

NORTHERN IRELAND POLICING BOARD

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE NORTHERN IRELAND POLICING BOARD HELD ON THURSDAY 1 FEBRUARY 2024 AT 9.30AM IN NIPB HQ, JAMES HOUSE BELFAST.

PRESENT:

- Ms Deirdre Toner (Chair)
- Mr Edgar Jardine (Vice-Chair)
- (1) Mr Mark Durkan MLA
- (2) Ms Joanne Bunting MLA
- (3) Mr Trevor Clarke MLA
- (4) Mr Mike Nesbitt MLA
- Mr Brendan Mullan
- Mr Gerry Kelly MLA
- (5) Mrs Linda Dillon MLA
- (6) Mr John Blair MLA
- Ms Nuala McAllister MLA
- Mr Peter Osborne
- (7) Mr Frank McManus*
- Mr Les Allamby
- (8) Mr Mukesh Sharma
- (9) Dr Janet Gray
- Dr Kate Laverty

POLICE SERVICE OF NORTHERN IRELAND IN ATTENDANCE:

- (10) Mr Jon Boutcher, Chief Constable
- (10) Mr Chris Todd, T/Deputy Chief Constable
- (10) Ms Pamela McCreedy, Chief Operating Officer
- (10) Mr Bobby Singleton, Assistant Chief Constable
- (10) Mr Ryan Henderson, T/Assistant Chief Constable
- (10) Mr Mark McEwan, Assistant Chief Constable
- (10) Ms Clare Duffield, Assistant Chief Officer People & Organisational Development
- (10) Ms Melanie Jones A/Assistant Chief Constable
- 3 PSNI Officials

NORTHERN IRELAND POLICING BOARD OFFICIALS IN ATTENDANCE:

- Mr Sam Hagen, A/Chief Executive
- Mr Adrian McNamee, Director of Performance
- Ms Jenny Passmore, Director of Partnership
- Mrs Sarah Reid, T/Director of Partnership
- Five Board Officials

**OTHER OFFICIALS IN
ATTENDANCE:**

Mr John Wadham, Human Rights Advisor

- (1) In from 10.15am
- (2) In from 10.05am and left at 12.30pm
- (3) In from 10am and left at 2.45pm
- (4) In from 10.15am until end of Private Board meeting
- (5) Left at 12.15pm
- (6) In at 9.50am and left at 2.30pm
- (7) Left after private NIPB meeting
- (8) Left at 2pm
- (9) Left at 2.30pm
- (10) Item 10 only

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Ms Liz Kimmins MLA, Mr Maurice Bradley MLA and Mrs Sinead Simpson.

2. CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

No conflicts of interest were declared.

3. DRAFT MINUTES OF THE BOARD MEETINGS HELD ON:

3.1 Thursday 7 December 2023

In relation to page 4, paragraph 2 regarding the Chief Executive's update on the use of the Board's medical rooms, a Member requested that the language be updated to refer to "mobility" issues rather than "physical" issues as previously recorded.

In relation to page 9, paragraph 3 regarding the update on the Data Breach report, a Member requested that the language is updated to reflect "it was hoped

to have an **amended draft** of the report for Members' consideration later in the meeting", instead of a re-draft of the report as previously recorded.

In relation to page 23, Any Other Business, a Member requested additional language be included to capture the extent of the discussion on the subject of the Chief Constable's accommodation.

It was **RESOLVED**:-

- Subject to the amendments noted above, the minutes of the Board meeting held on Thursday 7 December 2023 be approved for publication.

4. BOARD ACTION LOG

Updates as detailed within the Action Log from the Board meetings held on 7 December, 5 October, 7 September and 6 July 2023 were noted in addition to the following verbal update provided by the A/Chief Executive:

In relation to Action Point 1 from the meeting on 7 December 2023 relating to the process/provision for maternity leave for Independent Board Members, the A/Chief Executive confirmed that a letter was issued to the Department of Justice (DoJ) in December 2023 on this issue and a response is awaited. This action will remain open.

In relation to Action Point 2 from the meeting on 7 December 2023 regarding clarification on the Investigatory Powers Tribunal (IPT) costs which are in dispute, the A/Chief Executive noted that a response had been received from the PSNI Chief Operating Officer and is included in the correspondence under agenda item 6 of the papers for today's meeting. The A/Chief Executive noted the IPT has advised both parties that it made no order with regard to costs. The A/Chief Executive noted PSNI are seeking the appropriate assessment of the costs through the Crown Solicitors Office who are seeking expert advice from a costs drawer. The A/Chief Executive noted the Chief Operating Officer

confirmed PSNI are taking the necessary steps to manage public resources where the costs are significant.

In relation to Action Point 4 from the meeting on 7 December 2023 regarding the make up of the Senior Officer Employment Matters group, the A/Chief Executive advised that the Chief Executive had checked the relevant guidance under the Police (NI) Act 2000 and confirmed that the Senior Officer Employment Matters Group has been constituted in accordance with the legislation.

In relation to Action Point 5 from the meeting on 7 December 2023 regarding the Board's use of the CJSM secure email system, the A/Chief Executive advised that as CJSM is supported through the Board's existing IT infrastructure it is the preferred system for transmitting sensitive information. The A/Chief Executive acknowledged the difficulties some Members have experienced with accessing the system in the past, however noted the implementation of a different system will also require login maintenance in the same way as CJSM, therefore it is preferable to address the issues Members are encountering with CJSM.

In relation to Action Point 2 from the meeting on 5 October 2023 regarding the PSNI legal advice relating to the balance of the Chief Constable's duties as Accounting Officer versus his responsibilities under the Section 32 of the Police (NI) Act 2000, the A/Chief Executive noted the response received from PSNI on 25 January 2024, advising that since this request was made, the PSNI have had some significant material changes, namely the resignation of the former Chief Constable, to whom the initial legal advice was given. As this matter is live and ongoing, the current Chief Constable has indicated it would not be appropriate to waive privilege on these matters at this time.

In relation to Action Point 4 from the 7 September 2023 meeting the Director of Performance advised that the revised National Crime Agency (NCA)

Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) has been received and will be tabled at the next Performance Committee in February 2024 in advance of being presented to the full Board.

In relation to Action Point 9 from the 7 September 2023 meeting regarding the covert surveillance of journalists, it was noted that whilst a response had been received from the Investigatory Powers Commissioners Office (IPCO) on the matter, the Report requested from PSNI had yet to be received, therefore this action will remain open. A Member undertook to ask the Chief Constable when the Board could expect to receive the report later in the meeting.

In relation to Action Point 7 from the 6 July 2023 meeting regarding the Chief Constable's Individual Performance Review (IPR) Objectives, the A/Chief Executive advised the Chair will provide a verbal update on this under agenda item 5.2 of today's meeting.

Members **NOTED** the action log.

5. CHAIRPERSON'S BUSINESS

5.1 Chair's Report

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

- The Chair's engagements carried out during the period 7 December 2023 to 31 January 2024.
- A full list of correspondence issued and received by the Chair during the period 7 December 2023 to 31 January 2024.

The Chair also highlighted the following engagements:

- Attendance at an evidence session with the NI Affairs Committee to discuss the PSNI Data Breach;
- A meeting with the Police Federation NI, noting the key issues discussed at the meeting included resourcing and impact on morale, PSNI Data Breach, the results of the Cultural Audit, Police Remuneration Review Body (PRRB), and Police Pension and Injury Benefits;
- A meeting with PSNI Staff Associations re the Data Breach Report.

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

- Correspondence received from DoJ advising they are taking forward the tender competition for the NI Appropriate Adult Scheme, in recognition of concerns raised by PSNI and NIPB regarding the need for the scheme to be independent;
- Correspondence received from DoJ acknowledging the change in the reporting cycle and confirming agreement to receiving a bi-annual report from the National Crime Agency (NCA) going forward;
- Correspondence received from the DoJ Permanent Secretary advising that it is not appropriate for the Department to act as the commissioning body for the Review of the Board;
- Correspondence the Board has been copied into from the Chief Constable and the DoJ Permanent Secretary in relation to Police Officer pay and recruitment;

- Correspondence issued to DoJ regarding the Board's decision on Belfast Harbour Police operating outside their jurisdiction in limited and specific circumstance;
- Letters of thanks issued to those individuals who formed the NIPB expert panel which considered the Independent Review Report into the PSNI Data Breach;
- Correspondence issued to the DoJ Permanent Secretary in relation to commissioning HeadsTogether to carry out the review of the PSNI SET.

Members raised the following items with the Chair:

- In light of recent political developments and the imminent return of the NI Assembly, a Member suggested that the Board write to the incoming Minister of Justice to highlight the urgency for the need for legislative changes to Injury on Duty Regulations. **(AP1)**

The Vice-Chair referenced the correspondence received from the DoJ Permanent Secretary which advised that it is not appropriate for the Department to act as the commissioning body for the Review of the Board and noted DoJ have highlighted the point that the reviewer should be independent, however the commissioning of the review need not be independent of the Board. In light of that, the Vice-Chair advised Members that a list has been developed of potential individuals who possess the skills and capabilities to carry out such a review. The Vice-Chair listed those individuals contacted to date and advised Members of those who had indicated they had availability to undertake the work and were not already committed to other projects. The Vice-Chair added that several other people are still to be contacted before a decision on who is best placed to carry out the work could be made. During discussion, a Member suggested that responsibility for selecting the individual to carry out the review

should be delegated to the Chair, Vice-Chair and Chief Executive. All Members **AGREED** with this approach. **(AP2)**

The Chair then provided Members with an update on the PSNI Data Breach and reassured Members that this will continue to remain a priority for the Board for the foreseeable future. The Chair noted the Chief Constable will include the PSNI's latest position on the report findings in his Chief Constable's report to the Board later in the meeting.

The Chair advised the data breach report has been published and therefore is no longer open for change or amendment, following the agreement of the Board at its meeting in December 2023. A Board Committee (to be confirmed which one) will receive a scheduled programme of updates on the report findings and recommendations as they are progressed, with the ability to seek advice from the Review Team Lead on areas of detail or concern about the progress on the findings. Joint letters from the Board Chair and Chief Constable have been issued to key partners and agencies so that lessons from the report are shared and learned, The Chair noted progress will be reported back to the Board through the monthly Committee update reports to the Board.

Members **NOTED** the update provided.

5.2 Chief Constable's Individual Performance Review (IPR) Objectives

The Chair provided Members with a verbal update and noted that she had recently met with the Chief Constable and provided him with the set of Individual Performance Review (IPR) objectives for the 2023-24 year and asked for his feedback on them. The Chair advised once the Chief Constable has reviewed the objectives and provided her with his feedback she will share this with all Board Members. The Chair noted it is expected that this will be before the next monthly Board meeting. **(AP3)**

6. CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPORT

The Board **NOTED** a report from the A/Chief Executive which provided an update on various items of business. The A/Chief Executive highlighted the following items:

- An update on Quarter three of the Annual Business Plan, noting a RAG report has been included as previously requested;
- The Board's management accounts for the period to the end of December 2023, noting a small underspend which SMT are not unduly concerned with at this stage;
- An update on the work of Internal Audit, noting the Final Report on the audit in relation to Complaints Handling was presented to the ARAC Committee at its meeting in December 2023 and received a Satisfactory assurance rating;
- An update on Senior Officer issues, noting the need for substantive senior officer competitions later in the year;
- An update on the PCSP Independent Member Recruitment competition, noting that interviews are anticipated to take place in February 2024 in relation to the 6 council areas which received an extension of time for receipt of their applications;
- An update on the work of Police Pensions & Injury Benefits (PPIB) branch, noting work continues to progress the McCloud reassessments in accordance with NPCC guidance. The A/Chief Executive advised Board Officials progressed various strands of work in relation to the revision of the Joint Guidance for medical practitioners. A consultation in relation to placing existing Joint Guidance on a statutory footing was launched by the DoJ in November 2023 and officials have submitted a

Board response in relation to this consultation as well as to another consultation that had been launched by the DoJ in relation to the Draft Police Pension (Amendment) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2024. The A/Chief Executive confirmed that both draft consultation responses were considered and approved by the Resources Committee at its meeting in December 2023.

- An update on the work of the Police Property Fund, noting that the third call for applications closed on 24 January 2024 and it is anticipated that approved projects will commence at the beginning of April 2024.

In relation to correspondence, the A/Chief Executive advised he had three items to highlight:

- Correspondence received from the Chief Constable noting his desire to have a more active role in the selection and appointment of the PSNI senior team;
- Correspondence received from Chief Police Officer Staff Association (CPOSA) advising that they do not accept the proposal in respect of Senior Officer allowances;
- Correspondence received from DoJ outlining a NIPB revised budget allocation for 2023-24, noting the Board have received an additional £25k to fund Independent Medical Referee (IMR) assessments.

Members raised the following issues with the A/Chief Executive:

- In relation to Objective D1 on the Annual Business Plan Quarter 3 RAG report, a Member noted that this objective should not be Green (and

deemed as “Achieved”) as there is not sufficient funding to allow this work to be tendered for, therefore it should be marked Amber (Action requires additional resource or time to be achieved).

- In relation to the update contained in the report regarding FOI and Data Protection Requests, a Member raised a query regarding the status of a DPA Complaint received in regard to the sharing of an individual's information with the Department of Justice – the Communications Manager confirmed this complaint is ongoing internally with Board officials and DoJ representatives.
- A Member raised concerns regarding the preparedness of the training of student officers and if any improvements could be made to the Student Officer Development Programme and how officers can be best supported following completion of training. The Member also raised a query as to whether the new vetting arrangements, as recommended by HMICFRS in the October 2023 report, will be applied to new officers entering the service. (The Member subsequently raised this with the Chief Constable later in the meeting and he undertook to provide a response).

Members **NOTED** the report.

7. COMMITTEE REPORTS.

7.1 Performance Committee – 14 December 2023

The Board noted the Performance Committee Chair's Report and draft minutes of the meeting held on 14 December 2023. The Chair also provided a verbal update on matters considered at the meeting which included Policing Plan Measure 1.2.1 (Repeat offenders), the Human Rights Advisor's Update report for November 2023, Human Rights Five Year review and the HMICFRS 2022/23 Report. The Committee Chair noted Members also considered the PSNI's first six-monthly report on the implementation of the recommendations

from the Human Rights Review of Strip Searching of Children and Young People in Police Custody which was published in June 2023 and considered information in relation to two recently received Business Interest Appeals.

Members **NOTED** the report.

The Performance Committee Chair advised the Committee had one request which required approval from the Board. This was:

- To approve the Committee's decision to uphold the decisions of the Business Interest Panel and the Chief Constable and reject the Business Interest Applications.

Following his update the Performance Committee Chair handed back to the Board Chair to put the Committee's request to the Board.

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

- **APPROVE** the Committee's recommendation to uphold the decisions of the Business Interest Panel and the Chief Constable and reject the Business Interest Applications.

7.2 Partnership Committee – 25 January 2024

The Board noted the Partnership Committee Chair's Report of the meeting held on 25 January 2024. The Chair also provided a verbal update on matters considered at the meeting which included Policing Plan Measure – 2.2.1 (Satisfaction), a briefing from PSNI on their Children and Young People Strategy and an update on the South Armagh Review. The Committee Chair noted Members also considered the current consultation being undertaken by the Department of Justice (DOJ) in conjunction with the Department for Communities (DfC) on proposed legislative amendments to help tackle Anti-

Social Behaviour and updates on the PCSP appointment process and Police Property Fund applications.

Members **NOTED** the report.

The Partnership Committee Chair advised the Committee had two requests which required approval from the Board. This was:

- To approve the Committee's recommendation to issue the draft letter to DoJ in response to the Consultation on proposals to amend the legislation to help tackle Anti-Social Behaviour;
- To approve the Committee's recommendation to publish the updated Board Policy in respect of the Appointment of Independent members to PCSPS on the Board's website.

Following his update the Partnership Committee Chair handed back to the Board Chair to put the Committee's request to the Board.

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

- **APPROVE** the Committee's recommendation to issue the draft letter to DoJ in response to the Consultation on proposals to amend the legislation to help tackle Anti-Social Behaviour; and
- **APPROVE** the Committee's recommendation to publish the updated Board Policy in respect of the Appointment of Independent members to PCSPS on the Board's website.

7.3 Resources Committee – 19 December 2023 & 25 January 2024

The Board noted the Resources Committee Chair's Reports of the meetings held on 19 December 2023 and 25 January 2024 (Members noted draft minutes

of the meeting on 19 December 2023 were attached and those from the 25 January meeting would follow in due course).

The Resources Committee Chair provided a verbal update on matters considered at the meetings. On 19 December 2023 these included the PSNI Finance report, an update on The Policing Plan Measure on Representativeness and a briefing on a security incident at PSNI Steeple. The Resources Committee Chair advised the Committee also considered two Above Delegated Authority requests in respect of settlement of both the financial compensation and the Plaintiff's legal costs in respect of a high value legacy case and payment as a charitable donation to the Police Arboretum Memorial Trust.

The Resources Committee Chair noted that on 25 January 2024 Members discussed the PSNI Finance report, received updates from PSNI representatives on work taking place in respect of Equality, Diversity and Inclusion, a briefing on the work of the Close Protection Unit and a briefing and presentation on the processes for dealing with PSNI Litigation cases and Above Delegated Authority requests.

Members **NOTED** the reports.

The Resources Committee Chair advised the Committee had one request which required approval from the Board and one request which required the Board to ratify a decision taken previously by written procedure. These were:

- To ratify the Board's decision, taken by written procedure in December 2023 to approve an Above Delegated Authority Request in respect of a high value legacy case; and

- To approve the Committee's recommendation to approve an Above Delegated Authority request in respect of a payment as a charitable donation to the Police Arboretum Memorial Trust.

Following his update the Resources Committee Chair handed back to the Board Chair to put the Committee's requests to the Board.

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

- **RATIFY** the Board's decision, taken by written procedure in December 2023 to approve an Above Delegated Authority Request in respect of a high value legacy case; and
- **AGREE** the Committee's recommendation to approve an Above Delegated Authority request in respect of a payment as a charitable donation to the Police Arboretum Memorial Trust.

7.4 Audit & Risk Assurance Committee – 19 December 2023

The Board noted the Audit and Risk Assurance Committee Chair's Report of the meeting held on 19 December 2023. The Chair also provided a verbal update on matters considered at the meeting which included a briefing and presentation from the Police Pensions Advisor, a review of the Board's Risk Management Framework and Corporate Risk Register, a review of the Business Continuity and Disaster Recovery Plan and consideration of the Final Report in relation to the Internal Audit Advisory Review on Complaints Handling and Raising a Concern.

Members **NOTED** the report.

7.5 Discipline Committee - 19 December 2023

The Board noted the Discipline Committee Chair's Report of the meeting held on 19 December 2023. The Chair also provided a verbal update on the matter considered at the meeting which related to the handling of complaints against the former Chief Constable and Deputy Chief Constable in respect of the Judicial Review decisions in relation to the Ormeau Road incident.

Members **NOTED** the update.

8. BOARD BUSINESS

8.1 Report from the Policing Plan Review Working Group 2023/24

The Director of Performance presented a paper which provided Members with a summary of the work of the Policing Plan Review Working Group (PPRWG) from September 2023 to date and outlined how the group fulfilled its responsibilities set out in its Terms of Reference (ToR). The Director of Performance noted the paper concludes with recommendations to the Board in relation to amendments to the Performance Measures to be added to the Annual Performance Plan 2024/25.

The Director of Performance advised the PPRWG has met on four occasions during the period September 2023 to February 2024 and is currently in the final year of a 5 year plan. The Director of Performance advised that the Working Group focused on delivering the three responsibilities outlined within the ToR:

- To review the Northern Ireland Policing Plan 2020-2025 (Outcomes) and the Performance Plan 2023/24 (Indicators and Measures) to determine if any changes are necessary to these strategic documents;
- To review the Reporting of Impact to date; and
- To consider whether the recommendation contained in the Northern Ireland Audit Office report "The Continuous Improvement Arrangements in Policing" have any implications for the Policing Plan or the Performance Plan.

The Director of Performance listed the proposed amendments the working group had identified for each of the three Policing Plan outcomes and explained the supporting rationale for the amendments. During discussion Members raised queries as to why it had been proposed to remove Measure 2.1.1 (Accessibility) and Measure 2.2.1 (Satisfaction) from the Impacts being reported on in the 2024/25 year. The Director of Performance advised that currently there is not sufficient data to allow accurate reporting on these measures, however the working group have recommended that they are considered as part of the development of the new Policing Plan for 2025-2030.

The Director of Performance noted as listed above, one of the PPRWG's Terms of Reference (ToR) stipulates that the Working Group will consider whether the recommendation contained in the Northern Ireland Audit Office (NIAO) report "The Continuous Improvement Arrangements in Policing" has any implications for the Policing Plan or the Performance Plan. The Director of Performance advised that the Board provided a response to NIAO outlining the initial assessment of this recommendation. The Working Group considered that the recommendation was implemented in full through its work.

The Director of Performance also noted the Board has a legislative duty to consult with the DoJ in relation to any changes to the Policing Plan. In that regard, Departmental Representatives attended the meeting of the Working Group on 11th January 2024. At this meeting the Working Group Chair outlined the changes identified to the current Annual Assessment document and the rationale for these. The Director of Performance noted DoJ officials welcomed this briefing and also provided Members with an update on the Department's plans over the next six months to develop and consult publicly on the Minister's Long Term Objectives for Policing.

Following discussion, it was **AGREED** to:

- Approve the amendments to the Performance Measures as identified by the PPRWG to be added to the 2024/25 Annual Performance Plan; and
- Approve the updated Joint Foreword for the 2024/25 Annual Performance Plan.

Mr Peter Osborne requested it be recorded that he does not agree with dropping Accessibility from Measure 2.1.1 for this reporting year.

8.2 HMICFRS Report for 2022/23

The Director of Performance presented a paper requesting that Members consider the PSNI response to HMICFRS Inspection Report 22/23 and approve the next steps identified in the paper to fulfil the Board's legislative remit in relation to this report which are to consider the draft letter for issue to the Department of Justice with the Publication Report and once content make them available on the Board's website.

The Director of Performance noted the HMICFRS Inspection Report for 2022/23 entitled "The Policing Service of Northern Ireland – An Inspection of police effectiveness, efficiency, vetting and standards" was published on 10 October 2023 and Members considered it and provided initial feedback on the report at the Board meeting on 2 November 2023 and agreed to refer the report to the Performance Committee for further scrutiny.

The Director of Performance explained that once the report has been published the Board is required under legislation to:

- Invite the Chief Constable to submit comments on the HMICFRS report;
- Prepare any comments on the report and arrange for:
 - (i) The Board's comments;
 - (ii) The comments of the PSNI; and

- (iii) Any response which the Board has to the Chief Constable's comments to be published as appears to the Board to be appropriate; and
- Send a copy of any published document to the Minister/DOJ.

The Director of Performance advised following the Board meeting in November 2023 the Board Chair wrote to the Chief Constable inviting him to comment on the Report and include an action plan to address the areas for improvement outlined in the report, including the timeframes for completion. As a result, the PSNI submitted a response on 7th December 2023 including an action plan addressing each recommendation, and the Director of Performance noted the full response is included at Annex A of the meeting papers.

At the Performance Committee meeting on 14 December 2023 Members discussed the inspection report and ultimately concluded that in the context of the financial and resourcing challenges facing the service, the report was a positive one for PSNI.

During discussion, a Member suggested additional wording for inclusion in the Board's publication Report and will forward the language to the Director of Performance for the update to be made. Another Member also suggested that some of the wording contained in the report (relating to Vetting of officers and staff and lack of capacity to implement recommendations due to resourcing difficulties) should be added to the letter to DoJ to highlight an example of the funding challenges facing the service.

Following discussion, it was **AGREED** subject to the above amendments to:

- **APPROVE** that officials submit the letter to DoJ with the publication report and make the publication report available on the Board's website.
(AP4)

8.3 Senior Officers Advisory Group

The A/Chief Executive presented a paper which advised Members of a request for approval from the Chief Constable for a senior officer to undertake a secondment opportunity until December 2024.

During discussion, Members raised several issues which they required clarity on before reaching a decision and it was agreed to seek clarification on these issues from the Chief Constable during the private session later in the meeting.

8.4 Kings Portrait

The A/Chief Executive presented a paper which advised Members of the Voluntary Scheme which has been launched across the UK, which allows public authorities to apply for a free, framed portrait of His Majesty the King to mark the new reign. The A/Chief Executive noted the closing date for applications is tomorrow Friday 2 February 2024.

Following discussion, Members **AGREED** to continue with the practice of a neutral working environment through only displaying pictures depicting the role of the Board and decided not to avail of this opportunity.

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.

Members **NOTED** the update.

10. PRIVATE SESSION WITH THE CHIEF CONSTABLE INCLUDING HIS ACCOUNTABILITY REPORT TO THE BOARD

The Chair welcomed the Chief Constable to the meeting and explained that Members had requested to use this time to seek assurances and clarifications

on queries and concerns they had in relation to his request that was considered under agenda item 8.3 above.

A confidential annex detailing this discussion can be made available to Members for review but will not be published at this time.

Actions from this section will be recorded on action log as AP5.

The Chair thanked the Chief Constable for his 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 PSNI responses received to Performance and Resources Committee questions within this period.

11.3 Individual Members' Written Questions and Responses

Members noted the responses received from the Chief Constable in relation to Members written questions in this period and also the follow up responses received in relation to Member queries at the Board meetings in November and December 2023.

12. COMMUNICATION ISSUES

None.

13. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

The Board Vice-Chair advised the People and Organisational Development Manager is currently managing a gross misconduct appeal case in relation to a former PSNI civilian staff member and is required to establish a panel of three individuals to consider the appeal. The Vice-Chair advised it has been confirmed that one NIPSA representative will be on the panel and as current Members of the Discipline Committee he proposed himself and Dr Kate Lavery as the other two panel members. Members **AGREED** with this approach.

14. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next Board Meeting is scheduled for Thursday 7 March 2024 at 9.30am in the conference room, James House.

The private meeting closed at 3.15pm.

Strategic Planning & Governance

Date: February 2024

Chair