

Police Service of Northern Ireland

ABSTRACT – This Policy sets out how the Police Service of Northern Ireland (the police) will manage intelligence

HQ Ref: INT01/11

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POLICY DIRECTIVE

THE MANAGEMENT OF INTELLIGENCE

1. POLICY IDENTIFICATION

POLICY TITLE: The Management of Intelligence

POLICY OWNERSHIP: ACC Crime Operations

DEPARTMENT Crime Operations

BRANCH C3 Intelligence

AUTHOR

POLICY APPROVED BY: ACC Crime Operations

**CCF REF/OTHER
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2. POLICY STATEMENTS

- (1) The term 'Management of Intelligence' refers to the process of gathering, processing and disseminating any information that is deemed as having use for 'intelligence purposes', from its first receipt by the organisation until its destruction by the organisation.
- (2) 'Intelligence purposes' includes any purpose so deemed by Head of Intelligence.
- (3) For ease of communication 'information deemed as having use for intelligence purposes' will be referred to henceforth as 'intelligence'.
- (4) The Police Service of Northern Ireland (the police) will collect and manage intelligence regardless of its origin, in order to assist the Chief Constable in discharging his obligations under Section 32 Police (Northern Ireland) Act 2000. This will be done in accordance with The Human Rights Act 1998, The Regulation of Investigatory Powers Act (RIPA), 2000 and the attendant Codes of Practice and The Data Protection Act (DPA) 1998.
- (5) Intelligence will be managed in accordance with the police directions issued by the Head of Intelligence C3.
- (6) Head of Intelligence will have lead responsibility for the processing and dissemination of **all** intelligence received by the police which is not governed by bi-lateral or Multiparty Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) or Service Level Agreements (SLA). This responsibility does not diminish Head of Intelligence's responsibility to ensure the gathering of intelligence by C3 staff where that intelligence gathering function falls to C3.
- (7) Where intelligence (not governed by arrangements in (6) above) is gathered/received by any officer or department it must be forwarded unabridged and forthwith, to C3 Intelligence Branch for processing and dissemination.
- (8) The fact that any piece of information was gathered primarily in pursuit of a specific investigation or received for any other purpose does not preclude it being deemed as having use for intelligence purposes.
- (9) Head of Intelligence will ensure that all intelligence (subject to (6) above) is processed in a timely manner and disseminated to the relevant intelligence customer whether or not that customer is within or outside the organisation. Intelligence will only be disseminated by C3 Intelligence Branch.
- (10) Where intelligence is to be gathered from Covert Human Intelligence Sources (CHIS), including officers working under cover, (as defined under Section 26 of the RIPA,) this will be done solely by officers designated for that role and in accordance with relevant police directions.
- (11) Where intelligence is to be gathered by means of Directed or Intrusive Surveillance, (as defined under Section 26 of the RIPA), this will be done solely by officers designated for that role and in accordance with relevant police directions.
- (12) Head of Intelligence will ensure that appropriate structures and procedures are in place to facilitate the retention of and, where relevant, the destruction of, intelligence records in line with Police policy and procedures.
- (13) This Policy is suitable for release under the Freedom of Information and can be made publically available.

3. INTRODUCTION

(1) Summary

- (a) This Policy sets out how the police will manage intelligence.
- (b) This Policy is aimed at all police officers and police staff.
- (c) The aim of this Policy is to:
 - (i) Provide a corporate approach to the collection and management of intelligence;
 - (ii) Ensure that all intelligence is managed in accordance with relevant legislation;
 - (iii) Ensure that all intelligence is collected and managed in a manner that will ensure public confidence in the Police.

(2) Legal Basis

Intelligence will be collected and managed in order to discharge the Service's obligations under Police (NI) Act 2000 in accordance with:

- (a) Human Rights Act 1998;
- (b) RIPA 2000;
- (c) Relevant RIPA Codes of Practice;
- (d) DPA 1998.

4. IMPLICATIONS OF THE POLICY

(1) Financial implications/Best Value/Continuous Improvement/Efficiency

Management structures are currently in place. There are ongoing financial implications with regard to securing C3 offices at district level, in order to comply with HMG Security Policy Framework. There are ongoing financial implications with regard to providing appropriate computer software for the collection and management of intelligence.

(2) Human Resources/Training

Training in all aspects of this area of work is an ongoing process. Training and Development are already providing courses.

(3) Partnerships

- (a) Partnerships have been and will be created on an ongoing basis with law enforcement agencies throughout the United Kingdom including representation on relevant national covert working groups and liaison with The National Police Improvement Agency (NPIA).
- (b) All partnerships with law enforcement agencies and other bodies will be undertaken through MOU or an Information Sharing Agreement, between the police and the respective law enforcement agency or body.

(4) Internal Policy Links

Implementation of this Policy will interlink with Service Procedure No 4/11 – Threats to Life and also the Management of Police Information (MoPI) Handbook (pending).

(5) Risks

There is a risk that if this Policy is not implemented it may lead to a loss of public confidence in the police ability to deal with this sensitive area of policing technique. This risk will be mitigated by the implementation of the Policy.

(6) Bureaucracy

There is no additional bureaucracy provided that appropriate software is available to manage the intelligence.

(7) Estates

There are limited associated estate costs with the implementation of this Policy. These relate to additional security to be provided at district level offices.

(8) Consultation

- (a) Extensive consultation has taken place within the police with regard to the supporting procedures.
- (b) Consultation included:
 - (i) Head of Intelligence;
 - (ii) Human Rights Legal Adviser;
 - (iii) Head of C1, C2, C4;
 - (iv) Intelligence subject matter experts;
 - (v) NPIA;
 - (vi) Office of Surveillance Commissioners;
 - (vii) Police Ombudsman for Northern Ireland (PONI).

5. HUMAN RIGHTS/EQUALITY/INTEGRITY/FREEDOM OF INFORMATION/UNITED NATIONS CONVENTION ON THE RIGHTS OF THE CHILD (UNCRC)

- (1) This Policy has been audited for Section 75 considerations and is deemed to be Human Rights compliant.
- (2) Consideration has been given to United Nations Convention on the Rights of The Child (UNCRC).
- (3) This Policy meets integrity standards as set by the PSNI Code of Ethics.
- (4) This Policy may be disclosed under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

6. REVIEW

This Policy will be reviewed twelve months from its date of issue.