

Oversight arrangements for NCA in Northern Ireland

A General Authorisation, signed by the NCA Director General and the NI Minister of Justice on 20 May 2015 sets out the conditions and requirements in relation to the exercise by a designated NCA officer of the powers and privileges of a constable in Northern Ireland.

The NI General Authorisation provides for the following:

- ! has the agreement of the Chief Constable of the Police Service of Northern Ireland (PSNI) except where the designated NCA officer exercises those police powers in relation to the conduct of a police officer; and
- ! has passed the relevant training.

All officers exercising functions in Northern Ireland are required to complete training on the PSNI code of ethics and pass an exam before they are allowed to exercise functions in NI.

A review of the Memoranda of Understanding between the NCA and PSNI, the NCA and NIPB and the agreement between the Police Ombudsman for Northern Ireland and the NCA Director General has resulted in updated documents now being formally signed.

These documents confirm the previous arrangements and provide the following in particular:

MoU between the NCA and the NIPB:

- ! The NCA Director General will attend meetings of the Policing Board on request (including urgent meetings with reasonable notice).
- ! The NCA Director General will take account of the Northern Ireland Policing Plan when preparing the NCA Annual Plan.
- ! The NCA Director General will obtain the Policing Board's prior consent to the Northern Ireland aspects of his plan.
- ! NCA officer exercising functions in Northern Ireland will be required to have undertaken training to ensure they have read and understood the code of ethics.
- ! The Director General will arrange, so far as practicable, to amend the NCA's disciplinary policy procedures in respect of NCA officers exercising functions in Northern Ireland to reflect the current version of the code of ethics.

The MoU between the NCA and PSNI sets out the framework within which PSNI and the NCA will collaborate in Northern Ireland.

The agreement between the Police Ombudsman for Northern Ireland and the Director General provides for Independent oversight by the Ombudsman of



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public complaints and other matters concerning NCA officers exercising functions in Northern Ireland.