

NORTHERN IRELAND POLICING BOARD

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT COMMITTEE
HELD ON 26 JUNE 2008 AT 5:00PM IN WATERSIDE TOWER, BELFAST**

PRESENT:

MEMBERS:

Mr Alex Maskey (Chair)
Mr Barry Gilligan (Vice Chair)
(1) Mr David Rose

KPMG IN ATTENDANCE:

(2) Mr Arthur O'Brien
(2) Ms Pamela McCready

**OFFICIALS IN
ATTENDANCE:**

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

- (1)** Item numbers 1 - 4
- (2)** Item number 6

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received on behalf of Ms Mary McKee, Mr Gearóid Ó hEára, Mr Ian Paisley Jnr and Mr Suneil Sharma. NOTED.

**2. MINUTES OF THE COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING
HELD ON 22 MAY 2008**

It was:-

AGREED:

That the minutes of the meeting of the Community Engagement meeting held on 22 May 2008 be agreed.

3. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF THE COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 22 MAY 2008

3.1 Alcohol And The Fear Of Crime – Presentation (Item 5 Of Minutes Refers)

The Committee was advised that officials had written to ACC McCausland requesting details of the legislative changes he had referred to in his presentation. A response is awaited.

Members were also referred to a letter from ACC McCausland, which provided details of a 6 weeks operation to be carried out over the summer. This enforcement and confiscation operation will focus mainly on underage drinking. Members were advised that PSNI would be looking for funding of from stakeholders towards a media campaign. ACC McCausland has requested the Board to consider funding of £40k towards the campaign and also supporting a conference later in the year.

Members considered the request and following discussion, were of the opinion that the Board could not at this stage provide £40k funding to PSNI towards the media campaign. Members considered that the Board should await the publication of the DHSSPS Action Plan and the outcome of the PSNI summer enforcement, and in this context the Committee would consider how best the Board may contribute.

It was:-

AGREED:

- that the Board would await the publication of the DHSSPS Action Plan in support of their Alcohol and Drugs Strategy and consider how the Board can best contribute; and
- to reply to ACC McCausland's request.

3.2 Proposal For Community Engagement Public Meetings (Item 7 Of Minutes Refers)

This item was dealt with under item 7.

3.3 Internal Audit Of External Relations Directorate (Item 11.1 Of Minutes Refers)

The Committee was advised that the follow-up review would be carried out in early August 2008 and that the outcome would be brought to the September 2008 Committee meeting.

3.4 Schedule Of Presentations (Item 12 Of Minutes Refers)

It was:-

AGREED:

- that the July 2008 Committee meeting be cancelled and that any Committee business would be brought to the August 2008 Committee meeting; and
- that the Committee would meet with the Women's Reference Groups before its meeting in August 2008.

4. CHAIRMAN'S BUSINESS

The Chairman updated the Committee on his attendance at the following DPP events:-

4.1 Meeting With INTERCOMM – 19 June 2008

A Member updated the Committee on his attendance at a meeting with INTERCOMM. Members were advised that it was a very positive meeting and that it should be followed up. NOTED.

4.2 Community Policing Seminar, Monaghan – 29 May 2008

The Chair updated Members on his attendance at the Community Policing Seminar on 29 May 2008. Members were advised that there had been a positive feedback from this seminar and, in particular, from the Joint Policing Committees (JPCs), in the South
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of Ireland. In the future, it was proposed to take forward joint events/thematic workshops for Members of DPPs and JPCs. NOTED.

4.3 Human Rights Briefings For District Policing Partnerships

The Chair and Vice Chair updated the Committee on 2 Human Rights briefings which had taken place in the:-

- ECOS Millennium Centre, Ballymena on 5 June 2008; and
- Silver Birch Hotel, Omagh on 10 June 2008.

NOTED.

5. REVIEW OF BOARD'S COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT STRATEGY – RESPONSES FROM CONSULTATION EXERCISE

As the meeting was not quorate the Committee will consider this item at the August Committee meeting.

6. CONSIDERATION OF RECOMMENDATIONS ARISING FROM THE KPMG REPORT ON THE BEST VALUE REVIEW (BVR) OF COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

The Chair welcomed Mr Arthur O'Brien and Ms Pamela McCready from KPMG to the meeting and invited them to brief Members on the recommendations contained in the Best Value Review (BVR) report of Community Engagement.

Mr O'Brien spoke in detail on the 4 recommendations which the Committee had been asked to consider.

Following discussion:-

It was:-

AGREED:

- that KPMG would provide the Committee with clarity on what they refer to as informal meetings; and
- to respond to the Resources and Improvement Committee reflecting Members decisions on the recommendations as follows;
 - accept recommendation 1;
 - accept recommendation 3
 - accept recommendation 7;
 - not to accept recommendation 9; and on
 - the future monitoring of the recommendations.

7. COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT PUBLIC MEETINGS

The Committee considered a paper which updated Members on the proposal for a community engagement public meeting. Members were asked to agree:-

- the approach to be used for the public engagement meeting;
- the location; and
- the date and time.

It was:-

AGREED:

- that the meeting would be held on 18 September 2008 at 7:00pm in the Octagon Suite, King's Hall, Belfast and
- that the format would be as follows:

- welcome and introduction by Board Chairman, followed by a presentation on the role of the Board in community engagement by the Chair of the Community Engagement Committee;
- the Chief Constable to speak on how PSNI are delivering 'Policing with the Community'; and
- questions from the audience, including from the Board's Reference Groups. These questions would not be available to the Board or PSNI in advance of the engagement.

8. PROGRESS REPORT FROM COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT BRANCH

The Committee considered a paper which advised them of the progress made in implementing the Board's Community Engagement Strategy. NOTED.

9. REVIEW OF DISTRICT POLICING PARTNERSHIPS AND COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIPS – UPDATE ON MINISTERIAL REVIEW

The Committee considered a paper which updated Members on the progress in taking forward the review arrangements for District Policing Partnerships (DPPs) and Community Safety Partnerships (CSPs). NOTED.

10. INFORMATION PAPERS

10.1 APA Guidance – The Police Authority Role In Neighbourhood Policing: Ensuring Sustainability

NOTED.

10.2 PSNI Report on 'Providing Support to Minority and Vulnerable Groups'

NOTED.

11. SCHEDULE OF PRESENTATIONS

The Committee considered a schedule of presentations to be made to the Committee.
NOTED.

12. QUESTIONS FOR THE CHIEF CONSTABLE

There were no matters arising.

13. COMMUNICATION ISSUES

There were no matters arising.

14. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

There were no matters arising.

15. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The date of the next meeting was arranged for Thursday, 28 August 2008 at 5:00pm.

(Meeting closed at 7:15pm).

Secretariat

June 2008

Chair