

## **NORTHERN IRELAND POLICING BOARD**

### **MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT COMMITTEE HELD ON 28 AUGUST 2008 AT 5:00PM IN WATERSIDE TOWER, BELFAST**

#### **PRESENT:**

#### **MEMBERS:**

- Mr Alex Maskey (Chair)
- Mr Barry Gilligan (Vice Chair)
- (1) Ms Mary McKee  
Leslie Cree
- (2) Professor Sir Desmond Rea  
Mr David Rose
- (2) Mr Suneil Sharma
- (2) Peter Weir

#### **CRIMINAL JUSTICE INSPECTION NORTHERN IRELAND (CJINI)**

- (3) Mr Bill Priestly, Inspector

#### **WOMEN'S REFERENCE GROUP**

- (4) May De Silva (Chair)
- (4) Patricia Lyness (Vice-Chair)

#### **OFFICIALS IN ATTENDANCE:**

- (5) Dr Debbie Donnelly, A/Chief Executive  
Mr David Jackson, Director of Community  
Engagement  
4 Board Officials

- (1) Item numbers 1 - 14
- (2) Item numbers 5 & 6
- (3) Item number 6
- (4) Item number 5
- (5) Item number 9

#### **1. APOLOGIES**

Apologies were received on behalf of Gearóid Ó hEára NOTED.

#### **2. MINUTES OF THE COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 26 JUNE 2008**

It was:

## **AGREED:**

That the minutes of the meeting of the Community Engagement meeting held on 26 June 2008 be agreed.

### **3. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF THE COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 26 JUNE 2008**

- 3.1 Alcohol And The Fear Of Crime – Presentation** (Item 3.1 Of Minutes Refers)  
The Committee was advised that a briefing on “Alcohol and the Fear of Crime” will be provided to the Community Engagement Committee at a later date.  
NOTED.

- 3.2 Consideration Of Recommendations Arising From The KPMG Report On The Best Value Review (BVR) Of Community Engagement** (Item 6 Of Minutes Refers)

The Committee was advised that a letter had been sent to the Resources & Improvement Committee reflecting Members decision on the recommendations.  
NOTED.

- 3.2 Community Engagement Public Meetings** (Item 7 Of Minutes Refers)

The Director of Community Engagement advised Members that the Community Engagement Public meeting would be held on 18 September 2008 in the Octagon Suite, Kings Hall, Belfast. NOTED.

## **4. CHAIRMAN’S BUSINESS**

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

#### **4.1 DPP Briefings on the Role of the Historical Enquiries Team**

The Chairman advised the Committee that a briefing on the work of the Historical Enquiries Team and the PSNI Crime Support department took place on 27 August 2008 at Cookstown. He advised Members that this was a useful meeting which was well attended.

A further meeting will be held at the Europa Hotel on 2 September 2008.

#### **5. WOMEN'S REFERENCE GROUP - PRESENTATION**

The Chair of the Committee welcomed May De Silva, Chair of the Women's Sector Reference Group and Patricia Lyness, the Vice-Chair, to the Committee meeting.

They began their presentation by briefing Members on their role and their work to date. Following this they spoke on the issue of Domestic Violence and the Board's Human Rights Thematic enquiry on Domestic Violence and violence against women.

Other issues which were discussed were:

- Gender Equality Strategy
- Strategic Objectives
- Priorities for the Northern Ireland Policing Plan
- PSNI Gender Action Plan

They concluded the presentation with details of planned future work with the Board which included:

- Thematic work with the Board
- DPP Engagement and capacity building
- Joint working with other reference groups

## **6. CJINI AND HMIC POLICING WITH THE COMMUNITY INSPECTION - CJINI HEADLINE FINDINGS**

The Chairman welcomed Bill Priestly, an Inspector from CJINI. Mr Priestly gave an overview of the headline findings arising from the Policing with the Community Inspection undertaken by CJINI and HMIC. He advised Members that fieldwork had been undertaken during the early part of 2008. CJINI and HMIC had consulted and engaged extensively with Stakeholders as part of the process. This included 18 Community Groups and 14 Focus Groups.

An update was provided on the key themes emerging. These include;

- Sustainability Policing with the Community;
- Call Handling;
- Engagement with DPPs;
- Estates Strategy;

Members raised various questions and noted their concern at the issues emerging from the Inspection.

It was:

### **AGREED:**

- A copy of the Green Paper on 'Policing our Communities Together' would be made available to all Board Members.
- To hold a workshop with PSNI following the publication of the Inspection Report to address the issues emerging.

## **7. REVISED COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT STRATEGY**

The Committee considered the revised Community Engagement Strategy.

It was:

**AGREED:**

- To publish the revised Community Engagement Strategy.

**8. PROGRESS REPORT FROM COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT BRANCH**

The Committee noted a paper providing an update on the on-going Community Engagement work.

**9. FUTURE ARRANGEMENTS FOR DISTRICT POLICING PARTNERSHIPS (DPPS) AND COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIPS (CSP) FUNCTIONS**

The Committee considered a paper which provided Members with an overview of a draft proposition paper from the NIO on the future arrangements for Community Safety Partnerships (CSP) and DPPs.

The Deputy Chief Executive briefed Members on the content of this paper.

Members expressed their concerns at the proposed model in relation to the role of the Board; the Board's view in regard to accountability, funding, monitoring, connecting to the local community and the future role of the partnership.

It was:

**AGREED:**

- The Board would propose to the NIO that a small working group would be set up for representatives of the Steering Group to develop a range of models.

- The Deputy Chief Executive would reaffirm at the next Steering Group Meeting, the Board's position on the future of DPPs.

**10. DISTRICT POLICING PARTNERSHIP MEMBERS' ATTENDANCE POLICY AND PROPOSED MANAGEMENT OF POLICY**

The Committee was asked to consider and approve the attached draft policy in relation to DPP Members' attendance.

It was:

**AGREED:**

That Members approve the detail of the revised policy and delegate authority to the Director of Community Engagement to consider whether individual cases require referral to the Committee.

**11. DISTRICT POLICING PARTNERSHIP ANNUAL CONFERENCE – 18 NOVEMBER 2008**

The Committee Members were provided with information about a DPP Conference which the Board will host on 18 November 2008 in the City Hotel Armagh.

It was:

**AGREED:**

That Members be provided with a more detailed programme at a future Community Engagement meeting.

## **12. BELFAST DISTRICT POLICING PARTNERSHIP EFFECTIVENESS FRAMEWORK 2008/2011**

The Committee were provided with the draft Belfast DPP Effectiveness Framework 2008/2011 for approval.

It was:

### **RESOLVED:**

To approve the Belfast DPP Effectiveness Framework 2008/2011, but that consideration be given to inclusion of a citywide remit for Belfast DPP.

## **13. PERFORMANCE APPRAISAL OF DISTRICT POLICING PARTNERSHIP INDEPENDENT MEMBERS**

The Committee was asked to consider a revised performance appraisal process for DPP Independent Members and following discussion.

It was:

### **AGREED:**

To recommend to the Board

- that a 'Poor' marking under one of the five criteria would constitute an overall 'Unsatisfactory' marking
- an 'Unsatisfactory' report in two consecutive years, would lead to the Member being referred to the Committee and considered for removal from the DPP, and

- The current policy on the Removal of a DPP Member from the DPP is revised accordingly.

Also, following discussion it was;

### **AGREED**

To include a role for the DPP Chair in countersigning Performance Appraisals for DPP Members and that the Performance Appraisal Policy be revised to reflect this.

## **14. PROPOSED “SEEING IS BELIEVING” VISITS**

The Committee considered a paper which provided Members with proposed outlined arrangements for the Board’s ‘Seeing is Believing’ Visits. There were a range of views from Members on the usefulness of the visits.

Following discussion it was:

### **AGREED:**

- That ‘Seeing is Believing’ visits would be held on 4 November 2008,
- Officials would agree a protocol with PSNI for these visits, and
- Officials consider alternative arrangements for fulfilling the purposes of ‘Seeing is Believing’

## **15. KNIFE AWARENESS CAMPAIGN**

The Committee considered a paper which advised Members of the Knife Awareness Campaign which was carried out during the summer months.

NOTED.

## **16. INFORMATION PAPERS**

There were no matters arising.

## **17. SCHEDULE OF PRESENTATIONS**

The Committee considered the schedule of presentations. NOTED.

## **18. QUESTIONS FOR THE CHIEF CONSTABLE**

It was:

### **AGREED:**

That a question based on the Lunney Report would be made available to Members before the Board meeting on 4 September 2008

## **19. COMMUNICATION ISSUES**

There were no matters arising.

## **20. ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

The Committee considered a request from a Member to provide financial contribution to an event organised for 'Young Achievers'. The Committee considered that further information would be required to enable the Committee to consider support.

## **21. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The date of the next meeting was arranged for Thursday, 25 September 2008 at 2:00pm.

(Meeting closed at 8.20pm).

**Secretariat**  
**August 2008**

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**Chair**

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