

NORTHERN IRELAND POLICING BOARD

MINUTES OF THE PARTNERSHIP COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 10 SEPTEMBER 2015 AT 2.30 PM WATERSIDE TOWER, BELFAST

PRESENT:

- (1) Mrs Dolores Kelly (Chairperson)
- Ms Wendy Osborne
- Professor Brice Dickson
- Mr Pat Sheehan
- Ms Catherine Pollock

OFFICIALS IN ATTENDANCE

- Mr Barney McGahan (Interim Chief Executive)
- Mrs Siobhan Fisher (Temporary Director of Partnership)
- 4 Board Officials

- (1) Item 5.4 to close

1. APOLOGIES, ETC

Apologies for today's meeting were received from Mrs Brenda Hale, Mr Robin Newton and Ms Caitriona Ruane.

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

2.1 PARTNERSHIP COMMITTEE TERMS OF REFERENCE

Following the election of a Committee Vice-Chairperson the Committee considered the Partnership Committee Terms of Reference. In response to an issue raised by a Member regarding the provision of the Committee's agendas and minutes,

It was:

AGREED:

The reference to these being made available via the Sharepoint system would be removed from item 4.1 of the Committee's Terms of Reference.

In response to a Members question the Interim Chief Executive verbally updated the Committee on the 2 substantive changes to the Partnership Committee's Terms of Reference. Members were advised that:

- The Committee would approve and oversee the Partnership Committee's research priorities while the Board's Research Strategy would be considered by the Board Business Co-ordination Group, and;
- Issues regarding the Policing Plan would now be considered by the Performance Committee.

2.2 ELECTION OF PARTNERSHIP COMMITTEE VICE CHAIRPERSON

In the absence of the Committee Chairperson the Interim Chief Executive assumed the Chair and invited nominations from Members for the election of a Partnership Committee Vice-Chairperson. Ms Catherine Pollock was nominated for the role by Ms Wendy Osborne and her nomination was seconded by Mr Pat Sheehan. Following this,

It was:

AGREED:

That Ms Catherine Pollock is elected to the role of Partnership Committee Vice-Chairperson. Ms Pollock then assumed the Chair in the absence of the Committee Chairperson.

2.3 DRAFT MINUTES OF PARTNERSHIP COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 28 MAY 2015

A Member highlighted an inaccuracy at item 5.10 of the draft minutes and following consideration,

It was:

AGREED:

Subject to the necessary correction, to approve the draft minutes of the Partnership Committee meeting held on 28 May 2015.

3. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 9 APRIL 2015

3.1 Questions to the Chief Constable (Item 3.5 of minutes refers)

Following the Committee's request for clarification as to whether the fitness test used by the PSNI is used in other GB Police Forces, officials advised Members that the PSNI are the only service to use this test and that this issue is being further progressed via the Resources Committee. The Committee will be updated in due course.

3.2 PSNI update on Policing with the Community (Item 3.7 of minutes refers)

Officials advised that T/ACC Noble will attend the October meeting of the Partnership Committee to provide an update on Policing with the Community.

3.3 PCSP Independent Members Recruitment – Lisburn & Castlereagh (item 3.12 of minutes refers)

The Committee noted that the recruitment of Independent Members to PCSPs has now been completed and that, from 31 August 2015, all PCSPs are fully reconstituted. Officials advised that owing to 1 resignation it would be necessary to reconvene the Antrim and Newtownabbey panel to fill the vacancy. NOTED.

3.4 Correspondence (Item 4.1 of minutes refers)

The Interim Chief Executive updated the Committee on the upcoming strategic event at which the development of the Policing Plan and PSNI Strategic Priorities would be discussed. In response to a Members query regarding how the PSNI conduct their 6 monthly review of PSNI Strategic Priorities

It was:

AGREED:

To request the PSNI give consideration to verbally updating Members regarding the Management of Risk in Law Enforcement (MORILE) at the upcoming strategy event with a view to a more detailed presentation at a future date.

3.5 Measuring Young People’s Confidence Levels in the PSNI (Item 5.2 of minutes refers)

The Committee considered how the research project to measure Young People’s confidence levels in the PSNI is to be progressed. Members discussed the shorter timescales for the completion of the research given that the project had been temporarily shelved owing to a suspension of NIPB discretionary spending following the tender process. Following discussion,

It was:

AGREED:

Officials should seek updates from the 3 tenders in respect of their ability to complete this research within the timeframe and progress the research to measure Young People’s confidence levels in the PSNI.

3.6 Youth Engagement Strategy for PCSP’s (Item 5.3 of minutes refers)

The Committee noted that a paper on this item would be discussed at item 5.6.

3.7 Research Proposal regarding Clearance Rates for Older People (Item 5.6 of minutes refers)

The Committee noted that currently the budget does not exist to progress this research proposal. NOTED.

3.8 Appointment of Independent Members to PCSPs (Item 5.9 of minutes refers)

The Committee noted, as above, appointments of Independent Members to all PCSPs including the Belfast PCSP and 4 DPCSPs is now complete. NOTED.

3.9 Action Plan regarding CJINI Report: Operation of Policing and Community Safety Partnerships (Item 5.10 of minutes refers)

The Committee noted that the Minister of Justice has approved the action plan for the implementation of the recommendations from the CJINI review of PCSPs and that CJINI has been informed. NOTED.

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

The Committee noted the responses provided by PSNI to questions submitted by the Partnership Committee to the Chief Constable for the 25 June 2015 Board meeting. NOTED.

The Committee considered the PSNI's written response to the Committee's question regarding community engagement for the summer period and discussed the role of PCSPs and how the Board may support engagement at a local level.

It was:

AGREED:

The Committee would be updated regarding on-going PSNI engagement with local communities in advance of future parading seasons.

4. CHAIRPERSON'S BUSINESS

4.1 Correspondence

There was no correspondence to consider.

4.2 Engagements

The Committee noted various engagement events attended by Members and officials over the summer period regarding Policing Priorities for the 2016-2020 Policing Plan. NOTED.

5. ITEMS FOR DECISION

5.1 Partnership Committee Schedule of Meetings

The Committee considered a proposed schedule of future meetings of the Partnership Committee. Following discussion,

It was:

AGREED:

The Committee will meet at 2.00pm on the second Thursday of each month from October 2015 – June 2016.

5.2 Partnership Committee First Day Brief

The Committee noted information provided in a paper outlining the roles and responsibilities of the Partnership Committee and including background information on work previously carried out by the Committee. Members were invited to raise any issues for clarification with officials. Members noted that engagement with the 11 new PCSPs will be a significant area of work for the Committee going forward.

5.3 Briefing for Committee Members on the TALK Programme

The Committee considered a paper updating Members on the Transformation, Advocacy, Leadership and Knowledge (TALK) programme for 2015/16. Officials briefed Members on the aim of the TALK programme to develop future local community leaders and discussed the upcoming trip to Washington in conjunction with USIP (the United States Institute for Peace).

The Committee noted that participants in the upcoming trip have been selected from young people recently appointed to PCSPs and that 9 of the 11 new PCSPs will be represented on the trip. The Committee also discussed the development of the programme in the 12 months following the Washington trip and noted that a cross border element would be included in March 2016. Members also discussed learning which may be

passed to all young PCSP Members through monthly events and possible mentoring by TALK participants.

5.4 Policing Plan 2015/16 EQIA – Key Points to Consider

The Committee considered a paper seeking approval from Members on the action plan for the implementation of the key points to consider from the EQIA decision report on the Policing Plan 2015-16. In addition, Members were advised the draft Executive Summary of the Board's Policing Priorities Consultation report would be considered at the upcoming Strategy Event on 16th September and the full consultation report would be brought to the October meeting of the Partnership Committee.

Members discussed:

- The implementation dates relating to various key points;
- Screening of the new 4 year draft Policing Plan;
- The probable consultation period on the new draft Strategic Policing Plan, and;
- A Members request for more detailed information to highlight statistically significant findings from the EQIA of the 2015/16 Policing Plan.

The Committee Chairperson, Mrs Dolores Kelly joined the meeting. Mrs Kelly offered the Committee her apologies for her late arrival and assumed the Chair for the remainder of the meeting.

The Committee also discussed the possibility of a briefing to Board Members on the work of the Board's Human Rights Advisor to help inform the work of the Committees. Following discussion, It was:

AGREED:

- The full Policing Plan 2015/16 EQIA consultation report is brought to the October Partnership Committee meeting;

- A briefing is arranged for Board Members from the Human Rights Advisor on her work and how it feeds into the work of the Committees, and;
- More detailed information highlighting the most statistically significant findings from the EQIA of the 2015/16 Policing Plan is provided to Members.

5.5 Police Property Fund – Draft Policy for the Allocation of Funds

The Committee considered a paper seeking Members' agreement to the proposed changes to the draft policy for the allocation of funds from the Police Property Fund. Officials briefed Members on the policy previously agreed in December 2014 and the revised proposal that nominations be sought from PCSPs in conjunction with PSNI Area Commanders.

The Committee discussed:

- How allocation of these funds could support the work of PCSPs;
- Alignment with other small grant schemes, and;
- Removing the 25% match funding for grants up to £1000.

Members proposed several amendments to the wording of the draft policy and application form and following discussion,

It was:

AGREED:

- To amend, as agreed by the Committee, the draft Police Property Fund Policy and application form and bring to the December meeting of the Partnership Committee, and;
- To consult with PCSP Managers regarding the administration of small grant schemes.

5.6 Youth Engagement Strategy for PCSPs

The Committee considered a paper providing an update on the development of a youth engagement strategy for PCSPs and seeking Members agreement to a revised approach. Officials updated Members on their engagement with the Probation Board, the Youth Justice Agency

and Education Authority and a PCSP Manager Representative regarding the implementation of the scheme on a reduced budget.

The Committee considered proposals for 2 Models to be piloted in 2015-16 with a view to further roll out in 2016/17 following an evaluation of the project. Members were of the view that the 2 pilot schemes cannot be a substitute for the 3 Policing Plan Targets outlined below:

- By 31st March 2016 to establish a baseline to identify levels of cyber bullying in partnership with PCSPs and the Education Authority;
- By 31st March 2016 the Board to establish a baseline for young people's confidence in policing, and;
- In partnership with the Board by 31st March 2016 to establish a baseline for measuring confidence in a selected number of areas of higher crime/social deprivation.

Members went on to discuss:

- How the pilot schemes link to Policing Plan and PCSP targets;
- The Board's overall community engagement strategy;
- The relationship between the Committee and PCSP Managers, and;
- A proposed meeting of the Committee with PCSP Chairpersons and Vice-Chairpersons.

Following discussion,

It was:

AGREED:

- To progress the implementation of the 2 model pilot schemes as outlined in the briefing paper;
- To circulate to Partnership Committee Members the Board's previous Community Engagement Strategy, and;
- To progress arrangements for a meeting of the PCSP Chairpersons and Vice-Chairpersons with Partnership Committee Members.

6. INFORMATION PAPERS

6.1 PCSP Training Plan 2015-16

6.2 PCSP Independent Member Appointment Process – Outcome

The Committee noted the above information papers. NOTED.

7. QUESTIONS FOR THE CHIEF CONSTABLE

It was:-

AGREED:

Questions to the Chief Constable from the Partnership Committee may be drafted following the upcoming strategy event.

8. COMMUNICATION ISSUES

There were no matters arising.

9. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

In response to a Member's question regarding plans for a public meeting of the Board, officials advised that arrangements may be made for a public meeting of the Board to coincide with the launch of the Policing Plan in early 2016.

9. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Partnership Committee would be held on Thursday 8 October 2015 at 2.00pm.

(Meeting closed at 4:05pm)

BOARD SUPPORT

September 2015

Chairperson