



Making Northern Ireland Safer For Everyone Through Professional, Progressive Policing

Chief Constable's Forum		
Notes of Meeting		
Date	Wednesday 17 th September 2008	
Time	8.30 am to 10.40 am	
Location	Conference Room, Brooklyn	
Chairperson	Chief Constable – H Orde	
Members	Deputy Chief Constable	P Leighton
	ACC Crime Operations	D Harris
	ACC Crime Support	C/Supt R McComb
	ACC Rural Region	J Gillespie
	ACC Urban Region	C/Supt M Hamilton
	ACC Operational Support	Supt B Kee
	ACC Criminal Justice	D McCausland
	Head of Media & PR	L Young
	Director of Finance & Support Services	D Best
	Director of Human Resources	M Cox
	Legal Adviser	G Steenson
	Command Secretariat	C/Insp M Larmour
Apologies	ACC Crime Support	D Jones
	ACC Urban Region	A Finlay
	Director of Human Resources	J Stewart
	ACC Operational Support	R Toner
	Command Secretariat	N Murphy
Also in Attendance	Analysis Centre	Principal
	Human Resources	Grade 7
	Human Resources	Deputy Principal
	Legal Services	Staff Officer
	Finance	Grade 6
	Finance	Head of Business Services
	Corporate Risk Register	Insp. G Ramsay
	Corporate Risk Register	Insp. K Gordon
Note Takers	Command Secretariat	Executive Officer

Insert ref. Number*	Insert text*
70/08	<p>Notes of Previous Meeting</p> <p>The notes of the previous meeting on 18 August 2008 were agreed.</p>
71/08	<p>Actions Arising from previous meeting:</p> <p>68/08 Corporate Risk Register CCF 03 (Terrorist Attack) <i>Review the risk rating after an update of the gold meeting from ACC Rural</i></p> <p>CCF 02 (Crime Investigations) <i>Remove action 05 (duplication of action 01)</i></p> <p>Inspector Ramsay confirmed both actions had been completed.</p>
73/08	<p>OPEN SESSION</p> <p>Special Priority Payment Policy</p> <p>Mr Cox explained that achieving consistency was the aim for introducing the updated Special Priority Payment Policy. The key changes are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conduct and performance requirements • A new one generic policy instead of an annual policy • To apply from January 2009. <p>ACC Rural stated the APR year starts in April and this new policy timeline is disconnected with the current system. Mr Cox explained this is as per the PNB agreement and the timeline suggested by ACC Rural would be preferable.</p> <p>The meeting approved the policy.</p>
DECISION	<p>The Chief Constable and members of CCF approved the policy</p>
74/08	<p>OPEN SESSION</p> <p>Corporate Risk Register</p> <p>CCF 01 (Hate Crime)</p>

	<p>Actions 1-4 and 6 are approaching their end date and would require updating before the next CCF meeting. ACC Rural asked when the Deloitte review of Hate Crime Recording was due to commence. The Chief Constable confirmed it would commence next month. ACC Rural stated depending upon the outcome of this review this risk might require updating.</p> <p>CCF 02 (Crime Investigations) Action point 5 (recruitment of additional trainers for Crime training) is due for review. The Chief Constable stated this action needs to be reviewed.</p> <p>CCF 03 (Terrorist Attack) The Chief Constable agreed the risk should be updated to 4,4.</p> <p>CCF 04 (Budgets) Due to commutation charges of £12m, pay upgrading of junior civilian staff amounting to £17m and the costs of legal cases this risk should be upgraded to 3,4. The Chief Constable requested the Director of Finance and Support Services draw up a letter to the NIPB Chairman bringing these costs to his attention.</p> <p>CCF 05 (Public Enquiries) The Chief Constable stated there was a drop off in interest by the public and this risk will be reviewed in the future.</p> <p>CCF 06 (Finance/Training) All action points are within timescales. The Chief Constable asked if this should be removed from the Risk Register. The Deputy Chief Constable stated this risk should remain in the register for the new college.</p> <p>CCF 07 (Corruption and Integrity) The Deputy Chief Constable identified an additional risk to be added to CC7 07 – with the introduction of random testing for substance misuse there is the potential to introduce fear that officers are not operating ethically.</p>
<p>ACTIONS</p>	<p>CCF 02 (Crime Investigations) – Action 5 to be reviewed</p> <p>CCF 03 (Terrorist Attack) – upgrade to 4,4.</p> <p>CCF 04 (Budgets) – DFSS to draw up a letter to NIPB chairman for the Chief Constable to sign</p> <p>CCF 05 (Public Enquiries) – To be reviewed in the future</p>

	<p>CCF 07 (Corruption and Integrity) – Consider adding public perception of random substance misuse as an additional risk</p>
<p>75/08</p>	<p>OPEN SESSION</p> <p>Corporate Expenditure Report</p> <p>The Director of Finance and Support Services indicated there was a projected year-end under spend of £1.6m against a £518,435m devolved pay budget. Police Overtime was over spent by £763k against a budget of £16.6m after five months, with a projected year-end over spend of £263k against a budget of £38.8m for the year. Non-pay devolved budgets have a projected year-end over spend of £1.7m against a £41.4m budget mainly arising from increased fuel costs.</p> <p>Corporate budgets were projecting a £1.9m under spend against a budget of £131.4m for the year.</p> <p>Other Resource Costs were projecting an over spend of £10.0m against the year-end budget of £298.2m. This included a pressure of £14m for compensation and legal costs, £17m for back pay of junior civilian staff arising from a recent DFP announcement, and a pressure of £9.8m for additional commutation costs arising from the recent Home Office announcement for pensions regulations. These pressures were off set by easement in pensions liability valuations.</p> <p>Total Net Revenue DEL expenditure has a projected year-end pressure of £10m against a budget of £918.2m.</p> <p>The overall year-end capital budget of £38.1m was projected to be over spent by £1m.</p> <p>The recent announcement by the Secretary of State not to apply the 12.5% reduction to the Police Allowance will lead to an additional pressure of £1.5m in 2008/09, and an overall pressure of £7m for the three years of the CSR 07 period – 2008/09, 2009/10 and 2010/11.</p>
<p>76/08</p>	<p>OPEN SESSIONS</p> <p>Legal Services Branch – Additional Funding</p> <p>Mr Steenson opened by stating the pressure of the high volume of claims was a legal issue relating to firearms training. The number of hearing loss claims has increased dramatically in the last few months. This year to date 617</p>

	<p>claims have been received and he cannot predict the rate at which claims will continue to come in, possibly a total of 1178 claims by the year end. Health and Safety branch has stated the likely total could be 6,000 claimants. ACC Crime Operations stated the Establishment and Structure said there was the potential of 21,000 future claims from officers trained from 1970 to 1990. ACC Criminal Justice pointed out that 24,000 George Cross ribbons were issued and this was the potential top number of claimants.</p> <p>The number of claims has risen from 33 to 123 claims per month and as the IPP was prepared in August 2007 there was insufficient provision made for this number of claims. Some solicitors are aggressively marketing hearing loss claims in trade publications.</p> <p>The Green Book Valuation Guide is used to set the monetary compensation though the average settlement is around £12k with legal costs around 91% of the settlement.</p> <p>The Chief Constable was informed the cut-off date for claims is three years from the date of knowledge but this was matter of discretion for the judge.</p> <p>The Director of Finance and Support Services stated we have to look at this year and future years, as there is a potential £100m cost. The Chief Constable stated if there are genuine claimants they should be compensated but the costs will likely come out of front line policing. Further discussion continued as to the best way forward. The Chief Constable suggested a group be formed to examine this serious issue.</p>
ACTION	A Group to be formed to examine the issue of legal costs in hearing loss claims
	The meeting closed at 11.40 pm.