Item No:6.1

NORTHERN IRELAND POLICING BOARD

MINUTES OF THE 36th CORPORATE POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 16 SEPTEMBER 2004 AT 10:00 AM IN WATERSIDE TOWER, BELFAST

PRESENT:

MEMBERS:		Professor Desmond Rea (Chairman)
	(1)	Mr Denis Bradley (Vice-Chairman)
		Viscount Alan Brookeborough
		Mr Fred Cobain
		Mr Barry Gilligan
		Mr William Hay
		Mrs Pauline McCabe
		Mr Eddie McGrady
PSNI OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE	**(2)**	Mr Roy Toner (ACC Corporate Development and Change Management)
	(2)	Two PSNI Officers
OFFICIALS IN ATTENDANCE:	**(3)**	Mr Trevor Reaney (Chief Executive)
	(3)	Director of Communications
	(3)	Director of Community Affairs
	(3)	Director of Corporate Services
	(3)	Director of Planning
	(3)	Two Board Officials

(1) Items 3.1 – 9 and part of item 17 onwards
(2) Item 17 only
(3) Excluding Items 22 and 23

1. APOLOGIES

An apology was received on behalf of Mr Wilson. The Committee noted that Mr Wilson had nominated Mr Hay as his substitute.

2. MINUTES OF THE 35TH CORPORATE POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 17 JUNE 2004

The minutes of the Corporate Policy Committee held on 17 June 2004 were agreed.

3. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

3.1 District Policing Partnerships (Item 3.1 Of Minutes Refers)

3.1.1 Response To Chief Constable's Announcement regarding Full-Time Reserve

The Director of Community Affairs outlined details of the initial reaction of DPPs to the Chief Constable's announcement regarding the Full-Time Reserve. The Committee agreed that the response should continue to be monitored and the Committee kept informed of any significant developments.

3.1.2 Threats Against Members Of DPPs

The Committee noted that there had been no developments since the report which had been given to the September Board meeting on a number of threats which had been made against DPP members during the summer months.

3.1.3 Interface Between DPPs And Community Safety Partnerships (CSPs)

The Committee noted that an issue regarding the interface between DPPs and CSPs had been included in a survey of DPP members and managers. It was agreed that CSPs should be considered in the context of the Review of Public Administration.

3.1.4 Dungannon And South Tyrone DPP

The Committee noted that the process to appoint candidates to the Dungannon and South Tyrone DPP was progressing and that shortlisting had taken place and dates for interviews had been set.

3.2 PSNI Review Of Appraisal, Performance Related Pay And Conditions For SMT And SCS (Item 3.4 Of Minutes Refers)

The Committee noted that a commencement date for the implementation of Performance Related Pay for Senior Civilian Staff (SCS) was under review by the Chief Constable. The Committee noted that it would be advised of the implementation date when it was finalised.

The Committee noted that there was a facility for an observer to attend meetings of the Police Negotiating Board (PNB). It was agreed that Mrs McCabe should attend a future PNB meeting as an observer, to inform the Board's review of its representation at PNB meetings.

3.3 Office Of The Police Ombudsman (OPONI) Survey (Item 3.5 Of Minutes Refers)

The Committee noted that the results of the OPONI survey of police officers' attitudes to police complaints had been published on the OPONI website on 20 July 2004.

Seat On Northern Ireland Board Of Crimestoppers (Item 3.6 Of Minutes Refers)

The Committee noted: -

- The contents of a letter from the Chairman of the Northern Ireland Board of Crimestoppers regarding the nomination of Mr Brian Dougherty to sit on the Board of Crimestoppers.

- That Mr Dougherty had attended his first meeting of the Board of Crimestoppers on 7 September 2004.

3.5 Association Of Police Authorities (Item 3.11 Of Minutes Refers)

The Committee noted that it had not been possible to arrange a mutually suitable date for a meeting between the Chairperson and Chief Executive of the Association of Police Authorities (APA) and the Board in September, or during the remainder of the year. The representatives had been invited to attend a meeting of the Board in February or March 2005.

Following discussion the Committee agreed that, if possible, a meeting should be arranged with the Chief Executive of the APA before Christmas to discuss the work of the APA.

The Committee noted that correspondence had been received from APA regarding the Board's membership of APA Working Groups. It was agreed that this correspondence should be considered by the Committee at a future meeting.

3.6 Notifiable Memberships (Item 4.2 Of Minutes Refers)

The Committee noted that the Judicial Review relating to the registration of notifiable memberships had been postponed at the request of the plaintiff until 11 and 12 November 2004.

The Committee noted that PSNI had been asked to provide an analysis of the information in relation to the memberships of organisations which had been notified to the PSNI by Police Officers.

3.7 NIPB Staffing Summary (Item 9 Of Minutes Refers)

This matter was dealt with under item 22.

3.8 Corporate Governance (Item 11 Of Minutes Refers)

This matter was dealt with under item 12.

3.9 Appeals to OPONI (Item 13 Of Minutes Refers)

The Committee noted that there had been no new developments and that when further information became available, it would be brought to the Committee.

3.10 Meeting with Lord Chief Justice (Item 19.1 Of Minutes Refers)

The Committee discussed the DPP Chairmans' Forum which had been addressed by the Lord Chief Justice on 13 September 2004.

4. CHAIRMAN'S BUSINESS

4.1 HMIC Baseline Assessment Report – April 2004

The Committee noted that HMIC's Baseline Assessment Report on the PSNI had been issued to all Members of the Board in August 2004.

The Committee agreed that HMIC and PSNI should be invited to give presentations on the report to the next meeting of the Committee.

4.2 Senior Appointments Panel – Chief Officer Assessments

The Committee noted the content of a letter received by the Chairman from Her Majesty's Chief Inspector of Constabulary regarding revised procedures for the provision of chief officer assessments for senior appointment panels.

4.3 Information Booklet/Annual Report 2003-2004 and Strategic Plan 2003-2005 – Castlereagh DPP

The Committee noted that the Chairman had received an Information Booklet/Annual Report 2003-2004 and Strategic Plan 2003-2005 from Castlereagh DPP.

The Director of Community Affairs reported that all DPPs were required to publish Annual Reports and Strategic Plan and a number of these documents had been received from other DPPs.

4.4 New Police College

The Chief Executive outlined the main issues relating to the college that were discussed at the Police Buildings Steering Committee meeting held on 8 September 2004.

The Committee discussed current Treasury policy regarding the use of Public Private Partnerships (PPP) in procuring new accommodation and related support services.

The Committee noted that the Chairman had met representatives of the Office of the Oversight Commissioner and had discussed recommendations 52, 53 and 92 in the Patten Report which related to the Police Estate and where progress was required.

4.5 Engagements

The Committee noted that the Chairman had undertaken the following engagements on behalf of the Board:-

- The Lord Mayor's Installation Dinner in the City Hall, Belfast on 4 September 2004

- Reception to mark the Opening of Michaelmas Sittings in the Great Hall, Royal Courts of Justice on 6 September 2004

4.6 Meeting with New American Consul General

The Committee noted that the Chairman had met Mr Dean Pittman, the new Consul General in Northern Ireland on 7 September 2004.

4.7 Publications

The Chairman advised Members that he had placed the following publications in the library:-

- Home Office Strategic Plan – 2004-08 – July 2004
- HMIC Report on Modernising the Police Service

4.8 Review of Police Fund

The Committee noted that the Chairman and Chief Executive had met Mr John Steele regarding a review which he was carrying out of the Northern Ireland Police Fund. During the discussion that followed the Committee agreed that a paper should be brought to a future Committee meeting concerning the Board's responsibilities regarding the welfare of serving officers, former officers and their dependents.

4.9 Police Federation Annual Conference

The Committee noted that the Chairman had addressed the Police Federation Conference and attended the dinner on 15 September 2004. He had been accompanied to the Conference by the Chief Executive.

5. CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S BUSINESS

5.1 Freedom of Information Legislation

The Committee noted that a paper would be brought to the next meeting of the Committee outlining the progress which had been made by the officials in preparation for the release of information by the Board under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 which comes into force on 1 January 2005.

The Committee agreed that the PSNI should be asked to provide a report on the work which the Service had carried out in preparation for the release of information under the Act.

5.2 Policing Board Meeting - July/August 2005

The Committee noted that an item would be placed on the agenda for consideration at the next meeting regarding the programme of Board meetings in 2005.

5.3 Christmas Reception

The Committee agreed that arrangements should be made for the Board to host a Christmas Reception.

6. PROPOSED CLOSURE AND DISPOSAL OF POLICE STATIONS

The Committee considered a paper which outlined details of the progress which had been made in developing a general framework for the closure and disposal of Police Stations and the proposal to close and dispose of Andersonstown Police Station and dispose of three stations in the Rural Region (Moy, Caledon and Ballygawley).

Following discussion the Committee agreed that:-

- The Vice-Chairman should contact the Chairman of Belfast DPP to discuss the future of Andersonstown PSNI Station.

- A general framework document on proposed station closures and disposals which is under preparation by PSNI as part of the Estates Strategy should be brought to the Committee for consideration as soon as it is finalised.

- Once all processes had been followed and adequate debate had taken place if necessary the Board should vote on each closure and disposal.

- Decisions regarding the future of Andersonstown Police Station and the disposal of the three stations in the Rural Region should be deferred until the Committee considers the general framework document.

7. INFORMAL MEETINGS WITH PSNI STUDENT OFFICERS

The Committee noted details of a paper which outlined feedback from Informal Meetings with PSNI Student Officers on 3 August and 7 September 2004.

8. FIXED TERM APPOINTMENTS – ASSISTANT CHIEF CONSTABLES

The Committee considered a paper which outlined details of a request which had been received from an Assistant Chief Constable for release from the PSNI under the Severance Scheme.

The Committee agreed that the Assistant Chief Constable could be released from the PSNI under the Severance Scheme at the end of September 2004.

9. LEGAL ACTION

The Committee considered a paper concerning a legal action against the Board and the PSNI.

The Committee noted details of the defence which would be laid before the Court on 17 September 2004 in respect of the action.

10. NORTHERN IRELAND AFFAIRS COMMITTEE INQUIRY INTO THE FUNCTIONS OF THE BOARD

The Committee considered a paper concerning the Board's draft submission to the Northern Ireland Affairs Committee Inquiry into the functions of the Board.

Mr McGrady declared an interest in this item and took no part in the discussion.

The Committee agreed:-

- That the draft submission should be issued to all Members of the Board seeking comments to the Chief Executive by 23 September 2004.

- To delegate authority to the Chairman and Vice-Chairman to sign off the submission in order to meet the deadline of 30 September 2004.

11. PROGRAMME OF CORPORATE POLICY COMMITTEE MEETINGS 2005

The Committee considered a paper detailing proposed dates of meetings of the Corporate Policy Committee during 2005.

The Committee agreed the dates proposed in the paper.

12. CORPORATE GOVERNANCE

The Committee noted a paper on the Board's Internal Auditors Report on Corporate Governance arrangements within the Board and recommendations relating to the work of the Corporate Policy Committee.

The Committee agreed the recommendations, management response and implementation dates set out in the report.

13. REPORT BY PROFESSOR RONALD GOLDSTOCK ON ORGANISED CRIME IN NORTHERN IRELAND AND THE GOVERNMENT RESPONSE

The Committee noted a paper concerning a report by Professor Goldstock into Organised Crime in Northern Ireland and the Government response to his recommendations.

The Chairman reminded the Committee that the Board would be meeting with the Minister of State on 21 October 2004 to discuss the work of the Organised Task Force.

14. SECOND REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT MONITORING COMMISSION

The Committee noted a paper concerning the Second Report of the Independent Monitoring Commission.

15. A REPORT TO THE ASSOCIATION OF THE BAR OF THE CITY OF NEW YORK FROM A MISSION OF THE COMMITTEE ON INTERNATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS – MARCH 2004

The Committee noted a paper concerning a report to the Association of the Bar of the City of New York from a Mission of the Committee on International Human Rights.

16. INFORMATION PAPERS

16.1 Code of Practice on Reports and Enquiries

The Committee noted the contents of the Code of Practice on Reports and Enquiries (July 2004) under sections 59 and 60 of the Police (NI) Acts 2000 and 2003**.**

16.2 Procurement Policy – Northern Ireland Policing Board

The Committee noted the contents of the Board's Procurement Policy.

17. PRESENTATION BY PSNI ON THE INTEGRATED PLANNING AND PERFORMANCE MODEL

The Chairman welcomed ACC Toner and two PSNI Officers to the meeting.

The PSNI representatives delivered a short presentation on the PSNI's approved model of Integrated Planning and Performance. A copy of the slides used in the presentation is attached at Annex "A".

Following the presentation, Members discussed the following issues with ACC Toner:-

- The work which was being carried out by PSNI to integrate the planning model to all sections – functional and operational of the Service.

- The preparation and implementation of the plan and the quality of information being supplied by departments of PSNI.

- The integration of the Human Resources Strategy into the integrated planning model.

The PSNI representatives left the meeting.

18 MATTERS TO BE RAISED WITH THE CHIEF CONSTABLE AT THE NEXT BOARD MEETING

There were no matters arising.

In response to a query from a Member, the Committee agreed that the Director of Finance and Support Services should be invited to give a presentation to the Audit and Best Value Committee on the PSNI Tendering Procedures.

19. PRESS ISSUES

There were no matters arising.

20. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

No other business was conducted.

21. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The date of the next meeting was arranged for 21 October 2004.

All officials left the meeting.

22. REVIEW OF STAFFING STRUCTURES

The Committee considered and agreed a paper regarding amendments to the senior staffing structure of the Board.

23. CHIEF EXECUTIVES PERFORMANCE AND DEVELOPMENT REVIEW DRAFT OBJECTIVES 2004-05

The Committee endorsed draft objectives for the Chief Executive under the Performance and Development Review System.

(Meeting closed 1.05pm).

Secretariat

September 2004

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Chairman