

NORTHERN IRELAND POLICING BOARD

MINUTES OF THE HUMAN RESOURCES COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 5 JULY 2012 AT 9.00AM IN WATERSIDE TOWER, BELFAST

PRESENT:

MEMBERS

Mr Trevor Lunn (Chairperson)
Mrs Joan O'Hagan (Vice Chairperson)
Mrs Anne Connolly
Mr Ross Hussey
Mr Stuart MacDonnell
Ms Caitríona Ruane

OFFICIALS IN ATTENDANCE:

Mr David Jackson, (Director of Planning,
Performance & Partnerships)
Three Board Officials

1. APOLOGIES, ETC

No apologies were received. NOTED.

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

2. PSNI REQUEST TO ASSIST ORGANISATIONS OUTSIDE THE UK

The Committee considered a paper which advised Members of requests which had been received from the PSNI for assistance to Kosovo Police and Macedonia Police. under section 8 of the Police (NI) Act 2000.

Ms Caitríona Ruane expressed the view that if some Members voted against supporting the requests for assistance to Kosovo Police and Macedonia Police the Minister of Justice should be informed of the position. She asked that her concern regarding this issue be formally recorded.

Officials advised that the Committee in response to its previous request would be provided with copies of letters from the Board to the Minister of Justice during the past year in relation to the provision of assistance to Organisations outside the UK.

Some Members expressed concern at the human rights records of Kosovo and Macedonia.

With regard to the provision of assistance to Macedonia Ms Ruane drew the Committee's attention to paragraph 3.7 of Appendix "A" of the paper which stated "As regards the prevention of torture and ill-treatment and the fight against impunity, legislative provisions in this area the report says are yet to be translated into a consistent and comprehensive practice. Allegations of ill-treatment by Police still continue and the effectiveness of prosecutors and judges in taking appropriate action when there are indications of ill-treatment by the police remains a concern". She asked that her concern regarding this issue be formally recorded.

Members discussed the provision of assistance by PSNI to Kosovo Police.

It was proposed that the PSNI should provide assistance to Kosovo Police. Three Members (Mrs Anne Connolly, Mr Stuart MacDonnell and Mr Ross Hussey) indicated by a show of hands that they were in favour of the proposal. Two Members (Mrs Joan O'Hagan and Ms Caitriona Ruane) indicated that they were against the proposal. The Chairperson abstained from voting.

It was:-

RESOLVED:

That the PSNI request to provide assistance under section 8 of the Police (NI) Act 2000 to Kosovo Police should be forwarded to the Minister of Justice for consideration and final approval.

Members discussed the provision of assistance by PSNI to Macedonia Police.

It was proposed that the PSNI should provide assistance to Macedonia

Police. Three Members (Mr Trevor Lunn, Mr Stuart MacDonnell and Mr Ross Hussey) indicated by a show of hands that they were in favour of the proposal. Three Members (Mrs Anne Connolly, Mrs Joan O'Hagan and Ms Caitriona Ruane) indicated that they were against the proposal). The Chairperson of the Committee decided not to use his casting vote.

It was:-

RESOLVED:

That the PSNI request to provide assistance under section 8 of the Police (NI) Act 2000 to Kosovo Police should be forwarded to the Minister of Justice for consideration and decision.

3. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

No other business was conducted.

4. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The date of the next meeting was arranged for Thursday 9 August 2012 at 2:00pm.

(Meeting closed at 9.25am).

Member Services

July 2012