

Minutes of Joint Policing Committee Meeting held on 12<sup>th</sup> February 2010  
at 9.30 a.m. in the Community Centre Ratoath

**Chair:** Cllr Regina Doherty

**Attendance:** Deputies Johnny Brady; Mary Wallace; Cllrs Maria Murphy; Niamh McGowan; Wayne Harding; Seamus O'Neill; William Carey; Francis Deane; Nick Killian (Community Representative); Mr Shaun Lynch; Mr Charlie Traynor.

**In attendance:** Chief Superintendent Pdraig Rattigan; Superintendent Michael Devine; Sergt Peter Gilsenan; Mr Michael Killeen Director of Service; Mr Bill Sweeney Senior Executive Officer.

**Apologies:** Deputy Thomas Byrne Cllr Joe Reilly.

The chair opened the meeting by thanking Cllr Nick Killian for arranging the venue.

**1. Adoption of Minutes of the meeting of 19<sup>th</sup> October 2009.**

Minutes of the meeting of 19<sup>th</sup> October 2009 were adopted on the proposal of Cllr Murphy seconded by Cllr Harding.

**2. Correspondence**

B Sweeney advised of correspondence from Planning & Policy Unit of Garda Headquarters carrying out a survey on the deployment of Regional Support Units in the Eastern Region. Chief Superintendent Rattigan outlined the role of the new units and suggested that the survey be completed in advance of the April meeting. It was agreed to circulate the survey with the April agenda.

**3. Review of Draft Annual Work Programme.**

The draft work programme as circulated was recommended for adoption by the Steering Group. The chair emphasised the need for members to commit to the work programme and to actively participate in the sub committees.

The Work Programme was adopted on the proposal of Cllr Murphy seconded by Cllr Killian.

**4. Formation of Sub Committees to progress Annual Work Programme.**

The membership of sub committees was updated and it was agreed to write to absent members on the subject.

**Any Other Business**

**1. Head Shops**

A number of members expressed concern at the possible effects of products sold in Head Shops. Chief Superintendent Rattigan pointed out that the products sold were legal under current legislation. Bill Sweeney advised that as long as these businesses complied with legislation the local authority and JPC had no function in controlling them. Cllr W Carey advised that he had tabled the issue for discussion at the March meeting of the Council. It was agreed that every effort should be made to raise awareness of the dangers of some of these products.

**2. Housing of Ex-prisoners**

Cllr Killian raised the question of the housing of ex-prisoners by the Probation and Welfare Service. It was agreed to write to the Probation and Welfare Service expressing the committees concerns and invite a representative to discuss their policy at a future meeting of the committee.

This concluded the business of the meeting.