

NORTHERN IRELAND POLICING BOARD

MINUTES OF THE PARTNERSHIP COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 8 OCTOBER 2015 AT 2.00 PM, ROOM 274, PARLIAMENT BUILDINGS, STORMONT, BELFAST

PRESENT:

Ms Catherine Pollock (Vice-Chairperson)
(1) Professor Brice Dickson
Ms Caitriona Ruane
Mr Robin Newton
(2) Mr Trevor Lunn

PSNI IN ATTENDANCE

T/ACC Noble
A/C/Supt Tim Mairs
1 PSNI Officer

OFFICIALS IN ATTENDANCE

Mrs Siobhan Fisher (Acting Director of
Partnership)
4 Board Officials

- (1) Item 5.1 to close (including item 2.1)
- (2) Item 5.1 to Item 5.5 (including item 2.1)

1. APOLOGIES, ETC

Apologies for today's meeting were received from Mrs Dolores Kelly, Ms Wendy Osborne, Mr Pat Sheehan and Mrs Brenda Hale.

The Vice-Chairperson asked Members to declare any conflicts of interests arising from the agenda. No conflicts of interest were declared.

2.1 DRAFT MINUTES OF PARTNERSHIP COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 10 SEPTEMBER 2015

The Committee noted changes to the draft Partnership Committee minutes of 10 September 2015 requested by a Member at the 1 October 2015 Board meeting. Following discussion and subject to the inclusion of the requested amendments, It was:

AGREED:

To approve the draft minutes of the Partnership Committee meeting held on 10 September 2015.

3. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 10 SEPTEMBER 2015

3.1 Questions to the Chief Constable (Item 3.1 of minutes refers)

The Committee considered correspondence received from the PSNI regarding student officer recruitment and the Physical Competency Assessment (PCA). Members noted that the push/pull element of the PCA has been removed with immediate effect. The Committee also noted the course of action which will be taken by the PSNI in relation to candidates from previous campaigns who failed the PCA on the basis of the push/pull test. NOTED.

3.2 PSNI update on Policing with the Community (Item 3.2 of Minutes refers)

Officials advised a briefing on this item would be given by the PSNI at agenda item 5.1.

3.3 Correspondence (Item 3.4 of minutes refers)

Officials advised that arrangements are being progressed to include a PSNI presentation on the Management of Risk in Law Enforcement (MORILE) at a future Presentation Day.

3.4 Measuring Young People's Confidence Levels in the PSNI (Item 3.5 of minutes refers)

Officials advised that a paper on this item is to be considered at agenda item 5.4.

3.5 Policing Plan 2015/16 EQIA – Key Points to Consider (Item 5.4 of minutes refers)

The Committee noted that the report on the public consultation on the identification of the 2016-2020 Policing Plan Priorities is included at agenda item 5.3.

3.6 Youth Engagement Strategy for PCSPs (Item 5.6 of minutes refers)

The Committee noted that the Board's Community Engagement Strategy would be discussed at agenda item 5.6.

Members also considered plans for the proposed meeting of the Partnership Committee with the Chairpersons and Vice-Chairpersons of the 11 new PCSPs. Following discussion,

It was:

AGREED:

The Chairpersons and Vice-Chairpersons of the 11 new PCSPs are to be invited to the 10 December 2015 meeting of the Partnership Committee.

4. CHAIRPERSON'S BUSINESS

4.1 Correspondence

The Committee considered correspondence received from the Minister of Justice regarding the completion of PCSP reconstitution. Officials advised that, owing to the resignation of an Independent Member on the Fermanagh and Omagh PCSP, it would be necessary to reconvene the appointment panel to fill the vacancy.

It was:

AGREED:

Officials will progress arrangements for the reconvening of the Fermanagh and Omagh PCSP Appointment Panel.

4.2 Engagements

There were no matters arising.

5. ITEMS FOR DECISION

5.1 Briefing from PSNI on Policing with the Community

The Chairperson welcomed T/ACC Noble, A/C/Supt Tim Mairs and their colleague to the meeting and invited them to update the Committee on the PSNI's progress towards the implementation of the Policing with the Community Strategy.

T/ACC Noble provided Members with a brief introduction to the Policing with the Community project and updated the Committee on the PSNI's current position regarding the development and implementation of the PwC Strategy. PSNI discussed with Members the overall objective of the project to embed with officers and police staff, PwC as the culture and ethos throughout the organisation.

PSNI advised the Committee of the 5 work streams for delivery of the project which are:

- Policing with the Community Behaviours;
- Internal Communication and Engagement;
- Leadership Strategy and Training;
- Performance, and;
- Sustainability.

PSNI also updated the Committee on a report by the United States Institute of Peace (USIP) and advised Members that the next visit to Northern Ireland by a USIP representative would take place in early 2016.

In response to questions from Committee Members the PSNI discussed:

- The branding of PwC throughout the organisation;
- The timeline for the delivery of the PwC business plan;

- How PwC will be reflected within Individual Performance Reviews (IPRs);
- The development of a PwC monitoring framework;
- The development of an internal survey with Durham University, and;
- How officers are being briefed on the PwC Strategy and mechanisms to feed back any cultural opposition.

The Chairperson thanked the PSNI for the briefing and they left the meeting. Following discussion

It was:

AGREED:

Correspondence is issued to the PSNI requesting further information regarding:

- The branding of PwC throughout the organisation;
- The development of a survey with Durham University;
- How PwC is being mainstreamed in the PSNI and in the induction for new officers;
- Timescales for development of the PwC business case and if the business case will include a bid for finance and personnel resources;
- ownership for the strategic leadership of this project;
- the briefing pack used to brief officers on the PwC Strategy;
- a copy of the USIP Report and position with implementation of recommendations, and
- assurance that measures set on PwC in the Policing Plan are on target for delivery.

It was also:

AGREED:

- To issue an invitation to USIP Representative, Nadia Gerspacher, to a future meeting of the Partnership Committee.

5.2 Update on PSNI Continuous Improvement Projects

The Committee considered updates received from the PSNI relating to three PSNI continuous improvement projects related to the Work Programme of the Partnership Committee. The updates were regarding Policing with the Community, Review of Public Administration, (RPA) and PSNI Corporate Communications.

A Member raised several issues regarding the Policing with the Community business case including:

- The stated length of time to prepare a business case;
- The reference in the update to refining the objectives and options in each delivery area, and;
- Whether the business case will include a bid for finance and personnel resources.

It was:

AGREED:

These issues would also be addressed in the correspondence issued to the PSNI following their briefing to the Committee on Policing with the Community at item 5.1.

The Committee considered the continuous improvement update regarding the Review of Public Administration (RPA). Members acknowledged PSNI progress made towards aligning the District Policing structure to the policing requirements of the 11 Council areas however were of the view that the Committee would like more information on how the implementation of the project would be evaluated.

The Committee also noted the continuous improvement update relating to the review of Corporate Communications Department. Members

considered information provided regarding internal communications and engagement and considered that it may be useful to have an update from PSNI Communications during the next Policing with the Community update provided by the PSNI.

Following discussion,

It was:

AGREED:

- Correspondence is issued to the PSNI seeking further information on their plans to evaluate the implementation of the implementation of the Review of Public Administration (RPA) project, and;
- PSNI Communications Department are invited to the next Partnership Committee meeting at which the PSNI will be delivering a Policing with the Community update.

5.3 Report on Public Consultation on identification of Policing Priorities 2016-2020

The Committee considered the full report on the public consultation on the identification of policing priorities for the Policing Plan 2016-2020.

Members were asked to agree to publish the report on the Board's website and advised that an executive summary of the report was presented at the joint PSNI/Board strategy event on 16 September 2015.

The Committee noted the methods of engagement and the 4 key findings of the consultation regarding policing priorities which were:

- Increasing community confidence in policing;
- Supporting victims, witnesses and vulnerable people;
- Detection of crime, and;
- Domestic and sexual violence (including child sexual exploitation).

Members also discussed the inclusion within the report of comments regarding homophobic crime, incivility to young people and views from

youth organisations regarding PSNI stop and search. Following discussion,
It was:

AGREED:

- To include within the Outcome of Public Consultation on Policing Plan Priorities report comments regarding homophobic crime, incivility to young people and the views provided by youth organisations in respect of PSNI stop and search, and;
- To publish the Outcome of Public Consultation on Policing Plan Priorities report on the Board's website.

5.4 Measuring Young People's Confidence Levels in the PSNI

The Committee considered a paper advising Members of the latest position regarding the survey to measure young people's confidence levels in the PSNI. Members noted that officials had met with the successful contractor and that it is expected the survey will be out in the field by late October/early November 2015. Officials advised that the final report regarding the survey on measuring young people's confidence levels in policing would be brought to the December 2015 meeting of the Partnership Committee. NOTED.

5.5 Roles and Responsibilities of Partnership Committee – Committee Induction

The Committee considered a paper providing Members with background information on roles and responsibilities of the Partnership Committee and seeking their views regarding future presentations or induction Members may wish to receive. At this point the Committee also considered item 5.8, a paper tabled at the meeting regarding the Committee's Programme of Work November 2015 – March 2016. Further minutes regarding this item are included under item 5.8.

5.6 Board's Community Engagement Strategy 2012-2015

The Committee considered a paper providing Members with the Board's 2012-2015 Community Engagement Strategy. Members were also briefed on the work and terms of reference for the Strategic Consultation Group and the Youth Advisory Panel and advised of the role of two Board Members as Chairperson of the Youth Advisory Panel and Co-Chairperson (with ACC Service Improvement) of the Strategic Consultation Group.

It was:

AGREED:

Mrs Dolores Kelly is elected to serve as Co-Chairperson of the Strategic Consultation Group and Ms Catherine Pollock is elected to serve as Chairperson of the Youth Advisory Panel.

The Committee noted that a revised Community Engagement Strategy will be drafted to support and compliment the new Strategic Policing Plan 2016-2020 and will be brought to a future meeting of the Partnership Committee. NOTED.

5.7 PSNI Qualitative Reports relating to the 2015-16 Policing Plan

The Committee considered in-year reports received from the PSNI providing updates on the following measures within the 2015-16 Policing Plan:

- I. Report to the Board quarterly on PSNI's enforcement activity in respect of the following key causation factors in road traffic collisions (ie drink/drug driving, speeding, mobile phone use, non-wearing of seatbelts and driving without insurance) in support of the multi-agency 2020 Road Safety Strategy;

In respect of this report Members expressed concern that the report did not link the causation factors directly to the numbers of casualties/fatalities on the roads.

- II. To evidence the mainstreaming of the Policing with the Community (PwC) ethos across PSNI;

The Committee was of the view more detailed evidence should be provided showing the mainstreaming of Policing with the Community in PSNI policies, procedures, literature and in personnel IPR's (Individual Performance Review).

- III. Increased reporting by victims of crime who are children and young people (particularly males aged 16-24), looked after children, older people and people with a disability.

Members expressed concern that the information provided in the qualitative report did not outline how specific actions being taken by the PSNI would directly encourage increased reporting of crime by victims in the categories outlined above.

Following discussion,

It was:

AGREED:

Correspondence is issued to the PSNI expressing the Committee's views and seeking amendments for future reports to ensure relevant information is provided.

5.8 Committee Programme of Work November 2015 – March 2016

The Committee reviewed a draft Programme of Work for the period November 2015 – March 2016 and considered themes and key issues relating to the Committee's role which they would like to focus on in the coming months. Areas considered for inclusion in the Programme of Work included:

- A further briefing from the PSNI regarding Policing with the Community and specifically how targets relating to PwC will be measured;
- Police engagement in the process of Restorative Justice;
- Engagement with the Youth Parliament, and;
- Engagement with the Garda Authority as part of the Committee's role in relation to Cross-Border police co-operation.

Following discussion:

It was:

AGREED:

- A recommendation is put to the Board from the Partnership Committee proposing a meeting with the Garda Authority, and;
- To progress arrangements for future engagement with the Youth Parliament.

6. QUESTIONS FOR THE CHIEF CONSTABLE

It was:-

AGREED:

Questions are drafted from the Partnership Committee to the Chief Constable regarding:

- The rise in crimes against older people, particularly domestic burglary, and;
- The rise in homophobic attacks.

7. COMMUNICATION ISSUES

There were no matters arising.

8. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

There were no matters arising.

9. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Partnership Committee would be held on Thursday 12 November 2015 at 2.00 pm.

(Meeting closed at 4:15 pm)

BOARD SUPPORT

October 2015

Chairperson