

Minutes of Meeting of the Policing Authority- Private

Date: May 18th 2022

Venue: Video Conference

Attendance

Authority: Bob Collins (Chairperson), Shalom Binchy, Donal de Buitleir, Valerie Judge, Paul

Mageean, Valerie Judge.

Apologies Elaine Byrne, Moling Ryan.

Secretary: Aoife Clabby.

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

1. Meeting of Members in Private

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

2. Chairperson's Opening Remarks

The Chairperson outlined the purpose of the meeting, arising from the recent completion of the competition process for Assistant Commissioner in the Garda Síochána and the desire to establish a panel in a timely manner.

The agenda for the meeting was approved, as drafted. No conflicts of interest were declared by the Members in relation to the item for consideration.

3. Garda Síochána Appointments: Assistant Commissioner Competition

Members considered a proposal for the establishment of a panel for appointment to the rank of Assistant Commissioner in the Garda Síochána, having regard to the report of the selection board for the competition, the candidate order of merit, and the principles attaching to the communication of the competition results. Members noted the statistical information for publication in respect of the competition. Members also had regard to possible vacancies arising at the rank of Assistant Commissioner to May 2023.

Following discussion, the Authority was satisfied to approve the establishment of a panel of candidates for appointment to the rank of Assistant Commissioner, as recommended.

4. Other Business

The Chief Executive advised Members that the Garda Memorial Day to honour and remember Garda members killed in the line of duty was scheduled to take place on Saturday 21 May 2022.

Members were advised that there had been a delay to the processing of Board fees by the NSSO for quarter one and that payment would issue at the end of the month.

Members noted that arrangements for the meeting in public in Monaghan, together with details of stakeholder engagements would be provided in the coming days.

The Chief Executive provided Members with an update on a number of matters in relation to the next phase of the examination of CAD 999 calls. Members were advised that numerous meetings had taken place in recent weeks between the Policing Authority and the Garda Síochána in relation to the development of legally binding guidance and a further meeting was scheduled for 19 May. While the data protection issues were being concluded, the matter of the staffing to support Mr. Penman during this phase of the review, had not yet reached a resolution. The Chairperson noted that he had engaged with the Commissioner on the matter in recent days and it was anticipated that the matter would be resolved in advance of Mr. Penman's arrival on Sunday 22 May.

Members discussed the statutory provisions in relation to the delegated functions of the Authority and re-affirmed its strong view that the nomination of staff to undertake such oversight work of the nature being contemplated was a role for the Chief Executive.

It was agreed that the matter would be raised with the Commissioner at the meeting in public on 26 May, in the event that no resolution had been reached by that time.