

NORTHERN IRELAND POLICING BOARD

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE NORTHERN IRELAND POLICING BOARD HELD ON THURSDAY 6 MARCH 2025 AT 9.30AM IN NIPB HQ, JAMES HOUSE, BELFAST

MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:

- Mr Mukesh Sharma (Chair)
- Mr Brendan Mullan (Vice Chair)
- (1) Mr Cathal Boylan MLA
- Mrs Linda Dillon MLA
- (1) Ms Cheryl Brownlee MLA
- (2) Miss Nuala McAllister MLA
- Mr Tommy O'Reilly
- Mr Peter Osborne
- (2) Mr Les Allamby
- (3) Dr Kate Lavery
- (4) Mr Frank McManus
- (5) Mr Alan Chambers MLA
- (1) Mr Peter McReynolds MLA
- Mr Trevor Clarke MLA
- (6) Mr Mark H Durkan MLA*
- (7) Mr Gerry Kelly MLA
- Mrs Marian Cree
- (4) Mr Patrick Nelson

POLICE SERVICE OF NORTHERN IRELAND IN ATTENDANCE:

- (8) Mr Jon Boutcher, Chief Constable
- (8) Mr Bobby Singleton, Deputy Chief Constable
- (8) Ms Pamela McCreedy, Chief Operating Officer
- (8) Mr Mark McNaughten, Assistant Chief Officer Corporate Services
- (8) Mr Chris Todd, Assistant Chief Constable
- (8) Ms Clare Duffield, Assistant Chief Officer People & Organisational Development
- (8) Ms Aldrina Magwood, Assistant Chief Officer Strategic Planning & Transformation
- (8) Mr Davy Beck, Assistant Chief Constable
- (8) Ms Melanie Jones, Assistant Chief Constable
- (8) Mr Ryan Henderson, Assistant Chief Constable

- (8) Mr Stephen Murray, A/Assistant Chief Constable
- (8) Three Officials

**NORTHERN IRELAND
POLICING BOARD OFFICIALS
IN ATTENDANCE:**

Mrs Sinead Simpson, Chief Executive
Mr Sam Hagen, Senior Director of Resources
Mr Adrian McNamee, Director of Performance
Ms Jenny Passmore, Director of Partnership
Ms Sarah Reid, T/Director of Police Pensions & Injury Benefits
Three Officials

**OTHER OFFICIALS IN
ATTENDANCE:**

Mr John Wadham, Human Rights Advisor

- (1) Left after public session
- (2) Left at 2.30pm
- (3) Left at 3.15pm
- (4) Left at 2.55pm
- (5) From 9.45am, left after public session
- (6) Left at 10.50am
- (7) Left at 3pm
- (8) Item 10 only

* Attended via video conference

The Chair opened the meeting and set out the programme, reminding Members that today's meeting in public with PSNI will be held via livestream only.

The Chair expressed appreciation, on behalf of the Board, to the Chief Constable's staff officer, who retires soon after a long and successful career in policing, and it was agreed by Members for the Chair to follow up in writing on this matter. **(AP1)**

Members **AGREED** the agenda.

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Mr Keith Buchanan MLA.

2. CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

No conflicts of interest were declared and Members did not indicate any matters they wished to raise under 'Any Other Business' at agenda item 12.

3. DRAFT MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING(S):

3.1 Thursday 6 February 2025

The Chair asked Members to consider the draft minutes from the Board meeting held on Thursday 6 February 2025.

It was **RESOLVED** that:

- The minutes of the Board meeting held on Thursday 6 February 2025 be approved for publication.

4. QUESTIONS TO THE CHIEF CONSTABLE

4.1 Chief Constable's Accountability Report

Members **NOTED** the Chief Constable's Accountability report to inform discussion with the PSNI leadership team later in the meeting.

4.2 Individual Members Written Questions and Responses

Members **NOTED** the follow up responses to verbal questions from the public and private sessions of the Board meeting in February 2025.

4.3 Committee Written Questions and Responses

There were no Committee written questions during the reporting period.

4.4 Key Issues of Public Interest

Members **NOTED** a paper which detailed recent issues of public interest relevant to the Board's areas of work.

5. COMMITTEE REPORTS

5.1 Performance Committee – 13 February 2025

The Board **NOTED** the Performance Committee Chair's report and draft minutes of the meeting held on 13 February 2025.

The Committee Chair advised of one recommendation from the Committee in relation to amendments to the Memorandum of Understanding between the Board and the Office of the Police Ombudsman.

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

- **APPROVE** the final draft Memorandum of Understanding between the Board and the Office of the Police Ombudsman.

5.2 Resources Committee – 27 February 2025

The Board **NOTED** the Resources Committee Chair's report of the meeting held on 27 February 2025.

The Committee Chair advised of two recommendations from the Committee in relation to the disposal of Castlederg Station and draft submissions for the Police Remuneration Review Body and Senior Salaries Review Body.

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

- **APPROVE** that PSNI should proceed as proposed in their correspondence with the disposal of Castlederg Station via the open market, and
- **APPROVE** the draft submissions for the Police Remuneration Review Body and Senior Salaries Review Body.

5.3 Partnership Committee – 20 February 2025

The Board **NOTED** the Partnership Committee Chair's report and draft minutes of the meeting held on 20 February 2025.

5.4 Issues Arising from Committees

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

6. BOARD BUSINESS

6.1 Justice Bill 2024 - Clause 22

The Chief Executive presented a paper on Clause 22 of the Justice Bill which makes provision for the Northern Ireland Policing Board (NIPB) to delegate to Members and staff the ability to exercise functions of the Board.

Members were provided with background including Justice Bill provisions and engagement with the Justice Committee, and the origins of Clause 22 of the Bill due to a judgement in a case involving the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland.

The Chief Executive outlined that prior to this case most public bodies operated on the basis there was an ability to delegate functions to officials but the Charity Commission case ruled against this action, and that a statutory function must be expressly delegated.

The Department of Justice (DoJ) along with other government bodies sought to find remedies following this ruling and these were put in place to address the implications of the Charity Commission ruling.

The Chief Executive outlined the Board's scheme of delegations, and the extent of these should there be a functioning Board in place, in order that delegations are minimised, as well as the functions which may be delegated should a functioning Board not be in place.

In relation to next steps and to allow for further consideration at a future Board meeting, Members were advised of the proposal for the Board's Committees to consider which of the Committee functions can be delegated to officials with a functioning Board in place, and for those which can be delegated if a functioning Board is not in place.

Finally, the Chief Executive advised Members that Board Officials have been requested to attend a meeting of the Justice Committee in May 2025 to discuss these matters, and that discussions will also likely cover Clause 23 [removal of NIAO Continuous Improvement reviews] and in respect of the Board's implementation of IHR and IOD schemes.

Members raised several matters including the need to ensure delegations are limited; that it was a practical approach to delegate some functions; extent to which Board will be able to function without Political Members; wider democratic issues; and that further clarity is required on delegated functions should there not be a functioning Board in place.

Members **NOTED** the provisions included in the Justice Bill and it was **AGREED** that:

- The Board's Committees will consider the functions to be delegated to officials when there is a functioning Board and the functions they wish to delegate should there not be a functioning full Board, and these proposals will be brought to a future Board meeting. **(AP2)**

6.2 Appointment of a new Human Rights Advisor for the Board

The Director of Performance presented a paper to inform Members of the proposed process to appoint a new Human Rights Advisor (HRA) for the Board, similar to the process used in 2019 to appoint the existing HRA and obtain Board approval on the process as well as the appointment of a selection panel.

Members were provided with a summary of the position regarding the Board's current HRA and that officials are currently in the process of finalising a business case for the provision of Human Rights advice.

The Director of Performance provided a summary of the six options outlined in the Business case and Members were advised that the preferred option was option 1: Business as usual - secure an expert Human Rights Advisor.

The Director of Performance outlined next steps, including a timeline for the process, in relation to the Board agreeing a selection panel, the role of the panel, and that all panel Members were required to complete mandatory training

to provide the appropriate knowledge of assessment and selection practices including relevant procedures and legislation.

Members were advised that Human Resources advice indicates that a panel for the appointment should consist of a maximum of five Members, and subject to Board agreement of the recommended option, that nominations for panel Members will be sought at this meeting.

Members raised the following matters:

- Concerns there may be a gap in cover between the existing and new HRA as part of the transition process. Members were advised that the current HRA is content to support the transition to ensure continuity in the role.
- Impact on work being carried out by the HRA including extensive involvement in relation to PSNI surveillance of journalists, lawyers and others as part of the McCullough review, and given the final review report is expected soon.

The HRA assured Members that based on the likely timelines for the McCullough Review report, of his intention to be involved with the process until its conclusion, including providing a full briefing as part of the handover to a new HRA.

Members were advised that officials were committed to ensure a seamless transition process which is likely to include a degree of overlap between the current and new HRA.

- A Member expressed a preference for option 2 of the business case: do minimum - meet legislative requirements with existing staff and was opposed to option 5: use of a panel of barristers with specific Human Rights expertise, due to the costs associated with this approach.

In response to progressing with option 2, Members were advised the Board does not have the necessary expertise with existing staff to meet the requirements of the HRA role.

- Whether an assessment had taken place of the availability of suitable candidates in the labour market and officials confirmed it will be advertised widely to attract the best applicants.
- Whether it was beneficial to provide Members with full details of the business case to allow Members to make a fully informed decision of the options outlined.
- A Member indicated support for option 3: employ a HRA as a permanent member of staff, to provide stability given the complexity of the role. In response, the Board's HRA emphasised the need for the role to remain independent and highlighted the likely additional costs of employing a new HRA as a permanent member of staff.

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

- **APPROVE** option 1 (business as usual) as outlined and that officials proceed with securing the services of an expert Human Rights Advisor for the Board by implementing an appointment process similar to the process adopted in 2019, and
- **APPROVE** nominations for a selection panel to recruit a new Human Rights Advisor and following nominations it was confirmed that Mr Les Allamby, Ms Nuala McAllister MLA, Dr Kate Lavery and Mrs Linda Dillon MLA will sit on the panel, with a fifth panel Member to be confirmed from the Democratic Unionist Party.

6.3 Draft Northern Ireland Policing Board Response to Independent Review of the Board

The Chair thanked Members for their contribution at the two recent meetings of the NIPB Review Working Group as part of developing the Board response, recognising the time commitment from Members, and offered his appreciation to the Vice-Chair for chairing the second meeting.

The Chief Executive presented a paper to provide Members with the proposed draft response to the Justice Minister which aims to reflect the discussions at the two meetings of the working group in response to the 18 report recommendations.

Members were asked to consider the draft response to each of the recommendations and were advised that substantive changes suggested by individual Members were highlighted separately, and that specific comments from Members have also been shown separately to facilitate discussion for this item.

Members asked whether consideration had been given to next steps/ actions following the confirmation of the Board's response to the report recommendations, and that it is entirely appropriate for Members to offer an alternative view in response to analysis and recommendations made by the report authors.

In response the Chief Executive advised that the primary focus, to reduce complexity and ensure clarity of thought, was on the Board's response to the recommendations and proposed that next steps/ actions will be discussed at a meeting of the review working group, with a date to be arranged. **(AP3)**

The Chief Executive proposed that the Board's response to each recommendation was considered in turn, and Members were provided with an

overview of the 18 recommendations, and the following recommendations were discussed in more detail:

- Recommendation 2: Real or perceived dominant political culture of the Board.

Members discussed alternative wording provided and whether changes were appropriate to the proposed response; whether it was the majority view that there was a dominant political culture and how this is best reflected in the response; whether anonymous voting should be considered to establish whether there is a majority view in relation to political dominance; further clarity needed on the definition of political dominance; role of the Board as an accountability body versus the aspiration for collective responsibility and corpocracy; and following discussion it was agreed to redraft the response to incorporate Member feedback. **(AP3)**

- Recommendation 3: The positions of Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson should be subject to a bespoke public appointment process.

Members discussed amendments to the response including reference to political involvement in the appointment process and reference to the merits of the alternative approaches put forward.

Following discussion, it was agreed to amend the response to reflect Member views. **(AP3)**

- Recommendation 4: The Board has an excessive workload;
Recommendation 5: The Board needs to focus on strategic issues rather than day-to-day operations.

Members discussed the review comments in respect of the Board adopting a leaner and smarter operating model of “less is more”; whether the Board’s strategic focus can be reduced to the four points highlighted in the review; and following discussion it was agreed to action some changes to the proposed response. **(AP3)**

- Recommendations 6 & 7: Matters relating to the Scofield judgement.
The Chief Executive highlighted key points as part of the proposed response in relation to the Board's involvement in live policing incidents and the development of a policing protocol.
Alternative wording was discussed to highlight the distinctions between Political Members carrying out their role as an elected representative, in contrast to role as a spokesperson for policing, and also as a Board Member.
- Recommendation 8: Tripartite relationship between NIPB, PSNI, and DoJ.
Members discussed the nature of the relationship and willingness to develop a new Partnership Agreement framework through early engagement with PSNI and DoJ.
- Recommendation 11: Assessment of the efficiency and effectiveness of PSNI.
Members discussed an amendment to the response to include consideration of long term funding for PSNI and the HR plan as work progresses on the recovery plan to increase officer numbers.

Following discussion, Members **AGREED** to:

- Progress suggested amendments to the draft response with the Chief Executive and Vice-Chair granted delegated authority by the Board to issue a final response to the Minister of Justice and schedule a meeting of the NIPB Review Working Group to discuss and agree practical next steps. **(AP4)**

7. ACTION LOG

Members **NOTED** the action log for the Board meetings held on 6 February 2025 and 5 December 2024.

In relation to the open action points from the Board meeting on 6 February 2025 the Chief Executive provided the following updates:

- Action point 1 – a Member previously highlighted potential security risks in relation to the requirement for PSNI officers to attend in person as part of the claim process for Employment and Support Allowance (ESA).
Officials advised this was a remote process following investigation and officers were not required to attend in person, and this action can now be closed.
A Member expressed ongoing concerns that the officer, now retired, maintained this position in relation to the claim process for ESA.
- Action point 2 – this relates to the establishment of a Members working group to consider the Board's new corporate plan for 2025-30 following the completion of the consultation process.
Members have been confirmed for the working group, which is scheduled to meet this month, and this action can now be closed.
- Action point 3 – this action relates to the proposal for the specialist Human Resources consulting firm 'HeadsTogether' to take forward the review of senior officer recruitment guidance.
The Board's Resources Committee will progress this matter and this action can now be closed.
- Action point 4 – this relates to correspondence from the Committee for the Executive Office regarding Historical Institutional Abuse and a response is awaited from PSNI on the matters raised by the Committee.

PSNI have confirmed that a response will be provided as soon as possible and this action will remain open.

- Action point 5 – this relates to the Independent Custody Visitors scheme and an issue highlighted regarding access to detainee records.
In response to correspondence from the Board Chair the Justice Minister has advised that a meeting will be arranged with DoJ officials and legal representatives to progress this matter.
This action can now be closed and the Board's Partnership Committee will progress the matter.
- Action point 6 – this relates to the proposed schedule for the publication of the McCullough Review report and PSNI will advise the Board in due course on the timetable.
- Action point 8 – this relates to the establishment of an NIPB Review Working Group to consider response to the independent review of the Board and was discussed earlier in the meeting at agenda item 6.3. This action can now be closed.

In relation to the open action from the Board meeting on 5 December 2024, the Chief Executive provided the following update:

- Action point 4 – this action relates to correspondence issued to DoJ regarding the Board's position on IHR/ IOD processes and a response has been received from the Justice Minister.
Members were advised this will be discussed later in the meeting at agenda item 8.1 and this action can now be closed.
Members agreed that continued focus on IOD/ IHR processes is necessary given the Board's view that reform is required, and the Chief Executive advised that further discussion will likely take place with when Officials attend a meeting of the Justice Committee in May 2025.

- Action point 5 –this relates to the year-end review of the Chief Constable’s performance objectives. The Chief Executive advised these will be circulated to Members, alongside performance objectives for 2025-26, for comment and a performance assessment for 2024-25 will be brought back to the Board upon completion. **(AP5)**
This action can now be closed.

Members **NOTED** the updated provided.

8. CHAIRPERSON’S BUSINESS

8.1 Chair’s Report

The Chair asked the Board to **NOTE** the Chair’s report and associated addendum which advised Members of:

- The Chair’s engagements carried out during the period 6 February 2025 to 25 February 2025.
- A full list of correspondence issued and received by the Chair during the period 6 February 2025 to 5 March 2025.

In respect of engagements which may be of particular interest the Chair referred Members to Appendix 1A of the report for further information.

The Chair highlighted correspondence from PSNI regarding changes to the chief officer portfolio with the appointment of a new Assistant Chief Constable (ACC) from the reserve list following the resignation of ACC Chris Todd to take up a new role as Chief Constable of Humberside Police; correspondence from Mid Ulster District council regarding the disposal of the Desertcreat site and response from PSNI; and correspondence referenced earlier in the meeting

from the Justice Minister on matters raised by the Board regarding existing IHR/ IOD processes.

Members raised the following matters in relation to the Chair's report:

- A Member suggested that further correspondence be issued to the Justice Minister in relation to IHR and IOD processes in order to request a timescale for legislative change and that it be included in the Justice Bill 2024.

Members discussed the position of both PSNI and the Board in relation to future ownership of IHR/ IOD processes and the need for further lobbying for change.

In response the Chief Executive reminded Members of the Justice Ministers view at the meeting with the Board in November 2024 that legislative change in this area was not going to be taken further in the current mandate of the NI Assembly.

Following discussion, it was agreed to write to the Chief Constable to establish the PSNI position in the future management and responsibility of the IHR/ IOD schemes and following receipt of a response to consider further correspondence to the Justice Minister on this matter. **(AP6)**

- Correspondence from Mid Ulster District Council to request the Board postpones the proposed PSNI timetable of March 2025 for purchase of the Desertcreat site to allow the Council additional time to progress the Outline Business Case, and Members views were sought on this matter given the timescale involved.

In response, Board officials advised that PSNI have been invited to attend the Board's Resources Committee on 27 March 2025 to discuss this matter further, and following consideration by the Committee a recommendation will be made to the Board.

Following discussion, it was agreed to issue a holding reply to the correspondence from Mid Ulster District Council to advise of the Board's position on this matter and next steps. **(AP7)**

Members **NOTED** the additional updates provided.

9. CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPORT

The Board **NOTED** a report from the Chief Executive which provided an overview of governance and organisational matters and to inform the Board of key items of correspondence relating to Board business.

The Chief Executive highlighted the following matters:

- In relation to an item relevant to the Board but not included in the report, a response to a rule 9 request from the Omagh Bomb Inquiry will be submitted following the Board meeting and will be shared with Members. **(AP8)**

Members were advised the submission will remain in draft until the Inquiry agrees it can be finalised.

- A matter not included in the report and previously brought to the Board's attention in November 2024 relates to correspondence from a PSNI officer, who is a member of the LGBT and CNR community, regarding allegations of harassment on social media by a former PSNI officer.

Members were provided with a comprehensive update following recent developments which included background of the complaint and ongoing involvement from an Independent Board Member; full details of the nature of the complaint; ongoing communication with the Chief Constable including actions taken and the establishment of a gold command team to investigate the allegations; aspects of the complaint

relating to the conduct of PSNI Professional Standards Department (PSD); ongoing correspondence with the complainant to provide updates; recent developments regarding the health and wellbeing of the officer concerned and legal action now being progressed; and the nature of the Board's involvement in this case to monitor developments and receive updates from PSNI in line with its duty of care responsibilities.

Following recent developments Members were advised of the Board's responsibility to seek assurance from PSNI on broader matters relating to the treatment of victims in these types of cases, that PSD investigations were comprehensive and efficient, lessons learned to ensure PSNI remains an inclusive and representative service; and to provide assurance that the officer concerned is supported throughout this process.

Following discussion, it was agreed the Chair will write to the Chief Constable to seek assurances on the matters raised above. **(AP9)**

- In relation to the Board's financial situation, Members were referred to the Chief Executive's report for detail on the year end position, projected easements for 2045-25, and the NIPB budget for 2025-26.
- In relation to PSNI litigation and compensation processes, Members were advised that PSNI provided a full update to the Board's Resources Committee at its meeting in February 2025, and papers are available on the Board's sharing platform for all Members to view.
- Members can view updates in relation to the work of Internal Audit on the Board's sharing platform by accessing papers for previous Audit and Risk Assurance meetings.
- In relation to information management, Freedom of Information and Data Protection Act, the volume of and complexity of these requests continue

to cause concern for the Board's Senior Management Team (SMT) due to the additional pressure placed on resources. The Board's compliance team have focussed on internal reviews due to the time taken to respond to certain requests and progress is being made in this area of work. Members were provided with an update on Subject Access Requests with details provided on clearance rate and reasons for delays

- The NIPB Retention and Disposal project remains on track following the necessary use of staff overtime at James House. Progress has also been made to review material stored offsite, and the Board's SMT is keeping this under review.
- Pay remits for chief officers has been approved by DoJ and submitted to the Department of Finance at the end of February 2025, and it anticipated these will be confirmed by the end of this month.
- Members were asked to consider their availability to attend upcoming TEAM PSNI events and Attestation ceremonies and that Members attendance is greatly appreciated.
- Plans for the launch of the new Policing Plan 2025-30 which includes a joint media launch with PSNI prior to the Board meeting in April 2025 followed by an official launch at the April Board meeting in public.
- In relation to Policing and Community Safety Partnerships (PCSPs) recruitment work is ongoing and near completion for independent Members reserve lists in several PCSP council areas.
- Engagement and outreach activities include plans for the first formal meeting of the Youth and Policing partnership forum.
- New staff are now in place in the Police Pensions and Injury Benefits directorate, and improvements have been implemented on the

processing of serving officer cases to streamline the process. Work also continues on rolling recruitment and expanding advertising for the role of Selected Medical Practitioners.

In relation to NIPB management accounts, Members asked about options available to reallocate resources due to a reported underspend, to allow for a more focused SMP recruitment strategy, including advertising in medical journals and engaging specialist employment agencies; and acknowledged significant issues in relation to the availability of suitable candidates for the SMP role.

In response, Board officials advised that targeted recruitment advertising will include specific medical journals, and communication is ongoing with a specialist recruitment agency based in England to explore further options. Members were reminded that cost control is a significant factor when considering recruitment through third parties and specialist agencies.

Members **NOTED** the updated provided.

10. PRIVATE SESSION WITH THE CHIEF CONSTABLE AND PSNI SET

The Chair welcomed the Chief Constable Jon Boutcher, Deputy Chief Constable Bobby Singleton, Chief Operating Officer Pamela McCreedy, Assistant Chief Constable (ACC) Ryan Henderson, ACC Davy Beck, T/ACC Stephen Murray, Assistant Chief Officer (ACO) People & Organisational Development Clare Duffield, ACO Strategic Planning & Transformation Aldrina Magwood and ACO Corporate Services Mark McNaughten to the meeting.

The Board Chair invited initial comments from the Chief Constable on any matters he wished to bring to Members' attention ahead of taking questions in the private session.

The Chief Constable thanked the Board Chair and discussed with Members ongoing challenges in relation to legacy related issues.

These included:

- Resource requirements around responding to a Rule 9 request from the Omagh Bomb Inquiry, the extensive resources needed to service this request, the likely impact on the progression of other legacy related work in order that no undue delay is caused to the Inquiry, and engagement with other stakeholders in relation to this.
- Issues in relation to information sharing between the PSNI and ICRIR and ongoing engagement around this, and
- Provision/ disclosure of information to ongoing inquests and challenges presented by competing and non-coordinated deadlines.

Other areas discussed by Members and the PSNI leadership team included:

- Levels of sickness absence across the PSNI and what tools are in place to assist frontline managers to address this. PSNI noted that this is an area of focus within the organisation and highlighted that ongoing resourcing challenges are also having an impact on absence levels. Members were updated on initiatives such as a revised Attendance Management Policy, the introduction of a peer support network, reduced waiting times for specialist services in OHW, and the recently launched ME app.
- The PCTF and the recent announcement regarding an interlocutor.
- The number of officers in recent years allowed to retire when going through the misconduct process.

- The effectiveness of Health Trusts in providing social worker assessments for detention when someone is in custody and a decision has been taken that no further action is required in terms of criminal prosecution.

The Chair thanked the Chief Constable and his team, and they left the meeting.

Members discussed regulations in place regarding PSNI disciplinary/suspension processes and work taking place to review current regulations; progress being made by following a DoJ consultation on the regulations; changes to legislation to support the work of PSD; and the role of the Chief Constable to expedite cases subject to specific criteria.

In response, officials advised that DoJ has been engaged on these matters, and the Board's Performance Committee have previously submitted questions to PSNI, and PSNI have also delivered a presentation to the Committee.

11. COMMUNICATION ISSUES

The communications manager provided an update on statements issued and advised of plans for the launch of the Policing Plan 2025-30.

12. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

The Chair took the opportunity to thank officials and SMT for their hard work and Members for their time and dedication to attend the various events as representatives of the Board.

13. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next full Board Meeting is scheduled for Thursday 3 April 2025 at 9.30am in James House.

The meeting closed at 3.40pm.

Strategic Planning & Governance
March 2025

Chair