-committee to consider the closures and that this should make recommendations to the Board”. The amendment was seconded. (Mr Basil McCrea). The Board considered the amendment to the motion. By show of hands, 9 Members indicated they were in favour of the amendment and 9 Members indicated that they were against the amendment. The Chairman used his second or casting vote against the amendment. The amendment fell.

A further amendment was proposed (Mr Ian Paisley Jnr) and seconded (Mr Peter Weir) that “the Board should consider each proposed disposal on an individual basis”.

The Board considered the amendment to the motion. By show of hands, 10 Members indicated they were in favour of the amendment and 8 Members indicated that they were against the amendment. The amendment was carried.

The Board proceeded to consider motions on the proposed disposal of PSNI stations on an individual basis and a recorded vote was taken on each decision.

1. Greencastle

It was proposed that the Policing Board dispose of Greencastle PSNI Station with immediate effect. The recorded vote of Members was 10 in favour, 6 against, with 2 abstentions.

It was:-

RESOLVED:

To dispose of Greencastle PSNI Station with immediate effect.

The recorded vote was as follows:-

NAME	FOR	AGAINST	ABSTAIN
Ms Martina Anderson	√		
Mr Tom Buchanan		√	
Mr Leslie Cree		√	
Mr Barry Gilligan	√		
Ms Dolores Kelly	√		
Mr Alex Maskey	√		
Mr Basil McCrea			√
Mr Daithí McKay	√		
Ms Mary McKee	√		
Mrs Rosaleen Moore	√		
Mr Gearóid O'hÉara	√		
Mr Ian Paisley Jnr		√	
Mr Brian Rea		√	
Professor Sir Desmond Rea	√		
Mr Trevor Ringland			√
Mr David Rose	√		
Mr Suneil Sharma	-	-	-
Mr Jimmy Spratt		√	
Mr Peter Weir		√	
TOTAL	10	6	2

2. Mountpottinger

It was proposed that the Policing Board dispose of Mountpottinger PSNI Station, following the operational closure of the station on 31 August 2009. An amendment to the motion was proposed (Mr Jimmy Spratt) and seconded (Mr Peter Weir) that disposal should be deferred until a police surgery was in place and a business case was received for a community base in Templemore Avenue.

The Board considered the amendment to the motion. By show of hands, 9 Members indicated they were in favour of the amendment and 9 Members indicated that they were against the amendment. The Chairman used his casting vote against the amendment. The amendment fell.

The Board considered the original proposal to dispose of Mountpottinger PSNI Station following the operational closure of the station on 31 August 2009. The recorded vote of Members was 10 in favour and 8 against.

It was:-

RESOLVED:

To dispose of Mountpottinger PSNI Station, following the operational closure of the station on 31 August 2009.

The recorded vote was as follows:

NAME	FOR	AGAINST	ABSTAIN
Ms Martina Anderson	√		
Mr Tom Buchanan		√	
Mr Leslie Cree		√	
Mr Barry Gilligan	√		
Ms Dolores Kelly	√		
Mr Alex Maskey	√		
Mr Basil McCrea		√	
Mr Daithí McKay	√		
Ms Mary McKee	√		
Mrs Rosaleen Moore	√		
Mr Gearóid O'hEára	√		
Mr Ian Paisley Jnr		√	
Mr Brian Rea		√	
Professor Sir Desmond Rea	√		
Mr Trevor Ringland		√	
Mr David Rose	√		
Mr Suneil Sharma	-	-	-
Mr Jimmy Spratt		√	
Mr Peter Weir		√	
TOTAL	10	8	0

3. Greyabbey

It was proposed that the Policing Board dispose of Greyabbey PSNI Station with immediate effect. The recorded vote of Members was unanimous that the station be disposed of with immediate effect.

It was:-

RESOLVED:

To dispose of Greyabbey PSNI Station with immediate effect.

The recorded vote was as follows:-

NAME	FOR	AGAINST	ABSTAIN
Ms Martina Anderson	√		
Mr Tom Buchanan	√		
Mr Leslie Cree	√		
Mr Barry Gilligan	√		
Ms Dolores Kelly	√		
Mr Alex Maskey	√		
Mr Basil McCrea	√		
Mr Daithí McKay	√		
Ms Mary McKee	√		
Mrs Rosaleen Moore	√		
Mr Gearóid O'hÉara	√		
Mr Ian Paisley Jnr	√		
Mr Brian Rea	√		
Professor Sir Desmond Rea	√		
Mr Trevor Ringland	√		
Mr David Rose	√		
Mr Suneil Sharma	-	-	-
Mr Jimmy Spratt	√		
Mr Peter Weir	√		
TOTAL	18	0	0

4. Dromara

It was proposed that the Board dispose of Dromara PSNI Station with immediate effect. An amendment to the motion was proposed (Mr Basil McCrea) and seconded (Mr Peter Weir) that disposal should be deferred until satisfactory alternative policing arrangements were in place.

The Board considered the amendment. By show of hands, 8 Members indicated they were in favour of the amendment and 10 Members indicated that they were against the amendment. The amendment fell.

The Board considered the original proposal. The recorded vote of Members was 10 in favour and 8 against.

It was:-

RESOLVED:

To dispose of Dromara PSNI Station with immediate effect.

The recorded vote was as follows:-

NAME	FOR	AGAINST	ABSTAIN
Ms Martina Anderson	√		
Mr Tom Buchanan		√	
Mr Leslie Cree		√	
Mr Barry Gilligan	√		
Ms Dolores Kelly	√		
Mr Alex Maskey	√		
Mr Basil McCrea		√	
Mr Daithí McKay	√		
Ms Mary McKee	√		
Mrs Rosaleen Moore	√		
Mr Gearóid O'hEára	√		
Mr Ian Paisley Jnr		√	
Mr Brian Rea		√	
Professor Sir Desmond Rea	√		
Mr Trevor Ringland		√	
Mr David Rose	√		
Mr Suneil Sharma	-	-	-
Mr Jimmy Spratt		√	
Mr Peter Weir		√	
TOTAL	10	8	0

5. Toomebridge

It was proposed that the Board dispose of Toomebridge PSNI Station with immediate effect.

The recorded vote of Members was 17 in favour and 1 against.

It was:-

RESOLVED:

To dispose of Toomebridge PSNI Station with immediate effect.

The recorded vote was as follows:-

NAME	FOR	AGAINST	ABSTAIN
Ms Martina Anderson	√		
Mr Tom Buchanan	√		
Mr Leslie Cree	√		
Mr Barry Gilligan	√		
Ms Dolores Kelly	√		
Mr Alex Maskey	√		
Mr Basil McCrea	√		
Mr Daithí McKay	√		
Ms Mary McKee	√		
Mrs Rosaleen Moore	√		
Mr Gearóid O'hEára	√		
Mr Ian Paisley Jnr	√		
Mr Brian Rea	√		
Professor Sir Desmond Rea	√		
Mr Trevor Ringland		√	
Mr David Rose	√		
Mr Suneil Sharma	-	-	-
Mr Jimmy Spratt	√		
Mr Peter Weir	√		
TOTAL	17	1	0

6. Templepatrick

It was proposed that the Board dispose of Templepatrick PSNI Station with immediate effect.

The recorded vote of Members was 10 in favour, none against, with 8 abstentions.

It was:-

RESOLVED:

To dispose of Templepatrick PSNI Station with immediate effect.

The recorded vote was as follows:-

NAME	FOR	AGAINST	ABSTAIN
Ms Martina Anderson	√		
Mr Tom Buchanan			√
Mr Leslie Cree			√
Mr Barry Gilligan	√		
Ms Dolores Kelly	√		
Mr Alex Maskey	√		
Mr Basil McCrea			√
Mr Daithí McKay	√		
Ms Mary McKee	√		
Mrs Rosaleen Moore	√		
Mr Gearóid O'hEára	√		
Mr Ian Paisley Jnr			√
Mr Brian Rea			√
Professor Sir Desmond Rea	√		
Mr Trevor Ringland			√
Mr David Rose	√		
Mr Suneil Sharma	-	-	-
Mr Jimmy Spratt			√
Mr Peter Weir			√
TOTAL	10	0	8

7. Bessbrook

It was proposed that the Board dispose of Bessbrook PSNI Station, following the operational closure of the station on 30 April 2010.

The recorded vote of Members was 10 in favour and 8 against.

It was:-

RESOLVED:

To dispose of Bessbrook PSNI Station following the operational closure of the station on 30 April 2010.

The recorded vote was as follows:-

NAME	FOR	AGAINST	ABSTAIN
Ms Martina Anderson	√		
Mr Tom Buchanan		√	
Mr Leslie Cree		√	
Mr Barry Gilligan	√		
Ms Dolores Kelly	√		
Mr Alex Maskey	√		
Mr Basil McCrea		√	
Mr Daithí McKay	√		
Ms Mary McKee	√		
Mrs Rosaleen Moore	√		
Mr Gearóid O'hÉara	√		
Mr Ian Paisley Jnr		√	
Mr Brian Rea		√	
Professor Sir Desmond Rea	√		
Mr Trevor Ringland		√	
Mr David Rose	√		
Mr Suneil Sharma	-	-	-
Mr Jimmy Spratt		√	
Mr Peter Weir		√	
TOTAL	10	8	0

8. Loughgall

It was proposed that the Board dispose of Loughgall PSNI Station with immediate effect.

The recorded vote of Members was 10 in favour and 8 against.

It was:-

RESOLVED:

To dispose of Loughgall PSNI Station with immediate effect.

The recorded vote was as follows:-

NAME	FOR	AGAINST	ABSTAIN
Ms Martina Anderson	√		
Mr Tom Buchanan		√	
Mr Leslie Cree		√	
Mr Barry Gilligan	√		
Ms Dolores Kelly	√		
Mr Alex Maskey	√		
Mr Basil McCrea		√	
Mr Daithí McKay	√		
Ms Mary McKee	√		
Mrs Rosaleen Moore	√		
Mr Gearóid O'hÉara	√		
Mr Ian Paisley Jnr		√	
Mr Brian Rea		√	
Professor Sir Desmond Rea	√		
Mr Trevor Ringland		√	
Mr David Rose	√		
Mr Suneil Sharma	-	-	-
Mr Jimmy Spratt		√	
Mr Peter Weir		√	
TOTAL	10	8	0

9. Markethill

It was proposed that the Board dispose of Markehill PSNI Station with immediate effect.

The recorded vote of Members was 10 in favour and 8 against.

It was:-

RESOLVED:

To dispose of Markethill PSNI Station with immediate effect.

The recorded vote was as follows:-

NAME	FOR	AGAINST	ABSTAIN
Ms Martina Anderson	√		
Mr Tom Buchanan		√	
Mr Leslie Cree		√	
Mr Barry Gilligan	√		
Ms Dolores Kelly	√		
Mr Alex Maskey	√		
Mr Basil McCrea		√	
Mr Daithí McKay	√		
Ms Mary McKee	√		
Mrs Rosaleen Moore	√		
Mr Gearóid O'hEára	√		
Mr Ian Paisley Jnr		√	
Mr Brian Rea		√	
Professor Sir Desmond Rea	√		
Mr Trevor Ringland		√	
Mr David Rose	√		
Mr Suneil Sharma	-	-	-
Mr Jimmy Spratt		√	
Mr Peter Weir		√	
TOTAL	10	8	0

10. Portadown

It was proposed that the Board dispose of Portadown PSNI Station, following the operational closure of the station in Autumn 2010. An amendment to the motion was proposed (Mr Trevor Ringland) and seconded (Mr Peter Weir) that an assurance should be given that another station would be built in the centre of Portadown to replace the existing station. By show of hands, 8 Members indicated they were in favour of the amendment and 10 Members indicated that they were against the amendment. The amendment fell.

The Board considered the original proposal. The recorded vote of Members was 10 in favour and 8 against.

It was:-

RESOLVED:

To dispose of Portadown PSNI Station following the operational closure of the station in Autumn 2010.

The recorded vote was as follows:-

NAME	FOR	AGAINST	ABSTAIN
Ms Martina Anderson	√		
Mr Tom Buchanan		√	
Mr Leslie Cree		√	
Mr Barry Gilligan	√		
Ms Dolores Kelly	√		
Mr Alex Maskey	√		
Mr Basil McCrea		√	
Mr Daithí McKay	√		
Ms Mary McKee	√		
Mrs Rosaleen Moore	√		
Mr Gearóid O'hÉara	√		
Mr Ian Paisley Jnr		√	
Mr Brian Rea		√	
Professor Sir Desmond Rea	√		
Mr Trevor Ringland		√	
Mr David Rose	√		
Mr Suneil Sharma	-	-	-
Mr Jimmy Spratt		√	
Mr Peter Weir		√	
TOTAL	10	8	0

11. Rathfriland

It was proposed that the Board dispose of Rathfriland PSNI Station, following the operational closure of the station on 31 October 2009. An amendment to the motion was proposed (Mr Jimmy Spratt) and seconded (Mr Peter Weir) that disposal should be deferred until a business case was put forward by PSNI for alternative policing arrangements to be put in place in the adjacent business park. By show of hands, 8 Members indicated they were in favour of the amendment and 10 Members indicated that they were against the amendment. The amendment fell.

The Board considered the original proposal. The recorded vote of Members was 10 in favour and 8 against.

It was:-

RESOLVED:

To dispose of Rathfriland PSNI Station following the operational closure of the station on 31 October 2009.

The recorded vote was as follows:-

NAME	FOR	AGAINST	ABSTAIN
Ms Martina Anderson	√		
Mr Tom Buchanan		√	
Mr Leslie Cree		√	
Mr Barry Gilligan	√		
Ms Dolores Kelly	√		
Mr Alex Maskey	√		
Mr Basil McCrea		√	
Mr Daithí McKay	√		
Ms Mary McKee	√		
Mrs Rosaleen Moore	√		
Mr Gearóid O'hEára	√		
Mr Ian Paisley Jnr		√	
Mr Brian Rea		√	
Professor Sir Desmond Rea	√		
Mr Trevor Ringland		√	
Mr David Rose	√		
Mr Suneil Sharma	-	-	-
Mr Jimmy Spratt		√	
Mr Peter Weir		√	
TOTAL	10	8	0

12. Belcoo

It was proposed that the Board dispose of Belcoo PSNI Station with immediate effect. An amendment to the motion was proposed (Mr Tom Buchanan) and seconded (Mr Jimmy Spratt) that disposal should be deferred until a police administration post was put in place. By show of hands, 9 Members indicated they were in favour of the amendment and 9 Members indicated that they were against the amendment. The Chairman used his casting vote against the amendment. The amendment fell.

The Board considered the original proposal. The recorded vote of Members was 10 in favour and 8 against.

It was:-

RESOLVED:

To dispose of Belcoo PSNI Station with immediate effect.

The recorded vote was as follows:-

NAME	FOR	AGAINST	ABSTAIN
Ms Martina Anderson	√		
Mr Tom Buchanan		√	
Mr Leslie Cree		√	
Mr Barry Gilligan	√		
Ms Dolores Kelly	√		
Mr Alex Maskey	√		
Mr Basil McCrea		√	
Mr Daithí McKay	√		
Ms Mary McKee	√		
Mrs Rosaleen Moore	√		
Mr Gearóid O'hEára	√		
Mr Ian Paisley Jnr		√	
Mr Brian Rea		√	
Professor Sir Desmond Rea	√		
Mr Trevor Ringland		√	
Mr David Rose	√		
Mr Suneil Sharma	-	-	-
Mr Jimmy Spratt		√	
Mr Peter Weir		√	
TOTAL	10	8	0

13. Belleek

It was proposed that the Board dispose of Belleek PSNI Station with immediate effect. An amendment to the motion was proposed (Mr Tom Buchanan) and seconded (Mr Jimmy Spratt) that disposal should be deferred until a policing administration post was put in place.

The Board considered the amendment. By show of hands, 9 Members indicated they were in favour of the amendment and 9 Members indicated that they were against the

amendment. The Chairman used his casting vote against the amendment. The amendment fell.

The Board considered the original proposal. The recorded vote of Members was 10 in favour and 8 against.

It was:-

RESOLVED:

To dispose of Belleek PSNI Station with immediate effect.

The recorded vote was as follows:-

NAME	FOR	AGAINST	ABSTAIN
Ms Martina Anderson	√		
Mr Tom Buchanan		√	
Mr Leslie Cree		√	
Mr Barry Gilligan	√		
Ms Dolores Kelly	√		
Mr Alex Maskey	√		
Mr Basil McCrea		√	
Mr Daithí McKay	√		
Ms Mary McKee	√		
Mrs Rosaleen Moore	√		
Mr Gearóid O'hEára	√		
Mr Ian Paisley Jnr		√	
Mr Brian Rea		√	
Professor Sir Desmond Rea	√		
Mr Trevor Ringland		√	
Mr David Rose	√		
Mr Suneil Sharma	-	-	-
Mr Jimmy Spratt		√	
Mr Peter Weir		√	
TOTAL	10	8	0

14. Coagh

It was proposed that the Board dispose of Coagh PSNI Station with immediate effect. An amendment to the motion was proposed (Mr Basil McCrea) and seconded (Mr Jimmy Spratt) that disposal be deferred until the ongoing terrorist threat had subsided enough to facilitate the use of a mobile police station.

The Board considered the amendment. By show of hands, 9 Members indicated they were in favour of the amendment and 9 Members indicated that they were against the amendment. The Chairman used his casting vote against the amendment. The amendment fell.

The Board considered the original proposal. The recorded vote of Members was 10 in favour and 8 against.

It was:-

RESOLVED:

To dispose of Coagh PSNI Station with immediate effect.

The recorded vote was as follows:-

NAME	FOR	AGAINST	ABSTAIN
Ms Martina Anderson	√		
Mr Tom Buchanan		√	
Mr Leslie Cree		√	
Mr Barry Gilligan	√		
Ms Dolores Kelly	√		
Mr Alex Maskey	√		
Mr Basil McCrea		√	
Mr Daithí McKay	√		
Ms Mary McKee	√		
Mrs Rosaleen Moore	√		
Mr Gearóid O'hÉara	√		
Mr Ian Paisley Jnr		√	
Mr Brian Rea		√	
Professor Sir Desmond Rea	√		
Mr Trevor Ringland		√	
Mr David Rose	√		
Mr Suneil Sharma	-	-	-
Mr Jimmy Spratt		√	
Mr Peter Weir		√	
TOTAL	10	8	0

15. Fivemiletown

It was proposed that the Board dispose of Fivemiletown PSNI Station with immediate effect. An amendment to the motion was proposed (Mr Tom Buchanan) and seconded (Mr Peter Weir) that disposal should be deferred until a police surgery was in place.

The Board considered the amendment. By show of hands, 8 Members indicated they were in favour of the amendment and 10 Members indicated that they were against the amendment. The amendment fell.

The Board considered the original proposal. The recorded vote of Members was 10 in favour and 8 against.

It was:-

RESOLVED:

To dispose of Fivemiletown PSNI Station with immediate effect.

The recorded vote was as follows:-

NAME	FOR	AGAINST	ABSTAIN
Ms Martina Anderson	√		
Mr Tom Buchanan		√	
Mr Leslie Cree		√	
Mr Barry Gilligan	√		
Ms Dolores Kelly	√		
Mr Alex Maskey	√		
Mr Basil McCrea		√	
Mr Daithí McKay	√		
Ms Mary McKee	√		
Mrs Rosaleen Moore	√		
Mr Gearóid O'hEára	√		
Mr Ian Paisley Jnr		√	
Mr Brian Rea		√	
Professor Sir Desmond Rea	√		
Mr Trevor Ringland		√	
Mr David Rose	√		
Mr Suneil Sharma	-	-	-
Mr Jimmy Spratt		√	
Mr Peter Weir		√	
TOTAL	10	8	0

16. Kesh

It was proposed that the Board dispose of Kesh PSNI Station, following the operational closure of the station on 31 October 2009. An amendment to the motion was proposed (Mr Tom Buchanan) and seconded (Mr Peter Weir) that disposal should be deferred until a police surgery was in place.

The Board considered the amendment. By show of hands, 9 Members indicated they were in favour of the amendment and 9 Members indicated that they were against the amendment. The Chairman used his casting vote against the amendment. The

amendment fell.

The Board considered the original proposal. The recorded vote of Members was 11 in favour and 7 against.

It was:

RESOLVED:

To dispose of Kesh PSNI Station following the operational closure of the station on 31 October 2009.

The recorded vote was as follows:-

NAME	FOR	AGAINST	ABSTAIN
Ms Martina Anderson	√		
Mr Tom Buchanan		√	
Mr Leslie Cree		√	
Mr Barry Gilligan	√		
Ms Dolores Kelly	√		
Mr Alex Maskey	√		
Mr Basil McCrea		√	
Mr Daithí McKay	√		
Ms Mary McKee	√		
Mrs Rosaleen Moore	√		
Mr Gearóid O'hÉara	√		
Mr Ian Paisley Jnr		√	
Mr Brian Rea		√	
Professor Sir Desmond Rea	√		
Mr Trevor Ringland	√		
Mr David Rose	√		
Mr Suneil Sharma	-	-	-
Mr Jimmy Spratt		√	
Mr Peter Weir		√	
TOTAL	11	7	0

17. Newtownbutler

It was proposed that the Board dispose of Newtownbutler PSNI Station with immediate effect. An amendment to the motion was proposed (Mr Tom Buchanan) and seconded (Mr Peter Weir) that disposal should be deferred until a police surgery was in place.

The Board considered the amendment. By show of hands, 7 Members indicated they were in favour of the amendment, 10 Members indicated that they were against the amendment, and there was one abstention. The amendment fell.

The Board considered the original proposal. The recorded vote of Members was 10 in favour and 8 against.

It was:

RESOLVED:

To dispose of Newtownbutler PSNI Station with immediate effect.

The recorded vote was as follows:-

NAME	FOR	AGAINST	ABSTAIN
Ms Martina Anderson	√		
Mr Tom Buchanan		√	
Mr Leslie Cree		√	
Mr Barry Gilligan	√		
Ms Dolores Kelly	√		
Mr Alex Maskey	√		
Mr Basil McCrea		√	
Mr Daithí McKay	√		
Ms Mary McKee	√		
Mrs Rosaleen Moore	√		
Mr Gearóid O'hEára	√		
Mr Ian Paisley Jnr		√	
Mr Brian Rea		√	
Professor Sir Desmond Rea	√		
Mr Trevor Ringland		√	
Mr David Rose	√		
Mr Suneil Sharma	-	-	-
Mr Jimmy Spratt		√	
Mr Peter Weir		√	
TOTAL	10	8	0

18. Pomeroy

It was proposed that the Board dispose of Pomeroy PSNI Station with immediate effect. An amendment to the motion was proposed (Mr Tom Buchanan) and seconded (Mr Peter Weir) that disposal should be deferred until a police surgery was in place.

The Board considered the amendment. By show of hands, 8 Members indicated they were in favour of the amendment and 10 Members indicated that they were against the amendment. The amendment fell.

The Board considered the original proposal. The recorded vote of Members was 10 in favour and 8 against.

It was:-

RESOLVED:

To dispose of Pomeroy PSNI Station with immediate effect.

The recorded vote was as follows:-

NAME	FOR	AGAINST	ABSTAIN
Ms Martina Anderson	√		
Mr Tom Buchanan		√	
Mr Leslie Cree		√	
Mr Barry Gilligan	√		
Ms Dolores Kelly	√		
Mr Alex Maskey	√		
Mr Basil McCrea		√	
Mr Daithí McKay	√		
Ms Mary McKee	√		
Mrs Rosaleen Moore	√		
Mr Gearóid O'hEára	√		
Mr Ian Paisley Jnr		√	
Mr Brian Rea		√	
Professor Sir Desmond Rea	√		
Mr Trevor Ringland		√	
Mr David Rose	√		
Mr Suneil Sharma	-	-	-
Mr Jimmy Spratt		√	
Mr Peter Weir		√	
TOTAL	10	8	0

19. Stewartstown

It was proposed that the Board dispose of Stewartstown PSNI Station with immediate effect.

The recorded vote of Members was 10 in favour, 3 against, with 5 abstentions.

It was:-

RESOLVED:

To dispose of Stewartstown PSNI Station with immediate effect.

The recorded vote was as follows:-

NAME	FOR	AGAINST	ABSTAIN
Ms Martina Anderson	√		
Mr Tom Buchanan			√
Mr Leslie Cree		√	
Mr Barry Gilligan	√		
Ms Dolores Kelly	√		
Mr Alex Maskey	√		
Mr Basil McCrea		√	
Mr Daithí McKay	√		
Ms Mary McKee	√		
Mrs Rosaleen Moore	√		
Mr Gearóid O'hEára	√		
Mr Ian Paisley Jnr			√
Mr Brian Rea			√
Professor Sir Desmond Rea	√		
Mr Trevor Ringland		√	
Mr David Rose	√		
Mr Suneil Sharma	-	-	-
Mr Jimmy Spratt			√
Mr Peter Weir			√
TOTAL	10	3	5

20. Bellaghy

It was proposed that the Board dispose of Bellaghy PSNI Station with immediate effect.

The recorded vote of Members was 10 in favour, 3 against, with 5 abstentions.

It was:-

RESOLVED:

To dispose of Bellaghy PSNI Station with immediate effect.

The recorded vote was as follows:-

NAME	FOR	AGAINST	ABSTAIN
Ms Martina Anderson	√		
Mr Tom Buchanan			√
Mr Leslie Cree		√	
Mr Barry Gilligan	√		
Ms Dolores Kelly	√		
Mr Alex Maskey	√		
Mr Basil McCrea		√	
Mr Daithí McKay	√		
Ms Mary McKee	√		
Mrs Rosaleen Moore	√		
Mr Gearóid O'hEára	√		
Mr Ian Paisley Jnr			√
Mr Brian Rea			√
Professor Sir Desmond Rea	√		
Mr Trevor Ringland		√	
Mr David Rose	√		
Mr Suneil Sharma	-	-	-
Mr Jimmy Spratt			√
Mr Peter Weir			√
TOTAL	10	3	5

21. Claudy

It was proposed that the Board dispose of Claudy PSNI Station with immediate effect.

The recorded vote of Members was 10 in favour, none against, with 8 abstentions.

It was:

RESOLVED:

To dispose of Claudy PSNI Station with immediate effect.

The recorded vote was as follows:-

NAME	FOR	AGAINST	ABSTAIN
Ms Martina Anderson	√		
Mr Tom Buchanan			√
Mr Leslie Cree			√
Mr Barry Gilligan	√		
Ms Dolores Kelly	√		
Mr Alex Maskey	√		
Mr Basil McCrea			√
Mr Daithí McKay	√		
Ms Mary McKee	√		
Mrs Rosaleen Moore	√		
Mr Gearóid O'hÉara	√		
Mr Ian Paisley Jnr			√
Mr Brian Rea			√
Professor Sir Desmond Rea	√		
Mr Trevor Ringland			√
Mr David Rose	√		
Mr Suneil Sharma	-	-	-
Mr Jimmy Spratt			√
Mr Peter Weir			√
TOTAL	10	0	8

22. Donemana

It was proposed that the Board dispose of Donemana PSNI Station with immediate effect.

The recorded vote of Members was 10 in favour, none against, with 8 abstentions.

It was:-

RESOLVED:

That the Board dispose of Donemana PSNI Station with immediate effect.

The recorded vote was as follows:-

NAME	FOR	AGAINST	ABSTAIN
Ms Martina Anderson	√		
Mr Tom Buchanan			√
Mr Leslie Cree			√
Mr Barry Gilligan	√		
Ms Dolores Kelly	√		
Mr Alex Maskey	√		
Mr Basil McCrea			√
Mr Daithí McKay	√		
Ms Mary McKee	√		
Mrs Rosaleen Moore	√		
Mr Gearóid O'hEára	√		
Mr Ian Paisley Jnr			√
Mr Brian Rea			√
Professor Sir Desmond Rea	√		
Mr Trevor Ringland			√
Mr David Rose	√		
Mr Suneil Sharma	-	-	-
Mr Jimmy Spratt			√
Mr Peter Weir			√
TOTAL	10	0	8

23. Newtownstewart

It was proposed that the Board dispose of Newtownstewart PSNI Station with immediate effect.

The recorded vote of Members was 10 in favour, none against, with 8 abstentions.

It was:-

RESOLVED:

That the Board dispose of Newtownstewart PSNI Station with immediate effect.

The recorded vote was as follows:-

NAME	FOR	AGAINST	ABSTAIN
Ms Martina Anderson	√		
Mr Tom Buchanan			√
Mr Leslie Cree			√
Mr Barry Gilligan	√		
Ms Dolores Kelly	√		
Mr Alex Maskey	√		
Mr Basil McCrea			√
Mr Daithí McKay	√		
Ms Mary McKee	√		
Mrs Rosaleen Moore	√		
Mr Gearóid O'hEára	√		
Mr Ian Paisley Jnr			√
Mr Brian Rea			√
Professor Sir Desmond Rea	√		
Mr Trevor Ringland			√
Mr David Rose	√		
Mr Suneil Sharma	-	-	-
Mr Jimmy Spratt			√
Mr Peter Weir			√
TOTAL	10	0	8

24. Kells

It was proposed that the Board dispose of Kells PSNI Station, following the operational closure of the station on 31 October 2009.

The recorded vote of Members was 10 in favour and 8 against.

It was:-

RESOLVED:

That the Board dispose of Kells PSNI Station following the operational closure of the station on 31 October 2009.

The recorded vote was as follows:-

NAME	FOR	AGAINST	ABSTAIN
Ms Martina Anderson	√		
Mr Tom Buchanan		√	
Mr Leslie Cree		√	
Mr Barry Gilligan	√		
Ms Dolores Kelly	√		
Mr Alex Maskey	√		
Mr Basil McCrea		√	
Mr Daithí McKay	√		
Ms Mary McKee	√		
Mrs Rosaleen Moore	√		
Mr Gearóid O'hÉara	√		
Mr Ian Paisley Jnr		√	
Mr Brian Rea		√	
Professor Sir Desmond Rea	√		
Mr Trevor Ringland		√	
Mr David Rose	√		
Mr Suneil Sharma	-	-	-
Mr Jimmy Spratt		√	
Mr Peter Weir		√	
TOTAL	10	8	0

25. Kilrea

It was proposed that the Board dispose of Kilrea PSNI Station with immediate effect.

The recorded vote of Members was 10 in favour, none against, with 8 abstentions.

It was:-

RESOLVED:

That the Board dispose of Kilrea PSNI Station with immediate effect.

The recorded vote was as follows:-

NAME	FOR	AGAINST	ABSTAIN
Ms Martina Anderson	√		
Mr Tom Buchanan			√
Mr Leslie Cree			√
Mr Barry Gilligan	√		
Ms Dolores Kelly	√		
Mr Alex Maskey	√		
Mr Basil McCrea			√
Mr Daithí McKay	√		
Ms Mary McKee	√		
Mrs Rosaleen Moore	√		
Mr Gearóid O'hEára	√		
Mr Ian Paisley Jnr			√
Mr Brian Rea			√
Professor Sir Desmond Rea	√		
Mr Trevor Ringland			√
Mr David Rose	√		
Mr Suneil Sharma	-	-	-
Mr Jimmy Spratt			√
Mr Peter Weir			√
TOTAL	10	0	8

26. Portstewart

It was proposed that the Board dispose of Portstewart PSNI Station with immediate effect.

The recorded vote of Members was 15 in favour, none against, with 3 abstentions.

It was:-

RESOLVED:

That the Board dispose of Portstewart PSNI Station with immediate effect.

The recorded vote was as follows:-

NAME	FOR	AGAINST	ABSTAIN
Ms Martina Anderson	√		
Mr Tom Buchanan	√		
Mr Leslie Cree	√		
Mr Barry Gilligan	√		
Ms Dolores Kelly	√		
Mr Alex Maskey	√		
Mr Basil McCrea			√
Mr Daithí McKay	√		
Ms Mary McKee	√		
Mrs Rosaleen Moore	√		
Mr Gearóid O'hEára	√		
Mr Ian Paisley Jnr	√		
Mr Brian Rea			√
Professor Sir Desmond Rea	√		
Mr Trevor Ringland			√
Mr David Rose	√		
Mr Suneil Sharma	-	-	-
Mr Jimmy Spratt	√		
Mr Peter Weir	√		
TOTAL	15	0	3

The Board discussed the content of a news release to be issued by the Chairman regarding the Board's decisions. The consensus view was that the Chairman's comments should reflect the factual position regarding the disposal of stations, the robust nature of the discussions that had taken place with PSNI and the strong views held by Members regarding the issue.

3. HOME OFFICE CONSULTATION - GOVERNMENT PROPOSALS FOR A NEW RETENTION POLICY IN RESPECT OF DNA

The Board considered a paper in relation to a consultation document issued by the Home Office entitled "Keeping the Right People on the DNA Database". The consultation document set out proposals to introduce clearer and more transparent safeguards for the individual, aiming to provide a proportionate balance between protecting community and the rights of the individual.

The Corporate Policy, Planning and Performance Committee at its meeting in July had recommended that a briefing paper prepared by the Board's Human Rights Advisor should form the basis of the Board's response.

The Board considered a draft submission to the Home Office based on the briefing paper prepared by the Board Human Right's Advisor.

It was:-

RESOLVED:

- to approve the recommendation made by the Corporate Policy, Planning and Performance Committee; and
- to forward the submission to the Home Office.

The Sinn Fein Members of the Board asked that it be recorded that while they did not oppose the submission, they were not endorsing the position put forward in the submission.

4. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

There were no matters arising.

5. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The date of the next meeting with the Chief Constable was arranged for 3 September 2009 at Waterside Tower, Belfast.

(Meeting closed at 2.30 pm.)

Secretariat
August 2009

Chairman