

## WILTSHIRE POLICE AUTHORITY

MINUTES of a MEETING held at POLICE HEADQUARTERS, LONDON ROAD, DEVIZES on THURSDAY 16<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2010

PRESENT: Mr C Hoare (Chairman), Mr R Bluh, Mr R Britton, Mr C Caswill, Mr R Fisher, Mr B Fishlock, Ms J Hillyer, Mr C Humphries, Mr A Johns, Mr A Macpherson, Mrs G Mortimer, Mr R Rogers, Mrs C Soden, Mrs G Stafford, and Ms Tawiah

IN ATTENDANCE: Chief Constable B Moore, ACC P Geenty, Mr M Bennion-Pedley, Mr M Milton, Mr K Kilgallen, and Miss S Kyte

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1. **Apologies** Apologies for absence were received from Mr Ford, Mr Sample, and Mr Prince.

2. **Public Questions**

Mr French stated that he was distressed by the actions of Ps Andrews. He hoped that members of the public could have their fears allayed and be confident that they would be treated with respect by a Police Officer should they be arrested. The Chairman responded that this matter would be discussed at Agenda Item 15 and, with Mr French's agreement, it was agreed that his comments would be dealt with at that time.

The Chairman informed the meeting that he had received a request from Cllr Michael Cuthbert-Murray, Wiltshire Council, that the following question be asked in his absence:

"As the unitary Councillor for Westbury East Wiltshire I am appalled at the behaviour of the Police Officer which recently has been convicted of serious assault on a member of the public. My constituents have requested that I ask to confirm their horror at such barbarity by a Wiltshire Police Officer. Can HM Inspector of Constabularies investigate to ascertain why this has taken a disgraceful length of time in bringing this before the courts? And, more importantly why are the good people of Wiltshire, through their local taxes, still funding a convicted officer in a quest to appeal against a conviction, which quite clearly is a correct conviction. As such the residents of Westbury East division demand immediate remedy".

It was also agreed that these comments would be dealt with at Agenda Item 15.

3. **Declarations of Interest** There were none.

4. **Chairman's Announcements**

Police National Assessment Centre

The Chairman announced that D/C/Supt James Vaughan and C/Supt Mike Veale had both been successful at the Police National Assessment Centre and would now be attending the Senior Command Course to be held in early 2011.

Secondment of Supt Matt Pullen

The Authority had been asked to approve the secondment of Supt Matt Pullen to Afghanistan. The intended deployment date is 11<sup>th</sup> October 2010 and is due to finish on 10<sup>th</sup> October 2011. The invoice for his costs will go to the British Embassy in Kabul.

- Resolved: 1) *To note the updates provided by the Chairman.*  
2) *To approve the secondment of Supt Pullen and to ask the Chief Executive to examine the terms of the secondment to ensure that maximum costs are reimbursed.*

5. **Minutes of the Meeting held on 10<sup>th</sup> June 2010**

Resolved: *To approve and sign the minutes of the meeting held on 10<sup>th</sup> June 2010.*

6. **Minutes of the Extraordinary Meeting held on 21<sup>st</sup> July 2010**

Resolved: *To approve and sign the minutes of the meeting held on 21<sup>st</sup> July 2010.*

7. **Outstanding Actions**

Resolved: *That the Secretariat work with the Force to ensure a fully updated version of the outstanding actions is brought to the next Authority meeting in October.*

8. **WPA and Force Risk Register** The Chief Executive reported that the WPA Risk Register was due to be considered in detail at the Audit meeting on 22<sup>nd</sup> September 2010 and that, following this, it would be reviewed at the Authority's meeting in October. The Force Risk Register would also be reviewed and reformatted prior to the October meeting. Mr Caswill felt that a risk in relation to public confidence should be included on the Force risk register.

There was a query on whether the risk register should be a joint document between both the Authority and the Force. There had been previous discussions that the same scoring mechanisms and format should be used for both documents but that there must be separate ownership of WPA risks and Force risks.

- Resolved: 1) *To note the update provided on the WPA and the Force risk registers.*  
2) *That work on a composite approach to the two risk registers should continue off-line.*

9. **Conferences and Meetings Attended by Members since the Previous Meeting, and Future Conferences / Seminars**

Protective Services Seminar – 16<sup>th</sup> July 2010

Mrs Stafford attended this event but felt that it was an unsatisfactory conference. Each Police Authority would appear to be dealing with protective services in a different way. Mrs Stafford and D/C/Supt Vaughan were currently reviewing how protective services governance should be conducted in Wiltshire. Enough time needs to be allocated to it with key Force personnel present.

Visit to Gwent Police Authority – 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2010

Mr Macpherson visited Gwent Police Authority and had previously circulated a report on his visit to Members.

Violence Against Women – 23<sup>rd</sup> July 2010

Mr Macpherson had attended this half day conference and had previously circulated a report on this to Members.

### Local Resolution Training

Ms Hillyer and Mr Macpherson had observed the training provided to members of staff in relation to local resolution. It was felt useful to ask the Criminal Justice Unit to provide an update on local resolution to Members in six months time.

### Neighbourhood Partnerships Workshop

Ms Hillyer and Mr Macpherson had observed part of the three day course on training being delivered to staff. A joint report would be submitted to all Members in due course.

- Resolved:
- 1) *To note the verbal reports provided.*
  - 2) *To ask the Criminal Justice Unit to present an update on local resolution to all Members at a future Briefing Session.*

10. **Chief Constable's Performance Report 2010-11** A report by the Chief Constable covering the period 1<sup>st</sup> April to 31<sup>st</sup> July 2010 had been circulated.

The Chief Constable reported that:

### Strategic Priority 1: Tackling Violent Crime and Protecting Vulnerable People from Harm

- Levels of town centre violence were being monitored in Chippenham, Salisbury, Swindon and Trowbridge. Excellent work was being done with partners and the effect of this was beginning to show. Members' attention was drawn to performance in Swindon which had shown a significant improvement with violent crime 31% lower than the same period in 2009 (41 fewer crimes).
- Serious sexual offences were currently 27.5% over target (equates to 30 offences).
- The Force was currently performing worse than peers in serious violent crime detection rate.

### Strategic Priority 2: Tackling Antisocial Behaviour and Crime and Improving Public Confidence

- Overall crime had been rising since April 2010 and was currently 4.2% over target, although there had been an overall reduction in recorded crime of 4.4% compared with the same period last year.

### Strategic Priority 3: Tackling Organised Crime and the Supply / Use of Class A Drugs

- Volume of acquisitive crime was exceeding the target by 5.9%. This would be monitored for future months in order to identify any trends.
- Good co-operation and arrests in distractions burglaries had seen significant reductions in this type of crime for July.

### Strategic Priority 4: Reducing the Number of People Killed or Seriously Injured on Wiltshire's Roads

- Immediate response to road traffic collisions is good and currently 4% above the target of 85%.
- The last two months had seen an improvement in the number of people killed or seriously injured, but the Force remained 12.3% under target.
- This area of business needs to be discussed with the Authority to see whether the Force can continue to manage this on its own or whether the involvement of partners would increase effectiveness.

#### Strategic Priority 5: Creating a Sustainable Policing Model for Wiltshire

- An update on this would be provided at the Joint Awayday on 17<sup>th</sup> September 2010 where Mr Bennion-Pedley would be providing a detailed update on Vision Wiltshire.

Members were then invited to comment on the Chief Constable's report:

- Mr Macpherson stated that whilst the Government had announced the abolition of the Policing Pledge, it would remain for the time being in the Policing Plan until it is reviewed in October. He also reminded Members that whilst the Force had sought the removal of reducing casualties on Wiltshire's roads as a target (as discussed at the August meeting of SDP), it had not been agreed.
- Mr Bluh asked for the Force to let him know who the Most Similar BCU's were for Swindon and Wiltshire, and observed that reducing the number of casualties on Wiltshire's roads was also an educational issue.
- In connection with the answering of non-emergency calls, Mrs Stafford commented that the Authority and the Force needed to be aware of the cost associated with increasing performance in this area to meet target.

- Resolved:
- 1) *To note the content of the report and the verbal update provided.*
  - 2) *For the Force to provide a list to Mr Bluh detailing those Most Similar BCUs for Swindon and Wiltshire.*

11. **Revenue Budget Monitoring Statement** A statement covering the period 1<sup>st</sup> April to 31<sup>st</sup> July 2010 had been circulated. The Director of Resources reported as follows:

- The statement does not include the awarding of a pay increase to police staff;
- A restructuring reserve had been created to allow for costs incurred as part of the Vision Wiltshire programme.

Resolved: *To note the budget monitoring statement and the verbal report by the Director of Resources.*

12. **Capital Budget Monitoring Statement** A statement covering the period 1<sup>st</sup> April to 31<sup>st</sup> August 2010 had been circulated. The Director of Resources reported as follows:

- There was a £45k underspend on the Calne Police Station project;
- Reports would be submitted to the Authority on the Wide and Local Area Network projects and the Meridian replacement project.

Members asked how vehicles were currently replaced / procured given that the Force was currently producing a policy on this. The Director of Resources reported that the Force was aware of the public perception of purchasing particular vehicles but assured Members that all vehicles were considered in terms of whole life costs. There was currently no Star Chamber for the purchase of vehicles as there is for the recruitment of staff and Members queried whether there should be.

Mr Fisher asked whether the CCTV system purchased was a digital recording system. The Force said they would confirm and respond in due course.

- Resolved:
- 1) *To note the capital budget monitoring statement and the verbal report by the Director of Resources.*
  - 2) *To note the £45k underspend on the rebuild of Calne Police Station.*
  - 3) *To await reports from the Force on Wide and Local Area Network and the Meridian replacement projects.*
  - 4) *That the Force would respond to Mr Fisher on his query whether the CCTV system was digital recording.*

13. **Joint Planned Approach to the Annual Policing Plan** A timeline detailing the proposed key dates for the 2011-12 Policing Plan had been circulated. Mr Macpherson stated that this would be a challenge for WPA this year as the Performance and Policy Officer had not been replaced. This was, perhaps, a matter to be raised with the Force on how this was managed as it may be appropriate to make use of the Force's resources.

Mr Caswill stated that the Authority would need to ensure public consultation is built into this process.

- Resolved:
- 1) *For WPA to liaise with the Force over the challenges the Policing Plan presents for the Secretariat this year and the use of Force resources.*
  - 2) *For the Community Engagement Working Group to factor in public consultation on the Policing Plan and consider how this might be done.*

14. **Camera Safety Partnership**

Resolved: *That the outcomes of the Camera Safety Partnership are looked at as part of the strategic review at the Joint Awayday on 17<sup>th</sup> September 2010.*

15. **Ps Mark Andrews** A report by the Chief Constable had been circulated. The Chairman reported that Ps Andrews had appealed against the findings of the Court and that the appeal would be heard in November 2010. Therefore the Authority and the Force were unable to comment on the particulars of the case.

In order to reassure the public, the Authority would conduct a full independent review of custody within the force area. The findings of this review would be published. Following the comments made by Mr French at Agenda Item 2, the review would also seek to assure the vulnerable members of the community that this was an isolated incident.

Mr Johns queried the briefing of Independent Custody Visitors (ICVs) in relation to this matter as included in the report. Mr Johns understanding was that ICVs had not been contacted and reminded the Force that contact with ICVs, should be through the Authority.

- Resolved:
- 1) *To note that the Authority would be conducting an independent review into the Force's custody arrangements and the findings of this review would be published.*
  - 2) *That WPA would reply to Cllr Cuthbert-Murray's question.*

16. **Olympics Update** A report by the Chief Constable had been circulated. Mrs Stafford reported that details around the Olympics were now being circulated from the centre, which was not the case originally. Whilst not hosting an event, the Olympic Torch may well pass through the County and would require an amount of resources. Wiltshire may also be hosting a number of training centres for the athletes. Mrs Soden stated that the Royal International Air Tattoo was not included on the list of events and, whilst hosted at Fairford, the Force usually help resource the event due to the amount of traffic that passes through the County as a result.

Resolved: *To note the content of the report.*

17. **Health and Safety Annual Performance Report 2009-10** A report by the Chief Constable had been circulated. The main highlights of the report were as follows:

- 13% reduction in overall reported accidents.
- A significant reduction in assaults on police officers (decrease of 22%).
- The number of recorded accidents to Specials increased from 1 reported incident in 2008-09 to 3 in 2009-10. It should also be noted that the establishment numbers for Specials has significantly increased.
- Reporting of near misses had also increased which was indicative of the culture that has been established in the Force around health and safety.

Resolved: 1) *To note the content of the report.*

2) *To thank the Health and Safety Manager for a succinct but comprehensive report.*

18. **Police Reform** The Chairman reported that the Home Office were currently trying to draft Regulations with the aim of the Bill being brought forward in Autumn 2010. The official consultation period expires on 20<sup>th</sup> September 2010. The APA would be submitting a response and they will state that they do not believe this is the right way to proceed. WPA will also be submitting its own response. The Chief Constable confirmed that the Force will also be responding.

The Chairman informed Members that he and the Chief Executive had met with Robert Buckland MP last week. Members were invited to write to the press if they so wished highlighting the matter. The Chairman invited Members to contact him to discuss further if they wished.

Resolved: *To note the update provided by the Chairman and the Chief Executive.*

19. **Recruitment of Independent Members**

Resolved: *That two Members from Mr Humphries, Mr Johns, and Mrs Mortimer would form the Selection Panel to consider the appointment of Independent Members.*

20. **Independent Custody Visiting Scheme Review**

Resolved: *To note that the final report would be submitted to the Authority meeting on 22<sup>nd</sup> October 2010.*

21. **Minutes of Meetings** The minutes of the following meetings were circulated:

<u>Meeting</u>	<u>Date (2010)</u>
Audit and Risk	28 <sup>th</sup> June
Consultation and Public Focus	12 <sup>th</sup> July
Professional Standards	15 <sup>th</sup> July
Resources	16 <sup>th</sup> July

- Resolved: 1) *To amend the Consultation and Public Focus minutes to the correct date of the meeting (12<sup>th</sup> July).*
- 2) *To note the above minutes.*

22. **Group Reports**

Resolved: *To note that the Budget Action Group and Value and Productivity Group had had their inaugural meetings in the revised WPA committee structure.*

23. **Dates of Police Authority Meetings in 2010 and 2011**

<b>2010</b>	<b>2011</b>
22 <sup>nd</sup> October	10 <sup>th</sup> February
2 <sup>nd</sup> December	7 <sup>th</sup> April
	16 <sup>th</sup> June
	21 <sup>st</sup> July
	22 <sup>nd</sup> September
	20 <sup>th</sup> October
	8 <sup>th</sup> December

24. **Urgent Items** There were no urgent items.

25. **Exclusion of the Public**

Resolved: *In accordance with Section 100A (4) of the Local Government Act 1972 to exclude the public from the meeting for the business specified in Items 26-28 below because it is likely that if a member of the public were present there would be disclosure to them of exempt information as defined in Paragraphs 3 and 4 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Act.*

26. **Confidential Minutes of the Extraordinary Meeting held on 21<sup>st</sup> July 2010**

Resolved: *To approve and sign the confidential minutes of the extraordinary meeting held on 21<sup>st</sup> July 2010.*

27. **Confidential Minutes of Meetings** The confidential minutes of the following meetings were circulated:

<u>Meeting</u>	<u>Date (2010)</u>
Resources	16 <sup>th</sup> July
Strategy, Direction and Progress	20 <sup>th</sup> August

Resolved: *To note the above confidential minutes.*

28. **Police Staff Pay** A verbal update was provided by the Director of Resources.

Ms Hillyer proposed that WPA pay the third year Police Staff Council award to Police Staff and that this is backdated to 1<sup>st</sup> September 2010. This was seconded by Mr Macpherson. A vote was taken and 8 were in favour, 1 against and 3 abstentions.

- Resolved:
- 1) *That WPA pay the third year of the Police Staff Council award to Police Staff and that this is backdated to 1<sup>st</sup> September 2010.*
  - 2) *To note that the process surrounding the initial decision in June 2010 (that was taken on the basis of advice from the Force) obviously had an adverse affect on morale and that the Authority regrets this.*
  - 3) *To note that WPA, on the advice of the Chief Constable, had concluded that staff would not wish the pay award to be implemented at the expense of staff posts. WPA wish staff to know this was the basis for the decision.*
  - 4) *That WPA ask the Chief Constable to incorporate into the Vision Wiltshire work the revised cost base and budget accordingly.*

(Duration of Meeting: 10.30am to 1.20pm)