

## Minutes of Meeting of the Policing Authority

**Date:** 9 March 2020

**Venue:** 90 North King Street and by Conference Call

### Part A – Authority Meeting

#### Attendance

**Authority:** Bob Collins (Chairperson), Vicky Conway, Pat Costello, Deborah Donnelly, Judith Gillespie (CC), Valerie Judge (CC), Paul Mageean, Moling Ryan.

**Secretary:** Aileen Healy

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

#### 1. Chairperson's Opening Remarks

The draft agenda was discussed and approved. No conflicts of interest were declared in relation to any of the matters for discussion.

Members discussed the current risk posed by the Covid 19 public health emergency and the Authority's responsibilities with regard to staff health and wellbeing and for contingency arrangements to continue the Authority's operations in the event of the situation worsening. The Chief Executive outlined the contingency arrangements and communications with staff that are in place and which are being enhanced on a daily basis in light of public health advice. Members advised that these arrangements be tested to ensure that they will work in practice.

The Chairperson briefed Members on a conversation in recent days with the Commissioner with regard to the preparedness of the Garda Síochána ('GS') arising from the emerging demands associated with the Covid 19 situation and in relation to the wellbeing of the organisation's employees.

Members noted recent exchange of correspondence with the Disclosures Tribunal arising from proceedings at the Tribunal in the previous week and discussed the issues concerned and the actions being taken in this regard.

Members noted that a new print run of the Code of Ethics for the Garda Síochána was to be produced which will include new forewords by the new Chairperson and the Commissioner and the Chairperson shared the proposed text of his foreword.

Members discussed the arrangements for sharing information and documentation between meetings and requested that the Chief Executive explore alternatives that may facilitate Member's requirements.

No.	Action point	By Date	By Whom
A_065_01	The Chief Executive to make arrangements to test the Authority's business continuity arrangements.	ASAP	Chief Executive

<b>A_065_02</b>	The Chief Executive to explore alternatives to facilitate Member's requirements for communications between meetings.	ASAP	Chief Executive
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## 2. Strategic Priorities

Members continued their discussion about their strategic priorities for 2020 and agreed that the Chief Executive draft a document to capture the key issues discussed in advance of the next Authority meeting. The draft document setting out initial thoughts in relation to the draft Community safety policy paper was discussed and it was agreed that this be finalised by the Chief Executive and the Chairperson, in light of the discussion and provided to the Department of Justice and Equality.

<b>No.</b>	<b>Action point</b>	<b>By Date</b>	<b>By Whom</b>
<b>A_065_03</b>	The Chief Executive to draft a document to capture the key issues relating to the Authority's strategic priorities for 2019 based on the views expressed.	25 March	Chief Executive
<b>A_065_04</b>	The Chairperson and Chief Executive to finalise and provide to the Department the draft document setting out the Authority's views on Community safety proposals and communicate same to the Department.	ASAP	Chairperson and Chief Executive

## 3. Policing Performance Report 2019

The Policing Performance Report was approved, subject to drafting. The Chairperson proposed that he would circulate his foreword to the report to Members prior to finalisation.

<b>No.</b>	<b>Action point</b>	<b>By Date</b>	<b>By Whom</b>
<b>A_065_05</b>	The Chairperson to share his proposed foreword for the Policing Performance Report 2019 with Members prior to finalisation of the document.	ASAP	Chairperson