



FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST

FOI Reference number: FOI 54/2013

Date: 21 November 2013

Request:

Under the Freedom of Information Act, I would like to request details of any written submissions made to US diplomat Richard Haass as part of on-going talks dealing with unresolved issues in Northern Ireland:

Please provide a copy of any formal written submissions made to Richard Haass and/or his team (redacted if necessary to comply with the limits of the FOI Act), e.g. on proposals for Northern Ireland's future. If possible, please also provide a copy of all disclosable correspondence sent and received in relation to the Haass talks (redacted if necessary) since September this year.

Answer:

The Northern Ireland Policing Board (the Board) has not made any written submissions to the Panel of Parties chaired by Dr. Richard Haass.

However, the Chairperson, Vice Chairperson and the Chief Executive of the Board accepted an invitation to meet with the vice-chair of the Panel of Parties, Dr. Meghan O'Sullivan on Wednesday 9 October 2013.

There was a general discussion around a range of issues covered by the terms of reference for the assignment however there were no notes taken by those attending from the Board.

The Board is releasing to you a redacted copy of e-mail correspondence in respect of the meeting on the 9 October 2013. Where redactions have been made these are to prevent the disclosure of third party information in accordance with data protection legislation.

If you have queries about this request or the decision please contact the Board quoting the reference number above. If you are unhappy with the service you have received and wish to make a complaint or request a review you should write to the Board's Chief Executive at the following address:

Northern Ireland Policing Board
Waterside Tower
31 Clarendon Road
Clarendon Dock
Belfast BT1 3BG

Email: foi@nipolicingboard.org.uk

If you are not content with the outcome of your complaint, you may apply directly to the Information Commissioner. Generally, the Information Commissioner's Office cannot investigate or make a decision on a case unless you have exhausted the complaints procedure provided by the Board. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at:-

The Information Commissioner's Office – Northern Ireland
3rd Floor
12 Cromac Place
Gasworks
Ormeau Road
Belfast
BT7 2JB.

Telephone: - 02890 269 380
Email: - ni@ico.org.uk

Please be advised that all Policing Board replies under Freedom of Information will be released into the public domain via our website @ www.nipolicingboard.org.uk.

Personal details in respect of your request have, where applicable, been removed to protect confidentiality.

[REDACTED]

To: [REDACTED]@ofndfmi.gov.uk
Subject: FW: Confirmation of meeting with Vice-Chair of the Panel of Parties
Attachments: Stuart MacDonnell - Pen Picture.DOC; Anne Connolly - Pen Picture.DOC; Sam Pollock - Pen Picture.DOC

Dear [REDACTED]

Further to our conversation of earlier today, can you please see below the short bio on the NI Policing Board.

Also attached is the pen pictures of Anne, Stuart and Sam Pollock.

I hope this is helpful.

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Northern Ireland Policing Board
Direct Dial No: [REDACTED]

The Northern Ireland Policing Board is an independent public body made up of 19 Members. Ten are Political Members (appointed on the basis of D'Hondt) and nine are Independent Members who are appointed through open competition by the Justice Minister. The Board has a statutory duty to oversee policing in Northern Ireland and hold the Police Service of Northern Ireland (PSNI) to account through the Chief Constable for the delivery of effective, efficient and impartial policing. Its primary responsibilities are:

- To consult with the community to obtain their views on policing and their co-operation with the police in preventing crime;
- To help build community confidence in policing;
- To set and publish objectives and targets for PSNI as part of an Annual Policing Plan and to monitor PSNI performance against this plan;
- To work in partnership with the Department of Justice to support and oversee the work of 26 Policing and Community Safety Partnerships (PCSPs);
- To appoint all officers of the Service above the rank of Chief Superintendent;
- To set the budget for policing and monitor expenditure;
- To oversee complaints against the police and to conduct investigations into complaints against senior officers; and
- To monitor PSNI Human Rights compliance with the Human Rights Act 1998. The Board also manages Custody Visitors to make sure that those held in custody are being treated appropriately and have access to their rights.

Following a recent publication by Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary on the Historical Enquiries Team the Board has established a working group to take forward implementation of the recommendations.

A copy of the Board's newsletter can be found at the following link:
[http://www.nipolicingboard.org.uk/final_pdf - policing matters sept 2013 issue.pdf](http://www.nipolicingboard.org.uk/final_pdf_-_policing_matters_sept_2013_issue.pdf)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 04 October 2013 14:57
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Confirmation of meeting with Vice-Chair of the Panel of Parties

I am writing on behalf of Dr Meghan O'Sullivan to confirm your meeting with her on **Wednesday 9th October at 11.30am in the Europa Hotel Belfast**. The meeting will last about 45 minutes.
On arrival at the Europa Hotel please take the lift directly to the 2nd floor reception area.

Meghan has asked for a short biography and background note on your organisation. I would be grateful if you would forward this to me by 2.00pm on Monday 7 October along with an indication of the numbers attending the meeting as part of your delegation.

As requested I have attached a link to the Terms of Reference for the assignment which may be of interest to you.
<http://www.northernireland.gov.uk/index/media-centre/news-departments/news-ofmdfm/news-ofmdfm-august-2013/news-ofmdfm-150813-terms-of-reference.htm>

Kind regards

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Office of the First Minister and Deputy First Minister
FD34, Stormont Castle, Stormont, BELFAST, BT4 3TT
[REDACTED]

Anne Connolly – Pen Picture



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Anne Connolly began her career in 1975 as a secondary school teacher, progressing to the post of Vice Principal after six years. From here she moved into the Curriculum Advisory Service, first on secondment to the Western Education and Library Board and then as Adviser for English with the North Eastern Education and Library Board.

In addition, Anne worked from 1983-1989 as a part-time lecturer for the University of Ulster and also taught on the Professional Qualification for Head Teachers with the Regional Training Unit, Northern Ireland.

In 2000, Anne was appointed Assistant Senior Education Officer with the North Eastern Education and Library Board, a post which combined leadership of the Curriculum Advisory and Support Service with responsibility for the Schools Administration Branch.

In 2004, Anne took up the post of Director of Library and Corporate Services in the North Eastern Education and Library Board where she initiated a major rationalisation and change management programme within the library service. During this time she led the North Eastern Education and Library Board to success in a number of quality awards programmes, including Charter Mark for customer services, Investors in People and the Northern Ireland Quality Award within the European Foundation for Quality Management.

In 2009, Anne was appointed Director of Planning and Performance with Libraries Northern Ireland, a new organisation established under the Review of Public Administration, to bring together the 5 Library Services from across Northern Ireland.

During her career, Anne has held a variety of non-executive director posts with a number of Northern Ireland bodies, including the Verbal Arts Centre, the Northern Ireland Film Commission and a local Strategy partnership established to access EU funding.

Stuart MacDonnell – Pen Picture



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Stuart MacDonnell is the NI Non-Executive Member of the Council for Healthcare Regulatory Excellence (Department of Health) where he has oversight of monitoring and scrutiny of Health and Social Services Regulatory Bodies throughout the UK. He had previously been the Chief Executive / Accountable Officer of the Northern Health and Social Services Board. Mr MacDonnell has extensive experience from his current and previous roles in the performance management of delivery of public services and of strategic planning.

Sam Pollock – Chief Executive

Sam started work in the Criminal Justice System in 1972, and has worked in all key roles in the Probation Service, and for 7 years was Chief Probation Officer in Glamorgan, South Wales. He also worked as a Prison Governor in the Maze in the 1970's. For almost 11 years Sam worked as Chief Executive in the Office of the Police Ombudsman. Sam was appointed as Chief Executive to NIPB in June and took up his post in August 2012

He is passionate about an effective criminal justice system and a Police Service that commands the respect and confidence of people in Northern Ireland.

Sam thinks the Policing Board has made a formidable contribution to the new policing framework, and hopes he will be able to support the Board and the PSNI in the development of accountability and governance of good policing in this jurisdiction.

**THE PANEL OF PARTIES IN THE NI EXECUTIVE
ON PARADES AND PROTESTS; FLAGS, SYMBOLS AND EMBLEMS AND
RELATED MATTERS; AND THE PAST**

TERMS OF REFERENCE

Background

The 'Together: Building a United Community' Strategy was published on 23 May 2013 reflecting the Executive's commitment to improving community relations and continuing the journey towards a more united and shared society. The Strategy outlines a vision based on equality of opportunity, the desirability of good relations and reconciliation. It provides the framework for government action in tackling sectarianism, racism and other forms of intolerance while seeking to address division, hate and separation.

When announcing their intention to publish the Strategy, the First Minister and deputy First Minister recognised the difficulties that had prevented agreement from the five Executive parties on certain issues. They proposed a way forward involving the establishment of an independently chaired Panel of Parties in the NI Executive ("Panel") to consider parades and protests; flags, symbols and emblems and related matters; and the past.

Terms of Reference

An independently chaired Panel will be invited to:

"Bring forward a set of recommendations by the end of 2013 on parades and protests; flags, symbols, emblems and related matters stemming from the past that will provide long-term and sustainable solutions that are in the best interests of this community and will make the peace more resilient going forward. In doing so the Group will seek the views of, and evidence from, interested stakeholders on how best to address the issues that cause community division."

Membership

The First Minister and deputy First Minister will appoint an independent Chair and Vice Chair from outside the political parties and, in addition to the First Minister/deputy First Minister representatives and the Junior Ministers, invite two nominations from the remaining Executive parties to form the Panel.

The Panel will determine which stakeholders should be invited to join the Panel and which organisations should be asked to give evidence.

It will also determine how often and in what format it will meet.

Timescale

The Panel will report regularly to the First Minister and deputy First Minister. It is anticipated that they will receive draft recommendations by late November or early December.

Key Deliverables

- Report including Recommendations.
- Identification of Next Steps/Future Work.

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
To: Anne Connolly ([REDACTED]); stuart.macdonnell ([REDACTED])
Subject: MEETING WITH MEGAN O'SULLIVAN, HAASS TEAM

Anne/Stuart

Following our discussion yesterday, can I now please confirm the discussions with Megan O'Sullivan (Vice-Chair of the Haass talks) for **11.30 – 12.15 pm in the Europa Hotel on Wednesday 9 October.**

When you arrive at the Europa Hotel you take the lift to the second floor, and someone will be waiting there.

Attending from the Board are you both and Sam.

There is no formal agenda for discussion, but DOJ will send over an e-mail later today with Terms of Reference etc, and I will forward this on to you when I receive it.

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Northern Ireland Policing Board
[REDACTED]

- 1) awaiting further e-mail from [REDACTED]
- 2) forward it to Anne/Stuart/Sam