

Chief Constable's **ANNUAL REPORT** 2005>2006

Your service, your report



Making Northern Ireland Safer For Everyone Through Professional, Progressive Policing

Chief Constable's Foreword

WORKING WITH COMMUNITIES TO COMBAT CRIME



POLICING in Northern Ireland is constantly changing – it cannot afford to stand still. The Police Service continually looks at how to do its business better – how to provide a more effective and efficient service – and how to make Northern Ireland a safer place for all who work, travel and live here.

Police officers and police staff are pushing forward the edges of policing to look at new and innovative ways of preventing and solving crime.

This year's report provides a snapshot of some of the work undertaken by police officers and staff to deal with those crimes which affect the quality of life in our community. This work includes developing neighbourhood watch schemes in local areas, working in partnership to tackle anti-social behaviour and criminal damage, and putting in place proactive initiatives to prevent burglaries.

We are also looking at innovative ways of cracking down on organised criminal gangs who live off the backs of their own communities. Our intention is to investigate and disrupt criminal networks, bring charges wherever possible and use the Proceeds of Crime Act to confiscate illegal profits. That work is paying off.

During the year Organised Crime Branch restrained assets, including cash, worth over £5 million. In December 2005 officers from Organised Crime Branch and Newry and Mourne district police made

a significant seizure of counterfeit goods during Operation Hambrook in South Armagh worth nearly £1million. Concerted and determined work by the Drugs Squad and district police – targeted at disrupting drugs supply at the top level – resulted in the seizure of more than £7 million worth of drugs and an increase in the number of people arrested for drugs-related offences.

Police continue to be concerned about the increase in violent crime. Throughout the course of the year there were 25 murders, and eight of those murders were carried out using a knife or bottle. In May, police, along with partner agencies, launched a knife disposal scheme and campaign aimed at raising awareness, particularly amongst young men, of the dangers associated with carrying knives.

"Police officers and staff are pushing forward the edges of policing to look at new and innovative ways of preventing and solving crime."

While the number of people who died or who were injured on the road is at its lowest level for 10 years, road safety remains one of our key priorities.

During the last year, nearly five times more people died as a result of road traffic collisions than were murdered.

Police mounted a number of operations aimed at targeting those who behave irresponsibly on the roads by speeding, driving under the influence of drink or drugs, not paying attention or not wearing their seatbelts. This has resulted in the number of fatalities falling by 4.3% on the previous year.

However, one death on the road is one too many and we still have much work to do to get the message across to people that carelessness on our roads can, and does, end in tragedy.

Unfortunately, this year police officers once again found themselves dealing with a number of incidents of serious public disorder. 600 of this year's recorded crimes were directly attributable to the public order situation following the Whiterock parade on 10th September 2005. This level of public disorder diverts police resources from where they are most needed, and the cost to the police service and indeed the wider community in Northern Ireland is immense.

This year's report gives an insight into some of the policing successes

throughout the year but it also highlights the challenges that lie ahead. Police officers can't meet these challenges alone. We need members of the public to report crime, work with police to prevent crime and sit down with us to look at how we can work together to make Northern Ireland safer for all.

Sir Hugh Orde
Chief Constable



THE CRIMESTOPPERS charity enjoyed another very successful year working in partnership with the police, community and the media.

During the year thousands of members of the public called the anonymous Crimestoppers 0800 555 111 number to give information about crime and criminals without fear and without involvement. Of those thousands, 1,763 calls were actionable, resulting in 142 arrests, a 76% increase on the previous year. Property, stolen goods and counterfeit products to the value of £213,865 were seized or recovered, together with £425,788 worth of drugs.

Crimestoppers Northern Ireland recently launched its third major province-wide campaign which seeks to heighten public awareness of the Crimestoppers telephone number, the reasons why people should use it and the organisation's charity status.

The campaign comprises of three new TV adverts, plus radio, press and online publicity, all promoting the message of the campaign, "Phone without Fear". The campaign also includes advertising in pubs, on buses and on telephone boxes, as well as a number of local initiatives and projects across Northern Ireland in conjunction with Community Safety Partnerships.

Since its inception in Northern Ireland in September 1996, Crimestoppers has received more than 14,500 actionable calls leading to over 1,200 people being brought before the courts and the seizure and recovery of more than £2.25million worth of drugs and property.



POLICING with the COMMUNITY AWARDS 2006

THE POLICING with the Community Awards have become a set piece in the Service's annual calendar. They offer the opportunity to showcase policing developments and initiatives to the community we serve and allow an internal celebration of the professionalism and dedication of colleagues.

The 2006 Awards in May reflected the work of the Service in the year under review.

This was the third year of the scheme which was developed in association

with the Northern Ireland Policing Board. There are six categories.

Constable Chris Murdock, of Coleraine DCU, was selected **Community Police Officer of the Year** for his innovative work in problem solving policing in the town's Ballysally estate.

Sergeant Brian McGibbon, of community safety in Downpatrick, won the **Lifetime Achievement Award** and Constable Sharon Grattan, Newry and Mourne DCU, was **Probationer of the Year**.

Steven McKendry, a crime scenes investigator, is the **Staff Member of the Year**.

South Belfast DCU won the **Partnership Award** for the Belfast City Centre Project where traders have funded two police constables, while Foyle DCU picked up the **Diversity Award**.

Each winner received a £1,000 bursary – £2,000 in the case of the Partnership Award – to be spent on a policing with the community initiative in his or her area.

TACKLING SERIOUS CRIME



Crime Operations Department is headed by Assistant Chief Constable (ACC) Peter Sheridan, formerly ACC for Rural Region. He replaces ACC Sam Kinkaid who retired earlier this year.

ENTERING into its third year, Crime Operations Department conducts professional and detailed investigations into all serious and organised crime in Northern Ireland, including murder, terrorist offences, serious sexual assaults, organised criminal gangs, armed robbery, extortion and drugs offences.

The Department integrates all the professional disciplines required to deliver highly effective investigations and manage intelligence on behalf of the organisation.

There are seven specialist branches in Crime Operations which deal with particular areas of criminal activity, including Organised Crime, Serious Crime, Crime Analysis and Intelligence.

ORGANISED CRIME

TACKLING organised crime is a major priority for the Police Service.

Working in partnership with the other agencies in the Organised Crime Task Force, Organised Crime Branch spearheads the fight against organised crime in all its guises from drugs rackets to counterfeiting and fuel laundering, armed robbery, extortion and money laundering. During the year Organised Crime Branch developed many high profile intelligence-led investigations, targeting the right people at the right time, resulting in arrests, seizures and convictions.

A major priority for the Organised Crime Branch Drugs Squad was disrupting the drugs supply at the top level, confiscating drugs and arresting and charging those responsible.

Major investigations resulted in a number of multi-kilo seizures of cocaine, leading to people being arrested and charged with drug trafficking offences. Further seizures, including 46 kgs of amphetamines and several large cannabis seizures were made – once again these led to arrests and charges.

Over the year, more than £7 million of drugs were seized and the number of people arrested for drugs related offences increased by 6.2% from 1,356 in 2004/5 to 1,440 in 2005/6, due to the efforts of drugs squad officers and district police.

After many months of planning and investigation, the Organised Crime Squad,



A cross-border investigation into organised crime

in partnership with colleagues from Newry and Mourne District, An Garda Síochána and HM Revenue and Customs, conducted a major cross-border operation into alleged high level criminality and suspected money and fuel laundering on the Co Armagh/Co Louth border in March 2006. A series of searches were conducted in six locations in the Crossmaglen and Keady areas. The operation resulted in the seizure of 12 vehicles, 30,000 cigarettes, over £200,000 worth of cash, a large quantity of fuel and a large number of documents. Three people were arrested by An Garda Síochána in the joint operation.

In December 2005, officers from Organised Crime Branch and Newry and Mourne district police made a very significant counterfeit goods seizure worth just under £1million during Operation Hambrock in South Armagh in December. Large quantities of suspected counterfeit cigarettes, fireworks, alcohol, clothing, DVDs and computer games were removed for examination from 12 stalls and several premises.



Some of the counterfeit goods seized in South Armagh in December during Operation Hambrock

Counterfeiting is a huge problem internationally resulting in consumers buying poor quality goods, which are quite often dangerous, and millions of pounds of profits going into the pockets of criminal gangs. It also seriously undermines legitimate businesses. In 2005 the Intellectual Property Crime unit was involved in over 100 searches, resulting in 51 people being arrested. The total value of counterfeit products seized during this period was £8,323,575.

A protracted investigation by Organised Crime Squad officers resulted in the successful prosecution of a man, linked to international terrorism, who was found guilty of possession of documents likely to be of use to terrorists (for the purpose of blowing up a civilian aircraft). He received 6 years' imprisonment.

The robbery squad and extortion unit of Organised Crime Squad carried out numerous arrest operations and disrupted serious criminal activity.

Economic Crime Bureau has made a significant impact in disrupting organised criminal gangs. Through the Proceeds of Crime Act 2002 police have the power to confiscate illegally generated cash and prosecute those who facilitate money laundering on behalf of criminals.

During the year, the Bureau restrained assets, including cash, worth more than £5million. This means that money cannot be spent or property sold until the owner proves that it is legally earned.

The Bureau works very closely with the Assets Recovery Agency (ARA). In cases

CHILD ABUSE AND SERIOUS SEXUAL ASSAULT INVESTIGATIONS

THE CHILD Abuse and Rape Enquiry Unit (CARE) conducts specialised investigations into child abuse and serious sexual assaults.

CARE detectives are specially trained to interview children and vulnerable adults and to progress effective investigations to bring offenders to justice.

There are currently 12 CARE teams in Northern Ireland based at Willowfield, Lisburn Road, Woodbourne and North Queen Street in Belfast, Newtownabbey, Newtownards, Ardmore (Newry), Mahon Road (Portadown), Enniskillen, Maydown (Londonderry), Coleraine and Ballymena.

Specially equipped facilities are located throughout Northern Ireland to support the victim and the investigation.

Police work in partnership with Social Services and voluntary agencies such as NSPCC and Barnardos and are actively involved in Area Child Protection Committees (ACPCs) for each Health and Social Services Board Area. These are multi-agency bodies established to ensure agencies cooperate to safeguard children in all aspects of their lives.

As well as investigating all suspected and alleged cases of child abuse, CARE teams

where it is not possible to secure a criminal conviction, the Police Service refers cases to the Agency so that it can pursue a civil case wherever possible. In its fight against organised crime the Police Service of Northern Ireland refers more cases to ARA than any other UK police service.

SERIOUS CRIME

THERE ARE ten Major Investigation Teams (MITs) within Serious Crime Branch situated in Foyle DCU, Armagh DCU and Belfast. These teams investigate murders which occur in Northern Ireland, as well as other major crimes such as kidnaps, armed robberies, serious sexual assaults and various other serious and protracted investigations.

During 2005, Serious Crime Branch investigated 25 murders, a decrease of 26.5% on last year, and 21 other major incidents. Five of these murders were connected to a feud between loyalist paramilitary groups during the summer.

A number of attempted murders and associated offences are also being investigated as a result of the feud and serious public disorder during the marching season, including the Whiterock Parade.

also investigate cases where adults have been the victim of a serious sexual assault.

The following cases give an insight into some of the major CARE investigations which resulted in successful convictions in 2005/6:

- A 56 year old man pleaded guilty to 47 charges of indecent assault, inciting a child to commit gross indecency, showing indecent images of a child, possessing indecent images of a child and 20 specimen charges of making indecent images of children.
- A private tutor was convicted of indecently assaulting an 11 year old pupil he was teaching in his home.
- A man and his girlfriend were convicted of rape, procuring a female for the purposes of sexual intercourse, indecent assaults and gross indecency on two younger sisters of the woman.

The CARE Unit also contributes to the management of sex offenders through MASRAM (Multi-agency Sex Offender Risk Assessment and Management), working with district police and partner agencies.

The MITs also investigated 48 kidnap and false imprisonment situations, down from 68 on the previous year, resulting in the safe return of all victims.

In view of ever evolving techniques and sustained demand, Serious Crime Review Branch conducts reviews into all unsolved current serious crime investigations after 28 days. This ensures that good practice is disseminated throughout the organisation, that ACPO (Association of Chief Police Officers) standards are being met consistently, and that all opportunities for investigation are fully exploited. During the year eight full progress reviews and 64 preliminary case assessments were completed.

The Serious Crime Review team were also asked to carry out a progress review into the £53million Securitas Robbery at Tonbridge in Kent, reporting to the Chief Constable of Kent.

During 2006/7, Crime Operations will continue to develop and work in partnership with other Departments and external agencies, to deliver pioneering, professional investigations into serious crime on behalf of the community.



BEST VALUE REVIEW OF PATROLLING

A **BEST** Value Review of the police patrol function considered how public satisfaction with patrolling could be improved by increasing the levels of patrolling and enhancing service delivery.

The review team consulted extensively with the community, senior police, front line officers and staff associations. Comparison was also made with a range of UK, European and international police services which placed the Police Service at the leading edge of patrolling.

The review identified many options for improvement. These were consolidated into 140 recommendations which are currently being considered with a view to delivering an increase in the number of patrols and greater community satisfaction.

Many of the recommendations will be dealt with in the context of the police response to the Review of Public Administration.

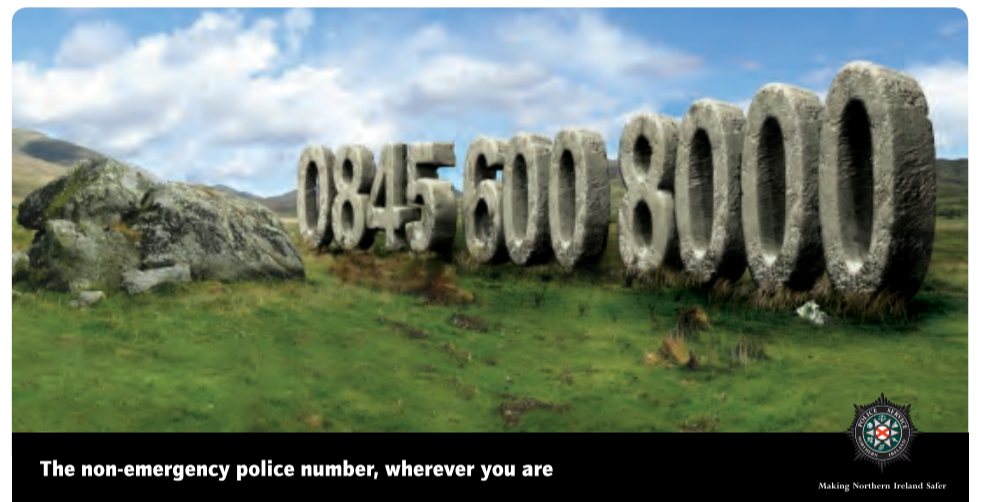
TSUNAMI

A **TOTAL** of 21 members of staff, police and civilian, were involved in Operation Bracknell, the UK response to the Asian Tsunami disaster. The PSNI Body Recovery and Identification Team often worked in difficult conditions. Other officers worked in England and Northern Ireland in a variety of liaison, support and administrative roles as part of the international relief operation.

The Boxing Day 2004 tragedy has faded from public attention but police officers wanted to help identify bodies and return them to relatives, both in Thailand and across the world, to bring relief and closure.



Detective Inspector Gillian Middlemiss at one of the mortuaries in Phuket



The non-emergency police number, wherever you are

TECHNOLOGY ENHANCED CUSTODY SUITES

THE POLICE Service is committed to implementing the latest law enforcement technologies which have a direct impact on operational policing to maximise time spent on front-line activities.

All 21 designated custody suites have been upgraded to Technology Enhanced Custody Suites to provide officers with the latest law enforcement technologies including an electronic records management system, fingerprint database and access to video identification facilities.

They will reduce the amount of time that officers spend completing paperwork and free them up for operational duties. Once a form has been created electronically, it will only need to be updated rather

than re-created at its various stages in the criminal justice process.

This system is one of the most advanced of its type in the world and will help officers deliver swifter justice and thus improve our service to the community. We believe that this will mean a significantly improved service to the public and offer the potential to free up staff time to focus on our core business – fighting crime.



Clinching the deal: Assistant Chief Constable for Operational Support Roy Toner pictured with Niche Technology Inc's Vice President Tom Ellison at the Belfast signing of a £9m computer deal which will greatly enhance the PSNI's ability to tackle crime.

0845 FOR NON-EMERGENCIES

IN NOVEMBER a new non-emergency phone number was launched with a public awareness campaign to make it easier for people to contact police and to improve the quality of service to the public.

The new number, **0845 600 8000**, connects the caller directly to local police who put the caller in contact with the appropriate station or individual.

The 0845 600 8000 number is a non-emergency facility. If the call relates to an emergency, callers should continue to use **999**. A 999 emergency is a situation where there is a danger to life, a threat of violence or a serious crime in progress.

0845 600 8000 provides a number of benefits to communities:

- One number for everywhere in Northern Ireland
- Calls charged at local rates
- Easy to remember
- Can be saved on a mobile for use anywhere in Northern Ireland

0845 600 8000 is the first step in a raft of proposed improvements to be implemented over the next few years. The new 0845 600 8000 number provides convenient access to citizens 24/7 and advanced call routing helps trained PSNI personnel to deal with enquiries.

Calls to 0845 600 8000 are charged at local rates but mobile network charges may vary. Calls within the PSNI telephone system may be monitored or recorded.

CRIME RECORDING

THE POLICE Service of Northern Ireland records crimes and clearances in accordance with the National Crime Recording Standard and with Home Office Counting Rules in line with the 43 police services in England and Wales. In

addition, the PSNI commenced in March the recording of incidents in accordance with similar national standards.

These incidents tend to reflect lower level crime such as anti-social behaviour which can have a significant adverse impact on local communities. This new approach will provide more meaningful information on these types of incidents and will enable DCU commanders to tackle all high profile problem areas more effectively.



CRIMINAL JUSTICE Department is led by Assistant Chief Constable Drew Harris, who was appointed to the post in February of this year.

ACC Harris brings a wealth of experience to his new role. He has been a police officer for 22 years and was most recently District Commander in Craigavon. During his career he has served in a number of operational and headquarters posts throughout Northern Ireland.

ACC Harris takes over the post from ACC Judith Gillespie who is now responsible for Rural Region.

CAUSEWAY: A UK FIRST!

THE CAUSEWAY system, which allows police to share information electronically with Criminal Justice partner agencies, was launched in July.

This stage of the Causeway programme enables the Police Service, the Public Prosecution Service and Forensic Science

Agency to exchange information relating to criminal cases electronically.

It is one of the most advanced systems of its kind anywhere in the world and will significantly cut time spent on administration, helping free up police officers to combat crime.



One of the unlicensed vehicles which was destroyed as part of Operation Clean Up

CLEAN UP CLEANS UP!

OPERATION Clean Up, our partnership campaign to reduce the number of unlicensed vehicles, and thereby decrease crime, continued to make an impact with 3,247 unlicensed vehicles removed in the 12 months to 31 March and of these 1,941 have now been destroyed.

The project won the runner-up slot in an international competition to highlight best practice in community policing – the 2005 Community Policing Awards staged by the International Association of Chiefs of Police and ITT Industries Night Vision in the United States.



VIOLENT AND SEX OFFENDER DATABASE LAUNCHED

A NEW database which allows the police to protect the public by improved monitoring and management of sex and violent offenders was launched in January.

The Violent Offender and Sex Offender Register (ViSOR) connects police to a national computer network, allowing officers to share information on offenders with partner agencies.

ViSOR will play a vital role nationally in keeping tabs on violent and sex offenders. It will mean that a body of information and intelligence on such offenders can be easily and swiftly logged on a UK-wide database for all police forces to share and have access to.

It also means that anyone who is on the register can be managed by police and partner agencies in whatever part of the UK they locate to. This represents a significant contribution to public protection, in particular for children and vulnerable adults in our community.

About 300 officers have been trained to use the database and a back record conversion has involved grading information and intelligence before inputting it to ViSOR. The first stage involved only sex offenders. Violent offenders will be put on the system when the necessary legislation is in place.



ACC Judith Gillespie, Criminal Justice Minister David Hanson and Northern Ireland Policing Board Chairman Professor Sir Desmond Rea launch the 100th Neighbourhood Watch scheme

100TH NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH SCHEME LAUNCHED

THE BALLYRUSSELL area of Castlereagh became the 100th scheme to be accredited to the Neighbourhood Watch initiative in Northern Ireland in February. These schemes are helping 12,000 households across Northern Ireland to tackle crime, fear of crime and anti-social behaviour within their communities.

The exchange of information to and from the Police Service keeps local communities informed about crime in their areas and what they can do to reduce it. This flow of information is vital for tackling both crime and the fear of crime.

Judges said the PSNI campaign demonstrated the meaningful change that can occur when law enforcement officials and their communities are empowered to use all available resources for crime prevention.

Consideration is now being given to extending the operation to cover the Rural District Command Units closest to Belfast. The possibility of establishing a second compound to service the west of Northern Ireland is also under active consideration.

ANTI SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR ORDERS

ANTI-SOCIAL Behaviour Orders (ASBOs) are designed to prevent behaviour which causes, or is likely to cause, harassment, alarm or distress to others. The purpose of an ASBO is to protect the public from the behaviour of those individuals whose anti-social activities disrupt the lives of the wider community.

ASBOs are an important addition to the range of statutory responses already available to tackle anti-social behaviour. Their deployment began slowly because of legal challenges but we are confident that further applications will be successful in association with the relevant agencies in this initiative, the NI Housing Executive and District Councils.

HATE CRIME

ONE OF the biggest challenges facing the Police Service is increasing the number of persons detected and prosecuted for hate crimes. Whilst the number of hate incidents continues to rise, the increase during 2005/2006 has not been as substantial as the previous year.

Northern Ireland Policing Board targets to increase clearance rates were achieved with a 4.6% increase for racial incidents and a 9.9% increase for homophobic incidents. Baseline figures for sectarian, religion/faith and disability have been published for the first time. During 2005/06 there were 1,701 sectarian, 70 Religion/Faith and 70 Disability related incidents reported to police.

Under a new hate incident policy which was published in March, transphobic incident recording has been introduced. The policy outlines minimum standards for investigations, supervision and support for victims and is intended to deliver a more consistent, effective and robust police response to hate incidents.

The Police Service is absolutely clear about its responsibility to effectively tackle hate incidents, respond appropriately to victims and to make offenders answerable to the law. However, the support of the public is essential, not just to challenge hate incidents but to assist police in detecting those responsible.

A major conference on human rights and hate crime was organised by police in Belfast in February. More than 200 delegates attended the 'Real People-Real Crime' event coinciding with the start of an advertising campaign focussing on hate crime which ran in every District Command Unit.

POLICING AT THE HEART OF

POLICING with the Community lies at the very core of the Police Service of Northern Ireland. Officers are working tirelessly day in, day out, through a wide range of innovative initiatives, to tackle the issues that are of key concern to you, in order to make your community a safer place to live in. Policing is delivered through two operational regions – **Urban** and **Rural**, which are divided into 29 District Command Units (DCUs). Assistant Chief Constable Duncan McCausland is responsible for Urban Region. It has 12 DCUs which essentially cover the greater Belfast area and its immediate environs. Assistant Chief Constable Judith Gillespie oversees Rural Region's 17 DCUs. ACC Gillespie replaces ACC Peter Sheridan who is now responsible for Crime Operations.

Antrim and Larne



Antrim and Larne both piloted an innovative scheme entitled "Message in a Bottle", aimed at saving lives.

The community partnership initiative provided thousands of small plastic bottles

for people to record important information such as emergency contact details, doctors' details and any medical conditions they suffer from. These bottles are then stored in the recipient's fridge to be accessed by the emergency services if required.

This scheme, which is the first of its kind in Northern Ireland, gives the emergency services immediate access to key information which can make the difference between life and death. It is anticipated that many other districts within Northern Ireland will roll-out the initiative.

Carrickfergus



Carrickfergus Police in partnership with students and staff at Ulidia Integrated College and the local District Policing Partnership launched an innovative campaign to tackle hate crime.

"The Hate Crime is Wrong" poster and leaflet campaign, designed by the students, followed on from research which showed that a number of racist incidents reported to Carrickfergus Police involved young people as either victims or perpetrators.

The initiative helped develop understanding of the issues of hate crime and the impact it can have on communities and victims, as well providing basic advice to potential victims including contact details for the police, minority support groups and Crimestoppers.

Castlereagh

Police and the community identified that there was a growing problem in relation to youths causing annoyance and low-level criminal damage in the greater Belvoir area.

In response, two new beat officers were appointed to police the area, and the Belvoir Primary "Safer School" project, an active partnership between police, teachers and pupils from the local school, was established.

As part of the scheme, the local beat officers have become involved in all aspects of the school's clubs and societies and run a "drop-in" centre after school hours. Already the scheme has had an impact in reducing the number of incidents of criminal damage at the school.

East Belfast

Police in East Belfast, in conjunction with Coca Cola, launched an initiative aimed at encouraging everyone enjoying a night out at the Odyssey Pavilion to get home safely over the Christmas period.

The initiative followed on from the highly successful "Get Home Safe" campaign, which has been running in Greater Belfast over the last three years, and has made a real impact in reducing the number of alcohol related assaults.

As part of the PSNI "Designated Driver" initiative, Coca-Cola offered free soft drinks to anyone with a valid parking ticket. The aim of the scheme was to encourage people to go out and enjoy themselves but also to make them think seriously about how they could get home safely at the end of the night.

Lisburn



Police in Lisburn launched a pioneering "School Alert" scheme which enables police to immediately notify every school in the area of safety issues including suspicious people spotted hanging around schools, attempted abductions of children or any suspicious activity via text, fax and email.

The network was developed for Lisburn DCU in partnership with C2k (Classroom 2000), an organisation responsible for the provision of information and communications technology (ICT) to all schools in Northern Ireland.

The scheme, which is the first partnership of its kind in the UK, involves 50 schools and aims to protect pupils by providing instant, relevant information to school staff for distribution and advice to parents and students.

Newtownabbey

Domestic burglaries in the area were reduced by 18% due to proactive policing operations and a number of local community initiatives.

Eight Neighbourhood Watch projects were set up and police continue to work with community/police forums and the District Policing Partnership to address this issue and other key areas of concern.

These partnerships have had a major impact in helping to reduce the number of burglaries. Together with continued intelligence-led policing, the district intends to build upon these successes in the year ahead.

Ards

A number of proactive initiatives were launched in Ards to effectively deal with anti-social behaviour problems and other quality of life issues.

A dedicated Anti-Social Behaviour Team was established to respond to reports of anti-social behaviour and prosecute for bye law offences. These include noise nuisance, littering, drinking in designated areas, spitting and general youths causing annoyance complaints.

In addition, an anti-social behaviour taskforce was created to tackle persistent occurrences of anti-social behaviour. All of these measures have had a major impact in creating safer and quieter neighbourhoods.

North Belfast

During 2005, North Belfast District experienced some of the worst public disorder and rioting that Northern Ireland has seen for many years.

However, there is less publicity given to the extensive investigations into the disorder carried out by a dedicated Public Order Enquiry Team, based at Antrim Road. To date 103 people from both sides of the community have been charged or reported for offences.

A key element of the Criminal Justice Strategy for large scale events is the extensive use of CCTV. Images from the police helicopter, Land Rovers with roof mounted cameras, hand held video and the static CCTV camera locations at key interfaces are all painstakingly examined as part of investigations.

It is absolutely vital that the communities of North Belfast and beyond have confidence in the way in which the Police Service responds to sustained violence. The work of the Public Order Enquiry Team is critical in building that confidence and sending out a clear message that public disorder will not be tolerated.

North Down

A new scheme was piloted aimed at working to build positive relationships between young people and the police in North Down.

Following consultation between police and all of the secondary and grammar schools in the North Down area, a pilot programme

was developed involving a dedicated community policing officer being based at each school for three weeks.

The officer facilitated a Citizenship And Safety Education (CASE) programme, and was on hand to provide expert advice to both teachers and students on a range of issues including drug/alcohol abuse and bullying.

There are plans to run the initiative in the next school year 2006/2007.

South Belfast



A new weekend bus service designed to get people home safely after a night-out in Belfast City Centre was piloted over a 16-week period. The buses ran on Friday and Saturday nights, leaving Shaftesbury Square for a number of destinations in Castlereagh, East, South, North and West Belfast. A special shuttle service was also in operation in and around the Holyland area of the city. The scheme is a continuation of the "Get Home Safe" campaign, and is run by a number of partner agencies as part of their ongoing commitment to tackling alcohol related crime.

West Belfast

In response to a high level of opportunistic burglaries around 2,200 leaflets were delivered throughout West Belfast over an eight-month period. The aim of the initiative is to deter burglars and provide residents with crime prevention advice.

The leaflet drops are normally made in the course of night beats when police observe open windows or doors.

Since the leaflet drops began opportunistic burglaries have been reduced significantly with the number of dwellings entered via an unlocked door or window dropping from an average of 40% per month to 10%.



OF THE COMMUNITY

Armagh

Armagh DCU launched the 12th Neighbourhood Watch scheme for the district. Supported by police, Community Safety Partnership, Armagh District Council and District Policing Partnership, it represents partnership working at its best. All 12 schemes are crucial for detecting and preventing crime.

Ballymena

A Community Safety Unit was set up in Ballymena and is responsible for coordinating a Youth Forum. In partnership with the Education and Library Board, the police will meet several times a year with young people from the local area to discuss issues of concern, policing and initiatives to solve problems.

Ballymoney

Ballymoney DCU pioneered the PEER Leadership Programme, an innovative partnership initiative aimed at tackling incidents of criminal damage and anti-social behaviour involving young people in the area.

A partnership was established to design an accredited training programme, which gave young people the opportunity to engage with their peers and look at alternative approaches and initiatives that addressed criminal damage and anti-social behaviour.

As a result of the project eight people on the course have started up "The Zone Youth Club", which meets every Friday night in Ballymoney and has attracted a membership of more than 70 young people. The scheme has been shortlisted for a prestigious UK policing award.

Coleraine

Coleraine launched a high-tech scheme aimed at tackling retail crime in the town centre, and violent crime and drug dealing around licensed premises.

The relaunch of the town's Radio Link scheme also provides a proactive system through which businesses and police can pass information quickly and effectively to help to prevent and deter crime. As part of the scheme, known shoplifters can be banned from shops. Violent offenders and drug dealers can also be banned from licensed premises, which is a first for Northern Ireland.

Cookstown

A Community Speed Watch Campaign was introduced in local primary schools in Cookstown to educate children on the dangers of speed on our roads.

Children were able to participate in the initiative by using the equipment local police rely upon to detect speeding in the Cookstown area. The scheme encourages children to be more vigilant pedestrians and passengers, and if necessary to urge Mum or Dad to slow down.

This initiative builds upon the excellent work carried out by local police in reducing the number of persons injured or killed on the roads in the Cookstown area this year by 30%.

Craigavon



An uncompromising poster campaign targeted against drug dealers was launched in Craigavon district. The campaign was run in conjunction with a number of pro-active drugs searches and sent out an unequivocal message that drug dealing would not be tolerated.

The initiative, run in partnership with the District Policing Partnership and Craigavon Community Safety Partnership, also highlighted the importance of providing information to police about drug dealing.

Down

A multi-agency youth project was piloted in the Newcastle area as a means of targeting anti-social behaviour through engagement with young people.

The scheme was established in response to anti-social behaviour, high rates of alcohol and drug use and limited opportunities for support or a positive identity for young people. The project included outdoor pursuits as well as activities that focussed on personal development and health education.

Residents have noticed a marked change in the behaviour of young people and have seen a reduction in anti-social behaviour within the estates since the initial pilot. Funding has been secured to enable the detached youth work project to continue and expand across the district.

Dungannon and South Tyrone

To help address increasing crime and anti-social behaviour in the Ballygawley Road housing estate in the west of Dungannon, police joined in partnership with a number of voluntary and statutory agencies and community groups.

Through research and consultation, a one-year strategy was adopted which involved building and maintaining relationships with those residing in the area and maintaining a highly visible police presence. Improvements to housing, and the development of a new multi-surface sports facility in the area within the next year will also help regenerate and improve the general area.

Fermanagh

An inter-agency strategy was devised and implemented to provide an increased, dedicated and high profile police presence at evenings and at weekends.

As part of the "Enniskillen At Night" strategy, police on patrol have taken a zero tolerance approach to anti-social behaviour. Fermanagh District Council addressed the issue of street drinking, fast food outlets agreed to close earlier, and the licensed vintners piloted a "Sensible Serve Programme", which provides extra training for staff. This proactive initiative has helped create a much safer environment for people to enjoy a night out in the town.

Foyle

A number of proactive initiatives were put in place to provide crime prevention advice to students and staff attending colleges in Londonderry.

Run in partnership with the University of Ulster at Magee, the North West Institute, the Aberfoyle Residents Association and various other statutory and voluntary agencies, the scheme provides "Safer Student" property marking packs that contain personal panic alarms for students.

Crime prevention booklets, CDs and leaflets have also been handed out, covering a range of issues from securing property, personal safety, to protecting drinks from being spiked.

A Neighbourhood Watch scheme has also been set up by the Aberfoyle and Duncreggan Residents Association to run in parallel with the Campus Watch scheme.

Limavady

Tackling drugs was identified as a key priority in Limavady. Intelligence-led policing, together with support from the community, led to a substantial increase in the amount of drug seizures made and the number of persons reported for drug related offences during 2005/6.

Magherafelt

Magherafelt's new state-of-the-art police station was officially opened in June 2005 by the Chief Constable. With an investment of £4 million, the building was redesigned and developed under Patten requirements that police stations should be less forbidding, more accessible to



local people and more congenial for the officers and police staff to work in.

Moyle

In an effort to reduce late night violence, the "Safety In Pubs" scheme has been running in conjunction with Moyle Council, the Community Safety Partnership and local licensees. The scheme includes recognised training with door staff and pub owners and seeks to improve communication between pubs and local police.

Newry and Mourne

A graphic and thought provoking road safety road show which has travelled to schools throughout the Newry and Mourne district has had a major impact in reducing the number of young fatalities on the roads.

The "Slow Down" roadshow, which is run in partnership between Newry and Mourne Community Police Team and the Northern Ireland Fire and Rescue Service, highlights the dangers of speeding, drink and drug driving, not wearing a seatbelt and using a mobile phone whilst driving. Fire officers then spectacularly demonstrate to the teenagers how they cut a victim from a vehicle in a serious collision.

The Newry and Mourne district has seen a high number of young fatalities over the past few years, especially of persons aged between 16 and 22. However, the last financial year reports no RTC fatalities under the age of 25. Following this significant decrease in figures it is anticipated that the roadshow will be rolled out to other districts.

Omagh

Omagh DCU tackled the problem of underage drinking, particularly at school formals in the town last autumn.

In an effort to prevent and reduce the supply of alcohol to underage students, police spoke to head teachers and licensees, giving advice on the relevant legislation. Police also inspected the premises whilst formals were taking place to ensure there were no breaches of the legislation. These simple steps proved very effective in dealing with underage drinking.

Strabane

Police in Strabane launched an initiative to reduce alcohol-related crime and promote public safety in conjunction with the local licensed trade, businesses and transport operators.

Central to the initiative was the deployment of additional, dedicated high visibility officers at peak times. Police also purchased a mobile evidence-gathering vehicle, which has been routinely deployed within the district to deter crimes such as vandalism and assaults, whilst providing reassurance to the public. The initiative has received widespread community support and has reduced violent crime within the district.



INVESTING IN PEOPLE



Director
Joe Stewart

HUMAN RESOURCES Department, headed by Director Joe Stewart, again took the lead to ensure the Service continued to meet key targets relating to the strength and composition of the organisation. HR also led a number of important initiatives to promote equality and diversity.

In terms of the overall composition of regular officers, the Police Service again reached its target of 7,500 officers as laid down in the Patten Report. This was achieved by reaching a balance between officers leaving the Police Service and the recruitment of new officers.

50:50 recruitment continued to go from strength to strength with the Police Service remaining on target to increase the representation of officers from a Roman Catholic community background in the regular service to 30% by 2010/11.

The workforce composition figures as of 1 April 2006 show 19.49% of the regular service is from the Roman Catholic community, compared to 8.28% in November 2001.

The number of females joining the Police Service also continued to rise with the current figure sitting at 20.41%, compared to 12.97% in 2001.

The Police Service receives 10,000 applications per annum of which, on average, 37% are females and 36% from the Roman Catholic community. Since 2001, 2,220 student officers have been appointed as part of 50:50 recruitment.

The Patten Voluntary Severance programme also met all the required targets. During the reporting year 289 full time regular officers left the service, while more than 2,400 officers have left under the voluntary scheme since it began in 2001.

Under the Full-Time Reserve Compulsory Severance programme, 351 Full Time Reserve officers left the Service. A total

of 680 officers on long term contracts will remain in the service from 1 October 2006 to 31 March 2008.

A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU), signed by the Head of Police College of Northern Ireland and the Head of An Garda Síochána Police College, provided a framework for both colleges to share their resources and expertise.

The MOU focussed on the sharing of materials in the development of training courses, joint training and learning seminars, conferences and meetings. A joint Leadership and Problem Solving Grid programme was established and a trainer exchange programme between the two colleges was introduced.

A series of cross-border diversity training programmes was launched as a result of the MOU.

The programme, comprising of around 55 one-day training sessions currently being held both in Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland, is aimed at helping police officers gain a better understanding of the communities they serve.

The project "Diversity Works" was developed by a team comprising of staff and officers from the Equality and Diversity Unit, Police College, together with Garda officers from Templemore College, in conjunction with a wide range of key community and voluntary groups.

It is funded through a £331,445 grant from the European Union's PEACE II Programme and endeavours to challenge officers' perceptions and raise their awareness of diversity issues. Other strides were also made in promoting



diversity and equality within the Police Service. A diversity steering group was set up, comprising of all members from the Police Service's senior management team and representatives from the Northern Ireland Policing Board.

An e-learning diversity programme was developed to enable all officers and staff to increase their knowledge of diversity and equality issues.

The Gay Police Association of the Police Service officially opened its offices in October last year. The Association offers advice and support to lesbian and gay officers and members of staff.

The Ethnic Minority Police Association was officially set up last year with the aim of continuing to promote race relations and

equality of opportunity, as well as providing a support network to members.

The first ever secondment between the Police Service and An Garda Síochána took place last year. This followed on from two protocols signed by the Chief Constable and the Garda Commissioner allowing personnel exchanges and secondments.

PSNI Superintendent Gerry Murray spent nine weeks at Garda Headquarters in Dublin in the Department of Human Resource Management, while Garda Superintendent Declan O'Brien was based with Roads Policing Development Branch in Belfast.

The exchange provided an excellent opportunity for a comparative examination of systems and processes, and for both police services to examine and adopt good practice.

COMMITMENT TO TRAINING FOR 21ST CENTURY POLICING



Ander, one of the PSNI's newest recruits, guards the National Training Award won by the Dog Training Unit

THE POLICE College Dog training unit scooped a coveted National Training Award at a prestigious ceremony held at Belfast City Hall last October.

The unit is headed up by Sergeant David Loney and the award pays tribute to the work that he and his team carried out in the revision and redesign of the General Purpose Police Dog initial training programme. The training course has been adopted by the Association of Chief Police Officers as the national standard.

The National Award recognised the contribution the training course has had in instilling confidence, professionalism and knowledge within dog handling teams and ultimately improving their operational effectiveness.

The Police Service has 26 general purpose dogs, as well as a number of specialist explosive, drugs search, victim recovery and tactical support dogs.

The Police Dog Training Unit was, for the first time, chosen to host the National Dog trials which were held in May. Last year, a dog handler from the Police Service took the honours at the prestigious event held in Scotland.

Police College Awards Ceremony

The Police College held the first ever awards ceremony to pay tribute to trainers who have truly excelled and gone that extra mile for their students.

The awards were open to all staff at the Police College of Northern Ireland which has responsibility for a wide range of areas that includes the training of new recruits, public order training, crime training and professional development.

Amongst the winners were the Public Order Training team, based at Steeple in Antrim, which won the Training Team of the Year Award. A member of the team also won the Outstanding Contribution to Training Award. Steeple is one of only three UK approved centres for Public Order Training and runs a wide range of national courses.

The Special Award went to the Special Olympics team who together with Special

Olympics Ireland and An Garda Síochána, developed a training programme aimed at raising awareness of what it means to have a learning difficulty.

New High Tech Training Unit

The Police Service invested in a new high tech training unit which simulates major emergencies, critical incidents and the investigation of serious crime.

Used worldwide by police and emergency services, officers, through the new unit, are presented with a complex incident scenario, which they must manage and resolve as it unfolds over a period of hours or even days.

Exercises are highly interactive and allow officers to develop their command skills in a safe learning environment where the complexity and challenges of a real incident are recreated.

The aim of this type of immersive learning is to bring police command training to life and to provide officers with experiences that are readily transferable to the real world of a live policing event. Plans are in place to further extend the range of key training activities.

FINANCE AND SUPPORT SERVICES



The Department of Finance and Support Services is led by Director David Best.

The cost of policing

THE AVAILABLE total revenue funding for 2005/06 was £863.5m, comprising of £725.9m for the main police grant revenue and £137.6m for pensions. Total cash expenditure during 2005/06 was £857.8m (£720.2m for the police grant and £137.6m for pensions), resulting in a surplus of £5.7m, 0.6% of the available grant. Actual capital expenditure was within available funding of £32.3m.

The accompanying pie charts detail how the money was spent for both main police grant revenue (including police pensions) and capital expenditure. Expenditure continues to be managed within available cash funding, supported by the on-going success of devolved budgets to DCUs and headquarters departments.

Patten Voluntary Severance expenditure was £28.1m. Full Time Reserve Compulsory Severance expenditure was £27.7m, while Patten Non Severance expenditure was £26.3m.

This money was used to implement the programme of change in the following areas: external recruitment of police and civilian staff; improving the appearance of police stations; implementation of the information technology strategy; employment of staff under the civilianisation programme to perform duties previously carried out by police officers, and early work on progressing the new Police Training College.

Estate

THIS WAS the first year of the new Estate Strategy 2005-2010, approved by the Northern Ireland Policing Board.

As part of the strategy a Combined Operational Training development at Magilligan commenced, and a significant extension of custody facilities at Bangor station is underway. The contract for the construction of a new build District Command Unit headquarters at Omagh was awarded and work is due to commence in the immediate future.

Maintenance upgrade projects at a significant number of sites were also completed.

An audit of the entire estate was expedited by external consultants who identified a range of defortification schemes, which will be implemented throughout the police stations during the next two to three years.

NEW POLICE HISTORICAL ENQUIRIES TEAM

THE POLICE Service has established a new unit – the Historical Enquiries Team. It became operational in January 2006, with a remit to review all the deaths attributable to ‘the Troubles’ and has a dedicated, ring-fenced budget provided by the Northern Ireland Office.

The Team has three objectives:

- to assist in bringing a measure of resolution to those families of victims affected by deaths attributable to ‘the Troubles’ between 1968 and the 1998 Agreement;
- to re-examine all deaths attributable to ‘the Troubles’ and ensure that all investigative and evidential opportunities are examined and exploited;
- to do so in a way that commands the confidence of the wider community.

The unit comprises of two Review and Investigation Teams. One team is staffed entirely by external personnel, officers seconded from English, Welsh and Scottish forces, and retired officers from those forces re-employed on a contractual basis. The other team has a mix of retired and serving officers, both from England and Northern Ireland. This mix of staff is intended to allow for transparent independence, with the ability for enquiries to be conducted in totality by external staff if necessary.

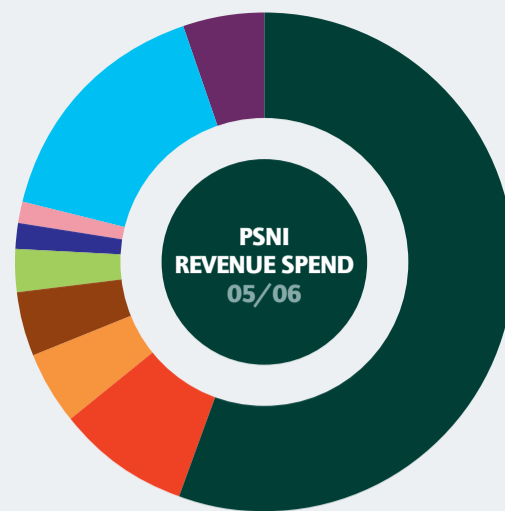
The two teams operate a five phase business process: collection, assessment, review, focussed re-investigation and resolution.

‘Resolution’ encompasses trying to answer any outstanding questions that families have, as well as completing a thorough re-examination of incidents to a modern, professional policing standard. The process is designed around a family-centred approach, working closely with them and on their behalf.

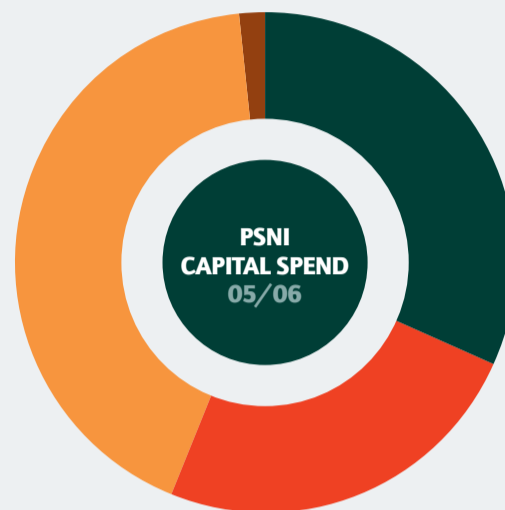
The unit will look at all 3,268 deaths related to the security situation. As a general rule, cases will be examined in chronological order, with a few exceptions, such as cases that are already re-opened or where a linked series of cases are identified.

This initiative will also allow the PSNI, for the first time, to have a consolidated database of all these cases, and will give the organisation confidence that all reasonable steps have been taken in each case.

The Historical Enquiries Team is based in specially designed accommodation in Sprucefield near Lisburn and can be contacted by phoning 028 9258 2589 or by email at het@nics.gov.uk



	£m	%
Police pay	479.2	56
Civilian pay	76.1	9
Incidentals	40.2	5
Accommodation	36.2	4
Telecoms & I.T.	24.2	3
Transport	12.4	1
Supplies/Catering	12.3	1
Pensions	137.6	16
Non-cash	43.8	5
Gross total	862.0	100
Net revenue spend	857.8	



	£m	%
Accommodation	11.0	32
Transport	8.5	25
Telecoms & I.T.	14.6	42
Supplies/Catering	0.5	1
Gross total	34.6	100
Net revenue spend	32.3	

The development of the new Police College project continued with the acquisition of land at Cookstown, and funding considerations are currently being addressed with the Northern Ireland Office. It is anticipated that procurement of the Police College project will commence during the 2006/07 financial year. In addition, the PSNI commenced a strategic estates review of the current headquarter and support sites.

Supplies and procurement

A MAJOR achievement was the opening of the centralised facility for holding, tracking and administering all PSNI murder archive files. This is a world class facility managed by a dedicated and professional team, supported by electronic tracking and excellent business processes and procedures.

Supplies achieved an overall stock reduction of £800k (21%) coupled with a stock accuracy of 99.9%. Savings of £600k (5%) were realised, based on reduced pricing agreements with suppliers, and increased use of downloadable electronic formats on the police intranet system.

Having earlier devolved budgets for expenditure and ordering of non-public order uniform, full e-procurement was introduced this year. This meant DCUs and departments were able to place electronic orders directly with suppliers through use of online catalogue, linked to online order forms. The impact has been estimated as giving an annual expenditure saving of £1m.

With regard to procurement across the PSNI, improved planning, tendering and contracting for goods, works and services have been developed, with increased accountability and performance monitoring.

The PSNI had an annual procurement budgeted spend of £135m in 2005, 94% of which was procured under PSNI contract terms. £4.6m (8.1%) savings were achieved on new contracts awarded during the year. The supply base was reduced from 8,640 to 5,130 suppliers.

Transport

TRANSPORT Services provides support for operational policing through the provision of over 2,700 operational vehicles covering some 21 million miles in the year. The latest addition to the fleet is an EC 135 helicopter that went into service in August 2005.

Thermal roof markings have been applied to 500 vehicles to enable vehicle identification from the air. The availability of high visibility ‘battenburg’ patrol vehicles was increased from 30% to 40% of the total fleet.

Finance

ONE MAJOR accomplishment was the achievement of the Gershon efficiency savings targets of 2.5% (£20m) for 2005–2006.

The PSNI also received a clean audit opinion from the National Audit Office on the financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2005.

Systems were further enhanced by the introduction of a new pensions payroll system, which will be extended to police pay in the coming year.

Positive feedback was received on the pensions support provided in implementing the first phase of the Compulsory Severance Scheme for Full Time Reserve Officers.

MAINTAINING STANDARDS



Deputy Chief Constable Paul Leighton is, amongst a range of duties, responsible for internal discipline.

INTERNAL Investigation Branch (IIB) has the responsibility for promoting the integrity of the PSNI through the prevention and detection of corrupt, dishonest or unethical behaviour.

IIB, who report directly to the Deputy Chief Constable, carry out proactive investigations into alleged criminal breaches and breaches of the Code of Ethics. IIB also conduct disciplinary hearings as a result of investigations, and also on request from the Police Ombudsman.

This year has seen the implementation of the National Intelligence Model throughout IIB. This brings together best practice in intelligence-led policing, and ensures that priorities, set at the beginning of the year, are monitored and reviewed on a monthly basis.

This has led to improved performance in a number of areas, including the speed of investigations and the timelines between submission of reports and cases being listed for hearing.

IT support for IIB has been improved with the development of records management and case management systems. The final rollout of these systems should be completed in 2006/7.

IIB, as part of their education and prevention strategy, regularly speak to officers and student officers in order to raise awareness of the role of IIB and to emphasise officers' obligations under the Code of Ethics.

IIB has a dedicated team dealing with requests made under Freedom of Information and Data Protection legislation and disclosure for various civil claims and Industrial Tribunals. The team is also responsible for Records Management within the Branch.

Statistics for 2005/6

During the year, 47 officers appeared at misconduct hearings, charged with

disciplinary/misconduct offences, 18 of which involved criminal behaviour. Of those, 10 cases arose from complaints by members of the public.

The outcomes of the disciplinary hearings were as follows:

- 9 officers dismissed from the service or required to resign
- 1 officer reduced in rank
- 27 officers fined or reduced in pay
- 4 officers cautioned or reprimanded
- Other outcomes, 6

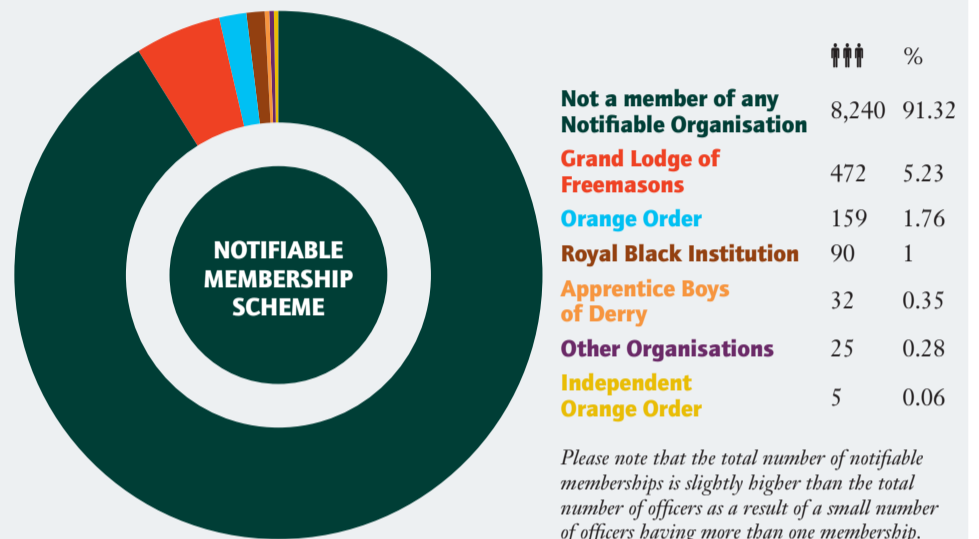
The Police Ombudsman can refer certain complaints made by the public as suitable for informal resolution. IIB administers the scheme, with the actual resolution being conducted by local officers, usually of Inspector rank. Around

75% of cases referred this year have resulted in successful resolution.

Notifiable Membership Scheme

Head of Branch, IIB, has responsibility for the administration of the Notifiable Membership scheme. Under Section 51 of the Police (NI) Act 2000, every police officer is obliged to make a declaration to the Chief Constable on whether or not they belong to any organisation which may be regarded as affecting an officer's ability to discharge their duties effectively and impartially.

The registration process was completed on 31 March 2006. 8,956 officers submitted notification forms, with 8,240 officers declaring they were not members of any notifiable organisation. The following statistics show the outcome of the process:



ANNUAL CRIME STATISTICS

THE 2005/6 annual statistics showed a 4.3% rise in overall crime. Any increase in crime is always a major concern, and the Police Service is firmly committed to making the crimes which have risen key priorities for the year ahead.

However, overall crime rates, despite the rise, are still 14% lower than they were in 2002/03 and in a number of categories crime has gone down.

An analysis of the reasons for the increase in overall crime paints a complex picture. An increase of more than 5,000 crimes over the 12 months includes the following:

- For the first time, breaches of non-molestation orders are included in the crime figures (over 1,400 extra reports of crime).
- There were 600 offences attributable to the incidents around the Whiterock Parade last September alone.
- There were 1,112 more reports of domestic violence which would appear to indicate an increased willingness of victims to report this crime. It also follows a number of police initiatives and high profile campaigns designed to encourage victims to report crimes to police throughout the year.

- Proactive police action and initiatives led to in excess of 300 additional drugs offences being recorded.

While violent crime is up 5.8%, the clearance rate increased from 51.1% to 53.9%. Offences of criminal damage increased by 10.7%, however, in districts right across Northern Ireland there are many initiatives in place to tackle anti-social behaviour and criminal damage.

Burglary figures continued to fall this year again; they are down 4.1%, while vehicle crime is down by over 17%, and police have seized 15.2% more drugs. These are crimes which research shows are of key concern to people.

A considerable amount of effort has gone into reaching out to minority groups and communities who may not have reported crime to police in the past.

There were 936 racial incidents in 2005/06 reported to police, an increase of 15.1%, and 220 homophobic incidents, up 12.2%. Northern Ireland Policing Board targets to increase clearance rates were achieved with a 4.6% increase for racial incidents and a 9.9% increase for homophobic incidents.

The Police Service will continue to work in partnership with all communities in order to reduce all crime and the fear of crime.

LEGAL SERVICES

LEGAL Services Department provides legal advice to the Chief Constable, his senior officers and local DCU Commanders to support the delivery of a professional policing service to the community.

The department is led by Legal Adviser David Mercier who reports directly to the Deputy Chief Constable and is an integral member of the Chief Constable's Policy Forum.

The department has a dedicated Human Rights Adviser who contributes to promoting awareness and understanding of human rights law and advises on policies and procedures to ensure the Police Service complies with human rights requirements.

In addition to providing general legal advice, Legal Services is directly involved in representing the Chief Constable in all four of the public inquiries as recommended by Judge Cory. A team of 15 temporary staff, including independent legal staff, have been employed, dedicated to servicing the needs of the inquiries.

The work of the department has recently been enhanced with the appointment of a dedicated Employment Lawyer. This appointment will ensure that HR policies and procedures comply with current UK and European employment law.

An administrative support team, responsible for Claims Handling, assists in discharging the Service's liability to those who suffer through any wrongful acts of police officers and others for whom we are liable. The team aims to provide effective management of all claims in support of its overall aim to improve organisational effectiveness in the Police Service. To this end the Legal Adviser is a member of the recently formed Claims Committee, which operates to scrutinise claims, their outcomes and allow the Service to implement best practice in relation to claims handling.

Legal Services Department continues to manage the workload associated with the class actions against the Chief Constable by serving and former officers in respect of Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) and Breach of Working Time Regulations. An increasing area of work for the legal staff within the department is that of Proceeds of Crime applications and Anti-Social Behaviour Orders.

There were 2,122 civil actions initiated during the year: 770 cases were disposed of, with damages of £2.1 million agreed or awarded. The bill for legal costs totalled £2.9 million.

A total of 1,636 requests for advice were sought and dealt with by the Legal Team.

2005>06 STATISTICS

The Police Service published its annual statistics for 2005/06 on 9th May and the complete set of results is available in full on our website www.psni.police.uk. What follows on this page is a summary of key statistics, as well as the Police and Criminal Evidence (PACE) Order statistics, not previously released.

Recorded Crime: Offences Recorded and Cleared 2004/05 & 2005/06



	Total offences recorded				Total offences cleared		% Clearance rate		
	2004/05	2005/06	change	% change	2004/05	2005/06	2004/05	2005/06	change in % pts ¹
Offences against the person (class 1)	29,339	30,953	+1,614	+5.5	15,585	17,531	53.1	56.6	+3.5
Sexual offences (class 2)	1,686	1,711	+25	+1.5	776	741	46.0	43.3	-2.7
Burglary (class 3)	13,388	12,836	-552	-4.1	1,988	1,616	14.8	12.6	-2.2
of which Domestic Burglary	7,302	7,259	-43	-0.6	981	796	13.4	11.0	-2.4
of which Non-Domestic Burglary	5,965	5,472	-493	-8.3	904	725	15.2	13.2	-2.0
Robbery (class 4)	1,487	1,744	+257	+17.3	248	270	16.7	15.5	-1.2
Theft (class 5)	31,097	29,481	-1,616	-5.2	5,401	5,901	17.4	20.0	+2.6
of which Vehicle Crime²	9,827	8,125	-1,702	-17.3	988	999	10.1	12.3	+2.2
Fraud and forgery (class 6)	5,198	5,106	-92	-1.8	1,871	1,752	36.0	34.3	-1.7
Criminal damage (class 7)	31,432	34,801	+3,369	+10.7	4,521	5,275	14.4	15.2	+0.8
Offences against the State (class 8)	1,185	1,301	+116	+9.8	544	655	45.9	50.3	+4.4
Other notifiable offences (class 9)	3,312	5,261	+1,949	+58.8	2,410	3,923	72.8	74.6	+1.8
of which Drug Offences³	2,622	2,944	+322	+12.3	1,927	2,207	73.5	75.0	+1.5
of which Breach of orders⁴	-	1,426	-	-	-	1,025	-	71.9	-
Violent Crime (classes 1, 2 and 4)	32,512	34,408	+1,896	+5.8	16,609	18,542	51.1	53.9	+2.8
Grand Total (all classes)	118,124	123,194	+5,070	+4.3	33,344	37,664	28.2	30.6	+2.4

¹ While the clearance rates are rounded to one decimal place, the clearance rate change in % pts is calculated on the unrounded clearance rates and then rounded to one decimal place.

² Vehicle crime is comprised of theft from a motor vehicle plus theft or unauthorised taking of a motor vehicle.

³ Includes both trafficking and non-trafficking offences.

⁴ From 1st April 2005, breaches of orders have been counted as offences within the recorded crime statistics in Northern Ireland under the Home Office Counting Rules.

	Stolen Property		Drugs		Firearms		Offensive Weapon		Going Equipped		Others	
	Searches	Arrests ¹	Searches	Arrests ¹	Searches	Arrests ¹	Searches	Arrests ¹	Searches	Arrests ¹	Searches	Arrests ¹
April	201	20	827	20	19	2	119	7	266	10	484	41
May	296	15	735	28	24	2	88	14	320	10	464	69
June	208	21	913	42	40	4	70	8	232	11	378	30
July	179	15	815	20	59	2	111	13	243	14	721	39
August	164	23	673	28	25	2	94	7	218	9	429	33
September	148	2	624	29	27	4	80	13	234	4	326	33
October	265	24	843	39	18	1	130	5	256	12	622	39
November	220	23	680	26	16	1	110	7	276	10	490	45
December	170	35	663	35	26	0	98	9	224	6	307	33
January	307	24	815	30	35	4	118	14	362	13	507	29
February	302	33	719	27	63	2	121	6	290	10	621	32
March	230	22	672	21	56	5	78	10	216	9	485	38
Grand Total	2,690	257	8,979	345	408	29	1,217	113	3,137	118	5,834	461

Police and Criminal Evidence (PACE) Order: Persons and Vehicles Searched 2005/06



¹ Arrests as a result of search.

INTIMATE SEARCHES: There was one intimate search carried out during 2005/06. This was conducted by a medical practitioner to search for drugs and had a negative result.

EXTENDED DETENTION: During 2005/06, 25 persons were detained in police custody for more than 24 hours and released without charge. There were 30 applications to Magistrates' Courts for warrants of further detention, all of which were granted. 16 persons were subsequently charged.

Police and Criminal Evidence (PACE) Order: Detention Statistics 2005/06



	Arrests under PACE				Requests / Delays			
	Totals	Gender		Arrests for Notifiable Offences	Friend/Relative etc		Solicitor	
		Male	Female		Requests	Delayed on Superintendent's Authority	Requests	Delayed on Superintendent's Authority
Quarter 1: April-June	7,603	6,620	983	5,462	1,107	3	3,136	3
Quarter 2: July-September	8,084	6,924	1,160	6,106	1,415	2	3,618	0
Quarter 3: October-December	8,277	7,175	1,102	6,228	1,293	5	3,676	2
Quarter 4: January-March	7,997	6,871	1,126	5,739	1,162	8	2,987	2
Grand Total	31,961	27,590	4,371	23,535	4,977	18	13,434	7

	Number of Injury Collisions	Casualties			
		Killed	Seriously Injured	Slightly Injured	Total Casualties
1996/97	7,325	153	1,645	11,237	13,035
1997/98	7,081	143	1,526	10,912	12,581
1998/99	7,460	150	1,462	11,682	13,294
1999/00	7,827	150	1,573	12,170	13,893
2000/01	8,361	163	1,801	12,620	14,584
2001/02	7,133	153	1,638	10,812	12,603
2002/03	6,569	158	1,487	9,901	11,546
2003/04	6,109	142	1,258	9,022	10,422
2004/05	5,240	140	1,128	7,478	8,746
2005/06	5,098	134	1,115	7,128	8,377

Injury Road Traffic Collisions and Casualties 1996/97 - 2005/06



ROAD SAFETY

THE OVERALL improving trend in road safety on Northern Ireland's roads continues.

There were six fewer people killed as a result of road traffic collisions, and the number of people injured was also reduced.

During 2005/6, 134 people were killed, compared with 140 the previous year. All categories of injury collisions, by severity, saw a reduction from the previous year. However, tragically, the number of children (under 16) killed rose by five, to a total of 16. The increase was mainly amongst child pedestrians and cyclists.

The **Northern Ireland Road Safety Strategy** provides a framework over ten years for a multi-agency approach to tackling deaths and serious injuries on our roads. The

The number of motorcyclists killed in road traffic collisions has more than halved

strategy targets were fixed at a 33% reduction in the number of people killed and seriously injured (KSI) by 2012 and a reduction of 50% in child KSIs in the same time frame. Within the first three years of the strategy both these targets have almost been achieved. But police are far from complacent. We are anxious to see a sustained and meaningful reduction in the number of people killed on our roads.

One of the success stories for the Police Service has been the **Bikesafe initiative** where motorcyclists are offered guidance and support from qualified police motorcyclists. The number of motorcyclists and pillion

passengers killed in road traffic collisions has more than halved from 25 in 2004-05, to 12 this year. In addition, the scheme has been awarded a prestigious safety award by *Irish Road Racer* magazine in recognition of the positive influence that Bikesafe has had on motorcycle safety and rider awareness.

Police have maintained their commitment to enforcing those road traffic offences, which are proved to be linked to injury collisions – speeding, drink-driving and general carelessness.

The number of motorists detected substantially exceeding the speed limit during the year has risen to 27,585, up 1,293 on the previous year. The past year saw another rise in the number of people detected for drink and drug driving offences from 4,260 to 5,195.

A new advertisement was launched in conjunction with An Garda Síochána in Dublin to coincide with the Christmas Anti-drink Drive campaign.

Police further re-inforced the dangers of driving whilst unfit through drugs, with a poster campaign targeted at universities, colleges and places of higher education.

The **Driver Improvement scheme** was launched in December, whereby a motorist who has been detected for a relatively minor careless driving offence can be referred for retraining at their own expense, as an alternative to prosecution. In addition, the number of motorists detected for careless and dangerous driving saw a slight increase from the previous year's figures.

The award winning **Roadsafe Roadshow** had its most successful season to date having visited 11 venues throughout Northern Ireland presenting 18 shows to some 6,000 young people. The show, supported by AXA Insurance, provided an opportunity for Road Policing Education Officers to engage with young people.

Police Officers across Northern Ireland are now using **Automatic Number Plate**



TEXT MESSAGING

THE POLICE Service harnessed the latest text message technology to help people who are Deaf, Hard of Hearing or Speech Impaired to use their mobile phones to contact the emergency services. The project was developed in partnership with the Deaf Association of Northern Ireland and British Telecom.

People who have registered with the SMS (Short Message Service) emergency text service are able to use their mobile phones to contact the police. The calls, which can be made from any part of Northern Ireland, go centrally to the Police Service's high-tech Belfast Regional Command (BRC) centre at Castlereagh. Officers alerted by the system will be able to direct the call to local police or the other 'blue light' services – Fire and Rescue or Ambulance.

In addition, the Police Service has trained Disability Link Officers (DLOs) in each of the 29 District Command Units. While these officers support the new SMS emergency text service they will also, in broader terms, promote links between police and people with special needs. The DLOs are trained in disability awareness and both British and Irish sign language.

Recognition (ANPR) technology to good effect. ANPR systems installed in police vehicles equip officers with accurate, timely information. This enables them to focus their activity in an intelligence-led way to detect stolen and other wanted vehicles.

If everyone in Northern Ireland slows down, does not drive after drinking or taking impairing drugs, wears their seatbelts and drives with more care and attention then the numbers of people killed and seriously injured on our roads will continue to fall.

Working together we can make the roads of Northern Ireland safer for everyone.



Officers get ready for the Law Enforcement Torch Run in support of Special Olympics

FLAME OF HOPE FOR SPECIAL OLYMPICS

THE POLICE Service together with officers from An Garda Síochána were again honoured to organise the Law Enforcement Torch Run which aims to raise funds and awareness for Special Olympics.

The Torch runners, including special athletes, visited 50 towns and cities throughout Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland to let people know about the Special Olympics Ireland Summer Games held this year in Belfast.

The Law Enforcement Torch Run began in America in 1981 when a Kansas Police Chief saw an urgent need to raise funds for, and increase awareness of, Special Olympics.

The Police Service has been involved in promoting Special Olympics since 1996,

raising funds for local athletes and clubs, and promoting inclusion, opportunity and recognition for people with special needs.

In June 2003, 93 international law enforcement officers and 10 Special Olympics athletes, including 10 police officers from the Police Service of Northern Ireland and An Garda Síochána, travelled thousands of miles to carry the flame of hope from Athens Greece, via Northern Ireland, to the 2003 World Summer Games held in Dublin.

Following on from the success of the World Games, the Police Service formed a committee to progress the Torch Run throughout Northern Ireland and has police representatives throughout all of its districts.

ACCESS FOR ALL

The Police Service of Northern Ireland is committed to providing equal access to information for everyone. A summary of the Chief Constable's Annual Report for 2005-06 can be made available in accessible formats on request. **To request a summary in an alternative format (including Braille, large print, audio cassette or in minority ethnic languages for those not fluent in English) please contact:** The Section 75 Office, Police Service of Northern Ireland Headquarters, 65 Knock Road, Belfast BT5 6LE or telephone 0845 600 8000 ext. 69770, or email section75@psni.pnn.police.uk

