

## **NORTHERN IRELAND POLICING BOARD**

### **MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE NORTHERN IRELAND POLICING BOARD HELD ON THURSDAY 24 JANUARY 2019 AT 10.00AM IN WATERSIDE TOWER**

#### **PRESENT:**

Mrs Anne Connolly (Chair)  
Ms Deborah Watters (Vice-Chair)  
Mr John Blair  
Mr Keith Buchanan  
Mrs Joanne Bunting  
Mr Alan Chambers  
Prof Brice Dickson  
Mr Tom Frawley  
Mr Doug Garrett  
(1) Mrs Dolores Kelly  
Mr Gerry Kelly  
Mr Philip McGuigan  
Mr Colm McKenna  
Mr Gary Middleton  
Dr Paul Nolan  
Mrs Wendy Osborne  
Mr Mervyn Storey

#### **OFFICIALS IN ATTENDANCE:**

Mrs Amanda Stewart, Chief Executive  
Mr Tim Logan, Director of Resources  
Mr Adrian McNamee, Director of Partnership  
Ms Jenny Passmore, Director of Performance  
4 Board Officials

#### **(1) Part item number 8 – item number 14 (arrived at 1.15pm)**

#### **1. POSITION OF CHAIR AND VICE-CHAIR OF BOARD**

The Chief Executive briefed Members on the appointment process governing the election of the Board Chair and Vice-Chair. She confirmed that as 16 Members were present that the statutory requirement in respect of a quorum for the meeting to which an appointment is to be made was duly satisfied.

Mr Colm McKenna proposed that Mrs Anne Connolly be appointed Chair of the Policing Board and Ms Deborah Watters be appointed Vice-Chair until 30 June 2019. The proposal was seconded by Mr Gerry Kelly and Mrs Wendy Osborne and agreed by the Board.

The Chair expressed thanks to Board Members for their support and paid tribute to the Independent Members for their work on the Board during the past two years. The Vice-Chair also thanked Board Members for their support.

## **2. APOLOGIES**

Apologies were received from Mrs Linda Dillon. Mrs Dolores Kelly had advised that she would be late for the meeting.

The Chair referred to the vacancy on the Board as a result of Mr Ryan Feeney's resignation and advised Members that NIO confirmed they were considering the matter.

The Board agreed the agenda for the meeting.

The Chief Executive advised the Board that she wished to raise an issue under "Any Other Business" regarding correspondence which had been received from two PSNI Staff Members.

## **3. CONFLICTS OF INTEREST**

The Chairperson asked Members to declare any conflicts of interests arising from the agenda. Mr Colm McKenna as a Director of the Food Standards Agency declared a potential perceived conflict of interest regarding the National Food Crime Unit. No other conflicts of interest were declared.

#### 4. BOARD STANDING ORDERS

The Board considered a paper which sought Members agreement to the draft Board's Standing Orders.

Officials referred to comments which had been received from a Member in relation to standing orders numbers 4 (e) and 1.5 of Appendix 1. Members agreed that the Members comments regarding standing orders number 4 (e) should be included in the Standing Orders. With regard to the comments relating to 1.5 of Appendix 1, it was agreed not to change the responsibility and that additional wording 'if and when it is established' would be added after 'Historical Investigations Unit'

The Board:-

##### **AGREED:**

- The Board's draft Standing Orders.
- That the Standing Orders should be published on the Board's website. **(AP1)**

#### 5. COMMITTEE TERMS OF REFERENCE

The Board considered a paper which requested Members to agree Terms of Reference for Committees.

Officials updated Members on the Terms of References for the Audit and Risk Assurance Committee, Partnership Committee, Performance Committee and Resources Committee. They outlined details of changes to the Terms of Reference for these Committees and the rationale for the changes. No changes had been made to the Special Purposes Committee and Chair's Advisory Group.

Members discussed the Committee Terms of Reference and suggested a number of amendments.

Subject to the amendments being made the Board:-

**AGREED:**

The revised Terms of Reference for Board Committees.

It was also:-

**AGREED:**

That the Terms of Reference for the Board Committees should be published on the Board's website. **(AP2)**

**6. COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP**

The Board considered a draft Committee membership for the Board's main Standing Committees and it was agreed to appoint Members to those Committees as follows:-.

**Audit and Risk Assurance Committee**

Joanne Bunting

Tom Frawley

Doug Garrett

Gerry Kelly

Colm McKenna

Wendy Osborne

**TOTAL - 6**

**Partnership Committee**

John Blair

Joanne Bunting

Brice Dickson

Linda Dillon

Dolores Kelly

Philip McGuigan

Colm McKenna

Gary Middleton

Wendy Osborne

Mervyn Storey

**TOTAL - 10**

**Performance Committee**

Keith Buchanan

Joanne Bunting

Alan Chambers

Brice Dickson

Tom Frawley

Dolores Kelly

Gerry Kelly

Philip McGuigan

Paul Nolan

Mervyn Storey

**TOTAL - 10**

## **Resources Committee**

John Blair

Keith Buchanan

Alan Chambers

Linda Dillon

Tom Frawley

Doug Garrett

Gerry Kelly

Gary Middleton

Paul Nolan

Wendy Osborne

**TOTAL - 10**

It was:-

## **AGREED:**

That Committees should elect the Chair and Vice-Chair of each Committee at their first meeting. **(AP3)**

## **7. CHIEF CONSTABLE'S TERMS OF APPOINTMENT**

The Board considered a paper which sought Members' views on an extension to the current Chief Constable's term of appointment for a further term of a maximum of three years.

The Chief Executive briefed the Board on the process for extending the Chief Constable's term of appointment and advised Members that the appointment is subject to the Police Service of Northern Ireland Regulations 2005. Any

appointments must be in-keeping with any requirements prescribed under these regulations. Terms for Fixed-Term Appointments for Chief Constable and Deputy Chief Constable are set out in a Determination issued by the Department of Justice under Regulation 11 of the 2005 Regulations.

The Chair referred to the annual priorities the Board agreed for the Chief Constable when he was appointed in 2014 and the objectives in the annual performance reviews for the Chief Constable. The Chair briefed Members on the Chief Constable's performance during his term of appointment.

During a subsequent discussion Members questioned the Chair on a number of issues relating to the Chief Constable's performance.

In conclusion Dr Paul Nolan proposed that the Chief Constable should be offered an extension to his contract for three years. The proposal was seconded by Mr Alan Chambers and agreed by the Board.

It was also:-

**AGREED:**

- That the Board Chair should write to the Chief Constable advising him of the Board decision and seeking his agreement subject to Departmental approval. **(AP4)**
- Subject to agreement between the Board and the Chief Constable, the Chief Executive should write to the DOJ Permanent Secretary seeking Departmental approval. **(AP5)**

## 8. THE PROVISION OF HUMAN RIGHTS ADVICE FOR THE BOARD

The Board considered a paper which sought Members' agreement on the provision of human rights advice for the Board.

Officials briefed Members on the Board's requirement to monitor PSNI compliance with the Human Rights Act 1998; the current position regarding obtaining human rights advice; and a business case for the provision of human rights advice which was based on the views of the previous Board. The business case was approved by the Department of Justice on 21 December 2018.

Members discussed the business case and an approach to enable the Board to fulfil its statutory obligation of monitoring and reporting on PSNI compliance with the Human Rights Act 1998. During the discussion it was suggested that consideration be given to appointing two expert Human Rights Advisors on a shared basis to provide human right advice to the Board. The Chief Executive advised there was no impediment to appointing more than one Advisor as it potentially afforded greater resilience in the contract. She did however, advise that in considering this option, Members should be mindful of the cost implications.

In conclusion it was:-

### **AGREED:**

That a paper should be brought to the February 2019 Board meeting to seek nominations to form a selection panel for the appointment of a human rights advisor. The selection panel will consider the Board's requirement for human rights advice and report to a future Board meeting.

**(AP6)**



## 9. ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE 2019-20 POLICING PLAN

The Board considered a paper which sought Members' views on the proposed way forward for the 2019/2020 Policing Plan.

During discussion a Member asked to be provided with a briefing paper regarding the activities of the National Crime Agency. **(AP7)**

The Board:-

### **AGREED:**

- The approach set out in the paper in relation to taking forward the 2019/20 Policing Plan.
- The draft Policing Plan for 2019/20 as laid out in the paper.

## 10. ITEMS OF DELEGATED AUTHORITY – INFORMATION PAPER

The Board noted a paper which apprised Members' of the decisions taken under delegated authority during the period March 2017 – November 2018 when the Northern Ireland Policing Board was not fully constituted. **NOTED.**

The Vice-Chair thanked the Chair for leading the Board over the past two years.

The Board agreed that the minutes of the Board meeting held on 27 February 2017 and Committee meetings held in December 2016 should be published on the Board's website. **(AP8)**

## 11. COMMUNICATION ISSUES

A Member referred to a recent bomb attack on the Court House in Derry/Londonderry and the subsequent series of hoax devices. The

Board unanimously recorded thanks to the Police for their work in responding to the bomb attack and the subsequent series of hoax devices and agreed that a news release should be issued regarding the matter. **(AP9)**

## **12. SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS**

The Board considered a schedule of meetings of the Board and Committees for the period February – June 2019.

A Member suggested that the date of the May Board meeting which was scheduled to be held on 2 May 2019 should be changed as the Local Government Election was taking place on this date.

It was agreed to :

### **RESOLVE:**

The dates of Board and Committee meetings for February – June 2019 subject to the Board meeting on 2 May 2019 being changed and brought back to the Board for approval. **(AP10)**

## **13. ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

### **13.1 Meetings with PSNI**

The Chair asked Members to advise the Chief Executive of any meetings they were attending with representative's from PSNI regarding Policing Board business.

The Chair advised Independent Members that the Chief Constable had requested to meet with Independent Members on a one to one basis. Members considered that they should meet him as a group and for the Chair to advise the Chief Constable.

### **13.2 Correspondence from PSNI Staff Members**

Officials provided Members with correspondence which had been received from two PSNI Staff Members.

Members considered that a decision regarding the matter should be progressed at the February 2019 Board meeting. **(AP11)**

### **14. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The date of the next meeting was agreed.

(Meeting closed at 2.20pm).

**CORPORATE SERVICES  
JANUARY 2019**

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**Chairperson**