

NORTHERN IRELAND POLICING BOARD

MINUTES OF THE 46th CORPORATE POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 21 JULY 2005 AT 10:00 AM IN WATERSIDE TOWER, BELFAST

PRESENT:

MEMBERS: Professor Sir Desmond Rea (Chairman)
Mr Fred Cobain
Mr Brian Dougherty
Mr Eddie McGrady
Mrs Rosaleen Moore
(1) Mr Sammy Wilson

OFFICIALS IN ATTENDANCE: (2) Mr Trevor Reaney (Chief Executive)
(3) Mr Peter Holt (Director of Communications)
(3) Mr David Jackson (Director of Community Affairs)
(3) Mr Sam Hagen (Director of Corporate Services)
(3) Mr David Wilson (Director of Planning)
(3) Mrs Sinead Simpson (Director of Policy)
(3) Three Board Officials

- (1) From part of item number 5.6 to close.
- (2) Item numbers 1 – 16
- (3) Item numbers 1 – 14

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies for non-attendance were received from Mr Denis Bradley (Vice-Chairman) and Mrs Pauline McCabe. NOTED.

2. MINUTES OF THE 45th CORPORATE POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 16 JUNE 2005

The Committee considered the draft minutes of the previous meeting.

It was:

AGREED

That the minutes of the Corporate Policy Committee meeting held on 16 June 2005 should be agreed.

3. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF THE 45th MEETING

Duty Payment For Part-Time Reserve Officers (Item 3.2 Of Minutes Refers)

The Committee noted the content of a letter which had been received from the Chief Constable regarding the payment of a gratuity for members and former members of the Part-Time Reserve. The Member of the Board who had raised the issue would be advised of the Chief Constable's response.
NOTED.

PSNI Senior Civilian Staff – Pay And Allowances (Item 3.4 Of Minutes Refers)

The Chief Executive advised the Committee that:-

- The Secretary of State had endorsed the proposals regarding the terms and conditions for the PSNI senior civilian staff posts.
NOTED.
- Discussion was taking place with the Deputy Chief Constable and the current post holders regarding assimilation into the new arrangements. NOTED.

Independent Assessment Of Board Performance (Item 3.5 Of Minutes Refers)

The Chief Executive updated the Committee on the work which was being undertaken by the Independent Panel appointed to assess the Board's performance. NOTED.

3.4 Chief Constable – Performance Development Review And Performance Related Pay (Items 6 And 16 Of Minutes Refers)

The matter was dealt with under item 15.

3.5 Report Of The NIAC Into The Functions Of The NIPB (Items 3.7 And 11 Of Minutes Refers)

The Committee noted that the Board had agreed at its 30 June 2005 meeting the recommendations from the Committee regarding the Board's responses to the conclusions / recommendations contained in the Northern Ireland Affairs Committee Report into the functions of the Policing Board with the exception of recommendation 2, (frequency of contact with the Ombudsman) which would be brought back to the September Board meeting for further consideration. NOTED.

3.6 Independent Monitoring Commission (Items 3.10 And 9 Of Minutes Refers)

Members were updated on progress towards arranging a workshop to discuss issues around organised crime. NOTED.

Officials were in the process of organising a meeting with the Independent Monitoring Commissions in October 2005. NOTED.

3.7 Review Of Board Organisation Structures (Items 3.11 And 17 Of Minutes Refers)

This matter was dealt with under item 11.

3.8 Parades Commission (Item 3.14 Of Minutes Refers)

The Committee noted that arrangements had been made for a meeting with the Parades Commission on 29 September 2005 at 2.00pm. NOTED.

3.9 ILEF Conference (Item 3.15 Of Minutes Refers)

A report would be presented to the September Committee meeting on the International Law Enforcement Conference which Mr Byrne and the Director of Policy had attended in Ottawa, Canada on 21 – 23 June 2005. NOTED.

3.10 Chief Officers Allowances (Item 3.16 Of Minutes Refers)

Officials advised that further information was awaited from CPOSA regarding the use of Broadband. NOTED.

3.11 DPP Interactive Sessions (Item 5.1 Of Minutes Refers)

The Director of Community Affairs outlined details of feedback which had been received to date from DPP Members on the interactive sessions which had taken place with the Board and PSNI Senior Command Team. NOTED.

The Chief Executive outlined details of the programme for the September Board meeting. NOTED.

3.12 Taser Trials (Item 5.2 Of Minutes Refers)

The Committee noted that PSNI would be giving a briefing to the September meeting of the Human Rights and Professional Standards Committee in relation to the Taser Trials. NOTED.

The Chairman referred to an article in the media regarding a death which had occurred in USA as a result of a hit using a taser gun and requested that reports on the issue be monitored.

3.13 13th Report Of The Oversight Commissioner (Item 5.5 Of Minutes Refers)

The Committee noted that a paper would be provided for consideration at the September meeting on the main issues in the Oversight Commissioner's Report and other reports which had been issued recently in relation to the PSNI performance and policing generally. This was in order to consider the creation of an agenda of the "top ten" issues for the Board to focus on over the next 3 – 5 years. NOTED.

It was:

AGREED

- That consideration should be given to organising a workshop for Board Members to consider the issues before the Board/PSNI Strategy Event in October 2005.
- That an aide memoire should be sent to all Board Members in relation to the project in advance of a workshop.

3.14 Northern Ireland Affairs Committee Report “The Challenge Of Diversity: Hate Crime In Northern Ireland” (Item 10 Of Minutes Refers)

The Committee noted:-

- That there were 37 minority liaison officers in the PSNI. NOTED.
- That a letter had been sent to the PSNI asking for a progress report in 6 months time on how the recommendations contained in the Northern Ireland Affairs report on “The Challenge of Diversity : Hate Crime in Northern Ireland” were being taken forward. NOTED.

The Committee discussed the role of the minority liaison officers in the PSNI.

It was:

AGREED

That information should be sought from the PSNI on the role/duties of minority liaison officers.

4. CHAIRMAN’S BUSINESS

4.1 Engagements

The Chairman had undertaken the following engagements:-

- Graduation Dinner – University of Ulster, Jordanstown – 30 June 2005. NOTED.

- Independence Day Celebration hosted by United States Consul General to Belfast – Belfast – 4 July 2005. NOTED.
- Divine Healing Ministries – Belfast – 4 July 2005. NOTED.
- Meeting with David Lidington, Member of Parliament – Belfast – 5 July 2005. NOTED.
- Queen’s University Belfast – Graduation Dinner – Belfast - 5 July 2005. NOTED.
- Equality Commission Reception – Belfast – 5 July 2005. NOTED.
- Presentation to Centrex Leadership Development Programme – Templepatrick – 6 July 2005. NOTED.

4.2 Publications

The following publications had been placed in the library:-

- Criminal Justice Magazine – June 2005. NOTED.
- DVD entitled ‘Introduction to Attenuating Energy Projectile’ – produced by NIO, Home Office, ACPO, ACPOS, DSTL and PSNI. NOTED.

4.3 Correspondence

The Chairman had received the following correspondence:-

- Letter from the Chief Constable regarding implementation of the recommendations contained in the Bichard report. NOTED.
- Letter from the NIO Parliamentary Under Secretary of State regarding a number of matters in relation to the Organised Crime Task Force. NOTED.

4.4 News Releases

The Chairman advised the Committee about the following news release:-

- New powers to protect victims of domestic violence – Northern Ireland Office – 30 June 2005. NOTED.

4.5 Responses From PSNI To Questions Raised At Board Meeting On 30 June 2005

The Chairman advised the Committee about written responses which had been received from the PSNI to questions which had been raised by Members at the Board meeting on 30 June 2005. These replies would be brought to the attention of the Board. NOTED.

4.6 Retirement Of NIO Permanent Under Secretary

The Committee noted that the NIO Permanent Under Secretary would be retiring on 30 November 2005. NOTED.

4.7 Date Of Next Board Meeting

The Chairman reminded Members that when the programme of Board meetings had been drawn up, it had been agreed to include a 'provisional' date for a meeting of the Board on 3 August 2005.

Mr Wilson asked for a meeting to take place on 3 August 2005 to discuss issues arising from the July parades.

The Committee discussed the need to have a meeting of the Board in August 2005.

It was:

AGREED

- That the Chief Constable should be asked to brief Members in August on the policing of parades during the marching season to date and to comment on the potential for disorder at parades during the rest of the season.
- That the next Board meeting should take place on 1 September 2005.

5. CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S BUSINESS

5.1 Conferences

The Chief Executive advised the Committee about the following conferences:-

- 2nd Annual Vulnerable and Intimidated Victims and Witnesses Conference – London – 6 October 2005. NOTED.
- Making a Difference – The Northern Ireland Police Fund – Belfast 8 and 9 November 2005. NOTED.

5.2 New Police College

The Chief Executive advised the Committee that outline planning approval had been granted on 19 July 2005 to build the new Police College in Cookstown. The Chief Executive outlined details of issues which would be discussed at the Police College Project Board Meeting on 7 September 2005. NOTED.

5.3 Appointment Of Assistant Chief Constable

The Chief Executive advised the Committee:-

- That an Assistant Chief Constable's appointment had been confirmed. NOTED.
- A paper would be provided for consideration at a future Committee meeting in relation to the recruitment to the post of Assistant Chief Constable. NOTED.

5.4 Review Of Public Administration

The Chief Executive outlined details of a letter which had been received from the Team undertaking the Review of Public Administration in response to the Board's submission to the review. The Review Team had indicated that the partnership arrangements for DPPs/CSPs should be considered by NIO. NOTED.

5.5 PSNI – Contribution To National Policing

The Chief Executive advised the Committee about the contribution which had been made by the PSNI in relation to policing the recent G8 Summit at Gleneagles. NOTED.

5.6 Crimestoppers Funding Application To NIO

A Member requested the Board's support regarding an application which had been sent from the Northern Ireland Board of Crimestoppers to the NIO in relation to funding for a third advertising campaign for Crimestoppers.

It was:

AGREED

That a letter of support should be sent to the NIO from the Board regarding funding for the advertising campaign for Crimestoppers.

5.7 Conference On Policing With The Community - Colombia

The Committee noted details of a request which had been received for a representative from the Board to address a conference on Policing with the Community in Colombia in November 2005. NOTED

It was:

AGREED

That nominations should be sought at the next Board meeting for a Member to address the conference in Colombia on Policing with the Community.

**6. FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUESTS SUMMARY –
1 JANUARY TO 30 JUNE 2005**

The Committee noted the content of a paper which outlined details of Freedom of Information requests which had been received by the Board from 1 January to 30 June 2005. NOTED.

It was:

AGREED

- That the Committee should be provided with an update on Freedom of Information requests on a quarterly basis.
- That the update on requests should include an appropriate level of detail on the requestors of the information.

7. PSNI DRAFT POLICY DIRECTIVE ON POLITICAL ACTIVITY

The Committee considered the content of a paper concerning a draft policy which had been received from PSNI to provide guidance to police officers around their involvement in political activity.

The paper asked the Committee to consider the draft policy and to indicate its agreement with the proposed course of action.

The Committee discussed the content of the policy.

It was:

AGREED

That ACC Gillespie should be invited to address the Board on the PSNI Draft Policy Directive on Political Activity.

8. IMPLEMENTATION OF RECOMMENDATIONS IN THE BICHARD REPORT

The Committee noted the content of a paper which outlined details of the progress which had been made against the implementation of the recommendations of the Bichard Report within PSNI.

The Committee considered receiving a briefing from the PSNI regarding progress on the issues in the report.

It was:

AGREED

That the PSNI should be asked to give a briefing to the Committee regarding progress on the implementation of the recommendations of the Bichard Report within PSNI.

9. POLICE AUTHORITY OF NORTHERN IRELAND DEBTOR

The Committee considered the content of a paper concerning an amount which was owed to the Board by a Police Authority Debtor.

The paper asked the Committee to note the amount owed to the Board and to advise on a request which had been received for an equivalent amount to be donated to the RUC George Cross Foundation.

The Committee discussed the debt which was due to the Board.

It was:

AGREED

- That arrangements should be made for the amount which was owed to the Board by a Police Authority Debtor to be paid to the Board.

- Further consideration should be given as to whether an equivalent amount might be donated to the RUC George Cross Foundation in respect of a specific project.

10. OMNIBUS SURVEY QUESTIONS – OCTOBER 2005

The Committee considered the content of a paper which outlined details of questions to be included in the October 2005 Omnibus Survey.

The paper asked the Committee to endorse the questions for inclusion in the survey.

The Committee made a few suggestions in relation to the questions and

It was:

RESOLVED

That the questions outlined in the paper should be included in the survey.

11. BOARD ORGANISATION STRUCTURES

The Committee considered the content of a paper which outlined details of an ongoing development and review of the Board's organisational structures.

The Chief Executive briefed the Committee on the key issues at a strategic level which were outlined in the paper which related to new developments which were under consideration.

The Committee discussed the paper and commented on some of the key issues concerning ongoing development and review of the Board's organisational structures.

The Chief Executive also indicated that he wished to incorporate any comments/recommendations which may be made by the Independent Assessment Panel in respect of organisation structures.

It was:

AGREED

That Members of the Committee should reflect further on the key issues and provide any comments to the Chief Executive.

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

It was:

AGREED

That the Committee had no matters to raise with the Chief Constable at the next Board meeting.

13. PRESS ISSUES

It was:

AGREED

That there were no issues arising from the meeting that should be included in a news release.

14. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

No other business was conducted.

15. CHIEF CONSTABLE: PERFORMANCE AND DEVELOPMENT REVIEW AND PERFORMANCE RELATED PAY 2004 – 05

The Committee considered a confidential paper in relation to the Chief Constable's Performance and Development Review and Performance Related Pay for 2004 – 05 and agreed the outcome of the assessment under these systems.

16. CHIEF CONSTABLE'S PERFORMANCE AND DEVELOPMENT REVIEW AND PERFORMANCE RELATED PAY OBJECTIVES 2005 – 06

The Committee noted a paper setting out progress in developing the Chief Constable's Performance and Development Review/Performance Related Pay objectives for 2005 – 06 and that a final draft would be presented to the next meeting of the Committee. NOTED.

**17. CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S PERFORMANCE AND DEVELOPMENT
REVIEW OBJECTIVES 2005-06**

The Committee considered a paper setting out the Chief Executive's draft Performance and Development Review Objectives for 2005-06.

It was:

RESOLVED

To endorse the draft objectives for 2005-06.

18 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The date of the next meeting was arranged for 15 September 2005 at 10:00am.

(Meeting closed 1300 hours).

Secretariat

July 2005

CHAIRMAN