



Making Northern Ireland Safer For Everyone Through Professional, Progressive Policing

Chief Constable's Forum		
Notes of Meeting		
Date	Wednesday 25 th February 2009	
Time	0830 hrs to 0930 hrs	
Location	Conference Room, Brooklyn	
Chairperson	Chief Constable – H Orde	
Members	Deputy Chief Constable	P Leighton
	ACC Crime Operations	D Harris
	ACC Crime Support	D Jones
	ACC Rural Region	J Gillespie
	ACC Urban Region	A Finlay
	ACC Operational Support	R Toner
	ACC Criminal Justice	Rep by C/Supt B Maguire
	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	ACC Criminal Justice	D McCausland
Also in Attendance	Analysis Centre	Bridget Lloyd
	Corporate Development	R McGarry
	Inspection & Review	J Rafferty
	Head of Strategic Financial Management Services	M McNaughten
Note Takers	Command Secretariat	Jackie Gaskin

Insert ref. Number*	Insert text*
11/09	<p>Notes of Previous Meeting</p> <p>The Chief Constable welcomed all to the meeting.</p> <p>The notes of the previous meeting were discussed.</p> <p>The Director of Human Resources requested the notes on the 3rd line of the bottom paragraph, page 5, be changed from “District” to “the Service as a whole”.</p> <p>In the notes for the Corporate Expenditure Report the Director of Finance and Support Services requested the first sentence in the 2nd paragraph should read, “under spend”. The last sentence of the 3rd paragraph should read “there were few historical control measures but with A&R.....”.</p>
ACTIONS	<p>The note taker to amend the notes for Performance TCG as requested.</p> <p>The note taker to amend the notes for Corporate Expenditure Report as requested.</p>
12/09	<p>Actions Arising from previous meeting–</p> <p>01/09 Notes of previous meeting</p> <p><i>Note taker to substitute “limitations” for the word “weakness” at the bottom of page 3.</i></p> <p><i>ACC Operational Support to produce a redacted copy of the notes for the next meeting.</i></p> <p>Both actions have been completed.</p> <p>03/09 Performance TCG</p> <p><i>Districts to focus on Domestic Burglary</i></p> <p>This item is ongoing.</p> <p><i>The Chief Constable requires the shift in crime numbers to be identified for explanation to NIPB.</i></p> <p>This action is ongoing.</p> <p>09/09 Corporate Risk Register (Standing Agenda Item)</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CCF02 – <i>To be reviewed by ACC Crime Operations.</i> • CCF04 – <i>The Director of Finance and Support Services is to review the actions ensuring next year’s budget is taken into consideration.</i> • CCF05 – <i>Remove from the Corporate Risk Register.</i> • CCF06 - <i>Remove from the Corporate Risk Register.</i> • CCF07 – <i>Replaces CCFO5.</i> • Prosecution/NICHE/OCMT – <i>Potential risks to be examined at a later date.</i> • Devolution – <i>Potential risks to be examined at a later date.</i> <p>Comments were made by some members regarding the late arrival of some papers. The Chief Constable stated the Corporate Governance Policy had been agreed in the previous meeting and the implementation of this policy needed to be delivered.</p>
<p>13/09</p>	<p>Current Discussions</p> <p>Performance TCG</p> <p>The Chief Constable opened discussion on cases getting to court as our key business and there was further discussion on this issue.</p> <p>Bridget Lloyd reported a reduction on overall crime of 0.2%, including the undercount. The Chief Constable related to his recent visit to Ballymena and based on his findings there he stated PSNI has a higher chance of reducing crime in future. The PSNI clear-up rate was presented as not far off other forces.</p> <p>Domestic Burglary showed an 8% increase. On average there are 600 domestic burglaries recorded each month. This year to-date there have been 6250 domestic burglaries compared to 5000 last year and 7000 by the end of this year. Crimes involving the elderly victims are mainly aggravated and distraction burglaries. Bridget Lloyd confirmed an increase in burglaries of oil, metal and copper.</p> <p>ACC Operational Support emphasised the importance of not</p>

	<p>showing our figures as percentages as the actual numbers would be more meaningful to the general public.</p> <p>The Director of Human Resources suggested that PSNI need to prepare the public for an increase in the number of crimes due to the current economic climate. The Chief Constable was in agreement, especially with reducing resources. ACC Operational Support asked the members if any trend had been identified. ACC Rural informed him it was mostly theft from vehicles in Rural Region and ACC Urban confirmed it was cash orientated in Urban Region.</p> <p>Criminal Damage showed an 11.1% decrease although there was an increase in the number of incidents during the snowfall in early February.</p> <p>Anti-social behaviour incidents were down by 12.5%. ACC Rural stated good controls during the marching season have taken away the July and August peaks. ACC Operational Support added that the Neighbourhood Policing strategy appears to have worked in that the number of incidents have reduced.</p> <p>All Violent Crime has decreased by 5% though more Serious Violent Crime is up by 22.1%. Violent Crime against Children has decreased by 4% and is following the trends from the previous year.</p> <p>Bridget Lloyd raised the issue of the Theft of Communications Hardware as per the SOCA alert issued on 23 February. There is a substantial second hand and grey market for this equipment requiring a partnership response with the industry. There have only been 2 incidents in Northern Ireland so far. It was suggested that Chief Superintendent Maguire highlight this through the Business Advisory Forum.</p>
<p>ACTIONS</p>	<p>Raise public awareness that the current economic climate may lead to an increase in the number of crimes.</p> <p>Chief Superintendent Maguire to raise the issue of Communications Hardware theft via the Business Advisory Forum.</p>
<p>14/09</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 December projected a year-end</p>

	<p>resource over spend of £1.5m and highlighted hearing loss claims as the biggest financial risk.</p> <p>At the end of January, a full year resource over spend of £5.3m was projected, largely due to increased pressures from hearing loss claims (£4.8m) and estimated impairment charges (£1.0m) on planned station closures. These pressures were offset by easements in PNS expenditure.</p> <p>Devolved budgets were projecting an over spend of £1.6m, including over spends on pay budgets in both Urban Region and Operational Support. In addition, the Regions continued to report over spends in non-pay budgets due to pressures from utility and fuel costs. However, the total over spend in devolved budgets is offset by a projected surplus of £1.8m on income.</p> <p>Likewise, Corporate budgets reported broadly a breakeven situation.</p> <p>Other resource costs projected a full year over spend of £6.8m, reflecting the increase in hearing loss claims received in January and anticipated impairment charges on station closures. The key risk is that hearing loss claims will continue to increase yet further.</p> <p>As at January, a full year under spend of £3.1m was projected. 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 Director of Human Resources asked where the £30m provision set aside for hearing loss claims is. There was discussion on the financial terms and accounting issues. The Chief Constable suggested a simplistic explanation on these issues would be helpful to all and commented that devolved budgets are being well managed.</p>
<p>ACTION</p>	<p>The Director of Finance and Support Services to draw up a user-friendly guide for the accounting issues raised in the meeting.</p>
<p>15/09</p>	<p>Corporate Risk Register (Standing Agenda Item)</p> <p>ACC Operational Support reported there are no changes since the last meeting; however, CCF03 (Terrorist Attack) requires attention.</p> <p>CCF03 Terrorist Attack</p>

	<p>The Chief Constable stated the threat level has increased from substantial to severe, the same as the mainland, and District Commanders need to make their own judgement of the situation. ACC Crime Operations informed the meeting the Secretary of State would be briefing the political parties today.</p> <p>CCF04 Budgets The Director of Finance and Support Services is to update the risk for budgets.</p> <p>CCF05 Legacy Investigations After some discussion it was decided this risk required re-scoring.</p> <p>NICHE The Deputy Chief Constable stated he does not consider Niche to be a risk any longer, as it is bedding in well. ACC Urban said there had been a lot of work done around the Volume Crime Model and control measures had been put in place. ACC Operational Support confirmed this does not need to go into the Risk Register.</p> <p>Devolution After some discussion the Deputy Chief Constable suggested we be prepared for July 2009.</p>
<p>ACTIONS</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CCF04 – The Director of Finance and Support Services is to update the risk for budgets. • CCF05 – Re-score this risk. • Prosecution/NICHE/OCMT – This does not need to be on the Risk Register. • Devolution – Preparation for July 2009
	<p>The meeting closed at 09.30 hrs.</p>