

NORTHERN IRELAND POLICING BOARD

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE RESOURCES AND IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE HELD ON 25 FEBRUARY 2011 AT 10:00AM IN WATERSIDE TOWER, BELFAST

PRESENT:

MEMBERS:

- Mr Dominic Bradley (Chairperson)
- Professor Sir Desmond Rea (Vice Chairperson)
- (1) Mr Jonathan Bell
- Mrs Rosaleen Moore

POLICE SERVICE OF NORTHERN IRELAND IN ATTENDANCE:

- (2) Mr David Best, Director of Finance & Support Services
- (2) One PSNI Official

OFFICIALS IN ATTENDANCE:

- Mr Sam Hagen, (Director of Corporate Services)
- (3) Mr David Wilson
- 4 Board Officials

- (1) Item numbers 5 – 13
- (2) Item number 5 only
- (3) Item numbers 2- 4

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received on behalf of Mr Leslie Cree, Mr Gearóid Ó hEáira and Mr Trevor Ringland. NOTED.

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

2. MINUTES OF THE RESOURCES AND IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 14 JANUARY 2011

The Committee considered the minutes of the previous meeting held on 14 January 2011.

Officials brought to the attention of the Committee, a Board Member's comments at the February 2011 Board meeting, where he indicated that the minutes did not reflect the issues raised on 14 January 2011, regarding his reservations about the Human Rights budget.

A discussion took place and the Committee were of the opinion that as the budget had now been agreed by the Senior Management Team, that his reservations are no longer an issue.

Following this, a Member brought up the issue of a recent newspaper report on the costs associated with the Board's Human Rights Advisor. Following a brief discussion, it was:-

AGREED:

That the Chairperson of the Committee would discuss this issue with the Chairperson of the Human Rights and Professional Standards Committee with regard to the position of the Human Rights and Professional Standards Committee on the newspaper report.

It was:-

AGREED:

That the minutes of the Resources and Improvement Committee held on 14 January 2011 be agreed.

3. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MEETING HELD ON 14 JANUARY 2011

3.1 December Monitoring Round Submission (Item 3.2.1 of Minutes Refers)

The Director of Corporate Services advised the Committee on the current position regarding security measures at Waterside Tower.

Members agreed that it would be more practical to put the security measures in place at Waterside Tower rather than relocating.

3.2 PSNI Finance (Item 5 of Minutes Refers)

The Director of Planning advised the Committee that he would report back to the Committee after the Estates Steering Committee meeting on 21 March 2011.

3.3 Policing Arrangements Following Police Station Closures (Item 8.2 of Minutes Refers)

The Committee noted correspondence from PSNI in relation to the matter raised at the January 2011 Resources & Improvement Committee meeting, regarding policing arrangements following station closures. NOTED.

4. CHAIRPERSON'S BUSINESS

4.1 Hearing Loss Cases

The Committee noted correspondence between Lord Morrow, Chair of the Committee for Justice and the Board. NOTED.

4.2 Correspondence

The Committee noted correspondence advising PSNI of an additional £200m being made available from Treasury for the Anti Terrorism Fund.

5. PSNI FINANCE

5.1 Report on Expenditure for January 2011

The Chairperson welcomed the PSNI Director of Finance and Support Services and his colleague to the meeting.

The Director of Finance and Support Services briefed the Committee on PSNI expenditure up to January 2011.

The Committee noted details of the various PSNI financial issues.

	Actual £k	Budget £k	Variance £k
Staff Costs	447,923	464,365	16,442
Non Staff Costs	124,623	136,688	12,065
Historical Enquiries Team	4,490	5,037	547
Receipts	(5,933)	(5,523)	410
Cash Payment of Provisions	74,890	76,953	2,063
Depreciation & Impairment	26,940	25,507	(1,433)
Hearing Loss & Equal Pay Provision	28,698	20,063	(8,635)
DEL Pensions	8,310	10,749	2,439

5.2 PSNI Budget for 2011/12 and Review of Years 2012/13 to 2014/15

The PSNI Director of Finance and Support Services, advised the Committee on the PSNI proposals to achieve a balanced budget for 2011/12.

The Director advised Members that it would be challenging over the next 4 years, however, they would ensure that frontline policing is protected.

The Committee discussed the following:-

- Police overtime;
- HET and Policing the Past;
- Hearing loss cases;
- PSNI Estate;
- Equal Pay/Back Pay

It was:-

AGREED:

That Dave Cox, Head of HET would update the Committee on the number of HET cases outstanding.

It was:-

RESOLVED:

To approve the PSNI budget for 2011/12.

6. NORTHERN IRELAND POLICING BOARD FINANCES

6.1 NIPB Accounts to January 2011

The Committee noted a paper which outlined details of the Board's accounts to January 2011. NOTED.

6.2 NIPB Budget Proposal

The Committee considered a paper which advised Members of the Policing Board budget for 2011/12.

Following discussion, it was:-

RESOLVED:

To agree the Board's budget for 2011/12.

7. ASSISTED REMOVALS (PSNI)

The Committee considered a paper which advised Members of a request for consideration from PSNI in relation to assisted removals.

It was:-

RESOLVED:

- To ratify the decision by officials to approve an extension to the police leased accommodation for 1 month from 18 February 2011 for ADM59;
- To ratify the decision by officials to approve an extension to the police leased accommodation for 1 month from 16 February 2011 for ADM64;
- To ratify the decision by officials to approve an extension to the police leased accommodation for 1 month from 3 March 2011 for ADM54;
- To agree an extension to police leased accommodation for 3 months from 28 April 2011 for ADM40;
- To refuse the application for payment of a stamp duty shortfall for ADM10.

8. NORMAL ASSISTED REMOVALS (PSNI) SCHEMES

The Committee considered a paper which asked Members to note and approve the Normal and Special Financial Arrangements – Assisted Removals (PSNI) Schemes, and to agree to delegate to Board officials to review and implement the financial rates of delegation on an annual basis from 1 April of each year.

Following discussion, it was:-

AGREED:

To approve the details of the Scheme as contained in the paper effective from 14 March 2011.

The Committee noted the comments of the Department of Justice in relation to the Scheme. NOTED.

9. INFORMATION PAPERS

9.1 PSNI IS Strategy Six Monthly Update And Monitoring Information

The Committee considered the information paper and following discussion, it was:-

AGREED:

That the paper be brought back to the next Resources and Improvement Committee meeting.

10. QUESTIONS FOR THE CHIEF CONSTABLE

It was:-

AGREED:

To ask the Chief Constable questions in relation to:-

- Costs in relation to the ongoing legacy issues; and
- PSNI overtime budget.

11. COMMUNICATION ISSUES

There were no matters arising.

12. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

There were no matters arising.

13. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Committee was arranged for Friday, 25 March 2011 at 10:00am.

(Meeting closed at 11:30am)

Secretariat
February 2011

Chairperson