

NORTHERN IRELAND POLICING BOARD

MINUTES OF MEETING OF RESOURCES COMMITTEE HELD ON THURSDAY 27 MARCH 2025 AT 9.30AM IN JAMES HOUSE

PRESENT:

Mr Trevor Clarke MLA (Chair)
Mr Frank McManus (Vice-Chair)*
Mr Keith Buchanan MLA (Chair)
Ms Marian Cree
Mr Gerry Kelly MLA
Dr Kate Lavery
Mrs Linda Dillon MLA
(1) Mr Les Allamby
Ms Nuala McCallister MLA
Mr Peter Osborne

POLICE SERVICE OF NORTHERN IRELAND IN ATTENDANCE:

Ms Pamela McCreedy, Chief Operating Officer
(2) Mr Mark McNaughten, ACO Corporate Services
(4) Ms Clare Duffield, ACO People & Organisational
Development
(3) Ms Aldrina Magwood, ACO Strategic Planning &
Transformation
(4) Director of Human Resources
(3) Head of Estates
(4) Director of Occupational Health & Wellbeing
(4) Deputy Director of Human Resources

NORTHERN IRELAND POLICING BOARD OFFICIALS IN ATTENDANCE:

Mrs Sinead Simpson, Chief Executive
Mr Sam Hagen, Director of Resources
Six Board Officials

- (1) Left at 11am
- (2) Item 6.2.1 only
- (3) Item 6.2.2 only
- (4) Item 6.2.3 only

*Attended meeting via video-conference facility.

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Mr Alan Chambers MLA and Mr Peter McReynolds MLA

The Committee agreed the agenda for the meeting, and no one raised any business they wished to discuss at agenda item 9 under 'Any Other Business'.

2. CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

No conflicts of interest were declared.

3. DRAFT MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 27 FEBRUARY 2025

The Committee considered the draft minutes of the meeting held on 27 February 2025.

It was **RESOLVED** that:

- The minutes of the Committee meeting held on 27 February 2025 be approved.

4. COMMITTEE ACTION LOG

The Committee **NOTED** the updates and correspondence detailed in the action log and the related verbal overview provided by the Director of Resources.

Updates were provided on correspondence issued and received for agenda item 4.1.

4.1 Issues raised with PSNI after February Resources Committee

In respect of action points one to four from the Committee meeting in February 2025, Members **NOTED** the updates in relation to the following matters:

- A request for a presentation from PSNI on lessons learned from current recruitment and recent internal promotion processes.
- The recommendation of the Board to the disposal of Castlederg Station via the open market.
- Appointment of an Independent Assessor of PSNI Recruitment vetting
- The likely reasons for the reduction in Police Appeals Tribunal's (PAT's)

In relation to the likely reasons for the reduction in PATs Members discussed the possible factors including the complexity of the legal process and the financial burden on Police Associations were the case to be lost at appeal stage.

Following further discussions, it was agreed to follow up with the Director of Performance on the number of PAT cases where the decision was to uphold/dismiss and bring the detail back to a future Committee. **AP1**

In respect of action point five and the update in respect of the agreed 'relevant date' when remedied pension statements will be issued to affected officers, the T/Director of Police Pensions & Injury Benefits (PPIB) informed Members that PSNI Pension Branch will be unable to issue officer statements by the 31st of March deadline.

A request has been made for a remedial plan to set new relevant dates, but

this has not yet been provided. PSNI has also been asked to communicate with staff associations and members.

An update was also provided that no UK public sector pensions will meet the deadline due to a lack of HMRC guidance and caution was advised in setting dates to avoid reporting breaches to the pension regulator.

Following discussion Members requested written confirmation in relation to when communication will be issued to Scheme Members regarding remedial statements not being available by 31/03/25. **AP2**

In respect of action point six, a Police Pensions & Injury Benefits (PPIB) official informed Members that they have sought legal advice from CSO regarding the previous practice of prioritising serving officers in injury-related claims, to ensure that it did not contravene the regulations.

Detail was provided that the rationale for the previous prioritisation included a backlog of cases caused by both the McCloud reassessment process and the James House relocation and the need to facilitate retirements and manage costs, as serving officers on long-term sick leave remain on full pay until the IHR process is completed.

Members were also informed that PPIB is now processing both serving and retrospective cases simultaneously, but retrospective cases take longer due to the need for additional information from PSNI Legal Services and Attendance Management, including further medical evidence.

Discussion focused on the absence of a time limit for the production of further medical evidence for retrospective claims, particularly concerning PTSD, which may manifest years after an event however it was highlighted that regulatory changes would be difficult due to the nature of PTSD.

Following discussion Members requested that the wording of this action be amended to reflect the previous practice of “prioritisation” of serving officer

IHR applications over R-IOD applications. **AP3**

In respect of action point seven the upward trend in Ill Health Retirement costs the Director of Resources informed Members that in response PSNI had provided an average figure of £6,000 administration costs per Ill Health Retirement case and this detail was contained within the Finance Report being presented later at agenda item 6.2.1

In respect of Action point eight the Director of Resources informed Members that in relation to PSNI's response to Recommendation 6 of the South Armagh Review and in particular the murals on site, PSNI have committed to engaging with the families of murdered officers to understand their wishes. Any consultation on the murals will be conducted with sensitivity, considering proximity to the nearest operational or main station sites.

Detail was also provided that PSNI intend to include the updates around recommendation 6 within their Estate Strategy update.

5. CHAIRPERSON'S BUSINESS

The Committee **NOTED** the update and related verbal overview provided by the Director of Resources in respect of the following agenda item:

5.1 NIPB Management Accounts February 2025

The Director of Resources provided Members with an update in relation to the NIPB Management Accounts for February 2025.

Detail was provided that the management accounts up to the end of February show a £207,000 underspend. However circumstances are evolving, and the recognition of James House occupancy as a lease instead of a license has financial implications.

The adjustment is being worked through with auditors and will be discussed

further at the Audit & Risk Assurance Committee. It was highlighted that while there is an underspend, depreciation costs of approx. £185,000 relating to the lease treatment may impact the final figures.

Members **NOTED** the correspondence.

5.2 Correspondence from Derg & District Community & Cultural Development & Castlederg PSNI Station

Members were advised of correspondence received from Derg & District Community & Cultural Development in relation to Castlederg PSNI Station.

The correspondence related to the Committee's decision to move the disposal of Castlederg from the public sector process to the open market.

The former preferred bidder has requested that the Policing Board reconsider this decision or at least pause the process until the outcome of the Judicial Review is known.

Following the completion of agenda Item 6.3 Members then returned to this item.

Following further discussion Members **AGREED** that a response be issued to Derg & District Community & Cultural Development advising that while the Board gave due consideration to the correspondence received, it will not be revisiting its earlier decision in respect of progressing the disposal of Castlederg station via the open market. **AP4**

6. ITEMS FOR COMMITTEE BUSINESS

6.1 Police Pensions and Injury Benefits

- 6.1.1** An official from Police Pensions and Injury Benefits presented a paper asking Members to consider the outcome of decisions taken by Selected Medical Practitioners (SMP) in respect of 10 assessments considered and provided opinion on, and the decisions taken by Independent Medical Referees (IMR) in respect of 10 assessments.

Members were also asked to consider one anonymised submission provided via the CJSM platform, in respect of a SMP reconsideration request and, based on the information provided, advise if the Committee is content that the case should now be forwarded for reconsideration by the SMP.

Following discussion Members:

- **NOTED** the outcome of the decisions made by Selected Medical Practitioners and **CONFIRMED** the implementation and reassessment dates for the 10 assessments outlined,
- **NOTED** the outcome of the decisions taken by Independent Medical Referees and **CONFIRMED** the implementation and reassessment dates for the 10 assessments outlined,
- **AGREED**, on the basis of the information provided, that the one anonymised reconsideration application should be forwarded to the SMP for reconsideration.

6.1.2 Pension Scheme Manager Report

The T/Director of PPIB then provided an update on Police Pension related work since the last meeting.

Members were asked to consider a proposal to pause the Ill-Health

Retirement (IHR) process for an officer currently under criminal investigation for serious allegations.

Detail was provided that PSNI's Professional Standards Department (PSD) has paused misconduct investigations until the criminal case concludes as a conviction would result in dismissal, making them ineligible and if granted Ill Health Retirement the offence may trigger forfeiture, complicating pension recovery.

The Committee was also asked to approve pausing Ill Health Retirement for future similar cases.

Members discussion then focused on the following points:

- **Concerns About Officer Repositioning vs. Suspension**

Concern was raised that some officers with less severe infractions have been suspended, while the officer in question was repositioned.

- **Wider Issues: Pensions & Legislative Gaps**

Members raised concerns about officers under investigation still receiving full pay or a pension but also acknowledged that PSNI cannot dismiss officers until criminal cases conclude due to legal constraints.

Following further discussion, it was agreed to write to the Deputy Chief Constable to raise concerns in relation to the repositioning of the Officer rather than suspension **AP5**

Members also agreed to refer the discussion on the criteria applied by PSNI in relation to whether an officer should be suspended or repositioned when they are subject to a misconduct investigation, including the extent to which a criminal investigation (including the nature of allegations) informs decision making to the Chair of the Performance Committee.

AP6

Members also requested that PPIB bring to a future committee meeting a draft policy regarding consideration of the “pausing” of IHR applications, the circumstances which may lead to such requests and the criteria to be applied when considering a “pause” in the IHR process.

Finally, Members requested PPIB engage with PSNI on the ramifications of the implementation of such a policy. **AP7**

In relation to the specific request for the Officer in question, the Committee **AGREED** to pause the processing of this IHR application.

The T/Director of Police Pensions & Injury Benefits then provided Members with an update in relation to SMP recruitment:

Members were informed that the recruitment process is currently underway, and efforts have been broadened to include the Society of Occupational Medicine and NI job platforms.

During this process, a number of agencies offering remote SMP services which are typically done remotely (e.g., via Zoom or Teams) offered their services.

On this point the Committee raised concerns around the quality of remote assessments, with the consensus being that face-to-face interactions are critical to properly assess someone's physical and psychological condition and Members **AGREED** not to use such agencies.

6.1.3 Pension Forfeiture Cases

The T/Director of PPIB then presented a paper on Pension Forfeiture Cases

Context was provided that the forfeiture process applies to officers or ex-officers where misconduct may justify pension forfeiture. The procedure follows guidance from DOJ and APACCE and that there is a key requirement that there must be a criminal conviction for forfeiture to be considered.

Members were then provided with a summary of each case and following discussion Members:

AGREED on the next steps in relation to the six potential forfeiture cases.

A Member then requested that it be put on record his disapproval of the very limited circumstances in which pension forfeiture can be considered under legislation.

The Chair welcomed the Chief Operating Officer (COO) and the Assistant Chief Officer (ACO) Corporate Services to the meeting.

6.2 PSNI Finance

6.2.1 PSNI Finance Report

The ACO Corporate Services presented Members with the monthly PSNI Finance Report as at the end of February 2025.

Detail was provided that despite a few fluctuations that remain in areas like annual leave accrual, Injury on Duty, Ill Health Retirement costs and legal cases, PSNI is aiming to end the financial year close to budget for both resource and capital spend.

The ACO Corporate Services also highlighted that a key risk, the £5 million Kinnegar purchase had been successfully managed, with the site secured

before the financial year end.

In summary, an overspend of £3-4 million on pay related costs, driven by IHR pressures, and an underspend of £3-4 million on non-pay costs, particularly in accommodation and supplies was reported, enabling an overall breakeven position.

Overtime spend despite recent pressures including the Royal visit, is expected to break-even by year end.

With regards to the budget for 2025/26, the draft resource plan shows a projected over-commitment of around £31 million, largely due to:

- National Insurance increases
- Modest workforce recovery plans
- Rising IHR costs
- Inflation in pay and prices

An update was then provided on the following key business cases:

- **Police college:** Site purchase finalised; key risk now resolved.
- **Workforce Recovery:** Approved by Justice Minister, awaiting sign-off from the Department of Finance.
- **Data Breach & Holiday Pay:** Discussions in progress; settlement and funding proposals being finalised.
- **Catering and cleaning contract:** Awaiting sign-off, expected by year-end.

Following the presentation Members discussion focused on the following points:

- **Data Breach compensation costs:**

On this point the ACO Corporate Services updated Members that a

provision of £116 million was made last year and that the current expected total cost is not dissimilar.

Additional detail was provided that a formal offer is being prepared, following mediation. Department of Justice approval requires assurance of funding and satisfaction with any proposed offer.

- **Holiday Pay settlement update**

In response the ACO Corporate Services provided detail that a business case is with the Department of Justice and all queries have been addressed. Approval is then needed from the Department of Finance before any proposals can be progressed.

- **Ill Health Retirement (IHR) Costs**

In response PSNI highlighted that the Service is required to make a financial contribution to the Pension Scheme when an officer is retired via an IHR. This is an additional cost to the Service in recognition of the enhanced pension position.

PSNI bears this additional cost because it is their decision to retire someone early on ill health grounds. While regular pensions kick in at 30 years of service, IHRs can often be granted around 26–27 years, increasing long-term liabilities.

Further detail was provided that although costs are paid over time through the pension scheme, PSNI is charged upfront for the enhancement.

- **Data Breach Budget Breakdown**

In response the ACO Corporate Services confirmed that legal costs were included within the original £116 million estimate.

- **Kinnegar Capital Budget**

In response PSNI confirmed that the capital budget is on track, and the agreed purchase price is being met.

Detail was provided that timing had been tight with funds secured last minute however the risk of a £5 million delay spilling into next year has been avoided.

- **Staff Costs & Additional Security Funding (ASF) variance**

In response PSNI highlighted that a planned overspend occurred due to underfunding from the Northern Ireland Office (£31.2M received vs ~£36M needed).

Further detail was provided that the main grant underwrites the shortfall, affecting other budget areas.

CPU (Close Protection Unit) is the main cost driver, covering 70–80 principals, including judiciary and other v.i.p.'s. Staffing is stretched and a revised policy is in development.

- **Nature of Protection for Principals/Policy and Eligibility for Protection**

In response PSNI highlighted that while threats exist, current processes are rigid and traditional. Revised policy is under review and awaiting sign-off from leadership, including the Chief Constable and Lady Chief Justice.

Members **NOTED** the update provided.

The Chair then welcomed the Assistant Chief Officer (ACO) Strategic

Planning & Transformation and the Head of Estates to the meeting.

6.2.2 Sale of Police College Site

Prior to the PSNI presentation MLA's Ms Linda Dillon and Mr Keith Buchanan declared an interest in this agenda item as representatives from the Mid-Ulster area where the Desertcreat site is located.

The Assistant Chief Officer (ACO) Strategic Planning & Transformation then provided Members with an update on the acquisition of the Kinnegar College Site providing details that all key milestones in the D1 process have been successfully met and appreciation was expressed for the hard work of internal teams, particularly within Estates, Finance, and partners like NI Water.

Following this point Board Officials agreed to co-ordinate with PSNI in respect of public communication on the acquisition of the Kinnegar site by PSNI. **AP8**

The Assistant Chief Officer (ACO) Strategic Planning & Transformation then highlighted the following key updates in relation to the sale of the Desertcreat site.

- **Development Challenges & Risks:**

With Kinnegar secured, focus shifts to the next development phase, one major ongoing risk is related to the sale of the Desertcreat site, which is expected to generate capital for PSNI to invest in their estates transformation. The delay in that sale has created a financial pressure.

It was emphasised that without the Desertcreat sale funds, several planned projects and closures will face delays or pauses with capital pressure most

acute in 2025–26, impacting both delivery and future planning.

- **Desertcreat Disposal:**

A letter has been received from Mid Ulster Council regarding the Desertcreat site.

- **Mid Ulster Letter & Site Valuation:**

The Assistant Chief Officer (ACO) Strategic Planning & Transformation acknowledged Mid Ulster's development priorities but reiterated that the Board's duty is to manage assets effectively and in line with policy.

An update on the site valuation was provided:

- Previously valued at £2.9M in 2023.
- New valuation (March 2025) from LPS is £3.2M.
- There is potential that the site could achieve more on the open market.

- **Update on the D1 Disposal Process:**

The D1 process has been closely followed recently, especially due to challenges like the Castlederg Judicial Review

Significant learning has been taken from that situation and applied to current and future cases.

Following the presentation Members discussion focused on the following points:

- **Castlederg Judicial Review**

In response PSNI confirmed that the Judicial Review is currently being delisted.

The hearing was scheduled for 7 April, but due to the Board's decision to proceed to open market, the review is unlikely to proceed and formal notice has been given to the Court Service and the other party's solicitors.

- **Size of the Desertcreat site**

In response the Head of Estates provided detail that the total area was 184 acres of which 148 acres is considered Grade A agricultural land.

- **Reasons for the failure to meet the five milestones**

In response a number of reasons were documented, mainly around clawback clauses and access issues.

Castleberg failed specifically on securing a sponsor department, which was a critical requirement for a Community Asset Transfer (CAT) under the D1 disposal process.

- **Why the decision to sell Castleberg triggered a Judicial Review, while others didn't**

In response PSNI highlighted that Castleberg had additional complexity because it was being transferred to a community group, not another public body.

This triggered extra criteria under the Community Asset Transfer policy in Northern Ireland, including the requirement for a sponsor department.

The D1 disposal to another public body (like in Desertcreat) doesn't face this complexity.

- **What ultimately caused the Castleberg sale to fail.**

In response PSNI highlighted that the failure was not financial or due to

business planning but mainly due to the community group's failure to secure a formal sponsor department, which is a mandatory milestone.

DTNI and Derry City & Strabane Council indicated possible support, but nothing was confirmed in writing or formally committed.

- **Was the lack of sponsor department a technical requirement?**

In response PSNI confirmed that under existing 2018 D1 disposal guidelines, a community group must have written confirmation from a sponsor department.

Derry City & Strabane Council did not provide formal sponsorship before the Judicial Review, and that was a critical failure point. Future changes to the D1 process (due post-April) do not apply to the Castlederg case, as it falls under current policy.

- **Whether the D1 process technical milestone been passed for Castlederg?**

In response PSNI stated the process was not successfully completed—they pre-emptively moved forward without meeting the key milestone (sponsor confirmation).

While the group attempted to meet the timeline by year-end, they were unable to.

The Chair thanked the Assistant Chief Officer (ACO) Strategic Planning & Transformation and the Head of Estates and they left the meeting.

Following this and after further discussion Members **AGREED** a response to Mid Ulster Council be issued informing them that following consideration of their correspondence to the Chief Executive and Board Chair at the March 2025 Resources Committee, the Board has agreed a short extension until

30th June 2025, at which point, should Mid-Ulster Council be unable to close the sale, the sale of the site would automatically progress to the open market. **AP9**

The Chair then welcomed the ACO People and Organisational Development, the Director of Human Resources, the Deputy Director of Human Resources and the Director of Occupational Health & Wellbeing to the meeting.

6.2.3 Update on PSNI Attendance Management including OHW and Sickness Absence

The ACO People and Organisational Development then provided Members with an update on PSNI Attendance Management including OHW and Sickness Absence and highlighted the following key updates:

- **Ongoing Reporting & Governance:** Attendance and wellbeing initiatives are regularly reported, discussed at Board meetings, and are on Departmental/Corporate Risk Registers. Governance is strong, with regular scrutiny by the Risk Assurance Committee.
- **Strategic Approach:** Focus is on prevention, early intervention, and supportive measures, alongside managing sickness absence through the attendance management policy.
- **Support Structures:** Investments made in supportive programs like the post-incident peer support team and accredited wellbeing volunteers, available 24/7 for defusing and debriefing after significant incidents.
- **Technology & Tools:** Development of new resources under Occupational Health and Wellbeing, including the "Me App"
- **Policy Updates & Training:** Attendance policy has been rewritten in line with recommendations from the 2018 Heads Together report. An

online training package has been launched, with 3,600 completions to date.

- **Pulse Dashboard:** A new tool focusing on six key controls in managing sickness absence, replacing the previous system of 50+ controls. Helps managers track and conform to policy requirements.
- **Accountability Measures:** Exploring stronger accountability for officers, especially those with excessive absence. Discussions ongoing with the Police Federation on this.
- **Next Steps:** Continuing to refine measures, monitor attendance more effectively, and ensure performance standards are met.

Following the presentation Members discussion focused on the following points:

- **The role Sergeant's have in the management of sick absence:**

In response The ACO People and Organisational Development acknowledged that Sergeants have many responsibilities and staffing shortages worsen the burden.

It was recognised that frequent staff turnover makes managing teams more difficult and work is ongoing to clarify leadership roles at District and Departmental levels.

Additionally new absence support panels are being created to help share the workload and support managers.

The Director of Occupational Health & Wellbeing also emphasised that the focus is on moving toward more personal, verbal, face-to-face interactions with staff currently on a period of sick absence.

- **HEADS Together Progress:**

In response PSNI confirmed that the delayed recommendation on adjusted duties is “in progress” and highlighted that a comprehensive review has led to 14–15 tactical and strategic recommendations.

System changes are underway to improve efficiency and decision-making on role adjustments.

Following this point in respect of the implementation of the recommendations in the Heads Together review of Police Officer Attendance, Members requested that future updates include an additional column be added to the summary table outlining the expected timeframes for implementation of the outstanding recommendations. **AP10**

- **Wellbeing Support Value:**

In response PSNI highlighted that peer support and wellbeing services are available 24/7 and reported that they are well-used and highly valued, with positive feedback from users.

Waiting times for services like counselling are improving due to recruitment and system changes and student officer wellbeing events are helping build a healthier culture from the start of an Officer’s career.

- **Communicating changes to the CRTP (Competence Related Threshold Payment) to staff.**

In response The ACO People and Organisational Development highlighted that the attendance management group has been discussing CRTP changes with input from all service areas and the Police Federation.

Additionally there has been communication through Team PSNI events and

internal discussions.

It was emphasised that consideration must be made for balancing fairness with accountability and the focus is on proportionate and fair reform.

- **Sick entitlement culture**

In response PSNI said there's a recognition that whilst some may abuse the system, steps are being made to address such issues.

Members **NOTED** the update provided and thanked the Chief Operating Officer, the Assistant Chief Officer (ACO) People & Organisational Development, the Director of Human Resources, the Deputy Director of Human Resources and the Director of Occupational Health & Wellbeing for their contributions and they left the meeting.

6.3 NIPB Resource Plan

The Director of Resources then provided Members with an update on the NIPB Resource Plan with the proposed budget for the upcoming year presented for approval.

Detail was provided that whilst no major changes are anticipated, a formal budget letter from the Department has not yet been received due to delays in the Executive's budget consultation.

In relation to the funding allocation unfunded potential pressures of £410k were reported which are mostly linked to known legal cases that may conclude during the year.

An expected rise in employers' National Insurance contributions is not budgeted yet as funding might come through additional allocations ("Barnett

Consequentialists"). If not, budget adjustments will be necessary.

Additional detail was provided that spending patterns are largely unchanged as the core business remains consistent and whilst an overall budget uplift was received, it is effectively neutralised by inflation, mainly due to staff and pay costs.

Following discussion, the unanimous decision taken by Members was **to recommend to the Board the NIPB Resource Plan 2025-26 is approved**

6.4 PSNI Above Delegated Authority Request

The Strategic Planning & Governance Manager presented Members with an ADA request.

In respect of the ADA, Members noted the case under consideration related solely to Plaintiffs' legal fees, and that the compensation aspect of this case had previously been considered by the Committee in November 2021 and approved by The Board at the December 2021 Board meeting. Members noted the breakdown of costs and that, owing to sums accrued for plaintiff's legal fees following the initial settlement in 2021, PSNI consider payment of these legal fees to be affordable.

Members' discussion focused on concerns at the lack of supporting evidence around how the sums listed are arrived at and that legal fees often exceed the compensation paid to victims. The Committee agreed that correspondence should be issued to PSNI requesting they provide a high level summary of the component parts making up each of the sums under

consideration in this case. **AP11**

Following consideration, the Committee agreed to **recommend the Board approve the ADA.**

6.5 Annual Resources Committee Governance

The Director of Resources presented Members with a paper in relation to the Annual Resources Committee Governance.

Members were informed that this is the draft Annual Report summarising the Committee's work over the past year and includes:

- Key business areas considered
- Completed work
- Planned Programme of Work for the coming year

Detail was also given that due to developments with the Policing Plan some timing adjustments may be needed and whilst the scope of work will remain the same, scheduling may shift following further analysis and upcoming meetings.

Members noted the content of the paper and following discussion agreed the Resources Committee Annual Report for the 2024-25 year be **recommended to the Board for approval and** publication as part of the composite Committee Report that will be published on the Board's website.

6.6 Clause 22 Delegation of functions to Members and Officials

The Director of Resources presented Members with a paper in relation to the Clause 22 Delegation of functions to Members and provided context that this matter is being considered by all Committees in relation to the Justice Bill.

Detail was provided that the focus is on identifying areas of Committee business that officials could handle without full Committee involvement, and it was emphasised that even when handled by officials, all decisions would be reported back to the Committee.

Following discussion Members **AGREED** to recommend to the Board that the below functions be delegated to Board officials in the circumstances outlined:

- When Board is functioning: Liquor licences to be delegated to officials.
- When Board is not functioning: Budget approval, monitoring round approvals, NIPB Corporate Plan, ADA legal cases. Land acquisition and disposals, Assisted removals & PPIB cases

A Board official also informed the Committee that all of the above would be presented to Members in a paper at a future Board meeting.

7. QUESTIONS FOR THE CHIEF CONSTABLE

None

8. COMMUNICATIONS ISSUES / OPPORTUNITIES

No communication issues were raised.

9. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

None

10. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting is scheduled for **Thursday 29 May 2025** at James House.

The meeting ended at 13.30pm

CHAIR

RESOURCES DIRECTORATE
APRIL 2025