

NORTHERN IRELAND POLICING BOARD

MINUTES OF THE RESOURCES COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 28 JANUARY 2016 AT 9.30AM IN WATERSIDE TOWER, BELFAST

PRESENT:

Mr Gerry Kelly (Chairperson)
Mrs Wendy Osborne (Vice-Chairperson)
Ms Deirdre Blakely
(1) Ms Roisin McGlone
(2) Mr Robin Newton
Dr Paul Nolan
Ms Deborah Watters (Board Vice-Chairperson)

POLICE SERVICE OF NORTHERN IRELAND IN ATTENDANCE:

(3) Chief Superintendent Peter Farrar
(4) Mr Mark McNaughten, T/Director of Finance &
Support Services
(4) Ms Denise Teer

OFFICIALS IN ATTENDANCE:

Mr Edgar Jardine, Interim Chief Executive
Mr Brian McDonald, T/Director of Support Services
Mrs Amanda Stewart, Director of Policy
4 Board Officials

- (1) Item numbers 1 – 6
- (2) Part Item 3.3 to close
- (3) Item number 7.5
- (4) Item number 7.1

1. APOLOGIES, ETC

No apologies were received

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

2. DRAFT MINUTES OF MEETING OF RESOURCES COMMITTEE HELD ON 17 DECEMBER 2015

The Committee considered the draft minutes of the Resources Committee meeting held on 17 December 2015.

It was:-

RESOLVED:

That the draft minutes of the Resources Committee meeting held on 17 December 2015 be approved.

3. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING

3.1 Personal Protection Weapons (Item 4.3 of Minutes Refers)

The Committee noted the content of a letter from PSNI dated 19 January 2016 regarding retired Police Officers retention of personal protection weapons. NOTED.

Officials advised the Committee that at the December 2015 Audit and Risk Management Committee Members had discussed a risk around how the PSNI managed the welfare of their Officers and had asked that the matter should be drawn to the attention of the Resources Committee. NOTED.

3.2 PSNI Secondments (Item 4.7 of Minutes Refers)

The Committee noted the content of a letter from the Deputy Chief Constable dated 24 December 2015 regarding the criteria used by PSNI for assessing requests for assistance to other Police Forces. NOTED.

3.3 Questions to raise with the Chief Constable (Item 4.8 of Minutes Refers)

The Committee noted that questions had been forwarded to the PSNI regarding:-

- Increased costs for the Close Protection Unit.
- Costs associated with Body Worn Video.
- HMIC Austerity Report

NOTED.

The Committee noted details of information which had been received from the PSNI regarding the cost of parts and down time for small unmanned aircraft. NOTED.

Following discussion it was considered that the procurement of the small unmanned aircrafts should be discussed with the T/Director of PSNI Finance and Support Services later in the meeting. NOTED.

3.4 HMIC Review responding to Austerity (Item 7.1 of Minutes Refers)

The Committee noted that questions regarding the HMIC Review responding to Austerity had been forwarded to PSNI for responses. NOTED.

3.5 PSNI Managed Service Contract (Item 8.1 of Minutes Refers)

The Committee noted details of information which had been received from the PSNI regarding value for money in respect of the PSNI Managed Service Contract. NOTED.

4. COMMITTEE PROGRAMME OF WORK

Members noted a Committee Programme of Work for 2015/16. NOTED.

5. CHAIRPERSON'S BUSINESS

5.1 Northern Ireland Community Safety College

There were no developments in relation to the Northern Ireland Community Safety College

5.2 Correspondence

The Committee noted a letter dated 21 December 2015 from the Director of Policy to the Selected Medical Practitioner regarding the implementation of the guidance for medical practitioners which was published in October 2015. NOTED.

Officials briefed the Committee on the issue relating to the guidance for medical practitioners and pressures on timescales for the procurement of a contract for a Selected Medical Practitioner for the Board. They undertook to keep Members updated.

The Committee noted a letter dated 25 January 2016 from the DOJ regarding consultation on the Police (Injury Benefit) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2016. NOTED.

The Committee noted an email from PSNI dated 22 January 2016 regarding PSNI provision of mutual aid for a Syrian Conference, NOTED.

6 ITEMS FOR DECISION

6.1 Draft Police Pension (Additional Voluntary Contributions) (Amendment) Regulations (NI) 2016

The Committee considered a paper which informed Members of the change to the PSNI Additional Voluntary Contributions Scheme which would be introduced on 6 April 2016.

Members considered the draft Police Pensions (Additional Voluntary Contributions) (Amendment) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2016 and:-

AGREED:

A response from the Board to the DOJ regarding the draft Regulations.

6.2 Assisted Removals – Extension

The Committee considered a paper which sought approval for a one month final extension on leased accommodation in respect of ADM 34, ADM 42, ADM 53, ADM 83 and ADM 85

The Committee noted the position regarding the negative equity cases that are currently the subject of a Judicial Review. NOTED

Following discussion the Committee:-

AGREED:

That a one month final extension on leased accommodation should be given in respect of ADM 34, ADM 42, ADM 53, ADM 83 and ADM 85.

7. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

7.1 PSNI Report on Expenditure to December 2015

The Chairperson welcomed Mr Mark McNaughten, T/Director of Finance & Support Services and Ms Denise Teer to the meeting.

The T/Director of Finance & Support Services briefed the Committee on the December 2015 expenditure report.

| | Actual £k | Budget £k | Variance £k |
|--|-----------|-----------|-------------|
| Staff | 393,996 | 404,006 | 10,010 |
| Non Staff costs | 91,655 | 103,892 | 12,237 |
| Receipts | (6,435) | (6,154) | 281 |
| Cash Payment of Provisions | 21,722 | 24,203 | 2,481 |
| Loss on Disposal | 179 | 0 | (179) |
| Hearing Loss | 6,592 | 9,000 | 2,408 |
| Ringfenced Depreciation and Diminution | 27,205 | 27,750 | 545 |
| Voluntary Exit Scheme | 1,370 | 0 | (1,370) |
| TOTAL RESOURCE DEL | 536,284 | 562,697 | 26,413 |

During discussion Members raised various issues with PSNI including:-

- Overtime working in PSNI.
 - Budget allocation for PSNI for future years.
 - Direct Award Contracts (DACs) which had proprietary rights. The T/Director of Finance & Support Services undertook to review the instances of the DACs and advise the Committee at its next meeting.
 - The cost of replacement parts for small unmanned aircrafts and the amount of time the aircrafts had been out of action. Members asked to be provided with a copy of the business case for the procurement of the aircrafts and whether there was 1 contract for all 3 types of aircrafts..
 - The impact of the PSNI Voluntary Exit Scheme on PSNI.
 - Expenditure on accommodation and transport costs.
- The representatives from PSNI undertook to provide the Committee with a breakdown of this expenditure.

The Chairperson thanked Mr Mark McNaughten, T/Director of Finance & Support Services and Ms Denise Teer for attending the meeting and they left.

7.2 Policing Board Report on Expenditure to December 2015

The Committee noted the Board's Management Accounts to December 2015.
NOTED.

7.3 Police Pensions – Actions taken by Officials under delegated authority

The Committee noted a paper regarding:-

- Actions taken by Officials under delegated authority to administer the Selected Medical Practitioner's decisions for the period 1 October – 31 December 2015.
- Appeals reached by Independent Medical Referees appointed by DOJ for the period 1 October – 31 December 2015.

NOTED.

It was:-

RESOLVED:

To ratify decisions taken under delegated authority in relation to police pension and injury benefits for the period 1 October – 31 December 2015.

7.4 PSNI Secondments and Assistance

The Committee considered a paper in relation to a request which had been made under section 8 of the Police (NI) Act 2000 for assistance to An Garda Síochána in relation to a search of a border area for a high risk missing person from Derry/Londonderry.

The request had been received on 22 December 2015 and given its urgency the Chair and Vice Chair of the Committee had approved that PSNI could provide assistance to the An Garda Síochána.

Following discussion the Committee:-

AGREED:

To ratify the decision which had been taken by the Chair and Vice Chair of the Committee in relation to the request for assistance to An Garda Siochana under section 8 of the Police (NI) Act 2000.

7.5 HMIC Review responding to Austerity

The Chairperson welcomed Chief Superintendent Peter Farrar to the meeting.

The Chief Superintendent briefed the Committee on the implementation of the recommendations in the HMIC Review: Responding To Austerity and PSNI's understanding of current demand. He explained that implementation of the recommendations in the HMIC Review were progressing and would take some time to complete.

The Chief Superintendent explained that an Efficiency and Effectiveness Inspection by PSNI was about to start within PSNI and the Chairs and Vice-Chairs from the Resources and Performance Committees had been invited to attend a debrief on the Inspection on 10 February 2016.

In response to a question from a Member the Chief Superintendent undertook to provide the Committee with a copy of the questions which had been used to assess the efficiency strand of the HMIC Inspection.

During discussion Members raised various issues with PSNI including:-

- The impact of the PSNI Voluntary Exit Scheme on PSNI.
- The demand placed on PSNI.
- A reporting framework regarding the implementation of the recommendations in the HMIC Review: Responding To Austerity which could be linked to the PSNI Corporate Plan.

The Chairperson thanked C/Superintendent Farrar for attending the meeting and he left.

8. INFORMATION PAPERS

The Committee noted the following papers:-

8.1 Update on Implementation of the Scofield Report

The Chairperson referred to an update on the implementation of the action plan for the recommendations in the Scofield Report and advised Members that the position regarding the recommendations had been agreed by Officials and DOJ and was not a Board position.

During discussion it was:-

AGREED:

- That Officials should re-draft the action plan and bring to a future meeting of the Committee.
- That Officials should consider arranging a meeting with DOJ to discuss recommendations 1 – 6 in the Scofield Report.

The Chairperson paid tribute to the work which had been carried out by the Director of Policy and the Pensions Manager in relation to the Scofield Report.

8.2 PSNI January 2016 In-Year Monitoring Round

8.3 Policing Board January 2016 In-Year Monitoring Round

8.4 Board's submission to the Police Remuneration Review Body and Senior Salaries Review Body

8.5 Op Tommen Indicative Costings for 20/8/13 – 31/12/15

8.6 Signing of PSNI Estate Documents

NOTED.

9 QUESTIONS FOR THE CHIEF CONSTABLE

The Committee considered that a question should be drafted to ask the Chief Constable at a future meeting regarding resourcing.

10. COMMUNICATION ISSUES

There were no communication issues arising from the meeting.

11. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business for discussion.

12. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The Committee noted that the next meeting would be held on 25 February 2016. A joint Partnership and Resources Committee Workshop would be held on 11 February 2016.

(Meeting closed at 11.45am)

BOARD SUPPORT

January 2016

Chairperson