

NORTHERN IRELAND POLICING BOARD

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT COMMITTEE HELD ON 27 MAY 2010 AT 12:30PM IN WATERSIDE TOWER, BELFAST

PRESENT:

MEMBERS:

Mr Alex Maskey (Chairperson)

- (1) Mr Basil McCrea
- Ms Mary McKee
- Mr David Rose
- Mr Suneil Sharma

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE IN ATTENDANCE:

- (1) Mr Peter May, Director of Policing & Community Safety
- (1) Mr Dan Mulholland, Policy, Policing & Strategy
- (1) Ms Nicola Creagh, Policy, Policing & Strategy

POLICE SERVICE OF NORTHERN IRELAND IN ATTENDANCE:

- (3) Mr Will Kerr, ACC Criminal Justice
- (3) Chief Superintendent Alan Todd
- (2) Superintendent Andy McQuiggan
- (2) Superintendent Andrea McMullan
- (3) Chief Inspector Jane Humphries

YOUTH JUSTICE AGENCY IN ATTENDANCE:

- (2) Ms Alice Chapman, Director of Youth Conference Service

OFFICIALS IN ATTENDANCE:

Dr Debbie Donnelly, Deputy Chief Executive
6 Board Officials

- (1) Item number 5 only
- (2) Item number 6 only
- (3) Item number 7 only

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received on behalf of Mr Gearóid Ó hEára, Mr Leslie Cree and Mr Brian Rea. NOTED.

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

2. MINUTES OF THE COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 25 MARCH 2010

It was:-

AGREED:

That the draft minutes of the Community Engagement meeting held on 25 March 2010 be approved.

3. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF THE COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT COMMITTEE HELD ON 25 FEBRUARY 2010

3.1 Record of Issues Raised By Reference Groups (Item 4.1.1 of Meeting Refers)

This matter was deferred to a future Committee meeting.

3.2 Policy on Funding External Projects (Item 4.1.2 of Minutes Refers)

This matter was deferred to a future Committee meeting.

3.3 Young People, the Criminal Justice and Restorative Justice (Item 10 of Minutes Refers)

This matter was dealt with at agenda item 6.

3.4 Review of Reference Groups (Item 11 of Minutes Refers)

This matter was deferred to a future Committee meeting.

4. CHAIRPERSON'S BUSINESS

There were no matters arising.

5. LOCAL PARTNERSHIP WORKING ON POLICING & COMMUNITY SAFETY: CONSULTATION PAPER

The Committee considered a paper which sought Members agreement on the framework for the Board's response to the Government's consultation and the future of District Policing Partnerships (DPPs) and Community Safety Partnerships (CSPs).

The Committee discussed the response at length and agreed that it was critical that DPPs and CSPs come together. Some of the issues discussed were as follows:-

- the DPPs should be the primary model for a future partnership;
- The legislative framework for DPPS should carry over to the new partnership;
- legislation to be used for DPPs to set up Committees to deal with community safety issues;
- the name of the new partnership. Members prefer it remain as DPP but recognise that the name may need to change to reflect the full description of its functions;
- funding of new partnership should come through the Board, that is, the current funding for DPPs and for CSPs, and an assessment of the effectiveness of the partnership against its plan should come to the council and the Board. The Board would be responsible for the specific policing elements;
- An obligation should be placed on public authorities to prevent crime and disorder.

Following discussion, representatives from the Department of Justice (DOJ) entered the meeting.

The Chairperson welcomed Mr Peter May, Mr Dan Mulholland and Ms Nicola Creagh to the meeting.

The Chairperson and Members of the Committee reflected the Committee's issues to the DOJ officials, and following a discussion, it was:-

AGREED:

That a paper would be prepared for the June 2010 Board meeting on the Board's response to the consultation on local partnership working on Policing and Community safety plans for a new partnership.

6. YOUNG PEOPLE, THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM AND RESTORATIVE JUSTICE

The Chairperson welcomed Superintendent Andy McQuiggan, Superintendent Andrea McMullan, PSNI and Ms Alice Chapman, Youth Justice Agency to the meeting.

The representatives were invited to update the Committee on the work their organisations do in seeking to divert young people away from criminal activity through the use of restorative methods.

The Committee raised various questions with the PSNI and Youth Justice Agency representatives. Some of the questions and issues raised were as follows:-

- criminal records and whether restorative justice schemes would appear on criminal records;
- statistics around people who are dealt with by the Youth Conference system and the number of re-offenders;
- satisfaction rate by victims.

Following the briefing, the Chairperson thanked the representatives for their presentations and they left the meeting.

The Chairperson confirmed that 2 community groups would be attending the next Community Engagement meeting in June 2010.

7. PSNI POLICING WITH THE COMMUNITY IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

The PSNI provided the Committee with a briefing on progress in developing the Policing with the Community Strategy and Implementation Plan.

The Chairperson welcomed ACC Kerr, Chief Superintendent Alan Todd and Chief Inspector Jane Humphries to the meeting.

ACC Kerr presented copies of the PSNI Confidence Route Map as the PWC Implementation plan at the Committee meeting.

PSNI provided a briefing to the Committee meeting in March 2010 on progress in developing the Policing with the Community Strategy and Implementation Plan. The Community Engagement Committee was advised that the PSNI would present a draft Policing with the Community Implementation Plan to the Committee in May 2010. At this meeting, the Committee acknowledged the significant investment at a senior level within PSNI, to developing their approach to the Plan through the Confidence Route Map. But the Committee also expressed a concern, that what had been presented was more complicated than what was needed. In their view it was focused more on the internal needs of PSNI and not on the key issues that the Committee have identified: service delivery, engagement with communities and partnering to deliver effective local policing, all of these are central to the style of policing that this Board wants. The Chairperson of the Committee also wanted to place on record his concern that the Board is in default of its statutory commitments in relation to Policing with the Community in respect of holding the Chief Constable to account.

As a way forward the Committee have asked PSNI to develop the engagement and partnership aspects of the route map for further discussion at a special Committee meeting to be convened over the next few weeks.

PSNI felt there was a need for the Board and PSNI to meet and invest some time in a discussion around the Policing with the Community Strategy.

It was:-

AGREED:

- PSNI to develop the engagement and partnership aspects of the Confidence Route Map for further discussion;
- PSNI to develop the engagement and partnership aspects of the Confidence Route map for further discussion;
- that officials would arrange a special meeting with the Committee and PSNI to discuss Policing with the Community.

8. PSNI 6 MONTH REPORT TO THE BOARD ON POLICING WITH THE COMMUNITY

The Committee noted a paper which provided them with the PSNI 6 month report on Policing with the Community. NOTED.

8.1 PSNI 6 Month Report To The Board On Progress Against Targets In The Policing Plan In Relation To Drugs Crime, Business Crime And Organised Crime

The Committee noted a paper which provided them with the PSNI 6 month report on progress against targets to combat drugs crime, business crime and organised crime. NOTED.

9. IMPLEMENTATING AND REVISING THE COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT STRATEGY

This paper was deferred to a future Committee meeting.

10. DISTRICT POLICING PARTNERSHIP INDEPENDENT MEMBERS VACANCIES

The Committee was asked to resolve to adopt the approach of using the reserve list to fill vacancies for independent members in the 3 DPPs that were reconstituted in 2007.

It was:-

RESOLVED:

To offer appointments to the following candidates as independent members:-

Ards DPP – Candidate 5772

Craigavon DPP – Candidate 5099

Carrickfergus DPP – Candidate 7161

11. INFORMATION PAPERS

The Committee considered the following information papers:-

**11.1 District Policing Partnership Members' Draft Training And Events Schedule
April 2010 – March 2011**

11.2 Revised District Policing Partnership Effectiveness Framework For 2010/11

11.3 NSPCC Traveller Children And Domestic Violence Report

NOTED.

12. SCHEDULE OF BRIEFINGS 2010

The Committee noted the information provided.

13. QUESTIONS FOR THE CHIEF CONSTABLE

It was:-

AGREED:

A question would be asked of the Chief Constable in relation to the timescale for Implementing the PWC Strategy.

14. COMMUNICATION ISSUES

There were no communication issues arising from the meeting.

15. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

15.1 PSNI Programme Boards – Local Crime And Justice Board And Service Excellence Board

The Committee considered an invitation to sit on the local Crime and Service Excellence Board.

The Committee:-

AGREED:

That the Chairperson would have delegated authority to discuss with the Deputy Chief Executive and the Director of Community Engagement.

16. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The date of the next meeting was arranged for Thursday, 24 June 2010 at 2:00pm, Waterside Tower, Belfast.

Meeting closed (6:00pm).

Secretariat
May 2010

Chairperson