

Chairman's speech to the International Policing Conference

20 February 2007

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On behalf of the Northern Ireland Policing Board and the Police Service of Northern Ireland welcome to the Policing the Future Conference.

Described as a 'blueprint for democratic policing anywhere in the world', the policing change process in Northern Ireland has also been called 'the most challenging in modern policing history'.

We hope the Conference will give you a unique insight into the evolution of policing in Northern Ireland and how that change has been implemented to create the most scrutinised and accountable police service probably anywhere in the world today.

With a range of distinguished keynote speakers and international experts, through interactive discussion and debate, the Conference will focus on the latest thinking and developments in international policing – highlighting the challenges and opportunities that lie ahead.

The aim of the Conference is to look outwards, taking best practice from different policing jurisdictions, sharing experience from around the world and using that expertise for the benefit of communities.

Addressing and debating important issues such as Human Rights, Public Order, Oversight and Accountability, Policing in a Divided Society, Organised Crime, Hate Crime and International Terrorism, the Conference will provide an excellent opportunity for delegates to network, share experiences and stimulate further thinking on policing methods in these and other areas.

We hope you enjoy the Conference.