



AN TÚDARÁS PÓILÍNEACHTA  
POLICING AUTHORITY

## Minutes of Meeting of the Policing Authority

**Date:** 29 June 2021

**Venue:** By Video Conference

### Attendance

**Authority:** Bob Collins (Chairperson), Donal de Buitléir, Deborah Donnelly, Valerie Judge, Paul Mageean, Stephen Martin, Moling Ryan, Shalom Binchy, Elaine Byrne.

**Secretary:** Aoife Clabby.

**Staff of the Authority:** Helen Hall (Chief Executive), Cormac Keating, Margaret Tumelty, Karen Shelly.

### 1. Meeting of Members in Private

The Authority did not exercise its option to have a meeting in private.

### 2. Chairperson's Opening Remarks

At the outset of the meeting the Chairperson apprised members of some recent items of correspondence . Arising from the engagement in public with the Commissioner on the review of the cancellation of CAD 999 Priority 1 Incidents, the Chairperson highlighted a number of matters requiring clarification and additional information at this juncture. The Chairperson also highlighted matters pertaining to coverage of the review in the media, including uncertainty in respect of the exact number of the calls of concern and speculation on the issue of external input into the review process. It was agreed that the confusion in public discourse in respect of the number of calls was unhelpful and that clarity for the public on the matter should be ensured during the next meeting in public with the Commissioner.

The Chairperson sought the views of Members in respect of the introduction of external input and advice in support of the Authority's independent oversight of the issue. Members considered the possible scope, timing and benefits of the introduction of such input at this point in the review process. The requirement for expedition as part of the process and in the public interest was also emphasised. Members also discussed the value of liaising with the Garda Inspectorate on the matter and it was agreed that the Chairperson would engage with the Chief Inspector at an early date.

Members considered possible Terms of Reference for the advice to be provided to the Authority, including, but not limited to, the adequacy of the scope of the Garda Síochána review, the appropriateness of the methodology being deployed, the manner in which any adverse impact on victims or otherwise is being considered and applied in respect of calls reviewed and the efficacy and appropriateness of remedying any original deficient response.

Following discussion, the Authority agreed to procure independent strategic advice regarding the Garda Síochána review of the cancellation of CAD 999 Priority 1 calls. It was agreed that the Executive would draft Terms of Reference, based on the discussion that had taken place and circulate to the Members for their consideration and input.

In light of the urgency associated with the review and the specialist nature of the advice required, the Authority formally resolved to use a Single Source Procurement without a tendering process. It was agreed that the Executive would make inquiries with a view to identifying a suitable specialist to undertake the work, based on the agreed Terms of Reference, and to provide the advice to the Authority. It was further agreed that a memo on the award of the contract would be drafted once a suitable specialist had been identified.

The Chairperson advised that he would engage with the Commissioner and the Secretary General of the Department to apprise them of the Authority's decision.

<b>No.</b>	<b>Action point</b>	<b>By Date</b>	<b>By Whom</b>
<b>A_094_01</b>	Chairperson to engage with the Chief Inspector, Garda Inspectorate.	ASAP	Chairperson
<b>A_094_02</b>	Executive to draft Terms of Reference for the provision of strategic advice to the Authority on the GS review of CAD999 priority 1 calls and circulate for Members' input	Immediate	Chief Executive
<b>A_094_03</b>	Executive to identify a suitable service provider to provide strategic advice to the Authority	Immediate	Chief Executive
<b>A_094_04</b>	Executive to prepare a memo regarding Single Source Procurement without a tendering process once a suitable service provider has been identified.	ASAP	Chief Executive
<b>A_094_05</b>	Chairperson to apprise Secretary General, Department of Justice and Commissioner of the Authority decision to obtain external strategic advice in relation to the GS review process.	Immediate	Chairperson