

NORTHERN IRELAND POLICING BOARD

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE NORTHERN IRELAND POLICING BOARD HELD ON THURSDAY 3 MARCH 2022 AT 9.30AM IN WATERSIDE TOWER, CLARENDON DOCK AND VIA VIDEO CONFERENCE FACILITY

PRESENT:

- Mr Doug Garrett Chair
- Dr Tom Frawley Vice-Chair
- Mr Michael Atkinson
- Mr John Blair MLA*
- Mr Maurice Bradley MLA
- (1) Mr Trevor Clarke MLA
- Dr Janet Gray
- Mr Edgar Jardine
- Mr Gerry Kelly MLA
- (2) Mr Mike Nesbitt MLA
- Ms Liz Kimmins MLA*
- Mrs Linda Dillon MLA*
- (3) Mr Frank McManus*
- Ms Carmel McKinney*
- Ms Deirdre Toner*
- Mr Colm McKenna

POLICE SERVICE OF NORTHERN IRELAND IN ATTENDANCE:

- (4) Mr Simon Byrne, Chief Constable
- (4) Mr Mark Hamilton, Deputy Chief Constable
- (4) Ms Pamela McCreedy, Chief Operating Officer
- (4) Ms Aldrina Magwood, Assistant Chief Officer
Strategic Planning and Transformation
- (4) Mr Mark McEwan, Assistant Chief Constable
- (4) Mr Jonathan Roberts, T/Assistant Chief
Constable
- (4) Ms Finola Dornan, T/ Superintendent

NORTHERN IRELAND POLICING BOARD OFFICIALS IN ATTENDANCE:

- Mrs Sinead Simpson , Chief Executive
- Mr Adrian McNamee, Director of Performance
- Mrs Dympna Thornton, Director of Partnership
- Ms Aislinn McGuckin*, T/Director of Police
Administration
- Mrs Charis Hilditch, T/Director of Resources
- Three Board Officials

**OTHER OFFICIALS IN
ATTENDANCE:**

Mr John Wadham, Human Rights Advisor

*Attended meeting by video conference facility

- (1) **In person from 10.15am on**
- (2) **For the private session only**
- (3) **On video conference from 10.30am**
- (4) **Item 10 only**

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Mrs Dolores Kelly MLA, Mr Jonathan Buckley MLA, and Ms Joanne Bunting MLA for the full meeting. Apologies were also received from Mr Trevor Clarke MLA and Mr Frank McManus for the early part of the private meeting and Mr Mike Nesbitt MLA for the public meeting.

The Board agreed the Agenda for the meeting.

2. CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

Mr John Wadham declared a conflict in respect of agenda item 8.3, Human Right's Advisors Contract. Members noted this conflict.

3. DRAFT MINUTES OF THE BOARD MEETING HELD ON 3 FEBRUARY 2022

It was **RESOLVED:-**

- That the minutes of the Board meeting held on 3 February 2022 be approved.

4 BOARD ACTION LOG

Updates as detailed within the Action Log from the Board meeting held on 3 February 2022 were noted in addition to the following verbal updates provided by the Chief Executive.

Action Point 1 – it was noted that this action relating to the Board’s role in PSNI Strategies would be discussed in more detail at agenda item 8.2.

Action Point 2 - the Professional Standards Department (PSD) Briefing has been re-scheduled for 10 March Performance Committee meeting. It was noted that all Board Members would be invited to attend.

Action Point 3 – the Chief Executive advised that the action relating to female representation at senior officer level within the PSNI would be covered in the Chair’s Report at agenda item 5.

Action Point 4 – The Chief Executive advised that correspondence had been received from PSNI following a request from the Board Chair in relation to the number of Legacy compensation cases currently in the pipeline. Members noted the information provided including:

- The number of cases expected to conclude in the 2022/23 year;
- The number of claimants in each case, and,
- Whether settlement amounts are anticipated to be above delegated authority limits.

Members also noted the number of cases progressing via the High Court and those currently in mediation process. The Chief Executive advised that she has sought information from the PSNI on the amounts provided for and whether or not it was possible to share this information. Members noted that this correspondence would be further considered at the 24 March Resources Committee meeting.

Action Point 6 – Members noted that this action relating to the Letter to Clerk to the Justice Committee regarding the Draft Budget 2022-2025 and, to note that the supplementary point relating to the change in Board’s budgeted cash position over a 10 year period, had been included in the letter to the Justice Committee.

Action Points 8 and 9 – Members noted that actions regarding the Vesting Order at Woodbourne Police Station and correspondence to the Chief Constable regarding the Board’s position in respect of Spit and Bite Guards are now closed.

Action Point 10 – Following the Board’s consideration in February of a paper providing an update from the Policing Plan Review Working Group (**PPRWG**), the Chief Executive advised Members that the suggested amended wording of the Board’s letter to the Minister is included in the Action Log for Members to review and confirm that they are content. Members considered the revised wording below and **AGREED** that this should be included within the Board Chair’s correspondence to the Minister of Justice when submitting the Policing Plan.

“As part of the work of the PPRWG, Members discussed the issue of representativeness in policing and would recommend that this issue is considered in the next review of the Department’s Long Term Policing Objectives.”

In relation to Action Point 1 from the Board meeting on 5 March 2020 relating to a draft tripartite agreement between NIPB, PSNI and Department of Justice (**DoJ**), Members noted that the working group had reconvened 2 weeks ago and encouraged Board officials to progress this again with PSNI and DoJ. **(AP1)**

5. CHAIRPERSON’S BUSINESS

5.1 Chair’s Report

The Board noted a Report from the Chair who advised Members of:

- The Chair’s engagements, including meetings held by teleconference and video conference facilities during the period between 1 February 2022 and 3 March 2022.

The Chair noted that the first Annual Police Federation Bravery Awards were taking place and that he and the CEO would be in attendance.

- A list of correspondence received by the Chair during the period between 31 January 2022 and 25 February 2022.
- A list of correspondence issued by the Chair during the period between 26 January 2022 and 25 February 2022.

In relation to correspondence, the Chair highlighted the following items:

- Correspondence received from the Deputy Chief Constable in respect of a delay to the publication of the final Operation Yurta report. The Chair expressed his concerns around this delay in receipt of the final report however highlighted that he had had a lengthy meeting with the DCC at which this issue was addressed. He advised the Board that he had reiterated the importance of bringing the final report to the Board as soon as possible and noted to Members the reasons provided for the delay including additional material now needing to be considered by Counsel.. Members noted that engagement on this issue would be ongoing until the matter was brought to a conclusion.
- For Members' reference, the Board's Human Rights Advisor highlighted a recent High Court judgement which mirrored some of the issues raised in the Operation Yurta specifically in relation to the application for a warrant. Members noted that this reinforced the importance of lessons being learned following the completion of the Counsel's report.
- Correspondence issued to Mr Mark Lindsay MBE in respect of his retirement as Chair of the Police Federation. On behalf of the Members and staff of the Policing Board, the Chair noted that he had recorded thanks to Mr Lindsay for his service to policing, constructive engagement with the Policing Board and for his work as a strong advocate and voice for PSNI colleagues.

A Member thanked the Chair for correspondence received on behalf of Board Members and staff following a recent family bereavement.

6. CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPORT

The Board noted a Report from the Chief Executive which provided an update on various items of business. The Chief Executive highlighted the following items:

- In respect of the Finance update, Members were advised that there would be a recommendation to the Board from the Resources Committee later in the meeting in relation to the NIPB Draft Resource Plan 2022-2023.
- Members were provided with the Quarter 3 Performance Report outlining progress against all 13 Actions within the Board's Annual Business Plan 2021-2022.
- Following ongoing delays to the Board's planned relocation to James House, the CEO noted that engagement is continuing with the DoF project team and that they have now received a programme of works from the contractor. This programme is undergoing due diligence checks by the DoF team and Board officials are continuing to work on finalising a timetable for relocation subject to ongoing discussions.
- With regard to Senior Officer Recruitment, Members noted the process to fill the last position in the PSNI Service Executive Team of Assistant Chief Officer People and Organisational Development is underway. Following six applications (3 female / 3 male), four applicants (3 female / 1 male) have been shortlisted for interview, these are scheduled to take place on 23rd March 2022.
- NIPB internal recruitment is ongoing and an area of concern was highlighted at Staff Officer level. Vacancies continue to be available at this level on a regular basis as staff move on to other roles for a variety of reasons.

- The CEO noted that following a successful tender process, a limited NIPB organisational review is currently being carried out by HeadsTogether. Members noted that a report is expected in early April.
- With regard to the Police Remuneration Review Body (PRRB) submission, the Chief Executive explained the tight timeframes for delivery of the Board's submission to the PRRB and sought Members' approval to progress the development of the submission with the sub-group Members, following which it was proposed this would subsequently be agreed with Board members by way of written procedure. Members agreed to the process as proposed by the Chief Executive.

A Member queried the format of a response to a question raised by an MLA in relation to the PSNI annual increment pay increase. The Chair and Chief Executive advised that correspondence has recently been issued in relation to this matter and the response will be included in the correspondence section of the Chairs report for the next Board meeting.

7. COMMITTEE REPORTS

7.1 Performance Committee 10 February 2022

The Board noted the Performance Committee Chair's Report and draft minutes of the meeting held on 10 February 2022. The Chair also provided a verbal update on matters considered at the meeting which included an update on the Report on Policing Plan Measures: 1.1.1 - Repeat Victims, 1.2.1 - Repeat Offenders and 2.4.1 - Crime outcomes specific to Domestic Violence and Abuse. The Committee also considered an update on several South Armagh Policing Review recommendations which pertain to the work of the Committee; monthly reports from the Human Rights Advisor for December 2021 and January 2022; and received a briefing from the Terrorism Investigations Unit (TIU).

7.2 Partnership Committee 17 February 2022

The Board noted the Partnership Committee Vice-Chair's Report and draft minutes of the meeting held on 17 February 2022. In the absence of the Partnership Committee Chair, the Vice Chair also provided a verbal update on matters considered at the meeting including an update on the Report on Policing Plan Measure 3.1.1 – Local Policing Review; a presentation from the PSNI on the South Armagh Policing Review Recommendations which relate to the work of the Partnership Committee; and consideration and agreement of the draft Committee Programme of Work March 2022 – June 2022.

Members also discussed Board membership of the Association of Police and Crime Commissioners (APCC). The Committee were advised that the Board had previously been a member of the Association but this ceased in 2013. Board officials outlined membership options and costs, and Members discussed the benefits, opportunities and value of membership. Whilst one Member recorded an objection it was **AGREED** by the Committee that the Board should **NOTE** the majority decision to rejoin the Association, taking the option of "Associate" membership for one year which is a significantly lower cost than "Full" membership. However, due to the upcoming elections it was decided that membership should not start until the Board is reconstituted post-election.

7.3 Resources Committee 24 February 2022

The Board noted the Resources Committee Chair's Report for the meeting held on 24 February 2022, and the Chair advised that draft minutes will follow in due course. The Chair also provided a verbal update on matters considered at the meeting, focusing on the five agenda items where the Committee was required to make a recommendation to the Board. These included:

- PSNI Draft Resource Plan 2022/25
- Above Delegated Limits Legacy Compensation Case
- Disposal of Ballyclare PSNI Station
- NIPB Draft Resource Plan 2022/23
- Above Delegated Limits – Proposed settlement of Civil Claim for damages.

In providing an update the Chair noted that the recommendations from Committee in relation to both the Above Delegated Limits Legacy Compensation Case and the Above Delegated Limits – Proposed settlement of Civil Claim for damages, were not unanimous as Mr Trevor Clarke MLA and Mr Jonathan Buckley MLA were not in favour of approving these settlements on the basis that they would like to see greater transparency from the PSNI in relation to such cases and believe in principle that cases of this nature should be tested in court.

The Committee also considered the following agenda items:

- An update on the Police Performance Plan measure on Representativeness,
- An update on the implementation of 9 recommendations in the South Armagh Review Report,
- An update on the Review of Police Officer Sickness Absence in PSNI, and,
- An update on the process for developing and agreeing this year's submission to the Police Remuneration Review Body (PRRB).

Following his report the Resources Committee Chair handed back to the Board Chair to put the Committee's recommendations to the Board.

It was subsequently **AGREED** by Members to:

- i. **APPROVE** the Committee's recommendation that the PSNI Draft Resource Plan be approved for the first year only (i.e. the 2022/2023 financial year).
- ii. **APPROVE** the Committee's recommendation in respect of **three** above delegated limit compensation payments relating to a Legacy case.
- iii. **APPROVE** the disposal of the former Ballyclare PSNI Station as recommended by the Committee.

- iv. **APPROVE** the NIPB Draft Resource Plan for 2022/2023.
- v. **APPROVE** the above delegated limit settlement in respect of a civil claim for damages lodged against the PSNI and the Board by a former officer.

During discussion Members raised a number of issues in relation to the processing of compensation cases in general, including how they could be sighted on the number and value of claims being received including those which fall below the above delegated limit category. Several Members also voiced concerns in relation to the lack of detailed information made available to Members when reviewing Legacy cases and the overall lack of transparency around legal costs for some cases. The CEO noted ongoing engagement with PSNI on this issue and that PSNI Compensation Cases is listed as an agenda item for the Resources Committee on 24 March 2022 at which time the issues noted here would be further addressed.

8. BOARD BUSINESS

8.1 Next Steps – NIPB Effectiveness Review

The Chief Executive presented a paper, the purpose of which is to draw together key issues emerging from a number of reviews of the Board's Effectiveness, including the Board Away Day last Summer and the Chief Executive's one-to-one discussions with Members following her appointment in October 2021.

The Chief Executive noted the themes which have emerged from the recent reviews and discussions and outlined the next steps that are proposed for addressing these themes both in the short term, and those which it would seem more appropriate to take forward following the reconstitution of a new Board.

During discussion some comments noted by Members were:

- That more engagement activities would be welcomed within achievable parameters;
- The need for greater emphasis on the Board's own engagement with the community;

- Possible updates to the Chief Constable's Accountability report and how to report successes at a local level;
- Possible review/revision of the Terms of Reference for the Board's Standing Committees;
- Possible further research on models for public meetings in other jurisdictions;
- The possibility of having Committee meetings at different venues following the easing of COVID-19 restrictions.

Members noted however, that they were broadly content with the proposals outlined by the Chief Executive and thanked her for her work in preparing this information over a short period of time. The Chief Executive agreed to update the paper to reflect Members' comments and will bring the revised paper to the next Board meeting on 24 March 2022 for noting. **(AP2)**

8.2 NIPB Role in PSNI Strategies

The Chief Executive presented a paper providing Members with an overview of the Board's role in the approval of PSNI Strategies. The Chief Executive noted that following correspondence between the Board Chair and the PSNI Chief Operating Officer in relation to the Estates Strategy, Members had asked for information on the Board's role in all of the PSNI's main Strategies.

Members noted the key PSNI Strategies as detailed in Horizon 2025 and the role of the Board as it relates to each Strategy. The CEO advised that while the Board has an approval role in the Estates Strategy (and quarterly updates on delivery are provided), in relation to the other Strategies (Crime Prevention, People, Fleet and Digital), the Board receives regular updates, mostly at 6-monthly intervals but does not have an approval role.

Members welcomed the opportunity to receive more in depth presentations on these subjects at their respective Committees in due course.

Members **NOTED** the paper.

8.3 Human Right's Advisors Contract

Having earlier declared a conflict at this agenda item, the Board's Human Rights Advisor withdrew from the meeting for this agenda item.

The Director of Performance presented a paper asking Members to consider, and agree to extend, subject to continued satisfactory performance, the contract for the Human Rights Advisor on an annual basis for up to a further 2 years.

The Director of Performance explained that the Board's Human Rights Advisor was appointed in July 2019. The current contract is for an initial duration of 3 years up until July 2022, with the option to then extend the contract on an annual basis for up to a further 2 years. Thereafter the contract will expire automatically.

The Director of Performance provided an overview of the work of the Human Rights Advisor noting that he undertakes Human Rights monitoring work as set out in the monitoring framework, on behalf of the Board. A key element of this work requires that the Human Rights Advisor meet with a range of relevant individuals to discuss highly sensitive and confidential policing issues. The Human Rights Advisor is also required to provide human rights legal advice on specific and ad hoc issues as and when requested by the Board.

The Director of Performance advised that he considered the work of the Human Rights Advisor during the initial three year period to have met the satisfactory performance requirements. A number of key highlights from this period were the development of a Human Rights Monitoring Framework, the Human Rights Annual Reports, the Thematic Review of the Policing Response to COVID-19, the Thematic Review of Spit and Bite Guards and the provision of monthly update reports to the Performance Committee. The Director of Performance further noted that, subject to agreement of this extension today, the intention is for the HRA to progress a piece of work looking at Police Officers' Human Rights.

A Member raised a query regarding the number of days per year the Human Rights Advisor was contracted to work – the Director of Performance to check and revert to the Member. **(AP3)**

Following discussion Members **AGREED** to extend, subject to continued satisfactory performance, the contract of the Human Rights Advisor on an annual basis for up to a further 2 years with an annual assessment at this time next year.

On a separate issue Members also discussed the merits of being able to draw on expert advice in other areas of the Board's work such as, for example, in relation to the PSNI Estate.

8.4 Annual Business Plan 2022-2023

The T/Director of Resources presented a paper which requested that Members review the draft Annual Business Plan for the 2022-23 year which will be the final year of the current Corporate Plan cycle, and if content, to approve it for onward transmission to the Department of Justice (DoJ) for formal approval by the Minister of Justice.

The T/Director of Resources advised that while the Board's objectives remain consistent for the duration of the Corporate Plan 2020-2023, the Business Plan Actions proposed for the 2022-2023 year are intended to reflect the work achieved over Years 1 & 2, demonstrate how the Board will build on that progress and be accountable during the third and final year of our current Corporate Plan.

Members were asked to consider a planning document which highlighted the proposed updated actions and noted that of the 13 Actions, only 4 changes were proposed due to the continued relevance of the remaining 9 actions.

The T/Director of Resources listed the proposed new actions and explained the supporting rationale. During discussion and in relation to Objective A (i)

Members commented that consideration should be given by Board officials to how effectiveness in relation to the Action can be measured. Members also noted more broadly that references to senior levels of leadership within the PSNI should include but not refer exclusively to the SET but should, in the interests of succession planning and talent management, relate to levels of staff beyond the SET.

After discussion Members **AGREED** to approve the actions to be included in the Annual Business Plan 2022-2023.

8.5 Schedule of Meetings

The Chief Executive presented a paper which outlined proposed dates for Board and Committee meetings in May and June 2022, subject to the Board being re-constituted post Assembly elections in May.

The Chief Executive noted that it has been proposed to:

- Convene a Board meeting on 19 May 2022
- Hold Committee meetings back to back a week later (26 May 2022) to do urgent business and some planning activity for the coming weeks and months.
- If the 19 May isn't feasible, the schedule can slip and it may be that the first meeting is in early June with the Committees on a weekly basis thereafter.
- In June it was noted due to the Queen's Platinum Jubilee holiday, the Board meeting would fall on 9 June 2022, with the Committees falling in normal succession each week after that.

Following discussion Members **AGREED** in principle to the programme as outlined in the paper, however acknowledged that this was subject to change post elections.

An Independent Member noted that all Independent Members are available throughout the purdah period to provide support to the executive team should it be needed. The CEO thanked Independent Members for their offer of support.

9. KEY ISSUES OF PUBLIC INTEREST

The Board noted a paper which detailed recent issues of public interest which were relevant to the Board's areas of work.

10. PRIVATE SESSION WITH THE CHIEF CONSTABLE INCLUDING CHIEF CONSTABLE'S REPORT

The Chair welcomed the Chief Constable, Deputy Chief Constable Mark Hamilton, COO Pamela McCreedy, new Assistant Chief Officer (ACO) Strategic Planning and Transformation Aldrina Magwood, Assistant Chief Constable Mark McEwan and T/Assistant Chief Constable Jonathan Roberts to the meeting.

The Chief Constable welcomed new Assistant Chief Officer Strategic Planning and Transformation Aldrina Magwood to the meeting and noted new Assistant Chief Constable Chris Todd would be taking up post next week. The Chief Constable noted that due to the upcoming Assembly elections this meeting will be the last meeting in this reporting period and thanked the Board for its constructive feedback and wider support over this past year.

The Chief Constable expressed the PSNI's condolences to the family, friends and DUP Party colleagues of Mr Christopher Stalford MLA. He also noted his thanks to the Chair of the Police Federation Mark Lindsay on his retirement, for his support, advice and advocacy over the past several years.

The Chief Constable made introductory remarks on a number of topics including Male Violence against Women and Girls, the roll out of the PSNI's Cultural Audit, the current budgetary position, recent drugs seizures and an update on the investigation into the death of Noah Donohoe.

During the meeting Members discussed a number of issues with the Chief Constable including:

Update on investigation into the death of Noah Donohoe - The Chief Constable acknowledged the significant public interest in the Coroner's investigation into Noah's death and reassured Members that contrary to public perception the PSNI are not trying to withhold information relevant to the investigation from the Coroner, or the general public,. The Chief Constable noted the PSNI are in regular engagement with the family via legal representatives; he himself has in the past met with Noah's mother Fiona and has also offered to meet with her after this meeting today. The Chief Constable highlighted that this is the Coroner's investigation, and the PSNI are working closely with the Coroner and are acting in accordance with the Coroner's regulations and processes which they are bound by.

ACC McEwan advised that everyone involved in the investigation is fully cognisant of the fact that this investigation relates to the death of a child and no-one in the PSNI's team has any desire to prevent the family from getting answers regarding what happened to Noah.

With regard to the issue of a Public Interest Immunity (PII) Certificate, ACC McEwan advised that no decision has been taken as yet on whether to submit an application and in the event that it was it would not prevent the Coroner from receiving/viewing the information; ACC McEwan emphasised that the Coroner will have sight of all information pertaining to the investigation. ACC McEwan added that should anything be redacted the PSNI will provide a full explanation as to what has been redacted and the rationale for that decision.

ACC McEwan stated that there are 3 files which contain sensitive information in which the PSNI are considering redacting some information. These relate to:

- 1) Intelligence documents – some of the documents contain reference numbers which are unique to PSNI systems and the grading system which applies to PSNI intelligence documents (as is National practice).

ACC McEwan noted the PSNI do not wish this information to be shared in the public domain in the interests of security and protecting their sources. ACC McEwan confirmed however that the contents of all the intelligence documents will be released to the Coroner. ACC McEwan also advised that there are further redactions that are not subject to a PII application but are covered by Article 2 “Right to Life” and Article 8 “Right to Privacy” and relate to personal details of witnesses and people who provided information to the investigation, which cannot be widely shared.

- 2) Overview of PSNI actions and investigative lines of enquiry.
- 3) Other investigative materials and techniques (including specific computer software) used to investigate serious and organised crime and terrorism – by redacting some of this information the PSNI would seek to protect these capabilities for use in the future.

The Chief Constable and ACC McEwan acknowledged the urgency of the investigation and the family’s need for answers, and advised the PSNI are working as expeditiously as possible, however due diligence needs to be done. There is a lot of complex, detailed information to review, and the PSNI want to ensure that this is thoroughly reviewed and scrutinised before it is passed to the Coroner’s legal team.

With regard to a timeline ACC McEwan advised that the date for the inquest is set by the Coroner, and the PSNI will work to that date.

In response to a Member’s question regarding the PSNI’s intention to question Fiona Donohoe in relation to an organised walk to Cavehill the Chief Constable confirmed that it has been decided not to pursue the interview at this time and he has requested a review into the investigatory process.

Budgetary Position - The Chief Constable advised that to date the budgetary position remains unchanged, with the proposed financial settlement presenting

severe financial challenges for policing, with a projected operating shortfall of £226m over the next 3 years. The Chief Constable noted that PSNI have continued to engage with key stakeholders to explain the implications of the Draft Budget 2022-25 and to make the case for further funding. The Chief Constable advised that he, the Chief Operating Officer and the ACO Corporate Services briefed the Justice Committee on 10 February regarding the scale of the financial challenges this settlement presents and the PSNI hope that this has contributed to a better understanding of the impact of the Draft Budget on the Department of Justice as a whole and policing in future years. The Chief Constable noted that a Draft Resource Plan was recently presented to the Resources Committee for consideration which set out how the PSNI might collectively address the £59m budget shortfall next year by a combination of savings and assumptions. The Chief Constable added that over the course of the next few months, if the current proposed settlement figure doesn't change the public can expect to see some alterations to the levels of service delivery as the impact of less officers becomes apparent. The Chief Constable welcomed the Board's support in securing additional funding and addressing the shortfall before any final budget is agreed.

A Member reported that the Minister of Finance has today issued a Written Ministerial Statement regarding 2021-22 Further Allocations in which he has stated that following the January monitoring round there is an additional £45m that can be allocated in the current financial year 2021/22 to various Departments that had sought further funding. The Member expressed concern and disappointment that DoJ were not among these Departments that had bid for additional funding and suggested that the PSNI should make a bid. During discussion the COO noted that PSNI had already received the full allocation of what they had bid for in the January monitoring round and as such DoJ wouldn't have felt it necessary to bid on their behalf. The Member also highlighted that the Ministerial Statement referenced a pot of £300m that could be available in the next financial year 2022/23. Members commented that should the PSNI decide to make a bid for these monies they should ensure they are in a position to spend them as soon as possible.

After discussion the Board agreed in principle to write supportively to DoJ/DoF in respect of any additional funds the PSNI may bid for further to the Finance Minister's Written Ministerial statement made on 3 March 2022.

In addition to the above the Chief Constable addressed a range of questions from Members concerning:

- Domestic Abuse
- Conflict in the Ukraine
- Strategic Review of Policing
- Male Violence against Women and Girls
- Legacy Cases
- The Stop and Search of a teenager in Coalisland

The Chair thanked the Chief Constable, Deputy Chief Constable Mark Hamilton, COO Pamela McCreedy, ACO Aldrina Magwood, Assistant Chief Constable Mark McEwan, and T/Assistant Chief Constable Jonathan Roberts for their private briefing to the Board.

11. QUESTIONS FOR THE CHIEF CONSTABLE

11.1 Issues Arising from Committees

There were no issues arising from recent Committee meetings for the Board's attention.

11.2 Committee Written Questions and Responses

Members noted the responses received from the Chief Constable in relation to questions raised by the Performance, Resources and Partnership Committees.

11.3 Individual Members' Written Questions and Responses

Members noted responses received from the Chief Constable in relation to Members' recent questions.

12. COMMUNICATION ISSUES

None raised.

13. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

No other business was conducted.

14. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next Board Meeting was scheduled for Thursday 24 March 2022 at 9.30am. Members were asked to note this meeting will not include a private session with the Chief Constable and a subsequent public session.

The meeting closed at 12.20pm

The private meeting closed and the Board moved into public session at 12.30pm which was held by a video conference facility and livestreamed. A verbatim recording of the Board meeting in public is available on the Board's YouTube page @nipolicingboard

Corporate Services

Date: March 2022

Chair

