

## OPEN MINUTES

### POLICE COMMITTEE HELD AT THE CONFERENCE ROOM, GOVERNMENT HOUSE AT 1330HRS ON 9<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY 2017

*These minutes are draft minutes until confirmed by resolution at the next meeting of this Committee*

**Present:** His Excellency the Governor, Chair (HE)  
Peter Judge, Attorney General (AG)  
Superintendent Len McGill, Chief Police Officer (CPO)  
MLA M Summers OBE (MS)  
Anton Livermore JP (AL)  
Derek Clarke JP (DC)

**Minutes:** Rhiannon Didlick-Smith, Secretary to the Committee

#### **Part I**

Action

#### **1. Apologies for Absence**

1.1 Apologies for absence were received from the Chief Executive Barry Rowland and MLA Barry Elsby.

#### **2. Re-Elected Member Representing the Justices of the Peace**

2.1 HE the Governor welcomed Anton Livermore JP back to the committee and informed the group he has been re-elected to represent the Justices of the Peace from their number as a committee representative.

#### **3. Declaration of Interest**

3.1 There were no declarations of interest.

#### **4. Confirmation of Minutes of Meeting held on 19 October 2016**

4.1 The minutes were confirmed as a correct record.

#### **5. Matters Arising from the Open Minutes of the Meeting held on 19 October 2016**

5.1 (5.3 Report of the Chief Police Officer – Report Covering Quarter 1 of 2016/17) The Attorney General informed the group that he had discussed outstanding Police Ordinances with the Chief Police Officer and had agreed to take this matter forward working to the instruction of the Chief Police Officer. The Attorney General stated that the introduction of taxi driver permits and fixed penalty notices were included in this work. The Attorney General confirmed that consideration into safeguarding issues had been made with regards to the taxi driver permits.

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### 6. **Report of the Chief Police Officer – Report Covering Quarter 2 of 2016/17**

6.1 The Chief Police Officer introduced his report which covered the period 1 October to 31 December 2016. He stated that the results were all on target, but advised the committee that during this reporting period the police force was severely undermanned. The Chief Police Officer drew attention to the received letters of appreciation which showed gratitude to the police for their focus on community work including a programme on ‘safer cycling’.

6.2 Derek Clarke JP commented on the high number of false 999 calls. The Chief Police Officer replied that the main cause of false calls was accidental ‘pocket dialling’ from mobile telephones. He advised that false calls of this nature did not cause notable distraction from police business.

6.3 Anton Livermore JP asked if the Road Traffic Bill was any closer to completion. MLA Summers advised that it was highly unlikely that the Road Traffic Bill and Firearms Ordinance will appear in the next Legislative Session.

6.4 MLA Summers asked if the Police Force had a full complement of staff. The Chief Police Officer replied that the staffing position has improved immensely with the recent recruitment of 4 police officers. He stated that a new cadet from the apprenticeship scheme was also joining the police force.

### 7. **Proposed Objectives Report of the Chief Police Officer - Proposed Annual Objectives for the Royal Falkland Islands Police 2017/18**

7.1 The Chief Police Officer proposed that the majority of service level objectives in this reporting period remain unchanged as they have produced good results.

7.2 SL5 – Police Officers to conduct high visibility patrol of Mount Pleasant Airport departure areas once per month to coincide with the departing LATAM flight: HE the Governor advised the Chief Police Officer that resource implications had to be considered for this objective. COP

7.3 SL6 – To reduce violent and acquisitive crimes: The Chief Police Officer stated that he had reduced target figures for SL6 to further improve community safety. He advised that in order to reach this lower target the police planned to work closely with the prison and probation services using the Neighbourhood Management Model with an aim to prevent persons from re-offending.

7.4 MLA Summers enquired on the progress of the anti-domestic violence campaign. The Chief Police Officer replied that this campaign is stalled but remains fully funded and stated that Detective Inspector Street is the contract manager. The Attorney General advised that Sure are contracted to provide a domestic violence helpline. He also stated that an outcome of the family law review was the provision of stronger penalties for crimes involving domestic

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violence. HE the Governor advised the Chief Police Officer that it would be helpful to push this campaign forward.

CPO

- 7.5 The Chief Police Officer informed the committee that with regards to Departmental Objectives a full structural review of the police is currently ongoing.
- 7.6 The Chief Police Officer stated that he uses police recruitment as an opportunity to source officers with essential police skills which can be utilised within RFIP. He gave example of in-house interview and disclosure training which will be provided by newly recruited police officers with the relevant qualifications and/or expertise. He advised that these skills often require police officers to attend overseas refresher courses. MLA Summers asked if the police officers could provide training to personnel from other FIG departments such as Customs and Immigration. The Chief Police Officer replied that RFIP were in discussion with Fisheries and he confirmed that the offer of this training could be extended to other FIG departments.
- 7.7 The Attorney General stated that the Legal Department relied on police officers to achieve best evidence skills and advised that he was fully supportive of any training required to secure these skills. The Chief Police Officer replied that training providers from overseas would be sourced if the skills held by RFIP officers were not current.
- 7.8 The Chief Police Officer stated that the Legal Chambers are holding introductory training for the new Police Ordinance and there was opportunity for future refresher training. The Attorney General advised that not all training would be provided by the prosecution service and that external trainers would deliver training where necessary.
- 7.9 The Chief Police Officer stated that the Director of Emergency Services had requested the holding cells in the police station to be renovated in order to comply with UK regulations. He said that the poor layout of the holding cells was raised in a report by the Southern Oceans Prison Advisor (SOPA) following their visit to the Falkland Islands 5 years ago. The Chief Police Officer stated that a survey of the police station had been arranged, but advised the age and structure of the building may not be compatible to support necessary renovation work. The Chief Police Officer advised that this was an ongoing project.
- 7.10 The Chief Police Officer stated that the departmental objective D6 cannot be costed until a means of undertaking the review of the Road Traffic Ordinance and production of associated Regulations and Procedures has been developed. The Attorney General stated that he will look to see where the Legal Department can provide assistance with this objective.

### 8. **Confirmation of Date of Next Meeting**

- 8.1 The next meeting of the Police Committee is scheduled to take place at 1000hrs on Thu 27 April 2017 at the Liberation Room.

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### 9. **Exclusion of Press and Public**

- 9.1 The Committee resolved to exclude the press and public on the grounds that the next items of business to be considered were exempt within the terms of paragraph 7 of Schedule 3 of the Committees (Public Access) Ordinance 2012 relating to information about individuals.

### **Part II**

### 10. **Confirmation of the Exempt Minutes of the Meeting held on 20 July 2016**

(Not for publication by virtue of paragraph 7 of Schedule 3 of the Committees (Public Access) Ordinance 2012, relating to information about individuals)

- 10.1 The minutes of the meeting were approved.

### 11. **Report of the Chief Police Officer – Exempt Report Covering Quarter 2 of 2016/17**

(Not for publication by virtue of paragraph 7 of Schedule 3 of the Committees (Public Access) Ordinance 2012, relating to information about individuals)

- 11.1 The Committee discussed the report of the Chief Police Officer.