



Making Northern Ireland Safer For Everyone Through Professional, Progressive Policing

Chief Constables Forum		
Notes of Meeting		
Date	Monday 21 st January 2008	
Time	10 am to 11.40 am	
Location	Conference Room, Brooklyn	
Chairperson	Chief Constable - H Orde	
Members	Deputy Chief Constable	P Leighton
	ACC Crime Operations	P Sheridan
	ACC Crime Support	Rep. By D/Supt Skelton
	ACC Criminal Justice	D Harris
	ACC Rural Region & Operational Support	R Toner
	ACC Urban Region	D McCausland
	Director of Media & PR	Initially Rep. By R McLernon G McGreevy
	Director of Finance & Support Services	D Best
	Director of Human Resources	J Stewart
	Legal Adviser	Rep. By C Hanna
	Command Secretariat	C/Insp Knox
Apologies	Legal Adviser ACC Crime Support	D Scott A Finlay
Also in Attendance	Media & PR Analysis Centre Policy, Planning & Performance	R McLernon B Lloyd C/Insp Sinclair
Note Takers	Command Secretariat	A/Inspector

<i>Insert ref. Number*</i>	<i>Insert text*</i>
02/08	<p>Actions Arising</p> <p>93/07 Corporate Risk Register – Insp McIlwaine to circulate to Risk Owners.</p> <p>Completed.</p>
04/08	<p>Review of Flexible Working Policy – Sponsor Director of Human Resources</p> <p>WITHDRAWN</p>
05/08	<p>PSNI Vetting Policy Directive – Sponsor ACC Criminal Justice</p> <p>WITHDRAWN</p>
06/08	<p>Court Attendance Policy – Sponsor ACC Criminal Justice</p> <p>10.37 am Mr Stanley Booth entered the room.</p> <p>ACC Criminal Justice explained that Police are criticised in the courts for poor attendance levels. Cases are lost by default due to witness non-availability. A key cause is that of long term sick, where an officer off for months can result in several cases lost particularly if they are a key component in cases such as custody sergeant doing drink drive procedures. This Policy seeks to address the view that sick automatically prevents court attendance. It focuses on fitness to attend, along with issues such as leave/course/retirement.</p> <p>During discussions, Mr Booth described a Custody Sergeant being on long term sick and the subsequent communications between legal representatives to have cases withdrawn at court due to non-attendance of witnesses. The Chief Constable asked that ACC Criminal Justice provide additional information to support this claim.</p>
ACTION	<p>The Chief Constable asked that ACC Criminal Justice provide additional information to support this claim.</p>
	<p>Following a question posed by the Chief Constable, ACC Criminal Justice explained that the British Medical Association (BMA) had not been consulted regarding this policy. ACC Criminal Justice explained that new medical procedures require a second opinion when a patient presents symptoms of stress to the GP.</p>

	The Chief Constable asked that the BMA be offered an explanation regarding the Court Attendance Policy.
ACTION	The Chief Constable asked that the BMA be offered an explanation regarding the Court Attendance Policy.
	Legal Services requested that the Policy be extended to include both civil proceedings and tribunals.
ACTION	ACC Criminal Justice to ensure that the Court Attendance Policy be extended to include both civil proceedings and tribunals.
	The Committee agreed in principle to the Court Attendance Policy and following any actions arising, the Policy is not required to be brought before CCF at a future date. 10.44 am Mr Booth left the room.
DECISION	The Court Attendance Policy was agreed.
07/08	Business Interest Policy – Sponsor Director of Human Resources 10.44 am Supt Murray entered the room. Director of Human Resources explained that it has been recognised that for a variety of reasons, individuals may wish to undertake work outside of their role in the PSNI. This Policy is aimed at all levels of the organisation and applies to all full-time and part-time police officers, police staff, agency staff, designated civilians, NICS, PCSOs, student officers and contracted in staff. Discussion took place regarding this policy. Director of Media & PR entered the room at 10.55 am and Russell McLernon left the meeting. It was agreed that additional work was required regarding the number of applications currently approved and clarity surrounding family declarations on the applications. Upon completion of the additional work, this Policy should be brought before CCF for discussion. Supt Murray left the room at 11.10 am.
ACTION	Director of Human Resources to complete additional work regarding the number of applications currently approved and clarity sought surrounding family

	<p>declarations on the applications.</p>
<p>08\08</p>	<p>Corporate Risk Register – Standing Agenda Item</p> <p>Insp McIlwaine entered the room at 11.25 am.</p> <p>CCF updated on some minor changes made to the details of risks as a result of completed actions and personnel movements. The following risks from the CRR were discussed in detail-</p> <p>Risk 02 – (Crime Investigations) – Some actions are now past completion dates. Discussion of current recruitment and retention difficulties. ACC Crime Ops advised some further control actions may be required to manage this risk. Crime Ops to provide update.</p> <p>Risk 04 - (Terrorist Attacks)- Further control actions necessary as a result of the changing intelligence picture. Rural Region to advise of further actions.</p> <p>Risk 09 – (Corruption and Integrity) – Further control actions required to manage public perception following recent cases (Omagh Judgment/Drink Drive cases). Media and PR to advise of further actions. Vetting is also an issue in this area. Criminal Justice Dept. to advise of further actions.</p> <p>Approval sought for internal publication of Risk Registers via PoliceNet. Head of Media and PR expressed concern about widening access to the risk registers. To discuss further with Inspector McIlwaine.</p>
<p>09/08</p>	<p>Corporate Expenditure Report (Standing Agenda Report)</p> <p>The Director of Finance and Support Services presented the Report indicating overall there was a £12.7m underspend on Net Revenue Expenditure (DEL) against a budget of £732.1 m after the nine months to December 2007. There is a forecast overall underspend of £2.5m against a budget of £958.7m under this heading for the 12 months to March 2008.</p> <p>There is a forecast underspend of £2.4m on devolved pay budgets against a budget of £529.1m. Police overtime is forecast to break even by the end of the year against a budget of £45.9m.</p> <p>Non-pay devolved budgets are forecast to be overspent by £0.98m against a £38.2m budget by the end of the year.</p> <p>Corporate budgets are forecast to be overspent by £2.9m</p>

	<p>against a £122.1m budget by the end of the year, the main contributor being Telecom and Technology, and mainly relates to Normalisation and EDRMS/Horizon, for which NIO did not provide additional funding.</p> <p>Other resource costs are projected to be overspent by £4.2m against a £247.9m budget by the year-end. The main overspend arising from compensation and legal costs.</p> <p>Patten non-severance expenditure is projected to be underspent by £5.3m against a £25.7m budget by the year-end. It is essential this underspend is carried forward in future years to ensure delivery on Patten objectives and the completion of schemes. This will be drawn to the attention of the Policing Board and NIO.</p> <p>Net Capital budgets are projected to be overspent by £1.8m against a budget of £38.4m by the year-end.</p> <p>Taking all budgets in consideration there is close to a projected break-even situation by the year-end. However, with the introduction of resource accounting this year, it is critical that accurate accruals returns are made for ICS and Estates, and compensation and legal provisions, for each of the last three months of the financial year to March 2008.</p>
	<p>The Chief Constable closed the meeting at 11.40 am.</p>

*Insert additional cells below as required**