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## Press Release

Date 13 January 2004

### **DPP DESCRIBES RECENT ATTACK AS DEPLORABLE**

At last night's meeting (Monday 12 January) of Cookstown District Policing Partnership Members expressed their utmost shock and revulsion at the depravity of the recent attack on two elderly brothers in their Ballyronan home.

During the meeting, which had been convened to discuss amongst other things, local policing priorities which Cookstown PSNI should be considering to concentrate resources on to tackle crime, the Partnership unreservedly condemned the Ballyronan incident describing it as a deplorable attack which struck at the heart of the entire community.

Members of the Partnership expressed deep concern felt in the community over recent attacks being committed against the most vulnerable, and called on anybody who had any information regarding such attacks to come forward to stop the perpetrators involved in such sinister acts in their tracks.

"The nature of this sickening attack along with other incidents being committed on the most vulnerable within our districts has served to inject a fear of crime into many living in isolated rural areas", said DPP Chairman Cllr Patsy McGlone.

Cllr McGlone, said, "due to the heightened tension and fear felt as a result of these attacks the DPP will be requesting Cookstown police to devote adequate police resources to protect those most vulnerable from physical attack and crime".

Cookstown DPP will be seeking Cookstown police to identify this as a key priority within their local policing plan with adequate resources attached.

A key function of Cookstown DPP is to help the police establish policing priorities in all future policing plans for the district.

“In light of recent incidents the main item at the next DPP meeting in public will be to receive a full report from the police on the measures being taken by the PSNI to protect the most vulnerable and elderly, and steps being taken to bring to justice those responsible for this particular attack”, said Cllr McGlone.

The next meeting of the DPP in public session will take place on **Thursday 22 January at 7p in the Tullylagan Country House, Cookstown**. All members of the public are welcome to attend this, the fifth meeting of Cookstown DPP in public session.

Age Concern, Cookstown will also be presenting its programme of work within the community, and how it is working to ensure those most isolated and vulnerable are kept a part of and fully integrated with society.

**Ends.**

**For further information contact Philip Moffett, DPP Manager, 028 8676 2205 or 07977 249515, or Cllr Patsy McGlone, DPP Chairman 07968 111205.**

**Note to the Editor**

**Members of Cookstown DPP:**

Cllr Mary Baker	Mrs Ursula Marshall
Mrs Elizabeth Baxter	Cllr Patsy McGlone (Chairman)
Cllr Peter Cassidy	Cllr Samuel Parke
Mr Eoin Doyle	Mrs Ita Pickering
Cllr Samuel Glasgow	Mr Tony Quinn
Mr Samuel Laughlin	Mr Phonsie Eastwood
Cllr Ian McCrea	Cllr Trevor Wilson (Vice-Chairman)
Cllr James McGarvey	