

NORTHERN IRELAND POLICING BOARD

MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING OF THE NORTHERN IRELAND POLICING BOARD HELD ON THURSDAY 20 JANUARY 2022 AT 6.15PM IN WATERSIDE TOWER, CLARENDON DOCK AND VIA VIDEO CONFERENCE FACILITY

PRESENT:

Mr Doug Garrett Chair
Dr Tom Frawley Vice-Chair*
Mr Gerry Kelly MLA
Dr Janet Gray*
Mr Colm McKenna*
Mr Frank McManus*
Mrs Carmel McKinney
Mrs Dolores Kelly MLA
Ms Deirdre Toner*
Ms Liz Kimmins MLA*
Mrs Linda Dillon MLA*
Mr Michael Atkinson
Mr Mike Nesbitt MLA
Mr Jonathan Buckley MLA
Mr Edgar Jardine*

EXTERNAL ADVISORS IN ATTENDANCE:

Simon Byrne, Chief Constable, PSNI (Expert Advisor)
Mr Ciaran McGuigan, (Independent Advisor to the Recruitment Panel)
Dr John Mallon (Independent Advisor to the Recruitment Panel)

NORTHERN IRELAND POLICING BOARD OFFICIALS IN ATTENDANCE:

Sinead Simpson, Chief Executive
Adrian McNamee, Director of Performance*
Aislinn McGuckin, T/Director of Police Administration
Dympna Thornton, Director of Partnership*
3 Board Officials

*Attended meeting by video conference facility

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Ms Joanne Bunting MLA.

2. CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

No conflicts of interest were declared.

3. PSNI ASSISTANT CHIEF CONSTABLE RECOMMENDATION TO THE MINISTER

The Chair of the Board, who chaired the recruitment panel, outlined the assessment and selection process for the PSNI Assistant Chief Constable competition and noted that the Assessment and Selection Panel had, following a shortlisting process, interviewed four candidates on 20 January 2022.

The Chair advised that following the Assessment and Selection process 3 candidates had been deemed appointable. The Chair advised that, subject to their agreement to take up post, the top 2 appointable candidates would be put forward to the Minister of Justice for approval to fill the current 2 ACC vacancies within PSNI with the third candidate remaining on a reserve list. The Chair noted that the fourth candidate had withdrawn from the competition following interview as he had been offered a post within another UK Police Force.

The Chair invited comments from the 2 Independent Recruitment Panel Advisors. Both provided Members with assurances that the recruitment and selection process had been fair and consistent throughout, that discussions had been evidence based and that Equality and Diversity guidance had been applied and reflected during the process. Both Independent Advisors endorsed the panel's recommendation.

The Chief Constable supported the views of the Independent Advisors as a fair reflection of the process and thanked the Board for its work in concluding this recruitment competition.

The Chair of the Board, asked if any Member had any questions; no Member questions were raised. Members indicated by a unanimous show of hands their support of the Assessment and Selection Panel's recommendation in respect of the appointable candidates. Members also registered their thanks for Board officials involved in delivering the recruitment process.

It was **RESOLVED**:

- That the top 2 appointable candidates would be recommended to the Minister of Justice for appointment to the position of PSNI Assistant Chief Constable.

The Chair of the Board advised that he would seek approval from the Minister of Justice for the appointment in accordance with legislation.

4. COMMUNICATION ISSUES

No actions were required until the preferred candidates were approved by the Minister of Justice and had formally accepted the offers.

5. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

No other business was conducted.

The meeting closed at 6.30pm.

Date: January 2022

Chair: