

WILTSHIRE POLICE AUTHORITY

MINUTES of a MEETING held at POLICE HEADQUARTERS, LONDON ROAD, DEVIZES on THURSDAY 3RD NOVEMBER 2011

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

IN ATTENDANCE: Chief Constable B Moore, T/DCC P Geenty, ACC M Veale, Mr M Bennion-Pedley, Mr K Kilgallen, Mr M Prince, and Miss S Kyte

1. **Apologies** Apologies for absence were received from Mr Sample and Mrs Soden.

2. **Public Questions** There were none.

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

4. **Chairman's Announcements**

Mr Ray Fisher

The Chairman regretfully informed Members that Mr Fisher would be stepping down as a WPA Member, with immediate effect, due to health reasons. The Chairman thanked Mr Fisher for his commitment to the Authority and, on behalf of Members, wished him well for the future.

5. **Minutes of the Meeting held on 22nd September 2011**

Minute 26: Mr Caswill requested that the final sentence of the first paragraph be amended to read 'Mr Caswill stated that he was concerned about the extent to which the lessons learnt had been identified and implemented, and that this was now seen as a positive exemplary case'.

Mrs Mortimer informed Members that the Recruitment Strategy was due to be discussed again at the end of November and that Human Resources personnel would provide an update at this time. The Head of Human Resources Services had been asked to arrange a meeting that would allow discussion on the strategic direction over the next couple of years that would include pre-entry qualification, and screening – particularly in line with other Forces.

Resolved: 1) *To agree to amend the final sentence of the first paragraph at Minute 26 to read ' Mr Caswill stated that he was concerned about the extent to which the lessons learnt had been identified and implemented, and that this was now seen as a positive exemplary case'.*

2) *With the above amendment, to agree and sign the minutes of the meeting held on 22nd September 2011.*

3) *To note the verbal update provided by Mrs Mortimer with regard to the Recruitment Strategy.*

6. **Outstanding Actions**

10th February 2011, Minute 22.4): Mr Rogers stated that the Force had kindly met the public liability fee for the running of the Street Watch scheme for the last year, and sought clarification over whether this was an ongoing commitment. The Chief

Constable indicated that he would be happy to underwrite the costs as the scheme was working well and is successful. Mr Macpherson suggested that those Members from the North of the County might be interested in visiting an active Street Watch scheme. Interested Members were asked to let the Secretariat know so that appropriate arrangements could be made. Evaluation of the Street Watch scheme would take place in June 2012 – twelve months from when it was introduced. Members requested that the report be shared with the Authority.

22nd September 2011, Minute 10.3 and 10.4): The ACC confirmed that he had provided the relevant briefings.

Further to discussion at the September WPA meeting, Mrs Stafford asked the Force to ensure that meetings for the new Protective Services governance arrangements be diarised.

- Resolved:
- 1) *To note the updates provided on the outstanding actions.*
 - 2) *Members interested in viewing an active Street Watch Scheme to notify the Secretariat who will make the necessary arrangements.*
 - 3) *The findings of the evaluation of the Street Watch scheme to be shared with Members once completed in June 2012.*
 - 4) *To ask the Force to ensure that meetings required under the new Protective Services governance arrangements are diarised.*

7. **WPA and Force Risk Register**

The T/DCC reported that two risks had been amended on the Force Risk Register since it was considered at the September WPA meeting. The risks amended were:

Risk 1.4 Equality Act 2010: Impact reduced from 4 to 3.

Risk 1.5 Introduction of New Finance System: Removed from Force risk register to Finance risk register. Should the risk increase this would be returned to the Force risk register.

The Chief Constable stated that the forthcoming year would be a challenging one, with Winsor Part 2 reporting in February 2012, the Olympics, the new Chartered Institute of Policing, and introduction of Police and Crime Commissioners. There was no firm view as to whether the risks associated with these issues had been fully captured within the two risk registers. The Chairman suggested that this was looked at by the Joint Strategic Board as part of the transition programme.

- Resolved:
- 1) *To note the content of the WPA and Force risk registers.*
 - 2) *That the Joint Strategic Board would carefully consider those challenges ahead in the next 12 months and whether these had been sufficiently captured on the WPA and Force risk registers.*

8. **Revenue and Capital Budget Monitoring Statements**

The Director of Resources stated there was currently a projected underspend of £3.337million. £2.9million of this related to savings made through reduction in staffing numbers and £400k was receipt of unexpected funds. WPA is required to save £14m over four years and the Director of Resources reported that approximately 50% of the savings required had been made. The Medium Term

Financial Strategy would be submitted to the December WPA meeting which would include proposals on investment of funds to assist with the savings required for years 3 and 4.

Following a query from Mr Macpherson, the Director of Resources confirmed that expenditure on fuel and the number of miles incurred under the new policing model were being closely monitored by the Force.

Transferees were being sought from other Forces to try and minimise skill loss due to the retirement of police officers. The Director of Resources confirmed that skills and geography was taken into account and there was a selection criteria that transferees were measured against before an offer to join Wiltshire Police was made.

With regard to capital expenditure, the Budget Action Group (BAG) had expressed concern about the unauthorised expenditure of public money against the Automatic Number Plate Recognition (ANPR) project. BAG Members had received reassurance from the Force that this situation would not re-occur. An update from the Force on the ANPR project was requested for the next Members Briefing Session.

The Director of Resources stated that a business case for Chippenham Police Station would be coming forward in due course. Mr Macpherson, as Lead Member for Estate, stated that the standard applied to Chippenham would apply across the whole of the Authority's estate so it was important to get this model right. The Chief Executive reported that reassurance was sought from Wiltshire Council around future years' occupation in relation to the campus project. The Authority were currently looking to arrange a meeting with Swindon Borough Council to discuss the issue of estate and to ensure that the same model could be adopted in both County and Swindon. Cllr Bluh stated that he would find out what the current situation was in Swindon and discuss with Mr Macpherson and the Chief Executive. Members also sought reassurance from the Chief Executive that the issue of planning permission for Monkton Park would be considered by the council as local planning authority.

- Resolved:**
- 1) *To note the content of the report and the projected underspend of -£3.337million.*
 - 2) *That the Medium Term Financial Strategy would be submitted to the December WPA meeting and include proposals on investment of funds to assist with the savings required for years 3 and 4.*
 - 3) *To ask the Force to provide an update on Automatic Number Plate Recognition at the November Briefing Session.*
 - 4) *To note the update provided in relation to Estate matters.*
 - 5) *To ask the Chief Executive to seek confirmation from Wiltshire Council that planning permission is not required for change of use to Monkton Park, Chippenham.*

9. **Values of Wiltshire Police** The Chief Constable reported to Members that through his recent Roadshows he had tried to identify those values that are most valued by staff. A series of focus groups would be run over the next two months to look at behaviours / anti-behaviours which would then be adopted by the staff. A further strand of work would be what these 'values' should look like for the public.

Members expressed some concern about how this might be managed and values and behaviours identified by staff that are then not progressed or identified – would staff feel as though their suggestions had been ignored? The facilitation of these Focus Groups would be critical and the Force should ensure the right people are running these.

Resolved: To note the verbal report provided by the Chief Constable.

10. **MEL Survey** As Joint Strategic Board Chairman, Mr Macpherson stated that the Board had made a recommendation that WPA undertake a further MEL survey which would provide additional data for use in the Annual Policing Plan. Members discussed whether a further survey should be conducted and the impact this would have given that the Authority usually canvasses public views in April. The Chief Constable reported that the Chief Officer view was that the British Crime Survey was the most professionally valued and felt it was money well spent. Mr Macpherson moved the recommendation from the Joint Strategic board and a vote was taken. Ten Members voted in favour of conducting a further MEL survey in December so that the results may feed into the Annual Policing Plan process.

Resolved: With immediate effect to commence a further MEL survey with the results feeding into the Annual Policing Plan process.

11. **Committee Reports** The minutes of the following meetings were circulated:

<u>Meeting</u>	<u>Date</u>
Audit	26 th September 2011
Strategy, Direction and Progress	18 th October 2011
Professional Standards	2 nd November 2011

- Resolved:*
- 1) *To note the above minutes.*
 - 2) *To amend Paragraph 5 of the Professional Standards Committee Terms of Reference to read 'to monitor the Force's professional standards arrangements, performance statistics and outcomes ensuring the maintenance of the highest standards of professional conduct, performance, and behaviour.*
 - 3) *That the WPA Gifts and Hospitality register is published on the WPA website containing details as from 1st November 2010.*

12. **Group Reports**

Joint Strategic Performance Board: Mr Macpherson reported that Force performance was very good and consistently getting better. There was currently some debate with the Force about the weight given towards partnership working in the scorecards. Partnership working is important and performance in partnership working should contribute to the overall scoring of Force. The weighting has currently been removed as performance in partnership working has improved.

Joint Strategic Board: As the Board Chairman, Mr Macpherson stated that there were two strands of work that the Board were currently looking at – the Annual Policing Plan and transition to Police and Crime Commissioners (PCCs). Mr Macpherson and the Chief Executive had already met with the Leader of Wiltshire Council and a meeting was now due to be held between Wiltshire Council and Swindon Borough Council to move this forward.

The Authority would also be meeting with the Force to discuss the possible models that a PCC may want to adopt.

Resolved: To note the updates provided.

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

Cllr Ford reported that he had not attended the last Tri-Regional Forensic meeting as this was held in Manchester and not thought to be good use of WPA funds to attend a meeting with a light agenda. The next meeting was scheduled to take place in Portishead which Cllr Ford would be attending.

Mr Macpherson stated he had attended a Criminal Justice Management Conference in London on 29th September 2011.

Resolved: To note the updates provided by Cllr Ford and Mr Macpherson.

14. Dates of Police Authority Meetings in 2011 and 2012

2011	2012
8 th December	9 th February
	19 th April

15. Urgent Items

i. Chief Constable's Report

The Chief Constable updated Members as follows:

- Two brothers from Swindon sentenced for sexual abuse against children over a 16 year period. Older brother sentenced to 18 years and younger brother to 5½ years.
- Bus driver pleaded guilty to death by dangerous driving. Sentenced to 2 years and 4 months imprisonment. Special awards would be presented to three members of the public for their effort in trying to save the life of the child.
- Body discovered in a shallow grave in Semley and being investigated by Brunel. Four people arrested within 24 hours, 3 charged with murder and will appear at Winchester Crown Court in February. Good community reassurances provided by Inspector Lindsey Winter.
- Dangerous offender who lured a woman to his premises found guilty of rape, false imprisonment, and making and keeping indecent images of children – sentenced to life imprisonment.

The Chairman then invited Members to comment:

- Ms Hillyer stated she was the WPA Member with responsibility for the Area Board area covering Semley and appreciated the way Insp Winter had kept her informed through the early stages.
- Cllr Bluh asked what learning there was from the case involving the two brothers sentenced for sexual abuse and whether the learning needed to be shared with partner agencies. The Chief Constable responded that Pc Collis-Smith was the Investigating Officer and he would arrange for her to contact Cllr Bluh to discuss.

Resolved: 1) To note the update provided by the Chief Constable.

2) *That the Chief Constable would arrange for Pc Collis-Smith to contact Cllr Bluh.*

ii. Karma Nightclub

Cllr Caswill wished to register his appreciation for the excellent and painstaking work conducted by the Force with regard to the Karma nightclub. A formal challenge to the outcome by the owners had been made but the Authority had agreed to support the Force in this case. Cllr Caswill stated that the CCTV footage presented in the Magistrates Court was illuminating and shocking and invited Members to view this should the opportunity arise.

Resolved: *To note Cllr Caswill's appreciation of the excellent and painstaking work conducted by the Force in relation to the Karma nightclub in Chippenham.*

16. **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 Item 17 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 Schedule 12A to the Act.*

17. **Committee Reports** The minutes of the following meetings were circulated:

<u>Meeting</u>	<u>Date</u>
Strategy, Direction and Progress	18 th October 2011

Resolved: *To note the above minutes.*

(Duration of Meeting: 10.30am to 12.50pm)