***PRESS RELEASE***

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**PSNI Highly Commended At World Class Policing Awards For Landmark Public Consultation Work**

The Police Service of Northern Ireland and the Northern Ireland Policing Board have been highly commended at the prestigious World Class Policing Awards for their outstanding work in consulting with the public over the future of the force.

The organisations beat off competition from 54 finalists, drawn from more than 100 outstanding entries from across the globe, to win a highly commended prize at the new event recognising outstanding police work worldwide.

Working with the Policing Board, the PSNI launched its most significant consultation exercise ever between August and November of 2018, adopting a far-reaching and innovative approach to consulting the public on future changes to the force.

Over a ten-week period, the force gathered 4,328 individual responses and 15 formal submissions. The consultation team attended 87 events and engaged with 3,067 individuals across these meetings.

One of the most innovative aspects of the consultation was an ‘online prioritisation simulator’ where participants could see in real time the impact of moving resources across policing, ultimately putting them in charge of the police budget.

In addition to gathering vital public feedback, this approach helped educate the public on the complexity of policing and the challenges it faces. The level of public interaction and engagement also promoted police legitimacy.

Judges were particularly impressed with innovative nature of the consultation.

A spokesman added: “The PSNI approach to community consultation on policing shows significant innovation, collaboration, independent evaluation and positive results in a complex environment. It has the potential to be scalable and has wider application to other forces.”

He added: “To see the policing board and the service going out to communities and provide a clear evidence base when police legitimacy is so challenged, is an excellent endeavour and capable of scaling.”

The World Class Policing Awards are sponsored by Accenture.
The Awards specifically recognise and celebrate the collaborative nature of policing - whether that is a brilliant investigation, a business change project or a multi-agency partnership - in delivering the most effective and efficient way to protect our communities and keep them safe.

Attendees at the Awards – which took place at the Grosvenor Hotel in Park Lane, London - included Chief Police officers from across the Globe as well as winners, their partners and sponsors. They were presented by experienced broadcaster Jeremy Vine.

Notes to Editors:

- Media enquiries should be directed to Martis Media via natalie@martismedia.co.uk
- More information about the awards can be found at www.worldclasspolicing.com
- The hashtag for the event was #WorldClassPolicing
- More information about the awards can be found at www.worldclasspolicing.com
- The inaugural World Class Policing Awards took place 14 November, at the Grosvenor Hotel in Park Lane, London. Six winners were announced at the ceremony, one of which was named the overall winner. There were also six commendations.
- The 54 finalists were selected from over 100 entries received from UK and overseas police forces.
- The World Class Policing Awards are led by a Steering Committee experienced in policing and managing projects in the police sector, as well as expertise in running successful police events: Stephen Kavanagh QPM, former Chief Constable of Essex Police and Chair of the World Class Policing Awards Steering Committee, Paul Leeks, MD of Glasgows - the awards and events specialists who have delivered the Bravery Awards for the Police Federation of England and Wales for the past eight years, Allan Fairley, UK Public Safety MD for Accenture and Chair of techUK’s Justice & Emergency Services Committee, Ian Barrett - CoPaCC Director and publishing professional in the police sector with experience developing and delivering the Police Review Gala Awards and Bernard Rix, Publisher of Policing Insight.
- The awards are supported by the National Police Chiefs Council (NPCC), the Police Federation of England & Wales (PFEW), the Police Superintendents Association (PSA), the College of Policing (CoP), the Police ICT Company (PICTCo) and Tech UK.
- The Founder Sponsors of the awards are Accenture, Sopra Steria, Chorus Intelligence, Grant Thornton and KPMG. Dinner is sponsored by Amazon Web Services and the Drinks Reception by NICE.
- Policing Insight (policinginsight.com) and Police Oracle (policeoracle.com) are the official Media Partners for the World Class Policing Awards 2019.
- For information about the awards or the nominations process, contact: wcpa@glasgows.co.uk or call: +44 (0) 1772 767782