

## DEVON AND CORNWALL POLICE AUTHORITY

**MINUTES** of a meeting of the **Devon and Cornwall Police Authority** held at Police Headquarters, Middlemoor, Exeter on **Friday 11 December 2009**, commencing at **10:00hrs**.

### **Present:**

Chairman..... Mr M Bull

Vice-Chairman..... Mr B Preston

Mr M Clayton, Sir S Day, Mrs L Dunn, Mr B Greenslade, Mr M Hicks, Mr M Hodge, Mr D Percival, Mr D Money, Ms J Norton, Mrs J Owen, Mrs L Price, Lady J Stanhope (from minute number P/2388) Mrs L Williams, Mrs J Zito.

Independent Member and Chairman of the Standards Committee: Mr M Harvey

### **Officers in Attendance**

#### **Police Authority:**

Mr R Martin (Acting Chief Executive), Mr S Barrett (Interim Treasurer) and Mrs N Martin (Personal Assistant to the Chief Executive)

#### **Police Force:**

Mr S Otter (Chief Constable), Mrs S Goscomb (Director of Finance and Resources), Mr C Haselden (Director of Human Resources), Mr M Stamp (Director of Legal Services) and Mr P Netherton (Assistant Chief Constable)

### **P/2381 Apologies for Absence**

Apologies for absence were received from Mrs V Pengelly, Mr J Hart and Mr B Jenkin

### **P/2382 Declarations of Interest**

The following declarations of interest were received.

Name	Agenda Item	Type of Interest	Nature of Interest	Action
M Harvey	Independent People on the Standards Committee	Personal and prejudicial	Beneficiary	Left the room

### **P/2383 Items Requiring Urgent Attention**

There were no items requiring urgent attention.

### **P/2384 Questions raised under Standing Order No. 6**

No questions were raised under Standing Order No.6

### **P/2385 Minutes**

An amendment was made to the attendance at the last meeting.

**RESOLVED** that the minutes from the meeting of 18 September 2009 be confirmed as a correct record.

## P/2386 Performance Reports

The Chairman of the Performance Management Committee gave an update on the key issues arising at the recent meeting of the committee.

The Chief Constable presented a report summarising the performance activity of the Constabulary to meet its targets set by the Authority in its Annual Plan. iQuanta data was used to benchmark with most similar police forces.

Issues discussed during consideration of this item included:

- That a balance scorecard will be taken to each Performance Management Committee in the future. This will include all work (including the work for achieving the 2012 Vision), finance in the performance figure and communications which would be added as a separate category.
- That the work around Sexual Assault Referral Centres is making progress but is still some time away from resolution.
- That the joint public confidence target has seen a declining trend. Devon and Cornwall are currently fifth in the country but a long way from achieving the target. The Chief Constable highlighted that this target was difficult for Councils as they have so many other priorities. The question was asked as to where this priority is placed on the agendas of those local authorities anyway.
- That ACC Netherton is leading on a piece of work to look into why this target is declining. This includes an Action Plan.
- The need to inform the public of 'what we have done' and engagement with them needs to be improved.
- Outline of the Devon & Cornwall Police Confidence Model
- That newsletters will be circulated 4 times a year at a local level to neighbourhoods and will be tailored to each local community.
- Query relating to the Single Point of Contact Number and how it would make it easier for the public to make contact. Members were informed that this piece of work failed nationally due to funding issues.
- That the Chief Constable is proud of his Police Officers and staff at the work they are doing.
- Highlighted that Police Officers are now more visible on the streets.
- That the Constabulary is using every media option to communicate with the public. It was suggested that the Communication Strategy is shared with Members
- That the reporting of crimes is less in rural areas.
- User Satisfaction (ease of contact) is improving and Devon & Cornwall Constabulary are now 16<sup>th</sup> nationally.
- User Satisfaction for racist incidents has seen an improvement in performance. It was noted that the action plan that has been produced to improve this target is having a positive contribution
- The Chairman announced that he was pleased to see 'positive outcomes' improving and congratulated all staff who have had a contributing factor in achieving this. He asked that the Chief Constable should pass on to those who have helped achieve it the satisfaction of the Authority at what has been achieved.
- That there has been a downward trend in road traffic collisions.
- That the Isles of Scilly will be receiving £44,000 from the government to tackle anti-social behaviour. The funding is designed to help front-line staff and fund a range of initiatives, such as training neighbourhood wardens.
- Ways in which to engage with councils regarding the single top down confidence target ie writing to each council member and Chief Executives.

## **RESOLVED to note the reports.**

### **P/2387 Chief Constable's Report**

The Chief Constable's update report to the Police Authority was tabled.

Issues discussed during consideration of this item included:

- The Procurement of new ICT systems for the 2012 programme continues and is on track.
- Devon and Cornwall Quest II is the first Quest review conducted by the Constabulary without the dedicated KPMG and Home Office support. The QUEST Team are reviewing our intelligence and national intelligence model (NIM) processes. This includes officer and staff briefings and the Force's tasking and resourcing processes.
- The restructuring of HR was successfully implemented as planned on 1 October 2009. This achieved the required staff savings and returned ten police officer posts to the front line.
- A report from KPMG, reviewing the Corporate Services Transformation Project (CST) to date confirms that "CST Step 1 has done an excellent job of setting the Force on the correct direction of travel"
- On 16, 17 and 18 October in Plymouth the force hosted an annual conference "Cultural Identity in 21<sup>st</sup> Century Britain". Support for the event was given by the Black Police Association and the Police Force Diversity Trainers Network.
- The 'Court and Convicted' website has been introduced as part of our delivery of The Policing Pledge. Court and Convicted provides the public information about those brought to justice and those subject to anti-social behaviour orders.
- The Constabulary are currently working closely with the Crown Prosecution Service to ensure key areas of service delivery are delivered in an efficient and effective manner, and in a way where public confidence will be boosted.
- An overview of a robbery that took place on a 95 year old victim in his own home in Tiverton.
- Update on the recruitment process for a new Deputy Chief Constable.
- That following a recent selection process, Sandy Goscomb was successful and will be remaining with the Constabulary as Director of Finance and Resources on a permanent basis. The Chief Constable and Authority asked to place on record thanks to Sandy for her work as Interim Director and congratulate her on securing the role on a permanent basis. The Chairman had written to both the Chairman and Chief Constable to thank them for their help through the period of Sandy Goscomb's secondment to this Force.

### **P/2388 Agreement for the establishment of a Joint Committee for collaboration in Policing for the South West of England**

A report was circulated to Members prior to the meeting updating them on the latest developments regarding the draft Joint Committee collaboration agreement and to put the recommendation of the Chairs' Committee for Devon & Cornwall Police Authority to become formal signatories to the Joint Committee agreement. This was accompanied by a copy of the current revised form of the draft Agreement.

Issues discussed during consideration of this item included:

- That the agreement had also been taken to the Corporate Governance Committee where a substantial high level debate took place and that Committee were happy with the governance arrangements within the draft Agreement
- A number of refinements were needed within the report due to Avon and Somerset not signing the joint agreement
- The importance of Member insurance and personal indemnity arrangements

- The importance for the Chair and Vice Chair to report back to Members on any Joint Committee work
- Whether Joint Committee Meetings will be held in public session and if minutes will be circulated after each meeting

**RESOLVED**

- i. That Devon and Cornwall Police Authority becomes a signatory to the Joint Committee Agreement for collaboration in Policing for the South West of England on the terms set out in the attached draft agreement.
- ii. That delegated authority is granted to the Chief Executive in consultation with the Chairman to sign the Agreement on behalf of Devon and Cornwall Police Authority.
- iii. That Devon and Cornwall Police Authority is represented on the Joint Committee by the Chairman and Vice Chairman of the Police Authority.
- iv. That subject to approval of (i) that the Chief Executive make the necessary arrangements for the Police Authority's Constitution to be amended accordingly.

**P/2389 Independent People on the Standards Committee**

Legislation requires the Authority to have a Standards Committee comprising at least three people and for at least 25% of that committee to be independent. A report recommending that the two current Independent Members of the Standards Committee be re-appointed for separate periods set out in that Report had been sent to Members prior to the meeting.

**RESOLVED**

- (i) that Mr Harvey be re-appointed as an Independent Member of the Standards Committee for a 2 year period to expire on 31.12.11
- (ii) That Mrs Mayes be re-appointed as an Independent Member of the Standards Committee for a 4 year period to expire on 31.12.13

**P/2390 Freedom of Information Act – Publication Scheme**

The Freedom of Information Act 2000 requires the Authority to have a publication scheme detailing the information it will make publicly available. A publication based upon a model scheme from the Information Commissioner's office was presented to the Authority for consideration prior to the meeting.

Issues discussed during consideration of this item included:

- The main changes in the scheme, for example the inclusion of Members expenses
- The charging mechanism that is in place for Freedom of Information requests
- The need to declare any gifts given to Police Authority Officers and Members

**RESOLVED that the Freedom of Information Act Publication be approved and adopted.**

**P/2391 Amendments to the Authority's Constitution**

The Assistant Chief Executive presented a report which recommended amendments to the Authority's Constitution.

**RESOLVED**

- (i) That the Terms of Reference for each of the Police Authority's Committees be amended to include:  
" To have oversight and scrutiny of entries on the Police Authority's risk register pertaining to the work of the committee and to make recommendations regarding such entries to the Police Authority's Chief Executive."
- (ii) That the name of the Regulation A20 Sub Committee is changed to "The Police Pensions Regulations Sub Committee"
- (iii) That the Terms of Reference and the Delegated Powers of the Sub Committee in (ii) above are: "to determine matters in accordance with Police Pension Regulations on behalf of the Police Authority"
- (iv) That the Committee Terms of Reference and the Delegated Powers of Committees and Groups are amended to reflect decisions taken regarding (ii) and (iii) above.

**P/2392 Committee Minute Pack**

Members were presented the Committee Minute Pack. This pack provides minutes of the Committee meetings that have taken place since the last meeting of the Authority on 18<sup>th</sup> September 2009.

Issues discussed during consideration of this item included:

- Changes to the Community Engagement Committee meeting dates. The meeting which was scheduled for the 21 October 2010 will now take place on 20 July 2010 and the meeting scheduled for 11 November 2010 will now take place on 9 November 2010
- To include whether or not the minutes are in a draft format in a table on the front page of the minute pack
- The Chairman of the Resources Committee gave a brief update on the proposed location of a new Criminal Justice Centre and Strategic Policing Hub for Exeter. There was a general consensus at the last meeting that insufficient information supporting the proposal had been provided, and that the proposal reversed a decision already approved by the Authority. The Lead Member for property in Devon and in Cornwall had expressed his acute disappointment that the Constabulary was not properly involving the Authority in some decision-making processes. This issue has now been resolved and a paper updating Members about the present position will be distributed to all members.

**RESOLVED That the minute pack be noted.**

**P/2393 Chief Constable's Contract**

At the Chairs' Committee on 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2009, Members had discussed the contractual arrangements for the Chief Constable due to his current contract expiring in January 2012. Having had regard to relevant regulatory provisions and discussions with HMIC, the Chairs' Committee recommended that the Chief Constable's contract be extended for an additional year from January 2012 to January 2013.

**RESOLVED**

- (i) that the Chief Constable's contract should be extended for 1 additional year;
- (ii) The Chairman be delegated with authority to pursue the opportunities for further extension of the contract in consultation with HMIC as and when appropriate.

**P/2394 Consideration to Exclude the Press and Public**

**RESOLVED** that the item detailed in the table below be considered as closed.

<b>Agenda item No</b>	<b>Minute No</b>	<b>Report Title</b>	<b>Relevant Act</b>	<b>Relevant section</b>
15.	P/2395	Minutes of the meeting held on 27 November 2009	Local Government Act 1972 as amended by the Local Government (access to information Act 1985)	Schedule 12A, paragraph 3. Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information).

**P/2395 Minutes of the meeting held on 27 November 2009**

Minutes were presented to Members from the Authority meeting which was held on 27 November 2009.

**RESOLVED** that the minutes of the 27 November be confirmed as a true and accurate record.

The meeting closed at 11.20