

WILTSHIRE POLICE AUTHORITY

MINUTES of a MEETING held at POLICE HEADQUARTERS, LONDON ROAD, DEVIZES on THURSDAY 9TH FEBRUARY 2012

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

IN ATTENDANCE: Chief Constable B Moore, DCC P Geenty, ACC M Veale, Mr C Barker, Mr K Kilgallen, Mr M Prince, and Miss S Kyte

1. **Membership** The Chief Executive reported the Membership as follows:

Local Authority Members

Conservative

Mr R Bluh

Mr R Britton

Mr B Ford

Mr R Holland

Mr C Humphries

Mrs C Soden

Labour

Ricky Rogers

Liberal Democrat

Mr C Caswill

Mr P Sample

Independent Members

Mr B Fishlock

Mr C Hoare

Ms J Hillyer

Mr A Johns

Mr A Macpherson

Mrs G Mortimer

Mrs G Stafford

Ms G Tawiah

2. **Apologies** Apologies for absence were received from Ms Tawiah.

3. **Public Questions** There were none.

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

5. **Chairman's Announcements** There were none.

6. **Minutes of the Meeting held on 8th December 2011**

Page 5, 4th bullet point: Ms Hillyer stated that the victim of crime she had referred to was from another force area and requested that the minute be amended to state this.

Resolved: 1) *To insert '...in another force area...' on Page 5 at bullet point 4 after 'victim of crime' in the first line.*

2) *With the above amendment to agree and sign the minutes of the meeting held on 8th December 2011.*

7. **Outstanding Actions**

3rd November 2011, Minute 7.2: The WPA and Force risk registers would be considered at the next meeting of the Joint Strategic Board.

3rd November 2011, Minute 8.5: The Chief Executive stated that assurance had been received that planning permission was not required in order for policing facilities to be based at Monkton Park, Chippenham, although signage may be an issue. Mr Caswill stated that he felt there were still some issues and concerns to

be resolved and although an estate meeting had been arranged for 10th February 2012, no agenda or papers had yet been made available.

3rd November 2011, Minute 11.3: Until recently there had been no items recorded on the Gifts and Hospitality Register since 1st November 2010. The relevant information would now be uploaded onto the website as a declaration had recently been received.

8th December 2011, Minute 9.3: The confidence in partners' measure had been reinstated.

8th December 2011, Minute 19.i: A further press release had been published stating the Authority's intention to Judicially Review the decision made by the Police Appeal Tribunal. The Chief Constable confirmed that staff were aware of this decision.

8th December 2011, Minute 21: The confidential Olympics report submitted to the December meeting had now been declassified and would be uploaded to the WPA website.

8th December 2011, Minute 22.ii.2: This had been done and the action may be closed.

Resolved: *To note the verbal updates provided on the outstanding actions and to update as detailed above.*

8. **WPA and Force Risk Register**

Risk 9.10 (Not receiving the views of hard to reach and vulnerable members of the community): Following an update provided to the recent meeting of the Community Engagement Working Group, the impact of this risk had been reduced from 5 to 4, providing an overall score of 24 and orange.

The Deputy Chief Constable stated that the one risk graded as red on the Force risk register related to the Equality Act. The Force had complied with the first part of the Act and all equality data had now been published on the Force website. The first meeting of the Strategic Diversity Board had also taken place and as a result of these two actions, the Deputy Chief Constable expected the risk score to reduce.

Resolved: *To note the updates provided.*

9. **Chief Constable's Performance Report 2011-12** A report by the Chief Constable covering the period 1st April to 31st December 2011 had been circulated. The Chief Constable stated that the overall performance status of the Force was 'good' and proceeded to provide a verbal update highlighting areas of good and poor performance.

Strategic Priority 1: Tackling Violent Crime

- Satisfaction for Victims of Violent Crime – the Assistant Chief Constable had been working on this and a clear picture of methodology had now emerged which would be used to improve this further. Since the last report the grading had moved from red to amber.
- Violent Crime recorded within 72 hours – 97.1% of violent crime was recorded within 72 hours in December which may enable the Force to meet this target by the end of the financial year.

Strategic Priority 2: Managing those who cause the most harm in our communities

- Distraction Burglary Detection Rate – current performance was 10.8% compared to a target of 30.1%. Sixteen further detections are to be included in the figures for next month, which would provide the Force with a detection rate of 45%.
- Repeat Cases through MARAC (mult-agency risk assessment conference) – currently performing at 31.6% against a target of 25.3%. A discrepancy in the number of referrals between Wiltshire and Swindon had been identified due to Wiltshire submitting high risk victims only. Wiltshire have amended the way they manage this process as from 1st January 2012 which should reduce the discrepancy in figures between the two areas.

Strategic Priority 3: Reduce Anti-Social Behaviour and Associated Local Crime

- Vehicle Crime – although currently performing well there had been some significant rises in this area which were being reviewed.
- Speedwatch Checks – this area was performing well and Swindon Borough Council had now also agreed to be involved with this.
- All Crime Resolved Rate – the figures had remained stable or falling for four weeks running, but the Chief Constable was not confident that the target of 29.1% would be met by the end of the financial year.
- Assurance Review of Anti-Social Behaviour – the Force conducted a review of anti-social behaviour in October 2011 using the HMIC criteria and identified six areas as poor. Work was now underway to try and improve these areas in time for the HMIC Inspection in March 2012.
- Criminal Damage – although unlikely to achieve target by the end of the financial year, it was anticipated that the Force would be performing better than its most similar group of forces.

Service Delivery

- Call Back Compliance – good progress had been made in this area and performance had moved from red to amber. The Chief Constable stated he was confident that the target would be met at the end of the financial year.

The satisfaction gap between white and black and minority ethnic victims as at September 2011 showed a difference of 15.8% against the $\pm 4\%$ tolerance. The reason for the significant growth was not known but had been referred to the Force Customer Relations and Public Engagement Group for review.

The Chief Constable also reported on the following:

- Operation Pinnacle is a direct result of work conducted by the Assistant Chief Constable in raising performance for victim satisfaction which sees police attendance at low-level minor criminal damage incidents. Intelligence and better forensics had already been obtained and although it was too early to report on impact on performance, feedback from the public had been positive. The Chief Constable stated he would report on this again at a future meeting.
- Complaints had been received from the public with regard to youths on quad bikes, scramblers, and mini-moto's driving dangerously in an area in Swindon. PCSO Kuy Harrison had tackled this seizing nine of the items. This had been reported to and covered by the media.

- The Domestic Violence Prevention Order pilot had now been running for six months and the 100th Domestic Violence Prevention Notice issued.
- A £4.8million confiscation order had been made against an individual from Swindon recently convicted for fraud.
- A man had been sentenced to 9 years in prison for distraction burglary. This was as a result of proactive policing by Wiltshire and Thames Valley Police. The offender asked for a further 90 cases to be taken into account, 16 of which had occurred within Wiltshire.
- A day of action for the targeting of metal thefts was held on 30th January 2012 (Operation Herald). A number of partner agencies were involved. Ten arrests had been made and property recovered including a cash seizure.

The Chairman then invited Members to comment:

- Mrs Soden stated she had heard on the local radio that 15,000 motorists were caught speeding in the county last year, but only 6,000 cases reached court. The Chief Constable responded that there were a number of contributing factors for why the number of those reaching court was low. One of those factors was that Speedwatch was still a relatively new initiative and it would take a period of time for repeat offenders to show on the system. The criteria used by the Crown Prosecution Service would also need to be successfully applied before a prosecution could be brought.
- Mrs Stafford sought reassurance that the Force was not over achieving on urban response times at the expense of rural response times. The Assistant Chief Constable stated he would provide some additional information to Mrs Stafford on response times.
- Mrs Mortimer informed Members that Strategic Priority 4 (creating a sustainable policing model for Wiltshire) was currently reported through the Force Change Management Board but felt that performance against this should be reported in the public domain. The Chief Constable was asked to provide a report for the next Police Authority meeting and to ensure that if the report were confidential then a public report should also be published.
- Mr Caswill asked what work was being done on improving those 14 areas identified as fair within the Force's self-assessment of anti-social behaviour. The Chief Constable stated that the majority of these referred to partnership working (such as tasking processes, information sharing protocols) where there was some evidence that links existed. The current focus was on increasing performance in those areas graded poor.
- With regard to the whole performance of the Force, Mr Macpherson stated that it was pleasing to note the green and excellent areas within the report. The methodology used to create the balance scorecard was a good system which was now maturing but it was still important to ensure that the weighting and balance was correct at the top level. Operation Pinnacle was as a result of poor performance highlighted through this methodology but was only identifiable several layers below the top scoring headlines. Credit should be given to the Performance Analysts for the work that they are doing. Mr Macpherson encouraged Members to drill down into performance information provided and to challenge the Force on its performance if they identify any red areas.

- Resolved:
- 1) *To note the content of the report and the verbal update provided by the Chief Constable.*
 - 2) *That the Chief Constable would report on Operation Pinnacle at the next Authority meeting.*
 - 3) *That the Assistant Chief Constable would provide additional information to Mrs Stafford on Force response times for urban and rural areas.*
 - 4) *To request the Force to produce a report on performance against Strategic Priority 4 (creating a sustainable policing model for Wiltshire) for the next Police Authority meeting. If the report is deemed confidential a version suitable for publication in the public domain should also be produced.*
 - 5) *To recognise the good performance of the Force and the work being done by the Performance Analysts.*

10. **Revenue and Capital Budget Monitoring Statements** A report by the Chief Constable had been circulated attaching the revenue and capital monitoring statements to end of December 2011. Members raised concern about the retirement of Police Officers and the loss of experience, skills and knowledge. Whilst some Police Officers had been appointed from other Forces in an effort to resolve this matter, there were still some gaps. This was being addressed through sensible succession planning and the training and skilling of Officers as necessary against vacancies and being monitored monthly by the Force. Members asked for the Value and Productivity Group to continue to monitor this.

- Resolved:
- 1) *To note the revenue and capital budget monitoring statements and the projected favourable variance of £3.620million in the revenue budget.*
 - 2) *That the Value and Productivity Group would continue to monitor the issue of retirement of Police Officers and loss of experience, skills and knowledge and how the Force would continue to manage those gaps.*

11. **Revenue Budget 2012-13** A report by the Chief Constable had been circulated. The Head of Finance and Logistics informed Members that there were no immediate threats to the Authority's financial plans, but implications of the Winsor Review and reduced central funding due to pay being capped would effect the 2013-14 budget. Confirmation from the Government on capital funding was still awaited.

Mr Macpherson stated he was content to approve the proposed budget figure for 2012-13 but would like to see a more detailed budget linking expenditure to Policing Plan objectives.

- Resolved: *To note the content of the savings plan and support the approval of a budget requirement of £103.064million and to request further information aligning the budget to the Policing Plan to be submitted to the Police Authority meeting to be held on 27th March 2012.*

12. **Precept and Council Tax** A report by the Treasurer had been circulated. The Treasurer informed Members that the grant figures had now been confirmed and were as set out in the report.

- Resolved:
- 1) *Approve the Treasurer's assessment of the robustness of the budget and the adequacy of reserves as described in Paragraphs 8-15 of the report.*
 - 2) *To approve a net revenue budget of £103.064million for 2012-13 which, after Government funding, would mean a precept of £40.098million and a Council Tax for policing services for all property bands based on £157.77 for Band D properties, representing a percentage increase of 0% on 2011-12.*

13. Treasury Management Strategy A report by the Treasurer had been circulated.

- Resolved:
- 1) *To adopt the Prudential and Treasury Indicators as set out in Appendix A of the report.*
 - 2) *To adopt the Investment Strategy as set out in appendix B of the report.*
 - 3) *To agree that operating leases of up to £0.5million could be used to assist in financing the Police Authority's 2012-13 capital plans when necessary.*
 - 4) *To agree that short term cash deficits and surpluses continue to be managed through temporary loans and deposits as detailed in Paragraphs 14-16 of the report.*
 - 5) *To agree that, for longer term cash balances, the Treasurer continued to be delegated to negotiate the terms and conditions of any external arrangements and to note and endorse the delegated decision taken as described in Paragraph 20 of the report.*

14. Committee Reports

<u>Meeting</u>	<u>Date</u>
Audit and Risk	13 th December 2012
Strategy, Direction and Progress	24 th January 2012
Professional Standards	26 th January 2012

Strategy, Direction and Progress: The Chief Executive updated Members on the latest situation with regard to the National Police Air Service project. The current target date for Wiltshire joining the project was April 2013. Members asked for regular briefings on this in order that they may provide appropriate updates to their Area Board / Locality Area.

- Resolved:
- 1) *To note the updates provided by the Committee Chairmen.*
 - 2) *To note receipt of the Annual Audit Letter as attached to the minutes of the Audit and Risk Committee meeting.*
 - 3) *For Members to receive regular updates on the progress of the National Police Air Service project.*

15. Group Reports

Value and Productivity Group: Ms Hillyer provided a brief update to Members on the current work of the Group. There are big challenges ahead for the Force through the Change Management Programme and Vision Wiltshire and a requirement for more substantial project management expertise to be brought into

Force to help move things forward. Governance and collaboration issues were still being discussed and progressed by the Group.

The Deputy Chief Constable informed Members that project management support for the operational services and people services elements of Vision Wiltshire had been sought and were being sourced from Wiltshire Council and should be in place shortly.

Budget Action Group: There was nothing further to report as the main issues for the Group had been discussed elsewhere on the agenda.

Joint Strategic Board: Mr Macpherson informed Members that a Partnership Board was in the process of being set up and would be chaired by the WPA Chairman.

Community Engagement Working Group: Mr Humphries informed Members that a presentation on the Neighbourhood Policing Team Review had been delivered by the Force.

Resolved: *To note the updates provided.*

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

Policing Plan Consultation with MPs

Mr Macpherson informed Members that he had recently met with all five MPs from Wiltshire and Swindon (on an individual basis) to seek their views on the Policing Plan content for 2012-15. In general all MPs felt that the Force were doing a good job and wanted to highlight this. Rural crime had been raised as an issue and the localities and campuses project were broadly supported. There was a desire to work closely with local partners but the MPs were clear that policing must remain in Wiltshire and under the control of the Chief Constable.

Mr Macpherson stated he would be feeding the responses into the consultation phase of the Policing Plan.

The Chief Constable informed Members that if Members wished he would arrange for the Rural Crime Team to deliver a presentation on the work that they do at a future Members Briefing Session.

Resolved: 1) *To note the feedback from Mr Macpherson in relation to his meeting with the MPs.*

2) *To ask the Force to arrange for the Rural Crime Team to deliver a presentation to Members at the next Briefing Session on the work that they do.*

17. **Dates of Police Authority Meetings in 2012**

2012

19th April

Resolved: *To note that the Strategy, Direction and Progress meeting planned for 27th March 2012 would become a full Authority meeting.*

18. **Urgent Items**

i. WPA Community Award

The Chairman reminded Members that nominations for the WPA Service to the Community Award were currently being sought. The closing date for receipt of nominations is 2nd March 2012.

Resolved: To note the reminder from the Chairman about the WPA Awards and the closing date as 2nd March 2012.

19. **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 20-22 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 1 and 7 of Schedule 12A to the Act.

20. **Confidential Minutes of the Meeting held on 8th December 2011**

Resolved: To agree and sign the confidential minutes of the meeting held on 8th December 2011.

20a. **Committee Reports**

<u>Meeting</u>	<u>Date</u>
Audit and Risk	13 th December 2012
Professional Standards	26 th January 2012

Resolved: To note the updates provided.

21. **Individual Gift** A copy of the report submitted to the December meeting of the Audit and Risk Committee had been circulated.

Resolved: That the Authority would accept the gift.

22. **Tri-Force Specialist Operation Unit** The Assistant Chief Constable provided an update to Members on a meeting with Avon and Somerset which was also attended by the Chief Executive and Mr Cooper. A summary of the meeting had been produced and would be submitted to the Authority in due course.

Resolved: To await receipt of the summary of the meeting with Avon and Somerset Constabulary.

(Duration of Meeting: 10.30am to 12.55pm)