1971. No. 232 **[C]**

POLICE ASSOCIATION

REGULATIONS, DATED 14TH JULY 1971, MADE BY THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS UNDER SECTION 17 OF THE POLICE ACT (NORTHERN IRELAND) 1970.

I, the Right Honourable Brian Faulkner, Minister of Home Affairs for Northern Ireland, in exercise of the powers conferred on me by section 17 of the Police Act (Northern Ireland) 1970(a) and of all other powers enabling me in that behalf and after consulting the Representative Bodies constituted by the Constabulary and Police (Ireland) Act 1919(b) do hereby make the following Regulations:—

PART I

GENERAL

Citation and commencement

1. These Regulations may be cited as the Police Association for Northern Ireland Regulations 1971 and shall have effect from 15th July 1971.

Revocation

2. The following Rules are hereby revoked:—

the Royal Ulster Constabulary Representative Body Rules 1951(c);

the Royal Ulster Constabulary Representative Body Rules 1954(d);

the Royal Ulster Constabulary Representative Body Rules 1958(e).

3.—(1) The Police Association shall comprise three sections as follows:—

(*a*) the Association of Chief Police Officers, to represent members in the ranks above that of chief superintendent;

(*b*) the Superintendents' Association, to represent members in the ranks of superintendent and chief superintendent;

(*c*) the Police Federation for Northern Ireland, to represent members in the ranks below that of superintendent, and police cadets.

(2) (i) For the purpose of consultation required by section 34(2) of the Police Act (Northern Ireland) 1970, the Ministry shall consult each of the sections mentioned in paragraph (1).

(ii) Such consultation may take place with each section separately or jointly as the sections may themselves agree.

4. Without prejudice to any arrangements for informal consultation any section referred to in paragraph 3(1) may make written representations to the Chief Constable or the Police Authority and, if it thinks fit, submit a copy thereof to the Minister of Home Affairs. And in matters of importance a deputation may be appointed to make oral representations to the Chief Constable or the Police Authority or the Minister.

(a) 1970. c. 9 (N.I.).
(b) 9 & 10 Geo. 5. c. 68.
(c) S.R. & O. (N.I.) 1951, No. 146.
(d) S.R. & O. (N.I.) 1954, No. 37.
(e) S.R. & O. (N.I.) 1958, No. 35.

5. Every member of the police force and every police cadet shall be a member of the Police Association.

Definitions

6. In these Regulations—

"member" means a member of the Police Federation for Northern Ireland unless the context otherwise requires;

"establishment" means all police stations, offices and other premises where members are permanently based;

"divisional commander" means the person in charge of a police division;

"constable" means a constable of the Royal Ulster Constabulary;

"sergeant" means a sergeant of the Royal Ulster Constabulary;

"inspector" means an inspector or chief inspector of the Royal Ulster Constabulary;

"quorum", in relation to the Police Federation for Northern Ireland, means at least 50% plus one of the members of a board or the central committee or a committee or sub-committee of either body.

PART II

CONSTITUTION OF THE ASSOCIATION OF CHIEF POLICE OFFICERS AND THE SUPERINTENDENTS' ASSOCIATION

7.—(1) This Part shall apply to the Association of Chief Police Officers and the Superintendents' Association.

(2) Each of the sections referred to in paragraph (1) shall appoint a secretary from among its own members and notify the Ministry of the name of any person so appointed.

(3) Each of the sections referred to in paragraph (1) may formulate its own rules which shall be subject to the Ministry's approval.

PART III

Application of Part III

8. This Part shall apply to the Police Federation for Northern Ireland (hereinafter referred to as "the Federation").

Regions

9. There shall be established seven regions in Northern Ireland as specified in Schedule I.

Regional boards

10. There shall be established in each region a regional board (hereinafter referred to as a "board") comprising representatives of inspectors, sergeants and constables as specified in Schedule II.

Elections to membership of a board

11. Elections to the membership of a board shall be carried out in accordance with the provisions of Schedule III.

Chairman and secretary

12. Each board shall choose its chairman and secretary from amongst its members and notify the divisional commander and the secretary of the central committee of the Federation (hereinafter referred to as "the central committee") of the names of the members so chosen. These officials shall hold office for one year and shall be eligible for re-election.

By-elections to vacancies on boards

13.—(1) A member of a board shall cease to be a member of that board either—

(*a*) on leaving the police force;

(*b*) on changing his rank;

(*c*) on transferring to another division; or

(*d*) voluntarily.

(2) Such vacancy on a board as is occasioned by any of the events mentioned in paragraph (1) shall be filled by the election of a member of the appropriate rank stationed in the same division as the retiring member.

(3) By-elections shall be held in accordance with the provisions of Schedule III—

(*a*) in the event of a vacancy arising as provided by paragraph (1), within four weeks; and

(*b*) in the event of a new division being established, within eight weeks of the date of establishment.

Board meetings

14.—(1) Boards shall hold—

(*a*) quarterly meetings, the first meeting to be held in the month following the month in which the elections are held; and

(*b*) special meetings or meetings of a committee or sub-committee which may be called at any time with the approval of the assistant chief constable designated for the area, or, where there is no assistant chief constable so designated, the assistant chief constable (administration).

(2) A meeting shall not be lawfully constituted unless a quorum is present.

Facilities for members of boards

15. Subject to the exigencies of the service, a board member shall, to enable him to consult those he represents and to prepare reports required by the board or the central committee, be granted such time as may be considered necessary by his divisional commander, such time to be considered, except for expenses and allowances, as an occasion of police duty.

Annual conference

16.—(1) There shall be held annually a conference of all the members of boards to be called the Annual Conference.

(2) The Annual Conference referred to in paragraph (1) shall not exceed one day, provided that the chief constable may, if he thinks fit, extend the period of any such conference to two days.

Proceedings of boards

17.—(1) A board may—

(*a*) from among its members, appoint a committee or sub-committee to consider matters affecting the welfare and efficiency of the police force and of police cadets, other than questions of promotion and discipline affecting individuals;

(*b*) make application to the divisional commanders within the region or to the assistant chief constable designated for the area, or, where there is no assistant chief constable so designated, the assistant chief constable (administration), for any information which it may require, and in so far as the assistant chief constable or divisional commanders consider it practicable and desirable in the interests of efficiency to do so, the information requested shall be supplied.

(2) A board shall—

(*a*) ascertain the views of members of the ranks represented on the board who are stationed within the region on matters affecting their welfare and efficiency other than questions of promotion and discipline affecting individuals;

(*b*) as occasion may arise, ascertain the views of corresponding ranks in the Royal Ulster Constabulary Reserve in the respective regions on matters affecting their welfare and efficiency other than questions of promotion and discipline affecting individuals;

(*c*) where appropriate, settle matters of concern to the region by referring them to the relevant divisional commander and decide what matters or questions it shall seek to put forward for discussion by the central committee;

(*d*) elect members of the ranks represented on the board to serve on the central committee as hereinafter provided and notify the chief constable, the relevant divisional commanders and the secretary of the central committee of the names of those so elected;

(*e*) submit to the secretary of the central committee for inclusion in the agenda of meetings of the central committee matters affecting the ranks represented by the board, or, as occasion may arise under sub-paragraph (*b*), matters affecting the corresponding ranks of the Royal Ulster Constabulary Reserve;

(*f*) consider such other matters as may from time to time be referred to it by the chief constable, a divisional commander or the central committee.

(3) Where there is disagreement between members of a board on any matter under consideration the question at issue shall be decided by vote and in the event of there being equality of votes the chairman shall have a second or casting vote.

Central committee

18. There shall be constituted a central committee comprising representatives of inspectors, sergeants and constables as specified in Schedule IV.

Elections to the central committee

19. Elections to the central committee shall be carried out in accordance with the provisions of Schedule V.

Chairman and vice-chairman

20.—(1) Members of the central committee shall elect a chairman and vice-chairman from within the committee.

(2) The chairman and vice-chairman so elected shall—

(*a*) hold office for one year; and

(*b*) be eligible for re-election.

Secretary, assistant secretary and treasurer

21.—(1) Members of the central committee—

(*a*) shall choose a secretary from within the committee or, if they think fit, some other member of the Royal Ulster Constabulary, with the approval of the chief constable, who is willing to serve in the capacity;

(*b*) may, if they think fit, choose an assistant secretary and treasurer from within the committee, who shall hold office for one year and be eligible for re-election.

(2) The secretary so chosen shall—

(*a*) during his term of office be ex officio a member of the central committee with no voting powers; and

(*b*) hold office for such period as the central committee by which he has been chosen may determine but not exceeding the term of office of that committee.

(3) Where a member of the central committee is appointed as secretary the members of the board(s) of which he is a representative shall fill the vacancy on the committee in accordance with paragraph 2 of Schedule V.

(4) The chairman of the central committee shall immediately after the appointment of a secretary notify the chief constable and boards of the name and rank of the person so appointed.

(5) Nothing in this Regulation shall preclude the reappointment of a former secretary.

By-elections to vacancies on the central committee

22.—(1) A member of the central committee shall cease to be a member of that committee either—

(*a*) on ceasing to be a member of a board in accordance with Regulation 13(1); or

(*b*) voluntarily.

(2) Such vacancy on the central committee shall be filled—

(*a*) by election from the relevant board in accordance with the provisions of Schedule V; and

(*b*) following the by-election held, if necessary, in accordance with Regulation 13.

Meetings of the central committee

23.—(1) The central committee shall meet—

(*a*) ordinarily every two months, each meeting not to exceed three days;

(*b*) annually before the 31st March, the first annual general meeting to be held before 1st October 1971.