

NORTHERN IRELAND POLICING BOARD

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT COMMITTEE HELD ON 24 FEBRUARY 2011 AT 2:00PM IN WATERSIDE TOWER, BELFAST

PRESENT:

MEMBERS:

- (1)** Mr Alex Maskey (Chairperson)
Mr Brian Rea (Vice Chairperson)
- (2)** Mr Jonathan Bell
Mr Leslie Cree
Mr Ian McCrea
- (1)** Mr David Rose
- (1)** Mr Suneil Sharma

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE IN ATTENDANCE:

- (3)** Mr Peter May, Director of Policing & Community Safety
- (3)** Mr David Hughes, Deputy Director of Policing, Policy & Strategy Division
- (3)** Mr Dan Mulholland, Policing, Policy & Strategy Division
- (3)** Ms Gillian Ardis, Community Safety Unit
- (3)** Mr Mark Goodfellow, Community Safety Unit
- (3)** Mr Eamon Jones, Community Safety Unit

OFFICIALS IN ATTENDANCE:

Dr Debbie Donnelly, Deputy Chief Executive
Mr David Jackson, Director of Community Engagement
5 Board Officials

- (1)** Part Item number 5 and 6 – 14
- (2)** Item number 8 only
- (3)** Item number 5 only

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received on behalf of Ms Mary McKee and Mr Gearóid Ó hEára.
NOTED.

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

2. MINUTES OF THE COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 27 JANUARY 2011

The Committee considered the draft minutes of the meeting.

It was:-

AGREED:

That the draft minutes of the Community Engagement Committee meeting held on 27 January 2011 be agreed.

3. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF THE COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT COMMITTEE HELD ON 30 SEPTEMBER 2010

3.1 Policing With the Community Strategy 2020 (Item 5 of Meeting Refers)

The Committee was advised that this item had been discussed at the February 2011 meeting of the Corporate Policy, Planning and Performance Committee, and it was:

AGREED:

To recommend to the Board the Policing with the Community 2020 Strategy for approval.

3.2 Policing With the Community Awards 2011 (Item 6 of Minutes Refers)

The Committee discussed the Board's financial support for the Policing with the Community Awards.

The Committee agreed an initial bursary for Policing with the Community Awards of £3k and for officials to consider the opportunity for future support for the Awards process, subject to resources being available.

3.3 Consultation on the Revised Community Safety Strategy Produced By the Department Of Justice (Item 7 of Minutes Refers)

This matter was dealt with under item 5.

3.4 District Policing Partnership (DPP) Effectiveness (Item 8 of Minutes Refers)

This item was dealt with under item 7.

3.5 Consultation on Code of Practice for Victims of Crime (Item 9 of Minutes Refers)

The Committee noted the PSNI Code of Practice for Victims of Crime, and it was:-

AGREED:

The Director of Community Engagement would consider the Irish Government's Code of Practice for Victims of Crime and report to a future Committee.

4. CHAIRPERSON'S BUSINESS

4.1 District Policing Partnership (DPP) Briefings on Policing With the Community Strategy

The Committee was advised of the dates of briefings scheduled to take place on Policing with the Community 2020:-

- Thursday, 24 March 2011 – 6:00pm – Hilton Hotel, Templepatrick; and
- Wednesday, 30 March 2011 – 6:00pm – Glenavon House Hotel, Cookstown.

4.2 Consultation with the Muslim Community

The Committee was advised that a consultation with the Muslim community had been arranged for Friday, 25 February 2011 at 5:45pm in the Great Hall, Queen's University, Belfast.

5. COMMUNITY SAFETY STRATEGY

5.1. Consultation on the Revised Community Safety Strategy Produced by the Department of Justice

The Committee considered a paper which informed Members of the consultation that is being undertaken by the Department of Justice (DOJ), on the Revised Community Safety Strategy. The Committee considered the consultation document and met with officials from DOJ to discuss the Strategy.

Officials from the DOJ attended the Committee meeting for a discussion on the consultation, and the Committee was briefed on the background to the consultation.

Key issues for the Board include:-

- How anti social behaviour is dealt with;
- The opportunities for early year's intervention;
- Dealing with hate crime; and
- Partnership arrangements and the future role of PCSPS.

Following the discussion, it was:-

AGREED:

That the Director of Community Engagement would draft a response which would be considered at the March 2011 Committee meeting.

5.2 Update on Arrangements for the Joint Committee and Funding Model for Local Partnership Working On Policing and Community Safety

The Committee considered a paper which gave an update on issues relating to the Joint Committee and Funding Model for Policing and Community Safety Partnerships.

The Committee discussed the various issues with the DOJ officials. NOTED.

6. GAP ANALYSIS

The Committee considered a paper which set out the rationale as to how the Board identifies the groups within society to engage with. Discussion highlighted the need to focus on those sectors where people are more vulnerable to becoming a victim of crime or where people are distanced from policing.

Following discussion, it was:-

AGREED:

That the sectors identified were appropriate.

7. CARRICKFERGUS DISTRICT POLICING PARTNERSHIP (DPP) ANNUAL REPORT 2009 – 2010

The Committee considered the re-submitted report on Carrickfergus DPP following the Committee's request for additional information on the work of the DPP.

The Committee discussed the report reiterating that this information was long overdue, and reflected on the time taken to resolve this.

Following discussion, it was:-

AGREED:

To accept the Carrickfergus DPP report and to review this again at the end of June 2011.

8. COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT COMMITTEE WORK PLAN

The proposed work plan for the Committee was considered and the budget provision that has been made to support this work.

It was:-

AGREED:

To accept the work plan and to ensure the monitoring of the delivery of Policing with the Community bi-monthly.

9. INFORMATION PAPERS

9.1.1 Internal Audit Report On The Effectiveness Of The Delivery Of The Board's Community Engagement Strategy

9.1.2 Interim Report In Relation To The Work Of The Loyalist/Republican Consortium

The Committee noted the information papers. NOTED.

10. SCHEDULE OF BRIEFINGS 2011 AND WORK PROGRAMME 2010/11

The Committee noted the information provided on the Schedule of Briefings and Work Programme for 2010/11. NOTED.

11. QUESTIONS FOR THE CHIEF CONSTABLE

It was:-

AGREED:

That officials would draft a question for the Chief Constable on the PSNI Strategy for Engaging with the Community.

12. COMMUNICATION ISSUES

There were no matters arising.

13. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

13.1 Correspondence from PSNI on Policing With the Community Commitments and Dissatisfaction Process

The Committee considered correspondence from PSNI seeking the Board's support for a process to deal with low level complaints against the police outside the formal reporting protocols with the Police Ombudsman. While the Committee considered that the concept may be appropriate, PSNI were asking the Board to endorse a significant change in policy.

Following discussion, the Committee was unable to agree in principle to this request and agreed to go back to the PSNI and seek clarification on a number of points in the letter.

14. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

It was:-

AGREED:

That a meeting would be scheduled for Thursday, 24 March 2011 at 2:00pm.

Meeting closed (4:45pm).

Secretariat
February 2011

Chairperson