

Devon and Cornwall Police Authority

Minutes

A meeting of the **Resources Committee** was held on 18 June 2007 in the Conference Room, Endeavour House, Exeter starting at 10:00hrs.

Present:

Mr M Bull (R/641 onwards), Mr B Greenslade, Mr D Money, Mr M Nevitt (item R/635 to R/646), Mr B Preston (item R/635 to R/644), Mr J Smith and Mr W Thomas.

Officers in Attendance

Police Authority

Mr T Bardwell-Jones (Senior Business Analyst) (Item R635 to R/643), Mr M Davies (Head of Transport (R/651 only) Mr J Glasby (Treasurer), Sgt S Mair (R/647 only), CI T Matthews (R/647 only), Mr C Papworth (Director of Finance and Resources), Chief Supt. M Watts (Head of CJD) (R/647 only), Mrs E Tanner (Administrator), Chief Supt. C Terry (Commander, Citizen Focus)(item R/648 only) and Mr M Walton (Head of ICT) (R/648 & R/649 only).

R/635 Election of Chairman

RESOLVED that Mr Brian Greenslade be elected Chairman.

R/636 Election of Vice-Chairman

RESOLVED that Mr John Smith be appointed as Vice-Chairman.

R/637 Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Mr J Currie, and Mrs A Malcolm.

R/638 Declarations Of Interest

The following declaration of interest was received.

Name	Agenda Item	Minute No	Nature of Interest	Action
Bryan Preston	13 – Police Staff Handbook	R/649	Personal – Preston is a member of GMB	Spoke and voted.

R/639 Resources Committee Minutes

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting held on 26 April 2007 be confirmed as a correct record.

R/640 Property Sub-Committee Minutes

RESOLVED to note the minutes of the Property Sub-Committee meeting held on 23 May 2007.

R/641 Provisional Revenue and Capital Outturn 2006/07

Members considered the Revenue and Capital outturn for 2006/07 which included the suggested treatment of carry forwards, accruals, provisions, reserves and revenue and capital financing.

Issues discussed during consideration of this item included:

- Vacancy savings and of interest receipts were ahead of schedule.
- Pressure on the major operations budget had remained at a manageable level throughout the year, despite the Napoli disaster.
- Capital - new management arrangements were in place.
- Vehicle replacement programme – this was now being considered alongside the ‘Green’ agenda and the aim was to achieve efficient deployment and reduction in the fleet without detriment to front line policing. It was AGREED that a Member should sit on the Vehicle User Group.
- The budget outcome was a remarkable achievement with a surplus of £39,000 on a budget of £246,274,000.
- It was anticipated that the following three to five years would be challenging.

RESOLVED

- i) to recommend to the Police Authority to approve the revenue and capital outturn for 2006/07, including the suggested treatment of carry forwards, accruals, provisions, reserves and revenue and capital financing;
- ii) that the Authority’s thanks to the Officer team be recorded.

R/642 Force Development Programme Business Benefits

Members considered the report which illustrated the methodology by which it was proposed to measure benefits within the Force Development Programme. Those elements measured as part of the Meeting the Challenge Level 2 Sub-Programme have been used for this purpose.

Issues discussed during consideration of this item included:

- That the majority of benefits were non-cashable and this had led to a new approach to monitoring business benefits.
- The example provided (elements measured as part of the Meeting the Challenge Level 2 Sub-Programme) in relation to:
 - The change in overtime costs – the overtime costs provided in this example was for the Force as a whole and was therefore influenced by other factors. Therefore the savings in overtime shown could not be attributed to just this programme. It was possible that overtime reduction had been realised, but counterbalanced by other factors.
 - The currency of the baseline data included in the example.
- The fine balance between the effort needed to realise a benefit, and the potential benefit to be realised.
- The perception of delivered benefits that were not tangible.
- Management of overtime.
- The need for a more detailed analysis of how the methodology is used and providing a picture in relation to total activity in each area.
- The need for a report on the business benefits of Airwave.

RESOLVED

- i. to note the contents of the report;
- ii. to receive a further report providing a detailed explanation of the methodology used in monitoring business benefits.

R/643 Forensic Services Collaboration

Members considered the report, which gave an update of the procurement process and also the formulation of the Collaboration Agreement along with the opportunities and issues therein.

Issues discussed during consideration of this item included:

- The Director of Finance and Resources was of the opinion that there were benefits to the police service and Devon and Cornwall Constabulary in furthering this proposal and that the underlying concept was sound.
- There was some scepticism within the member group in relation to the assessment of benefits to individual police forces, legal issues in relation to the proposed collaboration agreement and the non-strategic involvement of Members in initial contract negotiations.
- There was a need for a report which clearly identified the benefits of the proposal to the Devon & Cornwall Constabulary.
- It was stated that work was ongoing to consider all potential collaborative agreements. A regional Programme Director had been employed. There was a need for the Force to be clear about which areas were prime for collaboration.

RESOLVED

- i) that Members note the potential benefits and pitfalls arising from collaboration on forensic services;
- ii) that the initiative only be supported if there are demonstrable benefits to Devon and Cornwall;
- iii) that the Police Authority be recommended to delegate the decision to the Resources Committee.

R/644 Progress on Environmental Issues

Members noted the progress made on the Green Agenda.

Issues discussed during consideration of this item included:

- The Chief Constable was currently promoting a number of green initiatives within the Force.
- Carl Wallin was the lead member for environmental issues.
- Energy management presented opportunities for green initiatives, as did vehicle management and there was proactive work being done in these areas.
- Whether or not energy management should be the role of a dedicated officer, or the responsibility of all managers. Generally, it was considered that energy management should be mainstream, day to day business.
- A corporate objective on the Green Agenda would be launched in the Autumn.
- To receive a further report on initiatives delivered and planned initiatives to the next meeting.

RESOLVED to note the progress on the Green Agenda, which will lead to the development of a corporate strategy.

R/645 Property Portfolio

The Vice-Chairman updated Members on the progress made on identifying a Lead Member for Property issues. It had been proposed that William Thomas would take on this role, and that Mike Nevitt would take a supportive lead with the intention that he would take over from Mr Thomas when Mr Thomas' term of office as a Member expired in 2008. It was proposed that at a future date, a second Member from Cornwall be appointed as a second Lead Member for Property.

Issues discussed during consideration of this item included:

- Further discussion was required around the processes for decision making in relation to property issues, which were typically many and time critical. The Police Authority's constitution was currently under review and would inform this discussion (or vice-versa).

RESOLVED that

- i) the Police Authority be recommended to accept the above proposals.
- ii) a group of Members comprising Chair of Resources and Chair of the Police Authority, Mr Nevitt and Mr Thomas meet to consider the decision making process in relation to property issues, and other proposals related to the Lead Member role;
- iii) a progress report be received at the next meeting of this Committee unless this requirement is overtaken by issue of the Police Authority's revised written constitution.

R/646 Closed Items (Items considered by the Committee with only Members of the Police Authority, appropriate Officers and expert advisors present, on the grounds that exempt / confidential information may be discussed)

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

Agenda No	Minute No	Report Title	Relevant Act	Relevant Section
15	R/647	Update on Plymouth Head Camera Project	Local Government Act 1972 as amended by the Local Government (access to information) Act 1985	Schedule 12A, paragraph 7. Information relating to any action taken, or to be taken in connection with the prevention, investigation or prosecution of crime.
14	R/648	Call Management Integration – Performance Improvement Plan	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).
16	R/649	ICT update : May 2007	Local Government Act 1972 as amended by the	Schedule 12A, paragraph 3. Information relating to the

			Local Government (access to information) Act 1985	financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information).
13	R/650	The National Police Staff Council Handbook for Devon & Cornwall Police Staff	Local Government act 1972 as amended by the Local Government (Access to Information Act 1985)	Schedule 12A Paragraph 4 Information relating to any consultations or negotiations, or contemplated consultations or negotiations, in connection with any labour relations matter arising between the authority or a Minister of the Crown and employees of, or office holders under, the authority.
17	R/651	Vehicle Data Recorders	Local Government Act 1972 as amended by the Local Government (access to information) Act 1985	Schedule 12A, paragraph 7. Information relating to any action taken, or to be taken in connection with the prevention, investigation or prosecution of crime and paragraph 3. Schedule 12A, paragraph 3. Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information).
18	R/652	North Devon Public Protection Unit (PPU) – Replacement Video Interview Suite and CSU Staff Offices	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).

R/647 Update on Plymouth Head Camera Project

Members received a report which provided an update on the progress of the Head Camera Project in Plymouth. The presentation included video footage taken during use of the camera in operational situations that had led to a prosecution or withdrawal of complaint.

Issues discussed during consideration of this item included:

- The headline findings from the final report were highlighted and included:
 - A slight reduction in violent crime in the Pilot sectors
 - A reduction in the number of complaints against police
 - Increase of officer time spent on mobile and foot patrol
 - Increase in sanction detections for violent crime.

- The aim was to develop the technology being used and to expand the stock of head cameras by 50 each year for the next two years. There would be 325 trained officers and every officer working in Plymouth would have access to a head camera when on shift.
- The useful data from the head cameras was stored on DVD. The processing costs were included in the business case.
- Consideration to implement use of head cameras in other BCUs would necessarily need to be after the official launch of the pilot findings by the Home Office. It was felt that the initiative had national service-wide implications.

RESOLVED to recommend to the Police Authority

- i. to support the development of the Head Camera Project over the next two years;
- ii. that £170,000 be contributed over 2 years from the Invest to Save Reserve to help fund the project.

R/648 Call Management Integration – Performance Improvement Plan

Members considered a report which detailed proposals for the future of call management within the Constabulary.

Issues discussed during consideration of this item included:

- Recruitment issues, staff turnover, competition.
- Health & safety arrangements.
- Call handling performance targets.
- Indicative costs, potential long term savings, and performance uplift.
- Implications around integration in relation to risk.
- The lack of Member consultation.
- The need for a working group, comprising Members of the Authority from both Resources and HR Committees to meet at the earliest opportunity.

RESOLVED

- i) a joint working group of members and officers be established to consider the issues raised and scrutinise the proposal prior to agreeing its implementation, membership to be determined by the Chairman of the Police Authority.

R/649 ICT update : May 2007

Members considered the report which summarised ICT performance in the four months to May 2007 and identified ongoing risks and issues that were being managed.

Issues discussed during consideration of this item included:

- Availability and resilience of ICT services.
- Green initiatives.
- Initiatives delivered.
- Comparisons with national statistics in relation to cost of ICT per user.
- National and local satisfaction surveys.

- The Business Continuity Management Group would be looking at IT resilience. An options and progress report in relation to this risk was requested.

RESOLVED to

- i) note ICT current service delivery;
- ii) note the IT service continuity measures currently in place and to receive an options and progress report on this issue;
- iii) receive an ICT update report to Committee twice a year, supplemented by informal briefing notes to Members as required.

R/650 The National Police Staff Council Handbook for Devon & Cornwall Police Staff

Members considered the report which provided an update on the above issue, and provided as far as possible, the full cost implications, however due to the current position could only be regarded as reasonable estimates.

Issues discussed during consideration of this item included:

- Backdating of allowances.
- A change was suggested to the proposed budget virements to offset costs without impact to front line resource plans. It was agreed that the virement from the Traffic Warden disestablishment be replaced with a virement from interest on balances.
- Personal pay protection / proposed implementation date and the need for further work around this area.
- The current position in relation to management of the various aspects of the project and associated negotiations and the need for a comprehensive understanding of the implications of implementation to be achieved prior to giving agreement to proceed.

RESOLVED that

- i) the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Resources Committee seek a meeting with the Chief Constable and appropriate Force HR representative to gain a fuller understanding of the current position, potential impact, and associated negotiations;
- ii) the indicative additional cost of the Police Staff Handbook be set at £850,000 for 2007-08 and the budget virements to fund this cost in this financial year be agreed subject to the substitution proposed;
- iii) the Police Authority Budget Working Party oversee the longer-term budgetary implications of the Police Staff Handbook as part of the development of the 2008-11 Medium-Term Financial Strategy.

R/651 Vehicle Data Recorders

Members were updated on the findings of the Vehicle Data Recorder pilot and proposals for the way forward.

Issues discussed during consideration of this item included:

- The current financial position and potential financial investment required to implement and maintain vehicle data recorders in police vehicles.

- The IPCC research report and recommendations into Police fatal and injury RTCs during 2004-06 and the possibility that in due course, there may be a recommendation which requires all police vehicles to be fitted with data recorders.

RESOLVED

- i) to note the contents of the report;
- ii) not to support investment in vehicle data recorders at this time;
- iii) support is given to re-enforce the use of hard copy log sheets to attain improved management information.

R/652 North Devon Public Protection Unit (PPU) – Replacement Video Interview Suite and CSU Staff Offices

Members were updated on the progress of the North Devon Public Protection Unit building, which was due to become operational in June 2007, and was on programme and on budget.

Issues discussed during consideration of this item included:

- The need to receive an update on the current status of other PPU's within the Force Area.

RESOLVED

- i. to note the content of the report.
- ii. to record the committee's thanks to the officers responsible.

The meeting closed at 13:15pm