

Cookstown District Policing Partnership
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Press Release

Embargoed until 00.01 26 June 2003

Cookstown District Policing Partnership (DPP) will hold its first meeting in public session tonight (Thursday 26 June 2003) in the Glenavon House Hotel, Cookstown at 7pm, at which the local District Commander will deliver his report on the policing of the District and answer questions previously submitted by the public.

Chairperson of the local DPP and local SDLP councillor, Cllr Patsy McGlone, said, "the establishment of a District Policing Partnership for the District was a welcome step in the right direction for ensuring enhanced local policing arrangements, facilitating a mechanism whereby the local community can actively partake and become involved in the way they are policed on a day to day basis".

He continued, "the establishment of a local DPP, as a result of Patten, and complimented by other changes in policing structures such as the setting up of the Police Ombudsman for Northern Ireland and improved human rights training for PSNI officers will change, for the better, the way the District is policed".

Made up of eight District councillors, nominated by Cookstown District Council, and seven independent members appointed by the Northern Ireland Policing Board in March 2003, the current membership of the DPP will remain until June 2005.

More.....

Cllr McGlone said, “the advent of a DPP for the region will ensure that the policing of the area is consistent with the needs and policing priorities required for the District”. “In a sense, he continued, the DPP will ensure that the people of this district shape the way local policing should be delivered”.

He continued, “as part of our work, as an independent body, we are required to monitor the work of the local District Command Unit on a regular basis against its local policing plan”.

Cllr McGlone said, “the holding of some of our meetings in public session at which the local District Commander will deliver his policing report, offers the DPP an ideal opportunity and setting, for appraising the work of the local District Command Unit (PSNI) in the most transparent manner possible”.

He concluded, “the Members and I will effectively monitor the work of the local police and ensure that local policing structures are readily adaptable to the changing policing needs of local communities throughout the District.”

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

1. 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	Mrs Teresa Rooney
Cllr Ian McCrea	Cllr Trevor Wilson (Vice-Chairman)
Cllr James McGarvey	

2. Details of Meeting

The meeting starts at 7:00pm. Photographs of the DPP Members may be taken between 6.45 & 7.00pm prior to it starting.