

NORTHERN IRELAND POLICING BOARD

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE NORTHERN IRELAND POLICING BOARD HELD ON THURSDAY, 8 OCTOBER 2009 AT 10:00AM IN WATERSIDE TOWER, BELFAST

PRESENT:

MEMBERS:

Mr Barry Gilligan (Chairman)

Mr Alex Attwood

Mr Alex Maskey

Mr Daithí McKay

(1) Mrs Rosaleen Moore

Professor Sir Desmond Rea

Mr Trevor Ringland

Mr David Rose

(2) Mr Suneil Sharma

Mr Jimmy Spratt

POLICE SERVICE OF NORTHERN IRELAND IN ATTENDANCE:

(3) Mr Matt Baggott (Chief Constable)

(3) Mrs Judith Gillespie (Deputy Chief
Constable)

(3) Mr Duncan McCausland (Assistant Chief
Constable Operational Support & Criminal
Justice)

(3) Mr David Jones (ACC Rural Region)

(3) Mr Joe Stewart (Director of Human
Resources)

(3) Mr David Best (Director of Finance &
Support Services)

(3) Ms Liz Young, Head of Media & PR

(3) Chief Superintendent Nigel Grimshaw,
Criminal Justice

(3) Superintendent John McCaughan,
Command Secretariat

OFFICIALS IN ATTENDANCE:

Mr Adrian Donaldson (Chief Executive)

Mr Peter Gilleece (Director of Policy)

Mr Sam Hagen (Director of Corporate
Services)

Mr David Jackson (Director of Community
Engagement)

4 Board Officials

(1) Item number 2 to close

(2) Part Item number 2 to close

(3) Item number 2 and 3 only

1. APOLOGIES, ETC

Apologies were received on behalf of Ms Martina Anderson, Mr Tom Buchanan, Mr Basil McCrea, Ms Mary McKee, Mr Gearóid Ó hEára and Mr Brian Rea. NOTED.

The Chairman reminded Members of the background to the arrangement of the meeting and advised that the PSNI would be joining the meeting at a later stage. The Board initially discussed each item on the agenda.

Item 2 – Chief Constable’ Strategic Priorities – The Chairman reminded Members that at the Board meeting on 1 October 2009, it had been resolved that the Chief Constable should be asked to set out his vision for the PSNI/Policing and his strategic priorities for the next 5 years.

The Chairman advised that he and the Chief Executive had subsequently met with the Chief Constable and Deputy Chief Constable and had agreed that the Chief Constable would provide a detailed vision and strategic priorities to the December 2009 Board meeting. To ensure that the Chief Constable’s overall approach was in line with Board views, the Chief Constable had agreed to attend this special meeting to outline his initial thoughts. Members identified a number of strategic issues and other areas of policy formulation that they wished to discuss with the Chief Constable. A confidential note of the issues raised is attached in Appendix ‘A’.

Item 3 – PSNI Strategic Review - The Chairman summarised the areas where he sensed there was a consensus of agreement among Members in relation to the PSNI Strategic Review. In the discussion which followed, Members confirmed that there was agreement that:-

- The PSNI Strategic Review was more operational and organisational than strategic, although a number of strategic issues were included;
- The Board should concentrate on the strategic priorities;
- The Board should identify and allocate those issues contained in the Review on which it needed to take decisions to be dealt with by the relevant Committees;

- The PSNI should be encouraged to expedite the other internal organisational issues;
- PSNI should be asked to report back to the Board on a regular basis on the implementation of the Review.

Item 4 - PSNI Efficiencies Savings - The Chairman referred Members to a paper issued in advance of the meeting which provided Members with the PSNI financial context leading up to a request by the NIO for options to save £17m from the police budget. NOTED.

2. CHIEF CONSTABLE'S STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

The Chairman welcomed the Chief Constable and other PSNI representatives to the meeting and invited the Chief Constable to outline his initial thoughts on his vision and strategic objectives for future policing in Northern Ireland. A confidential note of the discussion which followed, is attached in Appendix 'A'.

It was:-

AGREED:

That the NIPB/PSNI Strategy Day planned for 3 November 2009 should be deferred until after the more detailed views of the Chief Constable on his strategic objectives were received at the December Board meeting.

3. PSNI STRATEGIC REVIEW

The Chief Constable outlined his views on the PSNI Strategic Review. A confidential note of this discussion is included in Appendix 'A'.

4. PSNI EFFICIENCY SAVINGS – STRATEGY

The Chief Constable outlined his position regarding the request from NIO for £17m in PSNI efficiency savings. A confidential note of this discussion is included in Appendix 'A'.

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

5. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

5.1 Police Long Service And Good Conduct Medal

The Chief Executive informed Members that the Home Office had sought the views of the Northern Ireland Office regarding a proposal to bring the eligibility criteria for the Police Long Service and Good Conduct Medal into line with other emergency services, by reducing the qualifying service period from 22 years to 20 years. The Board had been asked to respond with their views by 13 October 2009.

It was:-

RESOLVED:

That the Board should inform the Home Office that it supports the proposal to bring the eligibility criteria for the Police Long Service and Good Conduct Medal into line with the other emergency services.

5.2 PSNI Request For Acting Assistant Chief Constable Post

The Chief Executive informed Members that he had received a letter from the Chief Constable seeking the approval of the Board for Chief Superintendent Nigel Grimshaw to assume the role of Acting Assistant Chief Constable Criminal Justice for an 8 week period with effect from 5 October 2009.

It was:-

RESOLVED:

To approve the Chief Constable's proposal that Chief Superintendent Nigel Grimshaw should assume the role of Acting Assistant Chief Constable Criminal Justice for the specified 8 week period.

(Meeting closed 12:30pm)

Secretariat
October 2009

Chairman