

Northern Ireland Policing Board

Consultation with Chinese Community

Key Point Summary Report

30th September 2010

1 PROFILE OF PARTICIPANTS

- 38 attendees from the Chinese Community. However, the reader should note that:
 - A few participants arrived after the start time, hence some of the earlier votes have less than this.
 - Also, some participants stepped out (e.g. for comfort breaks) during the morning long session, and so we do not always have a full 38 votes where a full set of votes might otherwise have been anticipated.
- Range of age bands, gender and areas of residence in attendance. (See demographic data in s/sheet that has been forwarded)

1.) Are you...	Responses	
Male	12	33%
Female	24	67%
Totals	36	100%

2.) Which one of the following age bands are you in?	Responses	
18 – 30	10	28%
31 - 40	4	11%
41 - 50	4	11%
51 - 60	10	28%
61 – 70	3	8%
70+	5	14%
Totals	36	100%

3.) What area do you live in?	Responses	
BT2	0	0%
BT3	2	6%
BT4	1	3%
BT5	1	3%
BT6	2	6%
BT7	14	39%
BT8	1	3%
BT9	6	17%
Outside Belfast	9	25%
Totals	36	100%

4.) What area do you work in?	Responses	
BT2	0	0%
BT3	0	0%
BT4	0	0%
BT5	0	0%
BT6	0	0%
BT7	3	9%
BT8	1	3%
BT9	2	6%
Outside Belfast ¹	28	82%
Totals	34	100%

¹ This was a very high number because Students (who do not work) and retired participants opted for this. This question needs re-designed. See Comment later in Points for Reflection re this question.

2 SUMMARY OF KEY ISSUES EMERGING

(Please note that whilst the sample size is small, and would not be regarded as statistically representative, the insights gleaned here could be cross-referenced with findings elsewhere.)

GENERAL

- The vast majority, 29 out of 38 (76%), were fairly worried or very worried about becoming a victim of crime
- There were mixed views on what had happened to the level of crime where participants live in recent years. Just over two-fifths (15 out of 37), thought it stayed the same, whilst, just over half (20 out of 37) thought it has gone up a little or a lot.
- There was a similar pattern in terms of what participants perceived had happened to the level of crime where they work. Just over two-fifths (16 out of 37), thought it stayed the same, whilst just over half (20 out of 37) thought it has gone up a little or a lot.
- Top three issues of concern where people live and work:
 - Racial Attacks/abuse (25 out of the 105 responses (24%) submitted related to this)
 - Anti-social behaviour (22 out of the 105 responses (22%) submitted related to this)
 - Burglary (17 out of the 105 responses (16%) submitted related to this)
- Top three issues of concern in relation to organized crime:
 - Extortion (28 out of the 88 responses (32%) submitted related to this)
 - Drug cultivation (22 out of the 88 responses (25%) submitted related to this)
 - Labour exploitation (18 out of the 88 responses (20%) submitted related to this)
- Top three issues participants would like police to focus on:
 - Responding to emergency calls (23 out of the 108 responses (21%) submitted)
 - Helping & supporting victims of crime (17 out of the 108 responses (16%) submitted)
 - Detecting and arresting offenders (16 out of the 108 responses (15%) submitted).
- 8 participants (out of 32 that responded to this question (25%) indicated that they had been stopped in the street by the police in the last twelve months. However, the responses to the subsequent question are problematic to analyse since 14 (not 8) participants then proceeded to rate how satisfied they were with how the police treated them. (Of these 14, a slight majority 8 out of 14 were satisfied or very satisfied; 6 were 'Neither satisfied not dissatisfied').

- 9 participants (out of 36 that responded to this question (25%) indicated that the police had come to their home in the last twelve months. However, again, the responses to the subsequent question are problematic to analyse since 11 (not 9) participants then proceeded to rate how satisfied they were with how the police treated them. (Of these 11, the vast majority, 7 out of 11 were satisfied or very satisfied; 2 were ‘Neither satisfied not dissatisfied’ and 2 were a bit dissatisfied).
- Participants indicated they had very low levels of confidence that the police are there to help them –24 out of 34 responses to this question indicated that they were not very confident or not at all confident.
- Without dialing 999, the majority (20 out of 37 responses, 54%) would contact the police via the CWA.
- The vast majority (33 out of 38 responses, 87%) do not know any police officers well enough to talk to or by name.

VICTIMS OF CRIME

- Two thirds (23 out of 35 responses, 66%) reported having been a victim of crime in the last 12 months.
 - Of these 23:
 - The vast majority (17, 74%) incidents occurred where the person lived; with just over one fifth (5, 22%) occurring at work.
 - The vast majority (18 out of 23) indicated that they did report it to the police.

Experience of reporting crime to the police

The responses to the subsequent questions are problematic to analyze since differing numbers of respondents (all less than 18) answered and there was no way of controlling for this at the event. For example:

- Only 8 participants answered the question, “If you were a victim of crime in the last 12 months, and you did report it to the police, how satisfied were you with the way the police treated you?” Of these 8, the majority (5 out of 8) were a bit dissatisfied or very dissatisfied.
- Only 11 participants answered the question, “If you were a

victim of crime in the last 12 months, and you did report it to the police, how satisfied were you with the way the police dealt with your problem/concern?” Of these opinion was split, 5 were either satisfied or very satisfied and 5 were a bit dissatisfied or very dissatisfied; 1 indicated that it was too early to say.

- Only 15 participants answered the question, “If you were a victim of crime in the last 12 months, and you did report it to the police, how satisfied were you with the way police kept you informed about what was happening? Of these, most 9 out of 15 were satisfied or very satisfied and 5 were a bit dissatisfied or very dissatisfied; 1 indicated that it was too early to say.

Reasons why crime is not reported to the police

- The responses to this are again, problematic to analyze because only 5 participants indicated that they had been a victim of crime and had not reported it to the police. However, 14 respondents answered the question, “If you were a victim of crime in the last 12 months, and you did not report it to the police? What was your main reason for not doing so”? The single biggest reason why victims of crime did not report incidents to the police was fear i.e. afraid that reporting the crime would leave them vulnerable to further crime / attack, half of the participants (7 out of 14) gave this as their reason; 5 out of 14 thought there was ‘no point’

EVALUATION RESULTS

The figures below show very high levels of satisfaction with the event overall and the processes used. This is very encouraging in terms of organizing future similar events.

- **The overwhelming majority, 93%** (30 out of 32) were **satisfied or very satisfied** with how **clearly the information was presented**; 2 were neutral.
- **The vast majority, 86%** (32 out of 36) thought the **questions were relevant or very relevant**; 4 were neutral and 1 thought they were not very relevant.
- Again, the vast majority, **87%** (33 out of 38) found the **digital voting helpful** or very helpful; 3 were neutral and 2 thought it was unhelpful.
- **The overwhelming majority, 91%** (31 out of 34) were **comfortable or very comfortable** with this **type of consultation**; 3 were neutral.
- **The vast majority, 86%** (30 out of 35) indicated that they would be willing or very willing to participate in future consultations; 4 were neutral and 1 was not very willing.

POSSIBLE POINTS FOR REFLECTIONS FOR FUTURE SIMILAR EVENTS

What worked well?

- Intensive and high quality preparation and planning by all parties involved.
- Excellent team work before and during the event by all members of the team within PSNI, CWA, the AV team and SRC.
- Excellent levels of engagement by Chinese Community.
- Evaluation ratings are excellent.

Some possible ways we might improve. For reflection...

- Explore different ways to minimise the risk of people responding to questions that do not apply to them...
- The question re where people work needs redesigned. Some participants were students (i.e. not yet working), some others were retired (again not working).
- Slide 16, re Issues for Police to focus on. Perhaps we could add in an option for 'Something else' as part of the choices available.
- Making it clear that verbal abuse can constitute a crime in that it could be a racist attack. There was a view that the number of participants indicating that they had been a victim of crime in the last 12 months was lower than it actually is because of the lack of understanding around this.
- It may not have been possible at this event, but perhaps for future events, we might consider 'age banding' various groups. It seemed that young people were able to respond to the questions very quickly (and without much support) and older participants took considerably longer (and needed support).