

Official

AIRPORT AND HARBOUR POLICING IN NORTHERN IRELAND

Action plan on recommendations from CJINI report

Initial response



PSNI (18th August 2025)

Strategic recommendations

Number	Report reference	Recommendation	Lead Service	Accepted (Y/N)	Proposed action	Milestone (target date)
1	SR1	Within eighteen months of report publication, the Police Service of Northern Ireland should lead and complete, in partnership with Belfast International Airport Constabulary (BIAC) and Belfast Harbour Police (BHP), a fundamental review of the policing of Northern Ireland’s airports and produce a report with any required recommendations. The review should include input from and consultation with airport policing funders, relevant airport partners and statutory organisations. The review report should be made available to all key stakeholders	PSNI	Yes	The PSNI will utilise national best practice to conduct a ‘zero based methodology’ review of the Policing of Northern Ireland’s airports. The work will be conducted in partnership with Belfast Harbour Police and Belfast International Airport Constabulary, and collaboratively with the Airport Management Teams at all three locations.	March 2027
2	SR2	Within six months of report publication, the Belfast International Airport Constabulary should develop a vision, strategy and policing plan to direct policing at Belfast International Airport. This should include actions to improve governance and accountability measures and align with Police Service of Northern Ireland Policing Plan priorities	BIAC	NA	The PSNI will work in partnership with BIAC to deliver this recommendation	BIAC led
3	SR3	The Belfast Harbour Police should ensure that there is strategic alignment between their policing priorities and the policing priorities of the Police Service of Northern Ireland	BHP	NA	The PSNI will work in partnership with BHP to deliver this recommendation	BHP led

Official

4	SR4	The Department of Justice should take steps to prepare for the required legislative change to extend the jurisdiction of Belfast International Airport Constabulary and Belfast Harbour Police in the next Northern Ireland Assembly mandate's legislative programme	DoJ	NA	The PSNI will work in partnership with the Department of Justice to deliver this recommendation	DoJ led
5	SR5	<p>Within three months of report publication, the Belfast International Airport Constabulary and the Belfast Harbour Police, in collaboration with the Police Service of Northern Ireland, should agree and sign a Memorandum of Understanding detailing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the roles and responsibilities for dealing with key high-risk crime types; • access to Police Service of Northern Ireland systems and custody facilities; • access to Police Service of Northern Ireland training; and • access to support and assistance from the Police Service for Northern Ireland 	PSNI	Yes	The PSNI will work in partnership with BIAC and BHP to deliver this recommendation	March 2026

Operational recommendations

Number	Report reference	Recommendation	Lead Service	Accepted (Y/N)	Proposed action	Milestone (target date)
1	OR1	Within six months of report publication, the Belfast International Airport Constabulary should review the effectiveness of their rank structure and put in place measures to ensure effective leadership and accountability	BIAC	NA	The PSNI will work in partnership with BIAC to deliver this recommendation	BIAC led
2	OR2	The Belfast International Airport Constabulary and the Belfast Harbour Police, in conjunction with the Public Prosecution Service for Northern Ireland, should explore and implement the digitisation and transfer of criminal case files. Technology should also ensure the recording of key decision-making processes and rationale, provide live updates of case status and track issues that arise during a case	BIAC / BHP	NA	The PSNI will work in partnership with BIAC and BHP to deliver this recommendation	BIAC / BHP led
3	OR3	The Belfast International Airport Constabulary and the Belfast Harbour Police should ensure that training on the Domestic Abuse and Civil Proceedings Act (Northern Ireland) 2021 and the Victim and Witness Charters is provided annually to all Officers and staff	BIAC / BHP	NA	The PSNI will work in partnership with BIAC and BHP to deliver this recommendation	BIAC / BHP led
4	OR4	Within three months of report publication, the Belfast International Airport Constabulary should complete a training needs analysis of its workforce and establish an annual training schedule and	BIAC	NA	The PSNI will work in partnership with BIAC to deliver this recommendation	BIAC led

Official

		action implementation. This should be developed in collaboration with the Police Service of Northern Ireland				
5	OR5	The Belfast International Airport Constabulary and the Belfast Harbour Police should collate and publish data annually on their policing activities. This should include monitoring and reporting of timeliness targets from the report of a criminal incident to file submission to the Public Prosecution Service for Northern Ireland and decisions on prosecution	BIAC / BHP	NA	The PSNI will work in partnership with BIAC and BHP to deliver this recommendation	BIAC / BHP led

Areas for improvement

Number	Report reference	Recommendation	Lead Service	Accepted (Y/N)	Proposed action	Milestone (target date)
1		As an Area for Improvement, within three months from report publication, the Police Service of Northern Ireland should accurately record and monitor the scale of its involvement in the day-to-day policing of Northern Ireland's airports and harbours.	PSNI	Yes	The PSNI will put in place measures which enable the provision of accurate data in relation to the scale of its involvement in the day to day policing of Northern Irelands airports and harbours	December 2025
2		As an Area for Improvement, the Belfast Harbour Police should ensure more effective use of problem-solving folders in appropriate circumstances and provide additional training, guidance and oversight of problem-solving folders and assessment of their outcomes.	BHP	NA	The PSNI will work in partnership with BHP to deliver this recommendation	NA
3		As an Area for Improvement the Belfast Harbour Police should assess the effectiveness of the current Criminal Justice Unit model and consider the balance between Sector Team visibility and the necessary criminal justice response to criminal incidents.	BHP	NA	The PSNI will work in partnership with BHP to deliver this recommendation	NA
4		As an Area for Improvement, the Belfast Harbour Police should review their performance management framework, with a view to incorporating an assessment of the quality of work undertaken by Neighbourhood Officers.	BHP	NA	The PSNI will work in partnership with BHP to deliver this recommendation	NA