

DEVON AND CORNWALL POLICE AUTHORITY

PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Meetings of the **Performance Management Committee** were held on 9 December 2005 and 24 January 2006.

Further information on the items referred to below is contained in the minutes for the meetings held on 9 December 2005 and 24 January 2006.

Matters discussed (with minute references shown in brackets) included: -

[PM/373] Committee objectives

Members agreed the Committee's objectives for the forthcoming year would be:

- Maintain the drive for the significant improvement in Force forensics performance
- To develop proposals to increase accountability for BCU performance to the Authority through the Performance Management Committee.
- Provide a greater level of challenge and scrutiny to reports presented to the Committee.

[PM/374 & 383] Domestic Violence

Members were made aware of the difficulties in setting a Force target around domestic violence.

The Plymouth Domestic Violence Investigation Unit appears to be working well but Members were keen to see an evaluation in due course.

The Committee was provided with a presentation from Rachel Martin, ADVA Partnership Manager (Against Domestic Violence and Abuse). Concerns were expressed at the reduction in police support to victim care and in particular the funding of advocates. The Force called for a debate on the role police officers play in supporting victims of domestic violence.

The Deputy Chief Constable indicated that the Force contributed significantly to the ADVA partnership in terms of money, police officers and police staff.

[PM/375 & 383] Forensic/ Scientific Services Performance

Members acknowledged the steady improvements in forensics performance over the last 10 months whilst recognising there was much further still to go. The Chairman accepted this whilst reiterating that the Force was still in a poor position and had started improving from a low base. The Force Performance Analyst suggested that further improvement should be seen once the new crime scene managers are in place. Also the corporate use of data and systems now allows performance management to individual officer/ staff level.

[PM/376 & 382] Continuous Improvement Database

The reporting format has been amended to help improve clarity. Subject areas for future updates would be agreed between the Chairman and vice Chairman of the Performance Management Committee.

Members agreed it is important for future reports to continue to include updates on progress toward the Baseline Assessment recommendations. This committee would keep an eye on general progress whilst each of the Police Authority committees would be provided with the appropriate recommendations for monitoring. Additionally, the full Authority would be updated on progress at its meeting on 5 May 2006.

[PM/375 & 383] Performance against the Annual Policing Plan (Targets)

Members considered reports on Force performance in relation to the Annual Policing Plan targets for the year to date.

Currently, 14 of the 17 Force targets are forecast to be achieved by year-end.

A breakdown of current performance in relation to the targets is available from the Police Authority office.

[PM/381] Call Management and Communications Department Update

Members were provided with a presentation on the current issues and performance levels within the Call Management and Communications Department focussing on emergency and non-emergency call handling.

The Force Enquiry Centre was 26 staff under strength in the summer of 2005. This led to a drop in performance levels that the Department is still recovering from. Members were also reminded of the difficulties in attracting staff to the unit and measures being taken to address this.

The Committee was presented with a proposal that would alter the way incident and crime logs are managed by the Force. This same presentation would be given to the full Police Authority on 15 February 2006.

[PM/385] Policing Performance Assessment Framework - Local Domain

Members indicated their backing for the process used to identify the local priorities and associated targets for inclusion within the Policing Performance Assessment Framework for 2006/7.

A clear audit trail is available to support the methodology adopted by the Force and Authority. This drew on consultation with the public and CDRPs.

General debate took place on the draft targets for 2006/7 at the Police Authority Seminar on 23 January 2006. Formal approval for the final targets will be agreed by the full Police Authority on 15 February 2006.

Jill Owen
Chairman of the Performance Management Committee