



PUBLIC PERCEPTIONS OF THE POLICE, PCSPs AND THE NORTHERN IRELAND POLICING BOARD

**REPORT BASED ON THE NORTHERN IRELAND POLICING BOARD
MODULE OF THE JANUARY 2014 OMNIBUS SURVEY**

PUBLISHED BY THE NORTHERN IRELAND POLICING BOARD

Contents

	Pages
Index of Contents	1
The Northern Ireland Policing Board: Who we are	2
Background to the January 2014 Omnibus Survey	3-4
Summary of findings	5
Public Perceptions of the Performance of the Police	6-11
Public Perceptions of Policing and Community Safety Partnerships	12-13
Public Perceptions of the Northern Ireland Policing Board	14-16

THE NORTHERN IRELAND POLICING BOARD: WHO WE ARE AND WHAT WE DO

The Northern Ireland Policing Board is an independent public body whose job it is oversee policing in Northern Ireland. It was set up on 4 November 2001 as a result of the Police (Northern Ireland) Act 2000. The Policing Board operates at arms length from Government and has strong independent powers to carry out its work. The Policing Board consists of 19 Members and comprises 10 Political Members from the Northern Ireland Assembly and 9 Independent Members who have been appointed by the Minister of Justice.

The main role of the Policing Board is to ensure that the Police Service of Northern Ireland is effective and efficient. The Policing Board holds the Chief Constable to account for all his actions and those of his staff. This means that the Chief Constable must answer to the Policing Board on any aspect of policing in Northern Ireland. However, the Policing Board cannot, and does not, direct or control the Chief Constable. He has the right to take independent policing decisions based only on the need to uphold law and order. This is called operational responsibility. But he must in turn answer for his actions to the Policing Board. This process is what effective accountability is all about.

The Board must also keep itself informed as to:

- Trends and patterns in recruitment to the police and the police support staff; and
- The extent to which membership of the police and support staff is representative of the community in Northern Ireland;

and assess:

- The effectiveness of measures taken to secure that the membership of the police service is representative of the community.

The Board acting on behalf of the Joint Committee, which consists of representatives of the Department of Justice and the Board, assess:

- The level of public satisfaction with the performance of Policing and Community Safety Partnerships (PCSPs) and District Policing and Community Safety Partnerships (DPCSPs).

In order to gauge public satisfaction and consider the views of the public on policing, the Policing Board conducts a programme of consultation and research of activities involving a range of groups and organisations. The results of this consultation and research are

published by the Policing Board to ensure openness and transparency, and to advise the public of its findings.

January 2014 Omnibus Survey

The Northern Ireland Omnibus Survey is conducted several times each year by the Central Survey Unit of the Northern Ireland Statistics and Research Agency (NISRA) and is designed to provide a snapshot of the behaviour, lifestyle and views of a representative sample of people in Northern Ireland. The survey comprises two distinct parts: core questions about the respondents and their individual circumstances, and a variety of mainly attitudinal questions commissioned by clients, which seek the views of the public on a range of issues, including policing.

The sample for this survey consisted of a random sample of addresses selected from the Land and Property Services Agency list of private addresses, the most up-to-date listing of private households in Northern Ireland. At each address, one person aged 16 or over was selected to participate in the survey. From an eligible sample of 1,890 households, 1,217 interviews were achieved, giving a response rate of 64%. Interviews were conducted between 6 January and 8 February 2014. Analyses by religion are based only on those 1,076 respondents who said they were either Catholic or Protestant. Respondents who refused to answer the religion question or who said they were a religion other than Catholic or Protestant are excluded from these analyses.

The Northern Ireland Policing Board uses Omnibus Survey results to assess the level of public satisfaction with the performance of the Police and of PCSPs and DPCSPs.

The following symbols are used in the accompanying results tables:

Category not applicable	–	Cell is empty
Category result less than 0.5%	–	Cell contains a zero (“0”)

Percentages may not add to 100% due to rounding.

Statistical significance

Statistical significance tests have been carried out on the findings between the January 2013 and January 2014 Northern Ireland Omnibus Surveys. These tests are used to establish the degree of confidence with which we can infer the observed findings as an accurate reflection of the views of the population. In this publication, where differences have emerged as being statistically significant, this has been reported at the 5% ($p < 0.05$) level of probability (two-tailed). This means that, for any observed result that is found to be statistically significant, one can be 95% confident that this has not happened by chance. Figures in **bold** denote a statistically significant change between survey waves.

Summary of findings

Public Perceptions of the Police

- Almost nine in ten respondents (89%) had some, a lot, or total confidence in the police's ability to provide a day-to-day policing service for everyone in Northern Ireland, similar to the January 2013 finding of 87%.
- Over three in four respondents (78%) had some, a lot, or total confidence in the police's ability to deal with public disorder situations such as riots.
- Almost two in three respondents (65%) thought that the police treat Catholic and Protestant demonstrators equally.
- Just over one in two respondents (52%) were very/fairly satisfied with the levels of police patrols in their area - a statistically significant increase on the January 2013 finding of 46%.
- Nine out of ten respondents (90%) felt very/fairly safe in their local community, similar to the January 2013 finding. However, 4% of respondents felt fairly/very unsafe - a statistically significant increase from 2% in January 2013.

Public Perceptions of PCSPs

- Less than one in two respondents (46%) had heard of PCSPs - a statistically significant decrease from the January 2013 finding of 51%.
- Over one in three respondents (35%) who had heard of PCSPs felt that their local PCSP has not helped to improve policing in their local area, a statistically significant decrease on the January 2013 finding of 41%.

Public Perceptions of the Northern Ireland Policing Board

- Over four in five respondents (84%) had heard of the Policing Board. The finding for Protestant respondents (90%) is a statistically significant increase on the January 2013 finding of 86%.
- Three in four respondents (76%) who had heard of the Policing Board correctly thought that the Board's primary role is "to oversee policing and hold the Chief Constable and the PSNI publicly to account".

PERFORMANCE OF THE POLICE

Q1. How do you rate the job the Police Service of Northern Ireland (PSNI) do in your area?

In January 2014, over two out of three respondents (68%) thought that the police were doing a very/fairly good job in their area, similar to the January 2013 finding of 65% (Table 1). A higher proportion of Protestant respondents (69%) thought that the PSNI were doing a very/fairly good job in their area than Catholic respondents (65%).

One in ten respondents (10%) rated the performance of their local police as very/fairly poor, on a par with the January 2013 findings. The Catholic respondent finding showed a statistically significant decrease from 14% in January 2013 to 9% in January 2014.

Table 1: Performance of local police												
Rating	Percentage of respondents											
	2010 (September)			2012 (January)			2013 (January)			2014 (January)		
	C	P	All	C	P	All	C	P	All	C	P	All
Very/fairly good	57	61	58	54	64	59	64	67	65	65	69	68
Neither good nor poor	21	21	21	26	22	24	21	24	23	24	19	21
Very/fairly poor	20	16	18	19	14	16	14	9	10	9	12	10
Don't know/refusal	2	2	2	1	0	1	1	0	1	1	1	1

Q2. Do you think that the PSNI does a good job or a poor job in Northern Ireland as a whole?

In January 2014, over two out of three respondents (71%) thought that the PSNI was doing a very/fairly good job in Northern Ireland as a whole, similar to the January 2013 finding of 70% (Table 2). A higher proportion of Protestant respondents (73%) thought that the PSNI was doing a very/fairly good job in Northern Ireland as a whole than Catholic respondents (70%). The Catholic respondent finding showed a statistically significant increase from 63% in January 2013 to 70% in January 2014.

One in twelve respondents (8%) thought that the PSNI was doing a very/fairly poor job in Northern Ireland as a whole, which is similar to the January 2013 finding of 10%.

Table 2: Performance of police in Northern Ireland as a whole												
Rating	Percentage of respondents											
	2010 (September)			2012 (January)			2013 (January)			2014 (January)		
	C	P	All	C	P	All	C	P	All	C	P	All
Very/fairly good	62	73	67	63	73	69	63	76	70	70	73	71
Neither good nor poor	22	15	18	23	16	19	24	15	20	20	19	20
Very/fairly poor	14	12	13	12	11	11	12	7	10	8	7	8
Don't know/refusal	2	1	1	1	0	1	1	0	1	1	1	1

Q3. How satisfied are you that the PSNI treat members of the public fairly in Northern Ireland as a whole?

In January 2014, almost three out of four respondents (73%) were very/fairly satisfied that the PSNI treat members of the public fairly in Northern Ireland as a whole similar to the January 2013 finding.

One in ten respondents (10%) was very/fairly dissatisfied, similar to the January 2013 finding of 9% (Table 3). The percentage of Protestant respondents who were very/fairly dissatisfied rose from 4% in January 2013 to 10% in January 2014, a statistically significant increase.

Table 3: Satisfaction that PSNI treat members of the public fairly in Northern Ireland as a whole												
Rating	Percentage of respondents											
	2010 (September)			2012 (January)			2013 (January)			2014 (January)		
	C	P	All	C	P	All	C	P	All	C	P	All
Very/fairly satisfied	62	74	68	62	74	68	67	80	73	68	77	73
Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied	20	14	17	21	17	19	19	15	17	21	13	17
Fairly/very dissatisfied	16	10	12	15	8	12	14	4	9	10	10	10
Don't know/refusal	2	1	2	2	1	1	2	0	1	1	0	1

Q4. How much confidence do you have in the PSNI's ability to provide an ordinary day-to-day policing service for all the people of Northern Ireland?

In January 2014, almost nine in ten respondents (89%) had some, a lot, or total confidence in the police's ability to provide a day-to-day policing service for everyone in Northern Ireland, similar to the January 2013 finding of 87% (Table 4). The percentage of Catholic respondents who had some, a lot, or total confidence rose from 84% in January 2013 to 89% in January 2014, a statistically significant increase. The percentage of Catholic respondents who had little or no confidence at all in the police's ability to provide a day-to-day policing service for everyone in Northern Ireland fell from 15% in January 2013 to 10% in January 2014, a statistically significant decrease.

Table 4: Confidence in the police's ability to provide an ordinary day to day policing service for all the people of Northern Ireland												
Rating	Percentage of respondents											
	2010 (September)			2012 (January)			2013 (January)			2014 (January)		
	C	P	All	C	P	All	C	P	All	C	P	All
Total confidence	5	9	7	7	11	9	10	11	10	9	10	10
A lot of confidence	34	37	35	31	37	35	34	36	35	34	42	39
Some confidence	39	37	38	41	40	40	40	42	42	46	36	40
Total/A lot of/Some	78	83	80	79	88	84	84	89	87	89	88	89
Little confidence	17	14	15	15	9	12	11	9	10	7	10	8
No confidence at all	4	2	3	6	3	5	4	1	2	3	2	3
Little/No confidence	21	16	18	21	12	17	15	10	12	10	12	11
Don't know/refusal	1		1	1	0	1	1	0	1	1	0	0

Q5. How much confidence do you have in the PSNI's ability to deal with public disorder situations such as riots?

This question has not been asked since September 2009. In January 2014, over three in four respondents (78%) had some, a lot, or total confidence in the police's ability to deal with public disorder situations such as riots (Table 5). The percentage of Catholic respondents who had little or no confidence at all in the police's ability to provide a day-to-day policing service for everyone in Northern Ireland was 26% in January 2014 compared with 18% of Protestant respondents.

Table 5: Confidence in the police's ability to deal with public disorder situations such as riots

Rating	Percentage of respondents		
	2014 (January)		
	C	P	All
Total confidence	5	9	8
A lot of confidence	27	34	30
Some confidence	41	38	40
Total/A lot of/Some	73	81	78
Little confidence	20	14	16
No confidence at all	6	4	5
Little/No confidence	26	18	21
Don't know/refusal	1	1	1

Q6. Looking at the policing of public order situations, please tell me how you think the police treat Catholic and Protestant demonstrators?

This is the first time that this question has been asked in relation to the PSNI. In January 2014, almost two in three respondents (65%) thought that the police treat Catholic and Protestant demonstrators equally (Table 6). One in three Catholic respondents (33%) thought that the police treat Protestant demonstrators better than Catholic demonstrators whereas almost one in four Protestant respondents (23%) thought that the police treat Catholic demonstrators better than Protestant demonstrators.

Table 6: Looking at the policing of public order situations, please tell me how you think the police treat Catholic and Protestant demonstrators?

Rating	Percentage of respondents		
	2014 (January)		
	C	P	All
Catholics better	2	23	12
Both equally	60	69	65
Protestants better	33	3	16
Don't know/refusal	5	5	6

Q7. Again, thinking of policing during public order situations, do you think the Police used too much force?

This is the first time that this question has been asked in relation to the PSNI. In January 2014, just less than one in two respondents (46%) thought that the police used appropriate force during public order situations (Table 7). Almost two in five respondents (39%) thought that the police did not use enough force. A higher proportion of Catholic respondents (44%) thought that the police did not use enough force during public order situations than Protestant respondents (38%).

Table 7: Again, thinking of policing during public order situations, do you think...

Rating	Percentage of respondents		
	2014 (January)		
	C	P	All
Police used too much force	12	10	10
Police used appropriate force	39	49	46
Police didn't use enough force	44	38	39
Don't know/refusal	5	3	4

Q8. How satisfied are you with the levels of police patrols in your area?

In January 2014, just over one in two respondents (52%) were very/fairly satisfied with the levels of police patrols in their area, a statistically significant increase on the January 2013 finding of 46%. This was mainly due to the statistically significant increase in the number of Protestant respondents from 43% in January 2013 to 49% in January 2014 who were very/fairly satisfied. Just over one in five respondents (22%) were very/fairly dissatisfied, which is a statistically significant decrease from the January 2013 finding of 26% (Table 8).

Table 8: Satisfaction with the levels of police patrols

Rating	Percentage of respondents											
	2010 (September)			2012 (January)			2013 (January)			2014 (January)		
	C	P	All	C	P	All	C	P	All	C	P	All
Very/fairly satisfied	45	38	41	41	42	41	48	43	46	54	49	52
Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied	26	28	27	27	28	28	25	29	28	28	23	26
Very/fairly dissatisfied	28	34	32	31	29	30	27	27	26	17	27	22
Don't know/refusal	1	1	1	2	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0

Q9. Over the last year, has the overall standard of policing in your area...?

In January 2014, over three out of four respondents (77%) thought that the overall standard of policing in their area had remained the same over the last year, similar to the January 2013. One in eleven respondents (9%) thought that it got better and one in eight (12%) thought that it got worse (Table 9). Protestant respondents (15%) were more likely to think that the overall standard of policing in their area got worse than Catholic respondents (10%).

Table 9: Perception of the overall standard of policing over the last year

Rating	Percentage of respondents											
	2010 (September)			2012 (January)			2013 (January)			2014 (January)		
	C	P	All	C	P	All	C	P	All	C	P	All
Got better	13	9	11	14	8	11	9	7	8	11	5	9
Remained the same	72	70	71	69	71	71	78	77	77	77	77	77
Got worse	10	16	13	15	18	16	11	15	13	10	15	12
Don't know/refusal	5	4	5	2	2	2	2	1	2	2	3	3

Q10. Do you know the names of or recognise the police officers policing your local area?

In January 2014, one in six respondents (15%) knew the names of or recognised the police officers policing their local area similar to the January 2013 finding of 13% (Table 10). Protestant respondents (17%) were more likely as Catholic respondents (13%) to know the names of or recognise the police officers policing their local area.

Table 10: Recognition of police officers policing your local area

Rating	Percentage of respondents											
	2010 (September)			2012 (January)			2013 (January)			2014 (January)		
	C	P	All	C	P	All	C	P	All	C	P	All
Yes	11	12	12	11	17	14	13	13	13	13	17	15
No	89	88	88	89	83	86	87	86	87	87	83	85
Don't know	0		0		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Q11. Have you been in contact with the PSNI over the past 12 months?

In January 2014, one out of five respondents (22%) had been in contact with the PSNI over the past 12 months, similar to the January 2013 finding (Table 11).

Table 11: Contact with the PSNI over the past 12 months

Rating	Percentage of respondents											
	2010 (September)			2012 (January)			2013 (January)			2014 (January)		
	C	P	All	C	P	All	C	P	All	C	P	All
Yes	25	29	27	25	25	26	22	18	20	23	21	22
No	75	71	73	75	75	74	78	81	80	77	79	78
Don't know			0		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Q12. How satisfied were you with the PSNI during this contact?

In January 2014, seven out of ten respondents (70%) were very/fairly satisfied with the PSNI during their contact, similar to the January 2013 finding (Table 12). One out of five respondents (19%) were very/fairly dissatisfied, on a par with the January 2013 finding of 16%. The percentage of Catholic respondents who were very/fairly dissatisfied with the PSNI during their contact rose from 10% in January 2013 to 18% in January 2014.

Table 12: Satisfaction with PSNI contact									
Respondents who had contact with PSNI	Percentage of respondents								
	2012 (January)			2013 (January)			2014 (January)		
	C	P	All	C	P	All	C	P	All
Very/fairly satisfied	68	63	65	77	64	71	71	66	70
Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied	7	12	10	13	14	13	11	11	11
Very/fairly dissatisfied	25	24	26	10	23	16	18	22	19

Q13. How safe do you feel in your local community?

In January 2014, nine out of ten respondents (90%) felt very/fairly safe in their local community, similar to the January 2013 finding (Table 10). The percentage of respondents who felt fairly/very unsafe in their local community rose from 2% in January 2013 to 4% in January 2014, a statistically significant increase.

Table 13: How safe do you feel in your local community?												
Rating	Percentage of respondents											
	2010 (September)			2012 (January)			2013 (January)			2014 (January)		
	C	P	All	C	P	All	C	P	All	C	P	All
Very safe	46	42	44	34	32	33	40	38	38	39	37	38
Fairly safe	44	50	47	55	55	55	51	54	53	53	53	52
Very/fairly safe	90	92	91	89	87	88	91	92	91	92	90	90
Neither safe nor unsafe	3	4	4	6	8	7	5	7	6	4	6	5
Fairly unsafe	4	3	3	4	4	4	2	1	2	4	3	3
Very unsafe	2	2	2	2	1	1	0	0	0	1	1	1
Fairly/very unsafe	6	5	5	6	5	5	2	1	2	5	4	4
Don't know/refusal			0				0	0	0	0	0	0

2: PUBLIC PERCEPTIONS OF PCSPs

Q14. Have you heard of Policing and Community Safety Partnerships (PCSPs)?

In January 2014, fewer than one in two respondents (46%) had heard of PCSPs, a statistically significant decrease from the January 2013 finding of 51% (Table 14). The Protestant finding (52%) was a statistically significant decrease when compared to the 60% finding in January 2013.

Table 14: Have you heard of Policing and Community Safety Partnerships (PCSPs)?						
Rating	Percentage of respondents					
	2013 (January)			2014 (January)		
	C	P	All	C	P	All
Yes	40	60	51	42	52	46
No	60	40	49	58	48	54
Don't know/refusal	0	0	0	0	0	0

Q15. Do you know who your local Policing and Community Safety Partnership members are?

In January 2014, just over one in six respondents (17%) who had heard of PCSPs knew who their local Policing and Community Safety Partnership members are, similar to the January 2013 finding (Table 15).

Table 15: Knowledge of local Policing and Community Safety Partnership members						
All those who have heard of PCSPs Rating	Percentage of respondents					
	2013 (January)			2014 (January)		
	C	P	All	C	P	All
Yes	18	19	18	15	18	17
No	82	81	82	85	81	83

Q16. Do you know how to contact them about local policing and community safety?

In January 2014, five in six respondents (83%) knew how to contact their local Policing and Community Safety Partnership members about local policing and community safety (Table 16).

Table 16: Knowledge of how to contact PCSP members about local policing and community safety						
All those who have heard of PCSPs Rating	Percentage of respondents					
	2013 (January)			2014 (January)		
	C	P	All	C	P	All
Yes	90	88	86	76	83	83
No	10	12	14	24	17	17

Q17. Do you feel that your local PCSP has helped to improve policing in your local area?

In January 2014, almost two in five respondents (38%) who had heard of PCSPs felt that their local PCSP has helped to improve policing in their local area (Table 17). A higher proportion of Catholic (45%) than Protestant (33%) respondents thought that their local PCSP has helped to improve policing in their local area. Over one out of three respondents (35%) who had heard of PCSPs felt that their local PCSP has not helped to improve policing in their local area, a statistically significant decrease on the January 2013 finding of 41%.

Table 17: Has your local PCSP helped to improve local policing?						
All those who have heard of PCSPs Rating	Percentage of respondents					
	2013 (January)			2014 (January)		
	C	P	All	C	P	All
Yes	38	36	36	45	33	38
No	36	43	41	29	40	35
Don't know/refusal	26	21	23	27	26	27

Q18. Who would you normally contact on policing and community safety issues locally?

In January 2014, almost three out of five respondents (55%) would contact the police on policing and community safety issues locally (Table 18). Three out of ten respondents (29%) would contact either their Councillor or MLA.

Table 18: Who would you normally contact on policing and community safety issues locally?						
Rating	Percentage of respondents					
	2013 (January)			2014 (January)		
	C	P	All	C	P	All
Police	55	62	59	48	60	55
Policing and Community Safety Partnership	3	8	5	6	6	6
Neighbourhood Watch	5	4	4	5	5	4
Councillor	20	20	19	23	20	20
MLA	11	11	11	10	8	9
Community Group	6	6	6	8	6	6
Other	0	1	1	1	2	1
Would not normally contact anyone about policing and community safety issues	14	13	14	18	12	15
Refusal/Don't know	4	2	3	2	2	2

Percentages may add to more than 100% due to multiple responses

3. PUBLIC PERCEPTIONS OF THE NORTHERN IRELAND POLICING BOARD

Q19. Have you heard of the Northern Ireland Policing Board (Policing Board)?

In January 2014, over four out of five respondents (84%) had heard of the Policing Board (Table 19). A higher proportion of Protestant respondents (90%) had heard of the Policing Board than Catholic respondents (81%). The finding for Protestant respondents is a statistically significant increase from the January 2013 finding of 86%.

Table 19: Heard of the Policing Board?

Rating	Percentage of respondents											
	2010 (September)			2012 (January)			2013 (January)			2014 (January)		
	C	P	All	C	P	All	C	P	All	C	P	All
Yes	83	90	86	83	87	84	80	86	82	81	90	84
No	17	10	13	16	13	15	20	14	17	19	10	16
Don't know/refusal		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Q20. Do you think that the Policing Board helps ensure that the PSNI do a good job?

Almost three out of four respondents (72%) who had heard of the Policing Board thought that the Board helps ensure that the PSNI do a good job, on a par with the January 2013 finding of 74% (Table 20).

Table 20: Does the Policing Board help to ensure that the PSNI do a good job?

All those who have heard of the Policing Board	Percentage of respondents											
	2010 (September)			2012 (January)			2013 (January)			2014 (January)		
	C	P	All	C	P	All	C	P	All	C	P	All
Yes	67	68	67	70	69	69	79	71	74	75	70	72
No	17	19	18	18	16	17	10	17	14	10	17	14
Don't know/refusal	16	13	14	12	14	14	11	11	11	14	13	14

Q21. Do you think that the Policing Board is part of the police or independent of the police?

In January 2014, three out of five respondents (57%) who had heard of the Policing Board correctly thought that the Board is independent of the police, similar to the January 2013 finding of 60% (Table 21). A higher proportion of Protestant respondents (58%) correctly thought that the Policing Board is independent of the police than Catholic respondents (56%). However, the Protestant finding was a statistically significant decrease on the January 2013 finding of 66%. Conversely, one out of three Protestant respondents (36%) who had heard of the Policing Board thought that the Board is part of the police, a statistically significant increase from the January 2013 finding of 29%.

Table 21: Is the Policing Board part of the police or independent of the police?												
All those who have heard of the Policing Board Rating	Percentage of respondents											
	2010 (September)			2012 (January)			2013 (January)			2014 (January)		
	C	P	All	C	P	All	C	P	All	C	P	All
Part of the police	24	19	22	29	21	24	41	29	34	35	36	36
Independent of the police	69	74	72	66	73	71	52	66	60	56	58	57
Don't know/refusal	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	5	6	9	6	7

Q22. What do you think is the primary role of the Policing Board?

In January 2014, three out of four respondents (76%) who had heard of the Policing Board correctly thought that the Board's primary role is "to oversee policing and hold the Chief Constable and the PSNI publicly to account" (Table 22). The finding for Catholic respondents (15%) who thought that the primary role of the Policing Board is to actively direct police operations shows a statistically significant decrease on the 21% finding in January 2013.

Table 22: What do you think is the primary role of the Policing Board?												
All those who have heard of the Policing Board Rating	Percentage of respondents											
	2010 (September)			2012 (January)			2013 (January)			2014 (January)		
	C	P	All	C	P	All	C	P	All	C	P	All
To actively direct police operations	14	13	14	11	10	10	21	11	15	15	11	13
To oversee policing and hold the Chief Constable and the PSNI publicly to account	75	79	77	82	81	81	67	81	76	72	79	76
To tell the Chief Constable what to do	4	3	3	2	4	4	5	4	4	4	3	3
Other	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	1	1	1	1	1
Don't know/refusal	5	5	5	4	4	4	6	3	4	8	5	7

Q23. Do you think the Policing Board is made up of ...?

In January 2014, three in four respondents (75%) who had heard of the Policing Board correctly thought that the Board is made up of "a mix of politicians and independently appointed members", similar to the January 2013 finding of 74% (Table 23). Almost one out of six respondents (15%) who had heard of the Policing Board thought that the Board is made up of "independently appointed members".

Table 23: Do you think that the Policing Board is made up of...?												
All those who have heard of the Policing Board Rating	Percentage of respondents											
	2010 (September)			2012 (January)			2013 (January)			2014 (January)		
	C	P	All	C	P	All	C	P	All	C	P	All
Politicians	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	3	3	3	2	2
Independently appointed members	17	22	19	20	19	20	19	13	16	16	15	15
A mix of politicians and independently appointed members	74	71	73	72	74	73	72	76	74	73	75	75
Other		0	0	1	0	1	2	2	2	0	1	1
Don't know/refusal	7	5	6	5	5	5	6	6	6	8	6	7

Q24. Overall, how well do you think the Policing Board is working?

In January 2014, almost three in four respondents (74%) who had heard of the Policing Board thought that the Board is working at least adequately, similar to the January 2013 finding of 77% (Table 24). The proportion of Catholic respondents who thought that the Board is at least working adequately fell from 80% in January 2013 to 74% in January 2014, a statistically significant decrease. Almost one out of three respondents (31%) who had heard of the Policing Board thought that the Board is working well/very well, on a par with the January 2013 finding of 31%. The percentage of Catholic respondents who thought that the Board is working poorly/very poorly increased from 7% in January 2013 to 11% in January 2014, a statistically significant increase.

Table 24: Overall, how well do you think the Policing Board is working?												
All those who have heard of the Policing Board Rating	Percentage of respondents											
	2010 (September)			2012 (January)			2013 (January)			2014 (January)		
	C	P	All	C	P	All	C	P	All	C	P	All
Very well	5	3	4	7	5	5	4	4	5	6	3	4
Well	34	32	33	29	26	27	30	23	26	28	26	27
Adequately	39	46	42	43	46	45	46	46	46	40	45	43
Very well/Well/Adequately	78	81	79	79	77	87	80	73	77	74	74	74
Poorly	10	12	11	10	9	9	6	14	10	9	11	10
Very poorly	2	0	2	3	3	3	1	1	1	2	2	2
Poorly/very poorly	12	12	13	13	12	12	7	15	11	11	13	12
Don't know/refusal	10	7	8	9	11	11	12	11	12	15	13	14



PUBLISHED BY

Northern Ireland Policing Board
Waterside Tower
31 Clarendon Road
Clarendon Dock
BELFAST BT1 3BG

Tel: 028 9040 8500 Fax: 028 9040 8544 Text phone: 028 9052 7668
Email: information@nipolicingboard.org.uk Web: www.nipolicingboard.org.uk
Facebook: www.facebook.com/policingboard
Twitter: www.twitter.com@NIPolicingBoard

DOCUMENT TITLE

PUBLIC PERCEPTIONS OF THE POLICE, PCSPs AND THE NORTHERN IRELAND POLICING BOARD JANUARY 2014 OMNIBUS SURVEY

PUBLISHED MAY 2014

This document may also be made available upon request in alternative formats or languages. Requests for alternative formats should be made to the Northern Ireland Policing Board.

ONLINE FORMAT

This document is available in PDF format from our website.

DISCLAIMER

While every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of the information contained in this document, neither the Northern Ireland Policing Board nor its consultants will be held liable for any inaccuracies that may be contained within.

