

NORTHERN IRELAND POLICING BOARD

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE NORTHERN IRELAND POLICING BOARD HELD ON FRIDAY 3 JULY 2015 AT 12.00 NOON IN STORMONT HOTEL, BELFAST

PRESENT:

MEMBERS:

Mrs Anne Connolly (Chairperson)
Ms Deborah Watters (Vice-Chairperson)
Ms Deirdre Blakely
Mr Jonathan Craig
Prof Brice Dickson
Mr Ryan Feeney
Mrs Brenda Hale
Mr Ross Hussey
Mrs Dolores Kelly
Mr Gerry Kelly
Ms Roisin McGlone
Mr David McIlveen
Mr Robin Newton
Dr Paul Nolan
Mrs Wendy Osborne
(1) Mrs Catherine Pollock
Ms Caitriona Ruane
Mr Pat Sheehan

OFFICIALS IN ATTENDANCE:

Mr Barney McGahan, Interim Chief Executive
Mrs Amanda Stewart, Director of Partnership
Mrs Siobhan Fisher, T/Director of Policy
Three Board Officials

(1) Item 1 – part item 5

The Board observed one minute's silence in memory of the victims of the Tunisia terror attack.

1 APOLOGIES, ETC

Apologies were received from Mr Trevor Lunn.

No conflicts of interest were declared by Members

arising from the agenda.

2 ELECTION OF CHAIRPERSON

The Interim Chief Executive assumed the Chair for the election of the Chairperson of the Board.

The Interim Chief Executive reminded Members that under Standing Orders, the Chairperson of the Board would be elected to serve for the next two years.

In response to a query from a Member regarding whether it was possible to elect a Chairperson for one year, the Interim Chief Executive advised that this would require an amendment to standing orders and this would require an elected Chair to be in place

The Interim Chief Executive advised that voting could be by show of hands, recorded vote or secret ballot. Members agreed to show of hands.

The Interim Chief Executive invited nominations for the post of Chairperson of the Policing Board.

Professor Brice Dickson proposed that Mrs Anne Connolly be appointed Chairperson of the Policing Board and outlined the reasons for nominating Mrs Connolly. The proposal was seconded by Mr Jonathan Craig. Mrs Connolly accepted the nomination for Chairperson.

Mr Gerry Kelly proposed that Mr Ryan Feeney be appointed Chairperson of the Policing Board and outlined the reasons for nominating Mr Feeney. The proposal was seconded by Mrs Dolores Kelly. Mr Feeney accepted the nomination for Chairperson.

The Interim Chief Executive invited other nominations. There were no other nominations.

The Interim Chief Executive invited Members to indicate, by a show of hands, those in favour of Mrs Anne Connolly being appointed Chairperson of the Board. Nine Members indicated that they favoured the appointment of Mrs Connolly.

The Interim Chief Executive invited Members to indicate, by a show of hands, those in favour of Mr Ryan Feeney being appointed Chairperson of the Board. Eight Members indicated they favoured the appointment of Mr Feeney.

One Member abstained from voting.

The Interim Chief Executive declared that by a majority vote, the Board had duly elected Mrs Anne Connolly as Chairperson of the Board for the next 2 year period. He invited Mrs Connolly to take the Chair.

3 ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIRPERSON

Mrs Anne Connolly assumed the Chair for the election of the Vice-Chairperson of the Board.

The Chairperson invited nominations for the post of Vice-Chairperson of the Policing Board for the next two years.

Mrs Dolores Kelly proposed that Mr Ryan Feeney be appointed Vice-Chairperson of the Policing Board and outlined the reasons for nominating Mr Feeney. The proposal was seconded by Mr Gerry Kelly. Mr Feeney indicated that he did not wish to accept the nomination.

Mr Ryan Feeney proposed that Ms Debbie Watters be appointed Vice-Chairperson of the Policing Board and outlined the reasons for nominating Ms Watters. The proposal was seconded by Ms Caitríona Ruane. Ms Watters accepted the nomination for Vice-Chairperson.

The Chairperson invited other nominations. There were no other nominations.

There being no other nominations, the Chairperson declared that Ms Debbie Watters was duly elected as Vice-Chairperson of the Board for the next 2 year period.

4 APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS TO COMMITTEES

The Board discussed the appointment of Chairpersons of Committees and it was:-

RESOLVED:

That the following Members should be appointed as Chairs of Committees:-

Mr Ross Hussey – Audit and Risk Management Committee

Mrs Dolores Kelly – Partnership Committee

Mr Jonathan Craig – Performance Committee

Mr Gerry Kelly – Resources Committee

Mr Trevor Lunn – Special Purposes Committee

It was:-

AGREED:

That Mr Trevor Lunn's should be asked to confirm that he wishes to continue to chair the Special Purposes Committee.

During discussion Members were asked to complete an expression of interest form regarding their preferences for Committees. Political Board Members indicated that they wished to continue to serve on the Committees that they served on during the previous Board.

In conclusion it was:-

AGREED:

- That Committees should elect the Vice-Chairperson of each Committee.
- That following receipt of forms from Members on Committee preferences Officials should draw up a draft Committee membership list for consideration at the next Board meeting.

The Chairperson outlined the role of the Board Business Co-Ordination Group and advised the Board that the Group comprised of the Chair and Vice-Chair of the Board and Chairs of each Committee.

5 HUMAN RESOURCES ISSUES

The Board considered a paper which advised Members of a number of urgent human resources issues which required two Recruitment Panels and a Disciplinary Panel to be set up.

A Member expressed concern that the Board did not have Grievance Procedures in place in respect of Senior Police Officers and said that this needed to be dealt with urgently. The Interim Chief Executive advised Members that the Board's Grievance Policy and Procedures were being developed and would be available by the end of August 2015 and brought to the Board for ratification in September 2015.

Members referred to legal proceedings which had been taken against the Board and the Chair undertook to provide a private Briefing to new Members in relation to the matter.

The Board discussed the composition of a Selection Panel to take forward a recruitment competition for Chief Executive of the Board and it was:-

RESOLVED:

That the Selection Panel should comprise of the following Members:-

Chairperson

Mr Jonathan Craig

Mr Ross Hussey

Mrs Dolores Kelly

Mr Gerry Kelly

Mrs Deirdre Blakely

Mr Ryan Feeney advised that he was prepared to take part in the Selection Panel if required.

It was:-

AGREED

That Mr Trevor Lunn should be asked if he wished to participate in the

Selection Panel for the post of Chief Executive.

The Board noted that there was a vacancy for a post of Assistant Chief Constable in the PSNI which the Chief Constable would like filled as soon as possible. The Board discussed the matter and before considering the composition of the Selection Panel to take forward the recruitment competition it was:-

AGREED:

- That information should be obtained regarding the date of the next Graduation of Police Officers from the Strategic Command Course.
- That legal advice should be obtained regarding the composition of the Panel.

It was also:-

AGREED:

That Members appointed to Panels should undertake training regarding relevant procedures and processes.

The Chairperson updated the Board in relation to a PSNI Senior Staff Member matter.

6 TWELFTH BRIEFING – 13TH JULY 2015

The Board noted an invitation to Members from the Chief Constable and the Service Executive Team to attend a Briefing on the policing operation on 13th July 2015.

Members were asked to advise Board Support if they wished to attend this event.

7 SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS – 2015

The Board considered a schedule of meetings for the period July – December 2015.

It was:

AGREED:

That the dates of the Committee meetings should be considered by each Committee and brought back to the Board for approval.

8 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

8.1 Community Background Monitoring of Persons Stopped and Searched

Members noted that a letter had been received from PSNI regarding the commencement of a pilot in Derry/Londonderry to record the community background of persons stopped and searched under the Justice & Security Act and Terrorism Act as per the recommendation made by the Board in the Thematic Review of PSNI use of stop, search and question powers.

The Board:-

AGREED:

That the pilot should proceed to record the community background of persons stopped and searched.

9 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting was arranged for 30 July 2015 at 10.00am,

(Meeting closed at 1.20 pm)

**Board Support
July 2015**

Chairperson