**POLICE COMMITTEE MEETING**

Held at the Government House, Stanley

At 15:00 hrs on Friday 7th May 2021

***These minutes are draft minutes until confirmed by resolution at the***

***next meeting of this Committee***

**In Attendance**: Nigel Phillips, His Excellency The Governor, Chair (HE) (Left at 15:25 hrs)

Dave Morgan, Deputy Governor (DM)

Superintendent Jeff McMahon, Chief Police Officer (CPO)

Simon Young, Attorney General (AG)

MLA Leona Roberts (LR)

Janette Vincent, Justice of Peace (JV)

Andrew Brownlee, Justice of Peace (AB)

**Media:** Lisa Watson, Penguin News

**Minutes**: Cress Thomas, PA to Chief Police Officer

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|  |  | **(Action)** |
|  | **Part I** |  |
|  | The meeting started at 15:00 hrs. |  |
| **1.0** | **Apologies** |  |
| 1.1 | Apologies for absence were received from the Chief Executive Barry Rowland and incoming Chief Executive Andy Keeling. |  |
| **2.0** | **Declaration of Interest** |  |
| 2.1 | AB stated that Lifestyles Ltd. provide items to the RFIP from time-to-time. |  |
| 2.2 | HE welcomed DM to the Police Committee. |  |
| 2.3 | HE stated that due to other commitments the chair will be passed on to DM to complete the Police Committee Meeting for 7th May 2021. |  |
| **3.0** | **Confirmation of the Open Minutes of Meeting held on 29th March 2020** |  |
| 3.1 | The minutes were accepted as correct and accurate record of the meeting. |  |
| **4.0** | **Matters Arising from the Open Minutes of Meeting held on 29th March 2020** |  |
| 4.1 | (5.6) The CPO stated that RFIP acquired some free handsets from a UK supplier to be tested in the Islands. However the testing failed due to network connection issues and 4G system here but that the CPO continues to liaise with the supplier. Exploratory feasibility testing will continue and any issues pertaining to procurement for a new radio system will be addressed in due course. The current radio system is nearing the end of its serviceable life. | **CPO** |
| **5.0** | **Report of the Chief Police Officer (Open Session)** |  |
| 5.1 | The CPO introduced his report which covered the period from 1st January to 31st March 2021 (3rd quarter of 2020/21 Financial Year) |  |
| 5.2 | The CPO stated that the OTRCIS trainer is now in the Islands and is currently in quarantine. The training will start once she is out of quarantine; with the intention that crime recording will completely move to OTRCIS. This marks good progress for RFIP. Other applications include intelligence management custody and process files being added. |  |
| 5.3 | The CPO stated that the fortnightly meetings with JSPSU and CMLO have commenced after the last lockdown March 2021. In addition to this, both Dr Murphy and DC Taylor are due to deliver CSAE training at MPC to both military personnel and civilian contractors. |  |
| 5.4 | The CPO stated that the installation of ABE equipment and suspect interview equipment has now been completed and both are up and running. There are still some further recommendations to be completed in the force development plan which the CPO will run through during this meeting under agenda item number 8. |  |
| 5.5 | Archives  The CPO stated that RFIP has made huge efforts in tidying up the archives container. This project started in 2018 and has made significant progress. All archived records are now up-to-date as per our retention policy and in conjunction with FIG policies. The CPO confirmed that the files and documents that complete a retention period are destroyed by burning. |  |
| 5.6 | Crime Management  The CPO stated that the crimes classification have just been refreshed for the new computer database system (OTRCIS). This will assist RFIP in carefully analysing each crime to identify trends and patterns. Furthermore, the force inspection is overdue this year (February 2021) which will be arranged in due course, once there are changes to quarantine requirements. The last inspection was completed in 2019. |  |
| 5.7 | Learning and Development  The CPO stated that learning developments continues to make good progress despite the restrictions caused by Covid-19. RFIP still has a number of training events planned and these are reviewed regularly. OTRCIS training will commence in May and other training courses that includes overseas trainer are being discussed with the Overseas Police Adviser. |  |
| 5.8 | Driving for Hire and Reward  The CPO stated that this is still with the AG for further review. The Committee are aware that this has been a long standing issue and the AG has confirmed this is still a work in progress. |  |
| 5.9 | Property  The CPO stated that this has now been handed over to the administration unit and a separate location to store larger items of property, such as bicycles has been identified. A specific process is now in place that will speed up the disposal of items and see RFIP only keep property for a short a period as legally necessary. Any property that remains unclaimed after gazetting can be destroyed with permission from the court. |  |
| 5.10 | Police Vehicles  The CPO stated that RFIP has a small vehicle fleet. RFIP has a dedicated constable who regularly checks and maintains the police vehicles; not only the road worthiness but also the equipment stored inside, as they have to be equipped to deal with all manner of emergency situations such as trauma and scene of crime requirements. There is also now a police vehicle log book that all officers must complete after using the vehicles. The CPO will confirm at the next meeting if the police vehicles also carry an AED machine. | **CPO** |
| 5.11 | Firearms Licensing and Cardre  The CPO stated that firearms licensing is managed by the Chief Firearms Officer. In 2020 11 licences were issued. There were a total of 52 registrations of weapons. These were 25 new guns and 27 change of ownership. The islands farming community use firearms in a variety of scenarios and again there are very few instances of transgressions involving firearms. On occasion applications are made for the import of high powered assault weapons. These are resisted on the grounds that there is no reason for someone to possess this type of weapon. The number of weapons held on the island means the RFIP has to have a firearms response capability and much work has been done to ensure a cadre of officers are trained and equipped to tackle most firearms incidents as they present themselves.  In addition to this the CPO stated that RFIP have made good progress with developing a firearms cadre should it be needed. The Chief Firearms Instructor is UK accredited and leads training to ensure that the skills and qualifications of other firearms officers are up-to-date. Last year the COP commissioned an independent review of the armoury by military armourers at MPC. The ensuing report made a number of recommendations for improvements, which have since been implemented. |  |
| 5.12 | Website and Social Media  The CPO stated that this is another element that RFIP has developed in the last few years and it has been used very well especially for crime appeals and sharing of information; but members of the public also sends messages to the RFIP Facebook Page if they have something to report or questions. |  |
| 5.13 | Driving Tests  The CPO stated that the responsibility for conducting driving tests passed to the Falklands College and has been successfully operating since 2018. The CPO is still responsible for driving standards and in view of this a review is planned to be conducted by an independent expert from the UK, however, this has been delayed significantly due to Covid-19 restrictions. JV pointed out that the CPO report states ‘Training Centre’ whereas it should now be ‘Falklands College’. This will be corrected accordingly. The CPO confirmed that all downloadable forms from the website are now in word format so can be completed and submitted electronically. |  |
| 5.14 | Appraisals  The CPO stated that RFIP continues to run an appraisal system and this has been working well. This is monitored on a regular basis and is linked to the force objectives. |  |
| 5.15 | Cash Handling  The CPO stated that the transfer of the licensing bureau to the post office is progressing well, with a view to officially moving the services by 1st July 2021 in line with the new financial year, subject to contract agreements being in place. The CPO also stated that he has now drafted the EXCO paper; both the AG and LR said that this can be approved by e-mail. The CPO stated that all the issues raised have now been discussed and separate agreements are being put in place. The CPO is scheduled to have another meeting with the Head of Legal Services and Department of Commercial Services in due course and will provide further updates at the next meeting. | **CPO** |
| 5.16 | Business Continuity  The RFIP has engaged in producing risk assessments and mitigation methods to tackle challenges when things go wrong. However, more needs to be done to ensure staff can easily find clear and concise instructions on what to do in the event of a systems failure. For example power cuts are a regular occurrence. Consequently, work at producing simplified flow charts to cover a range of scenarios is on-going; so that at 3am on a wet Wednesday and the lights go out and the 999 system fails, the way to deal with this is written down and easy to find. The CPO stated that this is still a work in progress and that he met with Kate Cochrane, Emergency Planning Officer to discuss this further. |  |
| 5.17 | Health and Safety  The CPO stated that RFIP have worked closely with Richard Galey, the FIG Health and Safety Officer. There is also a departmental quarterly meeting to ensure that each and every incident around Health and Safety is reviewed accordingly. |  |
| 5.18 | Sir Robert Peel Fund (SRPF)  The CPO stated that RFIP continue to hold a small collection of merchandise for sale to raise funds for the SRPF account. There are also voluntary donations made by various officers every month, and donations have been made to officers in need. |  |
| 5.19 | Community Engagement  The CPO stated that a lot of work has been done in this area of policing. Visits to the West Falklands were completed; the CPO partakes in a weekly interview with Falkland Islands Radio Service (FIRS) and has conducted public meetings both in Stanley and Camp. In addition to this there are dedicated liaison officers allocated for the schools, a Stanley community officer was appointed as well as an intelligence officer; RFIP also has a good working relationship with JSPSU and has conducted regular surgeries at MPC. These have received good feedback, not only from the military personnel but also from the civilian contractors who reside at MPC. Furthermore, a Public Perception Survey was completed in 2019 as one of the recommendations from the Force Inspection and the next one will be organised again in 2022.  LR stated that it is good to see RFIP having and maintaining a good working relationship with other agencies, not only with JSPSU but also with KEMH and Social Services. LR asked if there is any provision of support offered to officers deal with sensitive details of crime during any investigation. The CPO said that this is part of RFIP’s sensitive policing and RFIP linked in with Dr Neti Murphy, Clinical Psychologist, to look into her services. In addition to this there is also the availability of occupational health referrals so if there is any concerns with any particular officer this formal referral route is followed to ensure that RFIP seeks professional medical advice. |  |
| 5.20 | Intelligence  The CPO stated that RFIP now has an allocated intelligence officer and the process of intelligence gathering has improved significantly; effective systems are now in place to process the information received. The Intelligence Officer also chairs a daily briefing for the management and duty officers which work very well. The daily briefings are the conduit for directing officers when they are engaged on either foot or mobile patrol. The CPO said that during the 3rd quarter period a total of 45 intelligence reports were received although intelligence around drugs decreased in the last few months; this shows that availability is limited. |  |
| 5.21 | Airport Policing  The CPO stated that pre Covid-19 lockdown and suspension of LATAM flights, RFIP committed to policing the airport for each civilian flight (twice a week) and this was a good opportunity and way of police to be seen by members of the community. This also helped develop good working relationship with other agencies such as immigration officers and private security. The CPO stated that policing the airport will resume once the civilian flights start up again. |  |
| 5.22 | Patrol Plan / Critical National Infrastructure  The CPO stated that a patrol plan for officers has been developed to ensure that specific areas that needs to be checked or require increased patrolling on a daily basis are identified. This is based on the information obtained from trends or problems identified by the community. Critical national Infrastructure facilities have been identified and subject to regular visits by patrols. For example the water storage tanks, the power station and other critical assets. This is part of a reassurance programme and a means of connecting the annual delivery plan and intelligence trends to work undertaken by patrolling officers. |  |
| 5.23 | Child Sexual Abuse and Exploitation (CSAE)  The CPO stated that this subject has been a big focus for RFIP and changes are now noticed following the good work conducted by the officers. This includes monitoring the ‘spinning’ activity where an adult male drives around with an underage female that could eventually lead to the underage female being sexually exploited; and indeed a number of convictions for CSAE crimes are noted. The CPO chairs a CSAE sub-committee group which is a group made up of decision makers not only from RFIP but also from Education, Health and Social Services and the agenda is aimed at early identification and intervention aimed at future victims and perpetrators. This is also linked with the bespoke training material designed by DC Taylor, MASH officer and Dr Murphy which have been delivered and received good feedback from both members of the community as well as other professionals. The CSAE training has also been offered to those who have not previously partaken and the demand has been high. All RFIP staff have completed the CSAE training. |  |
| 5.24 | Domestic Abuse  The CPO stated that RFIP made no arrests during the 3rd quarter for domestic abuse. One report has been received which resulted to a referral to social services and a joint strategy meeting. There are no calls received following the launch ‘Call Ida’ and that the CPO will liaise with head of Social Services to look at options for re-energising their campaign. | **CPO** |
| 5.25 | Night-time Economy  The CPO stated that the ‘hotspot’ locations for public order and assault remains The Globe Tavern and K&C Food area which is monitored very closely; especially on Fridays and Saturdays.  The CPO stated that during the 3rd quarter period there were a total of 45 drunken incidents reported to RFIP which were all dealt with accordingly. However, this shows that the night-time economy continues to present RFIP with challenges through assaults and public order incidents. In addition to this a number of noisy house parties were also noted. |  |
| 5.26 | Road Safety  The CPO stated that although there was a number of road traffic collisions (RTC) recorded during the 3rd quarter period there was no serious injury; the pattern remains similar with minor damages occurring in Stanley and single vehicle accidents along MPA road and/or other camp roads. Regular speeding enforcement takes place especially at MPA road. In addition to this RFIP continues to receive complaints about traffic and road safety such as inconsiderate parking, reckless driving, etc. and in view of this RFIP runs specific taskings for officers’ on-duty to prioritise during their shift and safety guidance is released via FIRS on a weekly basis. |  |
| 5.27 | Cyber Crime  The CPO stated that during the 3rd quarter period there was only one report of spam WhatsApp message. It is known that the fear of cyber-crime in the Falkland Islands is high, however, the reports remains low. The CPO stated that the RFIP website contains links of useful information and/or resources. |  |
| 5.28 | Finance  The CPO stated that the revenue is as expected and there are no issues noted from this area. The expenditure report shows detailed information and there may be some budget lines that will need further funding which will also come from the current financial year – the CPO stated that this, again, is expected especially as FIG is nearing the end of financial year. The CPO added that virement and carry-over of funds will be organised accordingly. |  |
| 5.29 | Staffing  The CPO stated that during the 3rd quarter period RFIP have recorded:  Sickness – January: 4 / February: 1 / March: 3  Appreciation – 3 / Complaints – 0  Additionally, three new Reserve Police Constables joined RFIP. 1 resides at MPC and will be working alongside JSPSU which is a positive step for RFIP to have a dedicated officer based at MPC. |  |
| 5.30 | RFIP Delivery Action Plan  The CPO stated that RFIP continue to utilise social media platforms such as Facebook and RFIP Website to maintain contact with members of the public in an informative way, not only in the Falkland Islands but worldwide. During the 3rd quarter period there was 13 messages received on RFIP Facebook page that were dealt with; 1 call was received on the confidential line and this shows that the community is aware of this line being available. The community engagement has developed and progressed well.  The CPO stated that MAPPA meetings are held on a monthly basis to ensure that relevant agencies work together towards management of certain individuals within the community and ensure the safety of people around them. This is more focussed on people leaving HMP and returning to living in the community and on occasion individuals awaiting court hearings and/or trials. |  |
| **6.0** | **Report of the Chief of Police - CCTV** |  |
| 6.1 | The CPO introduced his report to the Police Committee that outlined the benefits of a FIG installed and operated CCTV system. The CPO said that CCTV is now part of modern life and indeed some business establishments and even residents in the Falkland Islands have their own CCTV. The CPO stated that his report provides an overview of involvement of CCTV in a selection of 47 crimes recorded by RFIP between 1st January 2021 and 13th April 2021 – mainly crime such as criminal damage and theft, in 22 of these CCTV could have contributed to the outcome of the case. However, charges and convictions were also achieved in most cases without CCTV.  The CPO stated that certain key roads could be covered by CCTV and this might provide evidence to identify suspects. However, poor street lighting would require a high specification system to ensure clear images are captured. Often systems do not deliver quality images. Other ways to increase coverage might be to make CCTV part of a licensing condition for all premises holding a justice’s on licence to have CCTV fitted and working inside and outside the premises.  This remains a political decision; LR discussed this matter with other MLA colleagues and as it currently stands it is clear that it would be useful especially for detecting crimes for RFIP and for other matters, however, there is no strong justification for FIG to operate or manage it; perhaps making it as a licensing condition/requirement is most likely the best option for now although encouraging commercial buildings to install a system of their own would most definitely be better as for their own back-up and for their customers. The committee echoed this and agreed this is the best way forward. |  |
| **7.0** | **2020/21 3rd Quarter Statistics** |  |
| 7.1 | The CPO introduced his 3rd quarter statistical report and said that the overall detection rate is higher compared to the 3rd quarter of the last financial year. There are still 8 crimes open and these are currently on-going and depending on the outcome, this will affect the completed crimes detection levels. The CPO stated that the types of crimes that are dealt with are consistent. |  |
| 7.2 | The CPO stated that RFIP continue to receive false-999 calls on a daily basis – these are not done intentionally by the callers and they are called back immediately to ensure they do not require any assistance. The CPO said that all real 999 calls are responded to within the targeted time. |  |
| 7.3 | AB stated that it would be interesting to monitor the number of RTCs occurred on the MPA road once it is completely tarmacked and whether or not the same level of accidents will be recorded. There is currently just about 10-12 minutes’ drive on gravel road before arriving at MPC. The CPO said that on a previous report it was found that more RTCs were recorded on the gravel road than the tarmacked area. |  |
| **8.0** | **Force Development Plan** |  |
| 8.1 | The CPO introduced the Inspection Report Development Plan and went through the outstanding actions as follows:  (9) That the RFIP establish community profiles – The CPO stated that this is focussed on getting to know the bigger communities in the Islands such as the Chilean, Filipino, Peruvian and St Helena communities. The CPO said that there is a community policing strategy and RFIP has been able to allocate a dedicated community officer for Stanley who will be assisting in developing community profiles.  (23) Introduce an anti-corruption policy – The CPO stated that review of policy documents has been conducted and there a live policy documents in relation to this to ensure that the processes and functions of the Police are ethical.  (31) Short term placements in a UK force – The CPO stated that he has regular contact with the overseas police adviser regarding this. RFIP currently has a local police constable who is being trained to be a detective and there is a plan forming for the officer to travel to the UK and work in a detective office environment to gain knowledge and experience prior to returning in the Islands and performing as a qualified RFIP detective constable. The CPO stated that due to the funding required, which has now been part of the budget submission for the next financial year and Covid-19 restrictions may delay this, however this has given RFIP the opportunity to allow the officer to work alongside the CID team here and gain experience.  (36) Produce implementation plan for OTRCIS – The CPO stated that the trainer has now arrived in the Falkland Islands and once the training has been completed and OTRCIS is fully functional in RFIP this action can be closed. |  |
| **9.0** | **Confirmation of Date of Next Meeting** |  |
| 9.1 | To be confirmed. |  |
| **10.0** | **Exclusion of Press and Public** |  |
| 10.1 | 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. |  |
| **11.0** | **Part II** |  |
| 11.1 | **Confirmation of the Exempt Minutes of Meeting held on 29th March 2021**  *(Not for publication by virtue of paragraph 7 of Schedule 3 of the Committees (Public Access) Ordinance 2012, relating to information about individuals)* |  |
| **12.0** | **Report of the Chief Police Officer (Closed Session)**  *(Not for publication by virtue of paragraph 7 of Schedule 3 of the Committees (Public Access) Ordinance 2012, relating to information about individuals)* |  |
| 12.1 | Summary  The CPO gave a summary update on all 18 operations that the CID are currently investigating. The CPO also added the total number of people currently on bail and that there are also on-going work with gathering of intelligence, domestic abuse and child sexual abuse and exploitation (CSAE). |  |
|  | The meeting ended at 15:40 hrs. |  |

**~Ends**