

## **NORTHERN IRELAND POLICING BOARD**

### **MINUTES OF THE PARTNERSHIP COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 10 DECEMBER 2015 AT 2.00 PM WATERSIDE TOWER, BELFAST**

#### **PRESENT:**

Mrs Dolores Kelly (Chairperson)  
Ms Catherine Pollock (Vice-Chairperson)  
(2) Professor Brice Dickson  
Ms Caitríona Ruane  
Mr Robin Newton  
Professor Ryan Feeney  
Ms Wendy Osborne  
Mr Pat Sheehan  
(3) Ms Debbie Watters  
(2) Mrs Anne Connolly

#### **GUESTS IN ATTENDANCE**

(1) Ms Maureen Treacy  
(1) Ms Melissa Wood.

#### **PCSP CHAIRPERSONS AND VICE-CHAIRPERSONS IN ATTENDANCE**

A list of PCSP attendees is appended to these minutes

#### **OFFICIALS IN ATTENDANCE**

Mrs Siobhan Fisher (Acting Director of Partnership)  
5 Board Officials

- (1) Item 5.1 only
- (2) Item 3.7 to close
- (3) Item 3.8 to close

### **1. APOLOGIES, ETC**

Apologies for today's meeting were received from Mr Trevor Lunn and Mrs Brenda Hale.

The Chairperson asked Members to declare any conflicts of interests arising from the agenda. No conflicts of interest were declared.

### **2.1 DRAFT MINUTES OF PARTNERSHIP COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 12 NOVEMBER 2015**

It was:

**AGREED:**

To approve the draft minutes of the Partnership Committee meeting held on 12 November 2015.

**3. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 12 NOVEMBER 2015**

**3.1 Briefing from the PSNI on Policing with the Community (Item 3.1 of minutes refers)**

The Committee noted correspondence from the PSNI in response to Policing with the Community (PwC) matters raised in correspondence issued to the PSNI dated 19 October 2015. Officials advised that Partnership Committee and Resources Committee would be hosting a PwC workshop in Waterside Tower on 21 January 2015 at which PSNI would also be in attendance. NOTED.

**3.2 Update on PSNI Continuous Improvement Projects (Item 3.2 of minutes refers)**

The Committee noted that ACC Martin will attend the 14 April 2016 Partnership Committee to provide Members with an update on the success of the implementation of the RPA – District Policing change programme. NOTED.

**3.3 Update on PSNI Youth Volunteering Scheme (Item 5.1 of minutes refers)**

The Committee noted correspondence received from the PSNI dated 26 November 2015, addressing issues in respect of the PSNI Youth Volunteering Scheme raised by the Committee at the November 2015 Partnership Committee. The Committee also noted the written response received from the PSNI to the Partnership Committee question regarding the PSNI Youth Volunteering Scheme submitted to the Chief Constable for the 3 December 2015 Board meeting.

The Committee discussed the safety of young people joining the scheme and officials also updated Members on matters discussed by the Youth Advisory Panel in respect of the PSNI Youth Volunteering Scheme. Members noted that the PSNI have been invited to the February 2016 Partnership Committee meeting to provide an update to Members on progress. Following discussion,  
It was:

**AGREED:**

Correspondence is issued to the PSNI requesting a copy of their risk plan and details of the branding in respect of the PSNI Youth Volunteering Scheme.

**3.4 Research Consortium Conference (Item 5.2 of minutes refers)**

A response is awaited from the PSNI in relation to progress regarding the hosting of an Open University Policing Research Consortium Conference. Officials advised the Committee will be updated in due course. NOTED.

**3.5 Report from the Board's Impartial Assessor on the campaign to appoint Independent Members to the PCSPs (Item 5.3 of minutes refers)**

The Committee noted that the Impartial Assessors Report on the process to appoint Independent Members to the PCSPs has been accepted, published and distributed to all relevant stakeholders. NOTED.

**3.6 TALK forward Programme of Work (Item 5.5 of minutes refers)**

The Committee noted that correspondence has been issued to all eligible PCSP Independent Members inviting their participation in the remainder of the TALK programme. NOTED.

**3.7 Questions to the Chief Constable (Item 7 of minutes refers)**

The Committee noted responses received from the PSNI to the question submitted by the Partnership Committee for the 3 December 2015 Board meeting. NOTED.

### **3.8 Draft Policy on Police Property Fund (Item 9.1 of minutes refers)**

Officials updated the Committee on the progress of the sub-group formed to consider a draft policy on the Police Property Fund. Members were advised that consideration was being given to issues such as governance, sustainability and how this resource could be distributed for maximum impact within the community.

The Committee gave consideration to the support of one flagship project to maximise the benefits of the fund and following discussion, It was:

#### **AGREED:**

- Officials meet with sub-group Committee Members to discuss options for the selection of a flagship project;
- To bring to a future meeting of the Partnership Committee the proposed options for the selection of a flagship project, and;
- To discuss with PSNI the co-location of domestic violence workers as a possible option for future funding.

## **4. CHAIRPERSON'S BUSINESS**

### **4.1 Correspondence**

The Committee noted correspondence issued by the Committee Chairperson dated 30 November 2015 to PCSP Chairs regarding the additional funding released to each of the PCSP budgets. NOTED.

### **4.2 Engagements**

Officials updated the Committee on the Youth Advisory Panel meeting on 25 November 2015. Members also noted several upcoming engagements including the Strategic Consultation Group meeting on

Monday 11 January 2016 and the next Youth Advisory Panel meeting on Tuesday 19 January 2016.

## **5. ITEMS FOR DECISION**

### **5.1 Briefing from Perceptive insight – Interim findings on Confidence in Policing Research**

The Chairperson welcomed Ms Maureen Treacy and Ms Melissa Wood to the meeting and invited them to brief the Committee on Perceptive Insight's interim findings following the completion of their survey regarding confidence levels of young people in the PSNI.

Ms Treacy briefed the Committee on the survey findings including questions identified and the number of interviews conducted as part of the survey. Members were also advised of the key areas of analysis including:

- Age;
- Gender;
- Community background;
- Quintile of deprivation, and;
- Urban/rural location.

(A copy of the Perceptive Insight presentation is appended to these minutes).

The Committee discussed the conclusions of the report and acknowledged that while the results were broadly positive, certain groups continue to have a more negative view of policing including young males aged 16-18, those from a Catholic background, those from urban areas and participants from Quintile 1 (the most deprived).

Members also discussed with Perceptive Insight the use of the category 'Other' and the categories within this group.

The Chairperson thanked the representatives of Perceptive Insight and they left the meeting.

The Committee discussed the extent to which these survey results may be used to establish a baseline for young people's confidence in policing as outlined in the Policing Plan 2015-16. In addition, Members considered other previously completed research which may assist in establishing a baseline for young people's confidence in policing. The Committee also gave consideration to sharing the results of the Perceptive Insight survey with the Youth Advisory Panel.

Following discussion,

It was:

**AGREED:**

- To invite PSNI and YAP representatives to the February 2016 meeting of the Partnership Committee to discuss the Perceptive Insight research findings following receipt of the full report;
- To collate information from previous relevant research regarding confidence of young people in policing;
- To consider progressing a tender process to conduct further qualitative research;
- To follow up with Perceptive Insight on the issues identified during their presentation to the Partnership Committee.

## **5.2 Meeting with PCSP Chairpersons and Vice-Chairpersons**

The Chairperson welcomed the Chairpersons and Vice-Chairpersons of several PCSPs to the meeting and, following a brief introduction, invited them to raise any issues they may wish to discuss with the Committee.

Several areas were raised by the PCSP Chairs and Vice-Chairs for discussion with the Committee. These included:

- Challenges presented by the merging of regions following the reduction in the number of PCSPs;

- Levels of bureaucracy and paperwork within PCSPs;
- The delineation of roles within the PCSPs for example, Chairperson/Chief Executive/PCSP Manager and the flow of information to PCSP Chairs and Vice-Chairs;
- Differences in approach of various PCSPs and how best practice may be shared;
- Relationships with local police within PCSP areas, and;
- Training provision for PCSP Members.

The Committee highlighted to the PCSP Chairs and Vice-Chairs that they were keen to provide support wherever possible and discussed areas where the Board could provide assistance such as training and communications. PCSP representatives also expressed appreciation that monies had been released back to the PCSP budgets which would further enable them to carry out projects within their communities.

The Chairperson thanked the PCSP Chairs and Vice-Chairs for attending the meeting and expressed the Committee's gratitude for the ongoing work within their communities.

Following discussion,

It was:

**AGREED:**

Follow up correspondence is issued to PCSP Chairpersons and Vice-Chairpersons following the meeting with the Committee.

### **5.3 Consultation on the Code of Practice for the Exercise of Functions for PCSPs and DPCSPs**

The Committee considered a paper on the Department of Justice's Consultation on the Code of Practice for the Exercise of Functions for PCSPs and DPCSPs.

Following discussion

It was:

**AGREED:**

Correspondence is issued to the DOJ regarding the Consultation on the Code of Practice for the Exercise of Functions for PCSPs and DPCSPs including the Board's view regarding the participation of designated bodies on the PCSPs.

**5.4 Terms of Reference for an Independent Evaluation of PSNI Policing with the Community delivery plan**

The Committee considered a paper seeking Member's agreement to progress an independent evaluation of the PSNI Policing with the Community (PwC) delivery plan.

Officials advised the Committee of options for the completion of the independent evaluation. The Committee considered the options and following discussion,

It was:

**AGREED:**

To progress arrangements to request PSNI Internal Auditors carry out an independent evaluation of the PSNI Policing with the Community Delivery Plan and report back to the Partnership Committee.

Ms Caitríona Ruane expressed concern regarding the independence of PSNI Internal Auditors carrying out this evaluation and requested her objection to this decision be noted. NOTED.

**5.5 PSNI Qualitative Report on Road Safety Enforcement Activity**

The Committee considered a paper providing Members with an in-year report from the PSNI regarding Road Safety Enforcement Activity. The Committee noted PSNI enforcement activity regarding key causation factors in respect of Road Traffic Collisions. NOTED.



## **5.6 Funding request for Truecall Devices**

The Committee considered a paper seeking Members approval to provide funding of £3000 for the purchase of TrueCall devices following a request from the Department of Justice at the Older Person's Delivery Group meeting.

Members considered the advantages of the TrueCall devices in blocking unwanted calls and protecting older people from telephone scams. The Committee noted the results of a pilot scheme carried out by Mid & East Antrim Agewell Partnership (MEAAP) where outcomes had shown unwanted calls were blocked up to 100% of the time.

Following discussion,  
It was:

### **AGREED:**

To provide funding of £3000 for the purchase of TrueCall devices.

## **5.7 Overview of PCSP Training**

The Committee considered a paper providing Members with an overview of the provision of training for PCSPs and also uptake of training within PCSPs.

The Committee noted a table outlining the details of training provided to PCSPs including timescales for delivery and associated costs. Members also discussed the uptake of training provided to PCSPs and considered how increased uptake of the training could be encouraged. Following discussion,  
It was:

### **AGREED:**

Correspondence is issued to PCSP Chairpersons regarding training provided to PCSP Members and any

recommendations/suggestions they may have to encourage a higher uptake.

## **6. INFORMATION PAPERS**

### **6.1 PCSP Communications Support**

The Committee noted a paper outlining support provided by the Board's Communication Branch to PCSPs to assist with communications and awareness raising. NOTED.

### **6.2 Update on Joint Committee Meeting – 6 November 2015**

The Committee noted a paper providing Members with an update following a meeting of the Joint Committee on 6 November 2015. NOTED.

### **6.3 RADAR Centre: PCSP Funding**

The Committee noted a paper providing Members with details relating to the provision of funding to the RADAR Centre from the PCSP budget. Members noted that this arrangement will allow PCSPs to access the RADAR Centre with a number of groups each year and will include PCSP advertising by the RADAR Centre.

Following discussion,

It was:

#### **AGREED:**

- Correspondence is issued to PCSPs advising of proposals and seeking PCSP support for the RADAR Centre

### **6.4 Update on PCSP Youth Engagement Activity**

This item was deferred to the next meeting of the Partnership Committee.

### **6.5 Partnership Committee Draft Programme of Work**

The Committee noted the updated draft Programme of Work for Partnership Committee. NOTED.

## **7. QUESTIONS FOR THE CHIEF CONSTABLE**

It was:-

### **AGREED:**

A question is drafted from the Partnership Committee to the Chief Constable regarding how the role of PCSPs and their interface with PSNI is covered in the new student officer training programme.

## **8. COMMUNICATION ISSUES**

There were no matters arising.

## **9. ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

There were no matters arising.

## **10. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting of the Partnership Committee will be held on Thursday 11 February 2016 at 2.00 pm.

(Meeting closed at 17:10pm)

## **BOARD SUPPORT**

**December 2015**

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**Chairperson**