

NORTHERN IRELAND POLICING BOARD

PARTNERSHIP COMMITTEE

WEDNESDAY 14 AUGUST 2019 at 09.00am

WATERSIDE TOWER

PRESENT:

Mrs Dolores Kelly (Chair)
Mr Colm McKenna (Vice Chair)
Mr John Blair
Prof Brice Dickson
Mrs Linda Dillon
Mr Philip McGuigan
(1) Ms Debbie Watters

**POLICE SERVICE OF
NORTHERN IRELAND IN
ATTENDANCE:**

(2) ACC Mark Hamilton
(2) 2 PSNI Officials

**OFFICIALS IN
ATTENDANCE:**

Mr Adrian McNamee, Director of Partnership
3 Board Officials

- (1) **Item number 6.1** (arrived 09.40 and left 11.00)
- (2) **Item number 6.1** (arrived at 09.00 - left at 10.30)

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies for the meeting were received from Mrs Wendy Osborne, Mrs Joanne Bunting, Mr Gary Middleton and Mr Mervyn Storey.

The Committee agreed the agenda for the meeting and due to time constraints for ACC Hamilton, the Chair advised that the Committee would move directly to Agenda Item 6.1.

6.1 Local Policing - Draft Board/PSNI Action Plan

The Chair welcomed ACC Hamilton to provide an update on the latest draft action plan.

ACC Hamilton thanked the PSNI and Board officials for their ongoing work in developing the draft action plan and noted the keen interest that the Chief Constable has taken in relation to its development. The Chief Constable is due to provide further detailed information at the Board meeting on the 4th/5th September.

He also noted the increased resources in Londonderry and East Belfast by September 2019 and provided an overview of the reviews currently taking place on Neighbourhood Policing Teams, their uniforms, the marking of police vehicles and call handling (including 101).

ACC Hamilton informed members that the summer months had been a challenging time for officers and felt an increase in PSNI visibility in the community will be of benefit.

The Chair acknowledged and thanked ACC Hamilton and Board officials for the work so far on the document and asked that ACC Hamilton pass on the good wishes of the Committee to all those officers injured in recent incidents.

During discussion on the draft action plan the following main points were discussed:-

- 2.5 - Members would welcome further information on the introduction of new the Neighbourhood Policing teams;
- 3.1 - this analysis should include the quantifying and nature of demand and should be included in the implementation plan;
- Headline Action 4 - more actions need to be added, including on-line reporting of crimes;

- Headline Action 5 - the involvement of PCSPs and the Board in the community planning process;
- 5.4 - further clarification is required from the Chief Constable in relation to the role of Director of Safer Communities;
- 6.4 - important that the Board develop a more strategic advocacy role;
- Definitions - needs to be completed;
- Joint Foreword - needs to be added; and
- Consideration should be given across the plan to improving relations with the community, particularly under Headline Action 2 and 5 by including more engagement and co-design.

It was:

AGREED:

- That PSNI and Board officials will consider Members comments, make the required amendments and distribute a final draft to members for agreement. On receipt of agreement the final draft document will be brought to the September Board meeting with a recommendation for approval **(AP1)**.
- That a launch event of the Action Plan, inclusive of the Ulster University Analysis Report and Geographical Reports, should be organised after approval at the Board. **(AP2)**.

The Chair thanked ACC Hamilton and his colleagues for their attendance and they left the meeting (10.30am)

2. CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

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

3. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

The Committee considered the draft minutes of the Partnership Committee meeting held on 20 June 2019.

It was:-

RESOLVED:

That the draft minutes of the Partnership Committee meeting held on 20 June 2019 be approved.

4. UPDATE ON ACTION LOG:

The Partnership Director provided Members with an update on the Committee's rolling action log. The Committee considered the update on the action log.

It was:-

RESOLVED:

That the action log should be approved.

5. CHAIRPERSON'S BUSINESS

There were no items of Chairperson's business for consideration.

6. ITEMS FOR COMMITTEE BUSINESS

6.2 Police Property Fund

The Chair introduced the item noting this was the largest sum ever held within the Police Property Fund. She advised that it was unlikely to ever reach this amount again therefore asked Members to be mindful of this when considering.

Members considered the questions raised within the Police Property Fund paper and discussed options specifically in relation to the aims and objectives of the fund, its administration and the governance.

It was :

AGREED:

- The aims and objectives of the fund should be closely aligned to “charitable purposes” as outlined in The Charities Act 2008;
- That eligible activities should include police/PCSP engagement and contribute to building confidence in policing;
- That the fund should include a combination of strategic and small grants programme;
- The Board should be the administrators of the funding;
- Through acknowledgement that the full amount of funding does not need to be spent within one funding cycle and this would still comply with NIAO guidance;
- That Board officials consider these decisions and develop a further paper for member’s consideration that outlines a proposed governance framework for the fund **(AP3)**; and
- That Board officials will research examples from other similar schemes from across the UK and provide further information in relation to projects funded under the current Assets Recovery Community Scheme (ARCS) **(AP4)**.

7. QUESTIONS FOR THE CHIEF CONSTABLE

The Chair asked Members to consider any upcoming Chief Constable questions.

Members discussed the high profile policing operations over the last few weeks and agreed to ask the Chief Constable the following question:

Given the high profile policing operations over the summer, in particular Avoniel, New Lodge and the Apprentice Boys parade in Londonderry, the Partnership Committee would like to ask the Chief Constable to:

- (i) Outline the level of PSNI planning and engagement with statutory organisations and community organisations prior to these operations occurring;
- (ii) What policing lessons have been learned from these operations and the communications approach taken?
- (iii) What strategies will the PSNI now implement to address some of the concerns expressed about the policing response? and
- (iv) How will these strategies shape the type of interventions delivered in the medium and longer term?

8. COMMUNICATION ISSUES

There were no communication issues arising from the meeting.

9. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

No other business was conducted.

10. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The date of the next meeting was agreed as Thursday 19 September 2019.

(Meeting closed at 12 noon).

**PARTNERSHIP DIRECTORATE
27 AUGUST 2019**


Chairperson