

Confidence in Policing Conference 25/26 March 2014 Delegate Feedback

Introduction

Following their attendance at the Confidence in Policing Conference held on 25/26 March 2014, delegates were asked for their thoughts and feedback on various aspects of the conference. Delegates had the option of completing the survey online or completing a hard copy. 65 delegates responded to the survey.

Days attended and conference venue

- 42 delegates attended both days, while 3 attended on the Tuesday only and 20 attended on the Wednesday only.
- All but one delegate thought that the Titanic Quarter was a suitable venue.

Conference information

- 32 delegates (49%) stated that the **pre-conference information** was of great use, 23 (35%) thought it was of some use, 8 (12%) thought it was of limited use while 2 (3%) thought it was of no use.
- 39 delegates (60%) rated the **information given out during the conference** as of great use, 22 (34%) thought it was of some use while 4 (6%) thought it was of limited use.
- 41 delegates (63%) thought that **the conference overall** was of great use, 20 (31%) thought it was of some use while 4 (6%) thought it was of limited use.

Tuesday evening 25 March 2014

- Of the 45 delegates who attended on the Tuesday evening, 29 (64%) rated the **speakers** as of great use, 14 (31%) thought they were of some use while 2 (4%) thought they were of limited use.
- 26 delegates (58%) rated the **Human Rights Launch** as of great use, 14 (31%) thought it was of some use, 4 (9%) thought it was of limited use while 1 (2%) thought it was of no use.
- 29 delegates (64%) rated the **Panel Discussion** as of great use, 14 (31%) thought it was of some use, 1 (2%) thought it was of limited use while 1 (2%) thought it was of no use.

Wednesday 26 March 2014

62 respondents attended the conference on the Wednesday but not all attended each session.

- Of the 58 delegates who attended the **Policing Priorities Session**, 33 (57%) rated it as of great use, 20 (35%) thought it was of some use while 5 (9%) thought it was of limited use.
- Of the 62 delegates who attended the **Session on the challenge in maintaining community confidence in policing in the context of policing serious crime, security and public order policing**, 35 (56%) rated it as of great use, 21 (34%) thought it was of some use, 5 (9%) thought it was of limited use while 1 (2%) thought it was of no use.
- Of the 62 delegates who attended the **Presentation on the effect public order policing has on other areas with use of footage from PSNI and input from officers**, 36 (58%) rated it as of great use, 19 (31%) thought it was of some use, 6 (10%) thought it was of limited use while 1 (2%) thought it was of no use.
- Of the 61 delegates who attended the **Discussion on the mechanisms in place to ensure accountability of policing**, 28 (46%) rated it as of great use, 22 (36%) thought it was of some use, 8 (13%) thought it was of limited use while 3 (5%) thought it was of no use.
- Of the 61 delegates who attended the session on **Community expectations of policing and matching policing to those needs**, 28 (46%) rated it as of great use, 24 (39%) thought it was of some use, 7 (11%) thought it was of limited use while 2 (3%) thought it was of no use.
- Of the 59 delegates who attended the session on **Positive experiences of effective community engagement and partnership working and what can be learnt from these to build confidence in policing**, 33 (56%) rated it as of great use, 18 (31%) thought it was of some use while 8 (14%) thought it was of limited use.

Comments on community confidence in policing

- Of the 60 delegates who responded, 34 (57%) felt more positive towards the mechanisms in place to build community confidence in policing, 24 (40%) felt about the same while 2 (3%) felt less positive.
- When asked **“What more can the Policing Board do to enhance community confidence in policing?”** 38 delegates responded and the following themes were identified.
 - 8 respondents thought the Policing Board should support the police more. One example of this is *“The Policing Board needs to show that it also supports the Police as well as holds them to account”*.
 - PCSPs were also mentioned by 8 respondents.
 - “More training for PCSP Members”*.
 - “Build stronger connections and communicate more effectively with PCSPs”*.
 - “Remember that there is life beyond Belfast. Locally PCSP coming in for a lot of criticism re effectiveness ... yet groundbreaking work on the ground is ignored”*.
 - “Provide an opportunity for PCSPs to share best practice. It was good to meet up with other members and hear informally what they are doing in the community.”*

- 4 respondents thought that more engagement work should be carried out. *“Invest in Community Policing and encouraging the community to interact more the police”.*
- 4 respondents stated they wanted the Board to *“continue to promote community confidence in a consistent and open manner”.*
- 3 respondents stated that the Board could show *“More public support of PSNI when good practice is identified in addition to publicising actions taken to address poor performance”.*
- 2 respondents thought *“It was disappointing that more politicians from the Board were not at the conference”.*
- 2 respondents also thought that the Board should *“Have more public meetings of NIPB outside of Belfast.”*

Any other comments about the conference

- 32 delegates responded and the following themes were identified.
- 21 delegates had positive comments about the conference.

“A really well organised conference - well done to the staff, they are friendly and professional.”

“I found the conference very worthwhile as it was extremely educating and informative”

“Very enjoyable conference, with a wide selection of speakers to suit all in attendance”.

- 5 delegates thought Dr Rick Muir was an excellent speaker, 4 delegates thought ACC Martin was an excellent speaker, 2 delegates thought ACC Gary Shewan was excellent and 2 delegates thought that Donna Traynor was an excellent facilitator.
- 3 delegates mentioned the Restorative Justice presentation. One delegate thought it was outstanding while two thought it was inappropriate for a conference.
- 3 delegates thought that *“the venue was very good”.*
- 3 delegates thought that *“PCSPs input very inspiring”* and was *“pleased to hear the PCSPs valued by the speakers and to hear that we have a role”.*
- 3 delegates had negative comments about the conference.

“I don't think there was enough community attendance at the conference, which is a bit of a contradiction for a conference which aimed to look at Improving Confidence in Policing. “

“Very few young people at event. Mostly over thirties and beyond ..”

“Where were the Political Members of the Policing Board on Wednesday, no SDLP, UUP or Alliance, and only one Political Member came to the Policing Plan launch. A few more Politicians turned up for their lunch? Sends out the wrong message about the interest in having the conference.”