

NORTHERN IRELAND POLICING BOARD

MINUTES OF THE HUMAN RIGHTS & PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS COMMITTEE HELD ON WEDNESDAY, 15 DECEMBER 2010 AT 9:00AM IN WATERSIDE TOWER, BELFAST

PRESENT:

MEMBERS:

Mr Basil McCrea (Chairperson)
(1) Ms Mary McKee (Vice Chairperson)
Ms Martina Anderson
Mr Jonathan Bell
Mrs Rosaleen Moore
Mr Suneil Sharma

NORTHERN IRELAND POLICING BOARD HUMAN RIGHTS ADVISOR IN ATTENDANCE:

Ms Alyson Kilpatrick

OFFICIALS IN ATTENDANCE:

Mr Peter Gilleece, Director of Policy
4 Board Officials

(1) Item numbers 4 – 15

1. APOLOGIES, ETC

Apologies were received on behalf of Mr Gearóid Ó hEára and Mr Alastair Ross.
NOTED.

No conflicts of interest arising from the agenda were declared by Members.

2. MINUTES OF THE HUMAN RIGHTS AND PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS COMMITTEE MEETING

2.1 Meeting of the Human Rights and Professional Standards Committee Held On 10 November 2010

The Committee considered the draft minutes of the Committee meeting held on 10
November 2010.

It was:-

AGREED:

That the draft minutes of the Human Rights and Professional Standards Committee meeting held on 10 November 2010 be agreed.

3. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE HUMAN RIGHTS AND PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 13 OCTOBER 2010

3.1 Terms Of Reference – Thematic Inquiry on Policing With And For Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender (LGB&T) Individuals (Item 3.1 of Minutes Refers)

This item had been actioned.

3.2 Briefing Paper on the Justice Bill (Item 4.1 of Minutes Refers)

This item had been actioned.

3.3 Letter from Jimmy Spratt Re Claudy (Item 3.3 of Minutes Refers)

The Committee was advised that the Chief Constable had discussed the Coroner's Inquests at the December 2010 Board meeting.

Following a discussion, it was:-

AGREED:

- That a letter would be sent to the Chief Constable clarifying the PSNI position in relation to transfer of cases from HET to PSNI;
- A schedule of inquests under consideration would be made available to Members detailing proposed timeframes.

3.4 Support Requested From Newry and Mourne District Policing Partnership (DPP) (Item 4.4 of Minutes Refers)

This item had been actioned.

3.5 Children and Young People Thematic Inquiry Report (Item 6 of Minutes Refers)

This item had been actioned.

3.6 Human Rights Annual Report 2010 (Item 7 of Minutes Refers)

This matter was dealt with under item 6.

3.7 Issues Arising Out of Meeting with ACC Kerr Re Children and Young People Review

This item had been actioned.

3.8 PSNI Professional Standards Department

This item was deferred to the January 2011 Committee. NOTED.

3.9 Suspension and Repositioning Of Officers

This item was deferred to the January 2011 Committee meeting. NOTED.

4. CHAIRPERSON'S BUSINESS

4.1 Briefing Paper on the Use of Social Media In Relation To the Launch of the Children and Young People Thematic Review

The Committee considered a paper on the use of social media in relation to the launch of the Children and Young People Thematic Review.

It was:-

AGREED:

- To write to the Minister of Justice providing an advance copy of the Children and Young People Thematic Review, and request comments from the Minister for inclusion on the Website;
- To provide Public Achievement with a PDF copy of the Children and Young People Thematic Review;
- That Members give video interviews before the launch event and for the video interviews to be uploaded onto the 'FAIRCOP' web page.

4.2 Meeting with the Minister on Parades

The Chairperson advised Members of a meeting regarding parades that was held with the Minister on Tuesday, 14 December 2010.

The Chairperson advised that a discussion had taken place on the need for leadership and the need for agencies to work together.

Members were advised that the Minister referred to using the strength of the Board to assist any forum in taking this forward.

Following a discussion, it was:-

AGREED:

That a press release would be issued on the position of the Human Rights and Professional Standards Committee regarding parading.

5. HUMAN RIGHTS ANNUAL REPORT

The Committee considered a draft copy of the Human Rights Annual Report.

The Board's Human Rights Advisor stated that the 2010 report is shorter than previous Annual Reports, as the Thematic Review process was dealing with many of the issues currently covered within the Human Rights report.

The Chairperson stressed the importance of all parties being involved in the Human Rights Annual Report, and advised that he and others would meet with Members to discuss any issues or concerns within the Annual Report.

The Chairperson also acknowledged the hard work of the Board's Human Rights Advisor and her assistant and all staff involved in the work of the Human Rights and Professional Standards Committee.

Members were asked to consider the detail of the report and to raise any issues with Officials before 12 January 2011

Following discussion, it was:-

AGREED:

That the Human Rights Annual Report would be launched on 26 January 2011.

6. OPTIONS FOR PUBLICATION OF THE HUMAN RIGHTS ANNUAL REPORT 2010

The Committee considered a paper which set out media and event options for the publication of the Human Rights Annual Report.

Following a discussion, Members decided on Board outreach for the launch of the Children and Young People Thematic report and the Human Rights Annual Report.

It was:-

AGREED:

- The launch of the Children and Young People report would take place on 26 January 2011. Venue to be confirmed;
- The launch of the Human Rights Annual Report would take place on 2 February 2011 at NICVA , Duncairn Gardens Belfast;
- That all Members would make themselves available for video interviews.

7. INDEPENDENT ASSESSOR'S REPORT – AREAS FOR IMPROVEMENT RELATING TO THE HUMAN RIGHTS & PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS COMMITTEE

The Committee considered a paper which drew Members attention to the areas for improvement contained in the Independent Assessment report which related to the Human Rights and Professional Standards Committee. NOTED.

8. HUMAN RIGHTS ADVISOR'S RESPONSE TO PSNI COMMENTS ON THE DRAFT CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE THEMATIC REVIEW

The Committee considered a paper which provided Members with the response of the Human Rights Advisor to the PSNI's comments on the draft Children and Young People Thematic Review. NOTED.

9. STOP AND SEARCH STATISTICS JULY TO SEPTEMBER 2010

This item was deferred to a future Committee meeting.

10. CJINI REPORT: DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AND ABUSE – A THEMATIC INSPECTION OF THE HANDLING OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AND ABUSE CASES BY THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM IN NORTHERN IRELAND

The Committee considered a paper which provided an overview of the CJINI report on Domestic Violence and Abuse. The Committee queried differences between the CJINI Report and the Committees Thematic review of domestic Violence.

The Committee was advised that a comparative analysis between the two reports would be brought to the next committee Meeting. NOTED.

11. INFORMATION PAPERS

11.1 Custody Visitors – Self Introduction

11.2 Derry, Limavady Police Deploy Body Cameras

NOTED.

12. QUESTIONS FOR THE CHIEF CONSTABLE

There were no matters arising.

13. COMMUNICATION ISSUES

It was:-

AGREED:

That a media release would be issued on the meeting to discuss parading, with the Minister of Justice.

14. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

14.1 Operation Exposure

This item was deferred to the January 2011 Committee meeting.

15. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The date of the next meeting was agreed for Wednesday, 12 January 2011 at 9:30am in Waterside Tower, Belfast.

(Meeting closed 10:30am).

Secretariat

December 2010

Chairperson