



Making Northern Ireland Safer For Everyone Through Professional, Progressive Policing

Chief Constable's Forum		
Notes of Meeting		
Date	Wednesday 18 th March 2009	
Time	1010 hrs to 1220 hrs	
Location	Conference Room, Brooklyn	
Chairperson	ACC Criminal Justice – D McCausland	
Members	ACC Crime Operations	D Harris
	ACC Crime Support	Rep by C/Supt R McComb
	ACC Rural Region	Rep by C/Supt W Kerr
	ACC Urban Region	A Finlay
	ACC Operational Support	R Toner
	Head of Media & PR	L Young
	Director of Finance & Support Services	D Best
	Director of Human Resources	J Stewart
	Legal Adviser	D Scott
	Command Secretariat	T/Supt M Larmour
Apologies	Chief Constable	H Orde
	Deputy Chief Constable	P Leighton
	ACC Crime Support	D Jones
	ACC Rural Region	J Gillespie
Also in Attendance	Analysis Centre	Bridget Lloyd
	Analysis Centre	Graeme Telford
	Head of Strategic Financial Management Services	M McNaughten
	Strategic Financial Management Services	Niall McLaughlin
	Planning and Performance	Insp W McIlwaine
Note Takers	Command Secretariat	Jackie Gaskin

Insert ref. Number*	Insert text*
<p>16/09</p>	<p>Notes of Previous Meeting</p> <p>ACC Criminal Justice welcomed all to the meeting.</p> <p>The notes of the previous meeting were discussed and agreed.</p>
<p>17/09</p>	<p>Actions Arising from previous meeting–</p> <p>11/09 Notes of previous meeting</p> <p><i>The note taker to amend the notes for performance TCG as requested.</i></p> <p>This action has been completed.</p> <p>13/09 Performance TCG</p> <p><i>Raise public awareness that the current economic climate may lead to an increase in the number of crimes.</i></p> <p><i>Chief Superintendent Maguire to raise the issue of Communications Hardware theft via the Business Advisory Forum.</i></p> <p>Chief Superintendent Maguire has forwarded a document on the issue of communications hardware theft to both the CBI and IOD.</p> <p>14/09 Corporate Expenditure Report (Standing Agenda Item)</p> <p><i>The Director of Finance and Support Services to draw up a user-friendly guide for the accounting issues raised in the meeting.</i></p> <p>The Director of Finance and Support Services informed the meeting there would be a presentation with a handout in late March or early April.</p> <p>09/09 Corporate Risk Register (Standing Agenda Item)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CCF04 – <i>The Director of Finance and Support Services is to update the risk for budgets.</i> • CCF05 – <i>Re-score this risk.</i>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prosecution/NICHE/OCMT – <i>This does not need to be on the Risk Register.</i> • Devolution – <i>Preparation for July 2009</i> <p>The actions have been completed except for that on Devolution. This will be re-assessed in July 2009.</p>
<p>18/09</p>	<p>Current Discussions</p> <p>Performance TCG</p> <p>Ms Lloyd reported a reduction on overall crime of 0.2%, a decrease of 1.7% in Urban Region and an increase of 2.3% in Rural Region. This represents a total of 102,507 crimes.</p> <p>ACC Criminal Justice congratulated both regions in reaching their target for Criminal Damage and especially A District who have achieved their targets in All Crime, Domestic Burglary and Criminal Damage.</p> <p>Domestic Burglary shows an increase of 6.3% (6,717 crimes) and is consistently above last year's figures by 100 crimes per month. PSNI should be aiming for a 2.6% decrease. ACC Operational Support commented this relates to an extra 4 burglaries per day. In the current economic climate, Ms Lloyd stated this would be a problem over the next 2 years. The most commonly stolen items are not high value but portable and easily disposed of, for example, TVs, laptops, iPods, jewellery, cash, credit cards, figurines and games consoles.</p> <p>ACC Operational Support stated the main issue is how to reduce the extra 4 burglaries occurring each day and that a multi-faceted control strategy is needed. Chief Superintendent Kerr informed the meeting that at District level many domestic burglaries are still due to open doors or windows and this will increase in the summer.</p> <p>Ms Lloyd reported significant decreases of 10.3% in Criminal Damage and 12% in Anti-Social Behaviour and stressed it will be difficult to maintain these levels next year. ACC Criminal Justice commended all Districts on their good work in these areas. Even though All Violent Crime shows a 3.95% decrease and Violent Crime Against Children a 3.8% decrease, more Serious Violent Crime is up by 22.3%. ACC Urban informed the meeting many of the Section 18</p>

	<p>woundings are as a result of alcohol consumed at house parties. ACC Criminal Justice stated knife crime has increased by 16%. ACC Operational Support emphasised the importance of informing the public that the increase in Serious Violent Crime is due mainly to domestic incidents. The Director of Human Resources added domestic incidents are an issue PSNI cannot prevent.</p> <p>Based on discussions in the previous meeting about Crimes Against Older People Ms Lloyd reported that an in depth analysis had been carried out and reported 4.6% of all victims of crime are aged 65 and over. The nature of these crimes causes fear in communities. ACC Criminal Justice informed the meeting a forum had been created with the Older Persons Commissioner. The Director of Finance and Support Services asked what percentage of the population was aged 65 or over and was informed it was 16%.</p> <p>Ms Lloyd raised the issue of Counterfeit Currency stating the number of incidents recorded had risen from 490 in 2007 to 700 in 2008. This is an increasing problem across the UK and likely to increase further due to the credit crunch. Part of the problem stems from the availability and affordability of good quality scanners and paper.</p> <p>Graeme Telford reported on the Service-Wide Tactical Assessment and the issues requiring further discussion: -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Crime / Incident Overview• Strategic Priorities• Strategic Offenders• Emerging Trends, Patterns and Series• Environmental Scanning and• Forward Planning issues. <p>A Control Strategy would evolve from the Service Strategy that would be ready in 6 months for forward planning. A TCG would meet monthly and be chaired by either ACC Urban or ACC Rural. There was agreement that the TCG and control strategy be up and running as soon as possible, preferably by the start of the new financial year.</p> <p>ACC Criminal Justice summarised the discussion so far:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• TCG structure goes ahead• Bring the key elements to the Top Team morning meeting• Allocation of key individuals• Communicate with Districts• Create a Control Strategy for the service.
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	<p>The Top Team would decide on the focus and the ACCs would decide on the tactics. After further discussion it was decided that ACC Urban would sketch out a simple plan where both the Policing Plan and the Strategic Plan come together. It was agreed that communication was key to build public confidence and satisfaction and to update the NIPB.</p>
<p>ACTIONS</p>	<p>Create a force wide TCG.</p> <p>Ms Lloyd to examine Serious Violent Crime statistics to identify what percentage is domestic related.</p> <p>ACC Urban would sketch out a simple plan where both the Policing Plan and the Strategic Plan come together.</p>
<p>19/09</p>	<p>Corporate Expenditure Report (Standing Agenda Item)</p> <p>The Head of Strategic Financial Management Services presented the report highlighting the key figures.</p> <p>The Corporate Report for January had projected a year-end resource over spend of £5.3m and continued to highlight hearing loss claims as the biggest financial risk.</p> <p>As a result of a number of easements and some deferred expenditure, a reduced full year resource over spend of £1.8m was projected at the end of February.</p> <p>Devolved pay budgets were projecting a surplus of £1.3m, which was being utilised to offset pressures in non-pay budgets, largely due to increased utility and fuel costs. As a result, devolved budgets were projecting a net over spend of £1.2m. However, the total over spend in devolved budgets was more than offset by a projected surplus on income.</p> <p>Corporate budgets reported a projected surplus of £3.7m, with a further surplus of £1.2m projected in PNS programmes. These easements were both utilised to offset the projected year-end over spend in other resource costs, due to pressures from hearing loss claims.</p> <p>In summary, further easements of £1.8m must be found in March to achieve a breakeven position. The key risks are that hearing loss claims will continue to increase yet further and that new pressures will result from the operational response to events in early March.</p> <p>As at February, a full year under spend of £3.1m was</p>

	<p>projected in the capital budget. This under spend will be carried forward and is largely earmarked for the deposit on the fixed wing aircraft (£1.1m) and expenditure on the College (£1.4m).</p> <p>The Head of Strategic Financial Management Services informed the meeting that the NIO had provisionally agreed to set aside the pressures from hearing loss and equal pay claims in setting a balanced budget for the next 2 financial years but there was some concern that this approach has yet to be confirmed in writing by HM Treasury.</p> <p>The costs incurred due to the recent dissident incidents were raised as was the financial and operational decisions on budgetary requirements prior to these. It was agreed by members that a meeting is required with the Chief Constable and Deputy Chief Constable present to discuss the changes in the current situation and the implications for the PSNI budgets and operational requirements.</p>
<p>ACTIONS</p>	<p>Issues discussed to be brought to the Top Team on Friday 20 March 2009.</p> <p>A meeting is required with the Chief Constable and Deputy Chief Constable present to discuss the changes in the current situation and the implications for the PSNI budgets and operational requirements.</p>
<p>20/09</p>	<p>Corporate Risk Register (Standing Agenda Item)</p> <p>Inspector McIlwaine reported all risks have been updated from last month.</p> <p>CCF04 Budgets The Director of Finance and Support Services is to update the risk for budgets.</p> <p>CCF05 Legacy Investigations There are 47 legacy investigations outstanding and the risk to PSNI is one of a reputational risk. This risk is to be reviewed again.</p> <p>Devolution This risk is to be raised again in July 2009.</p> <p>Inspector McIlwaine informed the members there are 5 risks on the Risk Register currently and enquired if there are any others requiring consideration. It was decided that the Risk Register spreadsheet be sent out to Heads of Department</p>

	and Districts to see if any other risks need to be considered.
ACTIONS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CCF04 – The Director of Finance and Support Services is to update the risk for budgets. • CCF05 – Review this risk. • Devolution – This issue is to be raised again in July 2009. <p>The Risk Register is to be forwarded to Heads of Departments and Districts to see if any other risks need to be considered.</p>
21/09	<p>Final Terms of Reference for the Audit and Risk Committee (Sponsor – Director of Finance and Support Services)</p> <p>Niall McLaughlin informed the members this paper is in compliance with the new Corporate Governance processes whereby the Terms of Reference and Annual Report for each committee have to be approved by the Chief Constable's Forum. The Director of Finance and Support Services stated this is the standard process for Public Service organisations as set down by HM Treasury. ACC Criminal Justice informed the meeting in future all Assistant Chief Constables would be trained and become members of the Institute of Directors.</p> <p>ACC Criminal Justice asked for clarification on paragraph 3.2. He was informed non-members of the committee would be asked to withdraw to facilitate open and frank discussion of particular matters.</p> <p>ACC Operational Support requested that the word "review" in 10.1 under the heading of "Other" be changed. Niall McLaughlin agreed to insert "<i>Non-executive body not making decisions</i>".</p> <p>The members of the committee approved the paper.</p>
ACTION	Alter wording in 10.2 under "Other" heading to remove the word "review".
DECISION	The members of the committee approved the paper.
22/09	Final Annual Report for 2007/08 on the work of the PSNI Audit and Risk Committee (Sponsor – Director of Finance and Support Services)

	<p>Niall McLaughlin placed the Annual Report for the Audit & Risk committee before the meeting for approval stating it gives a factual report of the work done by the committee over the past year. Niall reported the key issue is 11.3 in the Committee Statement of Assurance demonstrating compliance. The Annual Report for 2008/09 will be available in April 2009.</p> <p>The members noted the contents of the report.</p>
DECISION	The contents of the report were noted.
23/09	<p>The Future of the Past 2 (Sponsor – D/C/Supt R McComb, Crime Support)</p> <p>To be heard next week when the Chief Constable and Deputy Chief Constable are present.</p>
24/09	<p>Service Continuity Management Policy Directive (Sponsor – ACC Operational Support)</p> <p>WITHDRAWN</p>
25/09	<p>Dissemination and Sharing of Threat Information (Sponsor – ACC Operational Support)</p> <p>ACC Operational Support informed the members he had requested this issue be examined as communication to support staff and contractors was patchy and a consistent corporate approach was essential. The Director of Human Resources agreed with ACC Operational Support but was not sure the paper being presented would tackle the issue. He continued that Heads of Departments and Districts have the information and it would be a managerial decision as to what information is passed on.</p> <p>ACC Urban pointed out that the issue for support staff is where they work and their route to work. The Director of Human Resources pointed that some support staff are taking the same risks as police officers.</p> <p>ACC Operational Support stated if there is a threat there is a need for the heads of Departments and Districts to brief the relevant staff. ACC Operational Support suggested he work on a model for this issue.</p>
	The meeting closed at 1220 hrs.

<p>18/09</p>	<p>Service-Wide Tactical Assessment</p> <p>The Director of Human Resources opened the discussion with HR issues that had been already decided, namely to achieve a balanced budget recruitment would continue. PSNI would also need to re-examine the Rank Ratio review. There are also issues around the Full-Time Reserve officers to consider. The Director of Human Resources summarised discussions thus:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Decisions already made and the changing security circumstances are to be reviewed. • There is the issue of funding as the organisation cannot take any further funds from the infrastructure. • The organisation needs to examine the skill sets of officers. <p>ACC Urban stated the Rank Ratio becomes more relevant as it puts posts where they are needed and emphasised the requirement to maintain some neighbourhood aspect. The Director of Human Resources agreed and stated targets need to come to an end so PSNI can work to ensure customer satisfaction. Training plans for the next 2 years may have to be changed. ACC Criminal Justice proposed re-visiting the terms of reference of the review ACC Crime Support is conducting as the organisation cannot lose its neighbourhood policing capability and recommended a half day be arranged for further discussion to include the Chief Constable and Deputy Chief Constable.</p> <p>ACC Criminal Justice suggested the next FPT meeting be limited to one agenda item – Rank Ratio review</p>
<p>ACTIONS</p>	<p>A half day is to be arranged by the Staff Officer to the DCC for further discussion to include the Chief Constable and Deputy Chief Constable.</p> <p>The next FPT meeting is to have one agenda item only – Rank Ratios.</p>
	<p>The meeting closed at 1005 hours.</p>