

NORTHERN IRELAND POLICING BOARD

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE CORPORATE POLICY, PLANNING AND PERFORMANCE COMMITTEE HELD ON 18 FEBRUARY 2010 AT 1:00PM IN WATERSIDE TOWER, BELFAST

PRESENT:

MEMBERS:

- Mr Barry Gilligan (Chairman)
- Mr Brian Rea (Vice Chairman)
- (1) Mr Alex Attwood
- Mr Daithí McKay
- Ms Mary McKee
- (2) Mrs Rosaleen Moore
- Professor Sir Desmond Rea
- (3) Mr Trevor Ringland

OFFICIALS IN ATTENDANCE:

- (1) Mr Adrian Donaldson (Chief Executive)
- (1) Dr Debbie Donnelly (Deputy Chief Executive)
- (1) Mr David Jackson (Director of Community Engagement)
- (1) Mr Sam Hagen (Director of Corporate Services)
- (1) Mr David Wilson (Director of Planning)
- (1) Mr Peter Gilleece (Director of Policy)
- (1) 3 Board Officials

- (1) Except Item number 12.1
- (2) Item number 8 to close
- (3) Item number 4 to close

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received on behalf of Mr Spratt. NOTED.

The Chairman asked Members to declare any conflicts of interest arising from the agenda. There were no conflicts of interest declared by Members.

The Chairman referred Members to the programme for the meeting and advised that the Sub Committee meeting on the restructuring of Committees scheduled for 2:30pm would be deferred to a later date. NOTED.

2. MINUTES OF THE CORPORATE POLICY, PLANNING AND PERFORMANCE COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 21 JANUARY 2010

The Committee considered the draft minutes of the meeting, and it was:-

AGREED:

That the draft minutes of the Corporate Policy, Planning and Performance Committee meeting held on 21 January 2010 should be agreed.

3. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 21 JANUARY 2010

3.1 Review Of Stop And Search (Item 3.2 Of Minutes Refers)

The Chairman referred Members to a paper in relation to the use of Stop and Search powers by police services in England and Wales. A Member sought further information in relation to the number of searches per head of population and officials undertook to research the matter.

During discussion, a Member referred to two recent Association of Police Authority (APA) papers that had been circulated which related to Stop and Search and asked that these be circulated to all Committee Members.

3.2 Workforce Modernisation (Item 3.8 Of Minutes Refers)

The Deputy Chief Executive advised that further information had been requested from PSNI and it was anticipated that a paper would shortly be provided to the Committee.

4. CHAIRMAN'S BUSINESS

4.1 Engagements

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

- meeting with representatives of the Alliance Party – Belfast - 16 February 2010;
- meeting with the US Consulate – Belfast -17 February 2010.

NOTED.

4.2 Publications

There were no matters arising.

4.3 Correspondence

The Chairman informed Members that he had received the following correspondence:-

- letter from PSNI dated 15 January 2010 regarding HMIC Thematic Inspection of Police Counter Terrorism “Pursue” Capability.

NOTED.

4.4 News Release

A confidential note of this discussion is attached at Appendix ‘A’.

5. CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S BUSINESS

5.1 Invitation To Visit Washington For St Patrick's Day Celebrations

The Chief Executive referred Members to discussion at the February 2010 Board meeting in relation to a e-mail from the British Embassy in Washington enquiring whether the Board intended to send representatives to the St Patrick's Day events in Washington in March 2010. The Board had agreed that the matter should receive further consideration by the Committee. Members discussed the rationale for sending representation and it was considered important that the Board be represented.

Following discussion on costs, it was:-

RESOLVED:

That the Board should be represented at the St Patrick's Day events by the Acting Chairman (Mr Brian Rea) and the Acting Vice Chairman (Mr Gearóid Ó hEára).

5.2 Policing Board 'Away Day'

The Chief Executive updated Members on the arrangements for a Board 'Away Day' in the Stormont Hotel on 4 March 2010. He advised that the event would be facilitated by a representative from PriceWaterhouse Coopers. NOTED.

6. POLICING ARCHITECTURE PROTOCOL

Arising from discussion at the February Policing Board meeting, the Committee considered a paper containing a legal opinion as to whether the draft Policing Architecture Protocol in any way diminished the statutory role of the Board and an opinion from Mr Peter Smith QC as to whether the draft Protocol was consistent with the principles set out in the Patten report. In presenting the paper, the Chief Executive sought the agreement of the Board to forward a copy of both opinions to the NIO.

Members discussed the legal advice received and the opinion received from Mr Peter Smith QC.

Following discussion, it was:-

AGREED:

- that the Chief Executive should draft a revised Protocol for forwarding to the NIO;
- that the matter should be further considered at the March 2010 Board meeting.

7. COMPLETE DRAFT OF THE 2010 – 2013 POLICING PLAN

The Committee considered the complete draft of the Policing Plan 2010 – 2013. Officials highlighted the work which had been done to develop the plan. They also highlighted some additional areas for inclusion for consideration by Members.

It was:-

RESOLVED:

To approve the document, subject to a number of amendments outlined by officials being included.

It was:-

AGREED:

That the Chairman should be given delegated authority to sign off the Policing Plan in order to allow officials time to address any outstanding issues with PSNI.

8. BRIEFING BY PSNI REGARDING CORPORATE GOVERNANCE AND PROGRAMME BOARD STRUCTURE

This item was deferred to a later date.

9. INFORMATION PAPERS

The Committee considered the following information papers:-

9.1 PSNI Strategic Review Update

9.2 Criminal Justice Inspection Northern Ireland (CJINI) Draft Inspection Programme 2010 – 2011

NOTED.

10. MATTERS TO BE RAISED WITH THE CHIEF CONSTABLE AT THE NEXT BOARD MEETING

There were no matters arising.

11. COMMUNICATION ISSUES

The Committee considered a draft line to take against a media inquiry in relation to a briefing in February 2010 to the Board on the current position regarding the release of the Stocker/Sampson Report and associated documentation to inquests currently being conducted by Senior Coroner, Mr John Leckey.

Following discussion, members reached a consensus view on the Board line to take against inquiry.

12. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

12.1 Staffing Matter

The Committee considered a confidential staffing matter (a confidential note of this item will be made available to Members on request to the Chairman).

13. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The date of the next meeting was scheduled for Thursday, 18 March 2010 at 2:00pm.

(Meeting closed at 3:30pm).

Secretariat

February 2010

Chairman