

## **NORTHERN IRELAND POLICING BOARD**

### **MINUTES OF THE 31<sup>st</sup> CORPORATE POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 24 MARCH 2004 AT 10:00 AM IN WATERSIDE TOWER, BELFAST**

#### **PRESENT:**

#### **MEMBERS:**

Professor Desmond Rea (Chairman)  
Mr Denis Bradley (Vice-Chairman)  
Mr Alex Attwood  
Viscount Brookeborough  
Mr Fred Cobain  
Mr Barry Gilligan  
Mrs Pauline McCabe  
Mr Sammy Wilson

#### **PSNI IN ATTENDANCE:**

(1) Mr Paul Leighton (Deputy Chief Constable)

#### **NIO IN ATTENDANCE:**

(2) Mr Robin Masefield  
(2) Mr Nick Perry  
(2) Mr Colin Ashe

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

Mr Trevor Reaney (Chief Executive)  
Director of Community Affairs  
Director of Corporate Services  
Director of Policy and Accountability  
Three Board Officials

- (1) **Item number 15 only**
- (2) **Item number 16 only**

## **1. APOLOGIES**

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

## **2. MINUTES OF THE 30<sup>TH</sup> CORPORATE POLICY COMMITTEE HELD ON 19 FEBRUARY 2004**

The Committee considered the draft minutes of the previous meeting and agreed two minor amendments to the wording.

Subject to these amendments, the minutes of the Corporate Policy Committee meeting held on 19 February 2004 were agreed.

## **3. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF THE 30<sup>TH</sup> CORPORATE POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING**

### **District Policing Partnerships (Item 3.1 Of Minutes Refers)**

Officials informed the Committee that Dungannon and South Tyrone District Council had written to the Secretary of State seeking an extension of time to obtain further legal advice in relation to the establishment of a DPP in the area.

### **Appointment Of Senior Board Staff (Item 3.3 Of Minutes Refers)**

The Chief Executive updated the Committee about developments in the process to appoint (i) a Director of Service Delivery and (ii) a Director of Communications.

The Committee agreed to reduce the number of Members involved in the appointment panels and the Chief Executive undertook to make the necessary adjustments to the membership of the panels.

With regard to the appointment of a Director of Communications, the Chief Executive undertook to discuss progress with the Chairman of the Press and PR Committee.

### **Tackling Crime Against Older People** (Item 3.7 Of Minutes Refers)

The Committee noted that as agreed at the previous meeting, the Chairman had written to the Minister of State seeking views on how tackling the fear of crime on the elderly might be addressed, particularly how best to focus the work of a range of agencies and that a reply was awaited.

### **Correspondence From Ulster Political Research Group** (Item 3.8 Of Minutes Refers)

The Committee noted that as agreed at the previous meeting, the correspondence had been referred to PSNI and that the Ulster Political Research Group had been advised accordingly.

### **Devolution Of Policing – Role Of NIPB** (Item 3.9 Of Minutes Refers)

There were no developments.

### **Confidentiality Of PSNI Briefing To The Board** (Item 3.12 Of Minutes Refers)

The Chairman advised Members that he had spoken with the leaders of the political parties within the Board regarding the issue of confidentiality of PSNI briefings. The Chairman advised that the matter had not been positively progressed. He reminded Members that there had been a number of disclosures arising from business at the March Board meeting.

Members discussed the implications for the Board in receiving briefings of a confidential nature from other organisations, against a background of “leaks” from Members to the media. In particular, the potential impact on the reputation of the Board was highlighted.

Members agreed that further reflection on the matter was required.

**Review Of Remuneration For Independent Members** (Item 3.13 Of Minutes Refers)

There were no developments.

**3.8 4<sup>th</sup> Report From The NIO Steering Group On Research Into Alternative Policing Approaches Towards The Management Of Conflict** (Item 3.14 Of Minutes Refers)

The Committee noted that it would receive a presentation on this issue later in the meeting.

**3.9 Meeting With Student Officers** (Item 3.15 Of Minutes Refers)

The Committee noted that the Chairman, Mr Gilligan and Mrs Moore had met with the Deputy Chief Constable and PSNI Director of Training on 4 March 2004 at the Training Centre to review the accommodation for students. It was agreed that this issue should be discussed with the Deputy Chief Constable later in the meeting. (Item 15.2 refers).

**3.10 Appointment Process For Assistant Chief Constable To PSNI** (Item 7 Of Minutes Refers)

The Committee noted that an advertisement had been issued on 12 March 2004, for an Assistant Chief Constable, with a closing date of 2 April 2004 for applicants.

The Committee agreed to review the number of Members on the appointment panel.

**3.11 Chief Constable – Living Accommodation** (Item 8 Of Minutes Refers)

The Committee noted that a valuation of the proposed living accommodation for the Chief Constable had been received from the Valuation and Lands Agency immediately prior to the meeting. The Committee discussed the valuation and agreed that further discussion was required with the NIO concerning the property.

The Committee discussed the capital value of rental and the value of the property, the Chief Constable's housing allowance and the potential for the property to increase in value.

Following discussion, it was agreed that the Chief Executive should continue to liaise with the Chief Constable regarding a number of outstanding issues.

Following further discussion, the Committee agreed to review the Chief Constable's housing allowance during the next financial year.

### **3.12 Request For Financial Support For Legal Action From PSNI Officer** (Item 9 Of Minutes Refers)

The Committee considered a paper, tabled at the meeting, containing legal advice in respect of a request for financial support for a legal action by a PSNI officer.

After discussing the legal advice, the Committee gave approval to the request received from the Deputy Chief Constable to financially support the legal action by the officer. The Committee also gave approval to a request from the Deputy Chief Constable that the PSNI officer concerned be reimbursed for costs associated with obtaining private legal opinion.

### **3.13 British / Irish Rights Watch Correspondence – Arrest Of Clarke and Johnston** (Item 14 Of Minutes Refers)

There were no further developments.

### **3.14 OPONI Statement On RUC Investigation Of Murder of Mr Sean Brown** (Item 16 Of Minutes Refers)

This matter was dealt with under item 10.

### **3.15 PSNI Review Of Pay, Appraisal, Performance Related Pay And Allocation Of Duties: SMT and SCS (Item 20 Of Minutes Refers)**

A confidential report on the above matter is attached at Appendix 'A'.

## **4. CHAIRMAN'S BUSINESS**

### **4.1 Engagements**

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

- Human Rights Conference entitled "Supporting Victims, Delivering Justice" in the Ramada Hotel, Belfast on 1 and 2 March 2004.

### **4.2 Media Launch Of District Policing Plans For 2004 / 05**

The Committee noted that the launch of the District Policing Plans for 2004 / 05 would take place in St Patrick's Centre, Downpatrick on 29 March 2004.

### **4.3 Correspondence From Newry And Mourne District Council**

The Chairman informed Members about correspondence which he had received from Newry and Mourne District Council regarding a letter the Council had forwarded to the Prime Minister concerning the publication of the Cory Report. The Committee noted that the Chairman had been informed that the Report would be published on 1 April 2004.

### **4.4 Committee Membership**

The Committee noted that the Chairman had been informed by Mr McFarland that he was unable to continue to serve on the Human Resources Committee.

The Chairman reported that Membership of Committees was under review and that the Chief Executive would shortly write to all Members regarding their position on Committees.

#### **4.5 ACPO Guidance On Deployment And Use Of Water Cannons**

The Chairman sought and received confirmation that all Members had received a copy of correspondence, received by the Chief Executive, from the Northern Ireland Office regarding the publication of ACPO guidance on the deployment of water cannon and the final medical evaluation.

#### **4.6 Letter From NIO Minister – 2004 / 07 Policing Plan**

The Committee noted the content of a letter from the Minister of State concerning the publication of the 2004 / 07 Policing Plan.

#### **4.7 Regulation 20 Report From OPONI**

The Chairman advised the Committee that he had received a Regulation 20 Report from the Police Ombudsman concerning the firing of 29 baton rounds in the vicinity of Albertbridge Road, Belfast on 20 and 21 August 2002. The Report would be referred to the Human Rights Professional Standards Committee for consideration.

#### **4.8 Visit To Washington**

The Chairman and Chief Executive reported on the programme of events that they had taken part in during St Patrick's week in Washington, which included a meeting with the President of the United States at the White House. The Committee noted that the main focus of the St Patrick's week was policing. The Chairman highlighted the excellent work carried out by the 2 DPP representatives who had also taken part in the visit.

The Committee discussed the programme of events and the profile of the Board in the USA. It was agreed that there was a need to reflect on the Board's profile and consider how this should be addressed.

The Committee agreed that a statement by the Friends of Ireland should be issued to all Members.

## **5. CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S BUSINESS**

### **5.1 Security Vetting Review**

The Committee noted that a Government review of the level of vetting for staff, including Board personnel, was ongoing. In response to a question, the Chief Executive advised that he would keep the Committee updated on progress.

### **5.2 Leave Entitlement – Chief Police Officers – PSNI**

The Chief Executive advised Members that he had received correspondence from the Chief Constable concerning revised proposals for the leave of chief officers. The Committee noted that a paper on the issue would be brought to the Committee at a future date.

### **5.3 OPONI Survey – Press Release – New OPONI / Federation Forum Established**

The Committee noted a news release from the Office of the Police Ombudsman (OPONI) showing results from a survey on PSNI officers and notifying of the establishment of an OPONI / Police Federation Forum.

The Committee discussed the news release and agreed that the Board should request a copy of the full report on the survey. Officials undertook to contact the OPONI and Staff Associations accordingly.

### **5.4 Legal Actions – Post Traumatic Stress**

The Chief Executive advised Members that a class action and individual actions against the police and Police Authority for Northern Ireland had been received from police officers concerning post traumatic stress. The Chief Executive undertook to update the Committee regularly on progress concerning the actions. It was noted that the Human Resources Committee had requested a briefing on the matter.

## **6. PROPOSED EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES POLICY FOR THE POLICING BOARD**

The Committee considered a paper and draft policy for the Northern Ireland Policing Board on Equal Opportunities, Harassment and Bullying. It was noted that the Committee had previously considered the document and raised questions regarding 2 points. It was noted that officials had taken advice from Labour Relations Agency concerning the wording and the draft reflected this advice.

Subject to a further minor amendment to the draft wording, the Committee approved the policy.

## **7. NORTHERN IRELAND POLICING BOARD BUSINESS PLAN 2004 / 05**

The Committee noted that the Board's Business Plan for 2004 / 05 had been tabled at relevant Committees during February and that a number of amendments had been included in the revised draft Plan. The Committee approved the Board's Business Plan for 2004 / 05.

## **8. COMPLAINTS AGAINST THE BOARD**

The Committee considered a paper containing recommendations from the Human Rights and Professional Standards Committee in respect of a complaint against the Board.

The Committee agreed with the recommendations made by the Human Rights and Professional Standards Committee and agreed that a letter should be issued to the complainant affirming the conclusions of the Human Rights and Professional Standards Committee and instructing management to take forward and report back to the Corporate Policy Committee on any identified management issues.

#### **9. INVITATION TO BOARD MEMBERS – SEAT ON NORTHERN IRELAND BOARD OF CRIMESTOPPERS**

The Committee considered an invitation for a Member of the Board to take a seat on the Northern Ireland Board of Crimestoppers.

The Committee agreed that officials should contact all Members to ascertain if any were prepared to serve on the Board of the Crimestoppers Trust.

#### **10. LEGAL ADVICE: RESPONSE TO SOLICITORS ACTING ON BEHALF OF THE FAMILY OF MR SEAN BROWN**

The Board considered legal advice received from the Crown Solicitor's Office in relation to correspondence received from solicitors acting on behalf of the family of Mr Sean Brown who was murdered on 12 May 1997. Following consideration of the legal advice, the Committee agreed the content of a letter to be issued from the Chairman of the Board to the family's solicitors.

#### **11. DRAFT RESPONSE TO CAJ COMMENTARY ON WORK OF OPONI**

The Committee noted that the Board had been requested by the Committee on the Administration of Justice (CAJ) to provide comments on the work of the Office of the Police Ombudsman (OPONI). The Committee considered and approved a response to CAJ that had been agreed by the Human Rights and Professional Standards Committee.

## **12. NORTHERN IRELAND AFFAIRS COMMITTEE (NIAC): NEW INQUIRY INTO THE FUNCTIONS OF THE OFFICE OF THE POLICE OMBUDSMAN**

The Committee noted that the NIAC had indicated their intentions to conduct an inquiry into the Office of the Police Ombudsman.

The Committee agreed that a submission should be made by the Board to NIAC. The Committee noted that a paper had been submitted to the March 2004 Human Rights and Professional Standards Committee and that Committee had referred the paper to the Corporate Policy Committee for further consideration.

The Committee agreed that a submission should be made to NIAC by the Board.

The Committee considered a draft (attached at Appendix 'B') containing comments for the submission and agreed that a letter, based on the comments should be forwarded to NIAC. The Committee also agreed that the political parties represented on the Board might also wish to make individual submissions to NIAC on the subject.

During discussion of this issue, the Committee agreed that the Sub-Committee on Omagh should meet in the near future to finalise its business.

## **13. 2004 DPP PUBLIC CONSULTATION SURVEY QUESTIONS**

The Committee considered a paper containing draft questions to be included in the 2004 DPP Public Consultation Survey.

Following consideration, the Committee endorsed the core questions contained in the draft. In addition, a Member suggested that a question be included concerning individual attendance at DPP meetings.

## **14. BOARD BRIEFING ON THE WORK OF THE ORGANISED CRIME TASK FORCE**

The Committee noted a document containing details of issues discussed at a recent briefing by NIO officials to the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Board on the work of the Organised Crime Task Force.

The Committee also noted that it was anticipated that a formal briefing would be given to the Board by the Minister in May / June 2004.

## **15. PRESENTATION ON POLICING PLAN 2003 / 2004 - SUMMARY OF PERFORMANCE – QUARTERS 1-3**

The Chairman welcomed the Deputy Chief Constable to the meeting.

### **15.1 Performance Monitoring Summary**

The Deputy Chief Constable commented on the performance of PSNI in meeting targets contained in the Policing Plan 2003 / 04 during the period 1 April 2003 to 31 December 2003. The Committee noted the following points:-

*1.1.1 - To achieve confidence levels in the policing of public disorder of not less than 75%.*

The Committee noted that the latest available data remained the October 2003 Omnibus Survey, which showed confidence levels at 76%.

In response to a question, the Deputy Chief Constable advised that the majority of public disorder offences involved alcohol and that co-ordination amongst a number of agencies was required to improve public order in town centres.

**2.1.1 - *Number of detections for excess speed.***

The number of detections had decreased from 20446 for the period April to December 2002 to 17957 for the same period in 2003.

**2.1.2 - *Number of detections for drink / drug driving.***

The number of detections had increased slightly from 1994 for the period April to December 2002 to 2314 compared to the same period in 2003.

**2.1.3 - *Number of detections for non-wearing of seat belts.***

The number of detections had increased significantly from 7178 for the period April to December 2002 to 13953 for the same period in 2003.

**2.1.4 - *Number of detections for dangerous / careless driving.***

The number of detections had decreased from 1828 for the period April to December 2002 to 1438 for the same period in 2003.

Members discussed the police operation – Operation Viper – which had resulted in 29 detections in Belfast for drink / drug driving. Members expressed concern that, despite advertising campaigns a section of the community was still prepared to drink and drive.

**2.1.5 - *To demonstrate police contribution towards delivery of the educational aspect of the Northern Ireland Road Safety Strategy, reporting quarterly to the Board.***

The Board noted a series of initiatives by Road Policing Education Units and DCUs during the period April 2003 to December 2003.

**3.1.1 - *To reduce the number of domestic burglaries by 5%.***

The Committee noted that the number of burglaries had reduced from 7612 for the period April to December 2002 to 6697 for the same period in 2003, a reduction of 12%.

**3.2.1 - *To reduce the number of vehicle crimes by 5%.***

The Committee noted there was a reduction in the number of vehicle crimes from 11536 for the period April to December 2002 to 9453 for the same period in 2003, a reduction of 18.1%.

**3.3.1 - *To establish an accurate baseline of the number of crimes and incidents of a racist or homophobic nature.***

The Committee noted that an analysis of racist incidents had been completed and would be brought to the Board in the near future.

The Committee noted that there had been a significant increase in the number of racist incidents reported to police from 167 for the period April to December 2002 to 267 for the same period in 2003.

In respect of incidents of a homophobic nature there had been a 100% increase from 24 in the period April to December 2002 to 48 in the same period in 2003.

In response to a question, the Deputy Chief Constable advised that in his opinion it would take 3 or 4 years to establish an accurate baseline for racist or homophobic crimes and incidents.

**3.4.1 - *To demonstrate police contribution towards delivery of the NI Community Safety Strategy, reporting quarterly to the Policing Board.***

The Committee noted ongoing work in connection with Community Safety Partnerships (CSPs) and that Community Safety Branch is currently engaged in an audit of District Commanders regarding community safety.

**3.5.1** - *To report the number of domestic incidents and domestic violence offences and develop a strategy for monitoring disposal of incidents.*

The Committee noted that the number of domestic incidents reported to police for the period April to December 2003 totalled 12592 and that the number of domestic violence offences reported totalled 6241.

Members expressed concern at the high level of domestic violence within Northern Ireland and the Deputy Chief Constable gave details of work that was ongoing with other agencies in developing a strategy for monitoring disposal of incidents. The Deputy Chief Constable expressed the need for agencies to work together for the prevention of such crimes. Members discussed police and agency interface with victims groups and the lack of courses for re-educating offenders.

**4.1.1** - *To increase the number of seizures of illicit drugs within Northern Ireland.*

The Committee noted that the number of seizures had increased from 1371 for the period April to December 2002 to 1486 for the same period in 2003, an 8.4% increase.

**4.2.1** - *To increase the number of persons charged / summoned for supply offences under the Misuse of Drugs Act as a proportion of those arrested.*

The Committee noted that in respect of the period from April to December 2002 that 15.99% of those arrested were subsequently charged / summoned for drugs supply offences compared with 20.49% for the same period in 2003.

Members discussed the increase in the seizure of illicit drugs and the availability of the harder drugs in Northern Ireland.

**4.3.1** - *To demonstrate police contribution towards implementing the Northern Ireland Drugs Strategy, reporting quarterly to the Policing Board.*

The Committee noted ongoing activity.

**5.1** - *Number of persons charged with terrorist offences.*

The Committee noted that the number of persons charged with terrorist offences had risen from 67 for the period April to December 2002 to 91 for the same period in 2003.

**5.2** - *Number of deaths occurring as a result of the security situation.*

The Committee noted that the number of deaths had reduced from 10 to 6.

**5.3** - *Number of shooting and bombing incidents.*

The Committee noted that the number of shooting incidents had reduced from 274 to 155 and the number of bombing incidents from 151 to 49.

**5.4** - *Number of casualties arising from paramilitary-style attacks.*

The Committee noted that the number of casualties had reduced slightly from 234 to 227.

**5.5** - *To achieve a detection rate for violent crime of 55%.*

The Committee noted that the current percentage rate cleared was 48.5%, 6.5% points below target.

The Deputy Chief Constable advised that Rural Region had achieved a detection rate for violent crime of 56.8% and that in Urban Region the detection rate had risen to 45.3%. The Committee noted that coverage on CCTV had assisted in improving the detection rate.

**6.1.1** - *To fully implement the agreed Workforce Plan within agreed timescales, reporting quarterly to the Policing Board.*

The Committee noted that an impact assessment had been completed and would be implemented, with the agreement of the Board.

**6.2.1** - *To fully implement the agreed Training and Development Strategy within agreed timescales, reporting quarterly to the Policing Board.*

The Committee noted that the Training and Development Strategy was currently being implemented, in compliance with agreed timescales.

**6.3.1** - *To implement the 3 year overtime reduction strategy.*

The Committee noted that the PSNI Director of Finance had reported on a quarterly basis on this matter to the Finance and General Purposes Committee.

**6.4.1** - *To process 85% of custody cases within 90 days and 85% of bail cases within 110 days.*

The Committee noted that figures in respect of custody and bail cases were 29.4% points and 18.9% points below target respectively.

The Deputy Chief Constable acknowledged that PSNI was not delivering on these processing targets. He reminded Members that it was anticipated that new technology would assist in improving processing. The processing of cases was also now included in the performance analysis of each DCU and it was anticipated that an improvement in the time taken to process cases would occur, without the quality of files being adversely affected.

The Committee discussed the role of civilian staff in file preparation work in England and the differing requirements of the Courts in Northern Ireland and in Great Britain.

**7.1.1** - *To increase to 70% the percentage of people who think the police do a good job.*

The Committee noted that the latest available figures were supplied in the October 2003 NI Omnibus Survey, which indicated that 62% of those surveyed thought that the PSNI were doing a good job.

The Committee discussed some of the activities that influenced the public perception of whether the police was doing a good job and recommended that community police officers participated in defining service wide standards as part of their Performance Management Programme

**7.2.1** - *To achieve confidence levels in overall equity of treatment of 75%.*

The Board noted the figure of 71% from the 2002 Community Attitudes Survey, was the most recent figure.

**7.3.1** - *To achieve satisfaction levels in respect of patrolling greater than 45%.*

The Committee noted that the October 2003 NI Omnibus Survey indicated that the satisfaction level was 36%, 9% points below target.

**7.4.1** - *To demonstrate progress towards implementing agreed changes within agreed timetables, reporting quarterly to the Policing Board.*

The Committee noted that Accountable Officers continued to give regular reports to the relevant Policing Board Committees.

The Committee requested that Board officials and PSNI personnel reviewed the current procedures for providing statistics for the summary of performance, to see if the data could be provided more quickly.

### **15.2 Meeting With Student Officers**

The Chairman advised the Deputy Chief Constable of discussion earlier in the meeting concerning the visit made by a number of Members to the Police Training College to view the accommodation. The Deputy Chief Constable informed the Committee that subsequent to the visit, it had been decided that £70,000 would be committed to work, including the replacement of 120 mattresses, additional plumbing and redecorating work would also be considered.

### **15.3 PSNI Review Of Pay, Appraisal, Performance Related Pay And Allocation Of Duties: SMT And SCS**

A confidential report on Committee discussion with the Deputy Chief Constable on the above matter is attached at Appendix 'A'.

The Chairman thanked the Deputy Chief Constable for his contribution and he left the meeting.

## **16. PRESENTATION ON 4<sup>TH</sup> REPORT FROM THE NIO STEERING GROUP ON RESEARCH INTO ALTERNATIVE POLICING APPROACHES TOWARDS THE MANAGEMENT OF CONFLICT**

The Chairman welcomed 3 NIO officials to the meeting, Mr Robin Masefield, Head of Patten Action Team, Mr Nick Perry, Chairman of the NIO Steering Group on Research into Alternative Policing Approaches and Mr Colin Ashe, Patten Action Team.

The NIO officials gave a presentation on the 4<sup>th</sup> Report, published in January 2004. A copy of the handout referred to in the presentation is attached at Annex 'A'. During the presentation, the officials distributed a number of examples of

prototypes for Attenuating Energy Projectiles (AEPs) and Discriminating Irritant Projectiles (DIPs). The Committee noted that it was anticipated that the AEPs would be introduced at the end of 2004 or early 2005, and that the DIPs were likely to be available from the end of 2005.

The Committee agreed that further discussion should be undertaken by Board and NIO officials with a view to organising a consultation conference for interested parties in Northern Ireland.

The Chairman thanked the NIO representatives for their contribution and they left the meeting.

## **17. MATTERS TO BE RAISED WITH THE CHIEF CONSTABLE AT THE NEXT BOARD MEETING**

There were no matters arising.

## **18. INFORMATION PAPER**

### **18.1 Criminal Justice Inspection (Northern Ireland)**

The Committee noted correspondence received from the Chief Inspector of Criminal Justice concerning planning for future inspections.

### **18.2 Town Centre CCTV Schemes**

The Committee noted a letter received by the Vice-Chairman from the Northern Ireland Office concerning proposals for utilising an additional £2 million to further develop CCTV schemes across Northern Ireland and an invitation for the Board to be represented on a group that would contribute to the planning and development of projects, as well as providing advice on resource allocation. The Committee noted that the item would be included on the agenda of the next Community Involvement Committee meeting for consideration.

## **19. PRESS ISSUES**

The Chairman asked that a new release be prepared and issued around the briefing given by the Deputy Chief Constable.

## **20. ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

There were no matters arising.

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

The date of the next meeting was arranged for 22 April 2004.

(Meeting closed 2.25 pm).

**SECRETARIAT**  
**March 2004**

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**CHAIRMAN**

## REPORTS AND BACKGROUND PAPERS

### ITEM NUMBER

- 4.5 ACPO Guidance on the deployment and use of water cannon
- 4.5 DSAC Sub-committee on the Medical Implications of Less Lethal Weapons
- 16 Patten Report Recommendations 69 & 70 - relating to public order equipment – A research programme into alternative approaches towards the management of conflict – 4th Report prepared by the Steering Group led by the Northern Ireland Office, in consultation with the Association of Chief Police Officers