

## WILTSHIRE POLICE AUTHORITY

MINUTES of a MEETING held at POLICE HEADQUARTERS, LONDON ROAD, DEVIZES on THURSDAY 10<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY 2011

PRESENT: Mr C Hoare (Chairman), 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, Mr P Sample, Mrs C Soden, Mrs G Stafford, and Ms Tawiah

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

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1. **Apologies** Apologies for absence were received from Mr Bluh and Mr Ford

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

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

4. **Chairman's Announcements**

Retirement of Chief Superintendent Paul Howlett

The Chairman reported that Paul Howlett would retire from Wiltshire Police in April following 30 years of service and that his last working day with the Force was 11<sup>th</sup> February 2011. It was agreed that the Chairman would write to Paul Howlett, on behalf of Members, to thank him for his dedicated service to the Wiltshire.

Resolved: *Chairman to write to Paul Howlett, on behalf of Members, to thank him for his dedicated service.*

5. **Minutes of the Meeting held on 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2010**

Resolved: *To approve and sign the minutes of the meeting held on 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2010.*

6. **Outstanding Actions**

*2<sup>nd</sup> December 2010, Minute 6.2:* A report by the Chief Constable had been circulated with the outstanding actions. The Chief Constable stated that the resource issue contained within the report would be considered alongside day-to-day management issues. Mr Macpherson reported that the Force were currently training Officers in local resolution conferencing which would be used in low level but on-going neighbourhood issues. Mr Macpherson reported that he had attended the training session and would commend this to all Members.

Mrs Stafford stated that Members should consider reporting to Area Board and Cluster meetings on the Local Resolution process and providing examples of how incidents were now resolved.

Resolved:

- 1) *To note the content of the report.*
- 2) *To note Mrs Stafford's suggestion of Members providing updates to Area Board and Cluster meetings with regard to the introduction and progress of Local Resolution.*

7. **WPA and Force Risk Register** Mr Fishlock raised concern with regard to the transition to Police and Crime Commissioners and that there should be a smooth hand over to the new regime. It was felt that Risk 1.50 should be amended to reflect this.

With regard to the Force Risk Register, the Director of Resources stated that a short covering report would be submitted with the Risk Register to future Police Authority meetings providing some detail around the scoring criteria. The Chairman stated that a summary of the changes since the version previously received at full Authority would also be helpful.

The Director of Resources reported that the Force was now confident all critical areas were under control and proceeded to give a verbal update on those areas where the residual score had changed since 12<sup>th</sup> November 2010 when it was last reviewed. Members noted the improved collaboration with local authorities and that four Inspectors had been co-located to local authority premises. Members asked for a more detailed report on this to a future meeting.

Resolved: 1) *To amend the Authority's Risk Register as follows:*

*Risk 1.20 (Changes to the WPA Membership) – to be removed as Membership was not predicted to change prior to the introduction of Police and Crime Commissioners (PCC) in May 2012.*

*Risk 1.50 (Viability – can the Police Authority maintain an efficient and effective force in its current form?) – to amend to: 'Continued Diligence – can the Police Authority maintain an efficient and effective force pending the arrival of Police and Crime Commissioners'.*

*Risk 8.30 (No public recognition of Wiltshire Police Authority) – to add reference to Member attendance at Area Board and Cluster meetings as part of the Vision Wiltshire consultation, plus future planned attendance to provide detail of consultation feedback and report on Local Resolution.*

- 2) *That the Force would submit a covering report to full Authority meetings with the Force Risk Register providing detail of scoring criteria and changes made since the last Authority meeting.*
- 3) *To ask the Force to report back to the next meeting on the co-location of four Inspectors in local authority premises, how this would improve local collaboration, and what the future plans are.*

8. **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> December 2010 had been circulated. The Chief Constable stated that overall performance was rated 'good' on the criteria set by the Authority. For the period 1<sup>st</sup> October to 31<sup>st</sup> December 2010, national figures showed Wiltshire had been the best in the Country for violent crime detection.

There were eight measures whose gradings were considered poor and the Chief Constable provided further detail:

### Strategic Priority 1: Tackling Violent Crime

- *Serious Violent Crime OBTJ*: There was approximately 1% variation in performance on last year, but peers had improved by 2%. The Force needs to continue to work on the prompt gathering of evidence, particularly medical evidence.

### Strategic Priority 2: Protecting Vulnerable People from Harm and Reducing Road Casualties

- *Serious Sexual Offences*: The number reported to and recorded by the Force had increased by 58 offences (28% rise) over the same period last year, with peaks in June, July and November. Analysis had been done and it is found that when risk assessing domestic abuse allegations, victims are asked whether their attacker had previously raped or sexually attacked them. When a positive response is given, this is being recorded as a separate crime allegation.
- *Serious Sexual Offences Detection Rate*: There had been 371 serious sexual offences of which 106 (29%) had resulted in a specific detection. This was 2% better than Wiltshire's Most Similar Forces (MSF).
- *Number of Children Killed or Seriously Injured in RTCs*: The target for this was set by the Department for Transport and is no more than 17, the current figure is 22. The Force have been embarking on an education programme with schools.

### Strategic Priority 3: Tackling Local Issues of Crime and ASB

- *Overall Crime Percentage Detected*: Target was set at 30% and the Force was currently detecting 27% of all crimes. The Chief Constable reported that Local Resolutions were not counted within detection figures. The biggest matter affecting this figure would appear to be a drop in 'offences being taken into consideration'.

### Strategic Priority 3: Improving Public Confidence

- *Satisfaction with Police Visibility*: The last survey conducted to ascertain this figure was carried out in April 2010. The Authority was due to complete another in March / April 2011.
- *Confidence in CJS Effectiveness (BCS Survey)*: This was a specific challenge for the whole of the County and would be a challenge to ensure it doesn't deteriorate further due to the Crown Prosecution Service restructure.

### Strategic Priority 4: Tackling Organised Crime Groups and the Supply of Class A Drugs

- *Number of Distraction Burglaries*: Currently 9 crimes over target. A number of arrests had been made.
- *Number of Robberies*: Currently 32 crimes over target. Swindon had been most affected by this, particularly in April, May and June. Since July only one month had exceeded target.

The Chief Constable also reported on the following:

- *Drink Drive Campaign*: 5,526 tests were conducted in December 2010 of which 106 (2%) were positive or where the driver refused to provide a breath test.

- *Organised Crime*: The Economic Unit executed six warrants in Wiltshire, the South East, and the Midlands in November 2010. Seven arrests were made and 4 people charged with money laundering. During the searches that were carried out firearms, ammunition, and Class A drugs were also recovered.
- *Mark Andrews*: The Chief Constable stated that he heard the Appeal of Mark Andrews on 21<sup>st</sup> January 2011 and did not uphold the Appeal. Mark Andrews remains dismissed from the Force and has now Appealed to the Police Appeals Tribunal.
- *Senior Team*: Interviews were due to be held next week for the appointment of a Head of Corporate Development. Mrs Mortimer would be representing the Authority on the Interview Panel. Once this appointment had been made, the Senior Team would be complete. The Chief Constable stated he would circulate the revised Force Structure to Members at that time.
- *Police Link to Swindon Borough Council and Wiltshire Council*: If the Force should defer to a one Basic Command Unit model then the Chief Constable provided reassurance to Members that an Officer would be appointed to Swindon and one to Wiltshire Council to build and enhance links with the two local authorities.

The Chairman then invited Members to comment:

- Mr Humphries asked whether there was a particular group of people that had failed the breath tests. The Chief Constable stated he would ask for this piece of work to be done.
- Mr Macpherson reminded Members that no targets had been adjusted following the six month refresh review with the Force. The issue of serious sexual offences detection and historical reporting was one that needed to be addressed within the Annual Policing Plan for next year. West Mercia were the best performing Force with regard to the number of offences of repeat victimisation of domestic violence and it might be worth contacting them to see how they do this. The Authority may want to consider writing to the Government expressing a view on how Sanction Detections should be considered in light of the introduction of Local Resolutions.
- Mr Macpherson assured Members that the current plan was for the performance scorecard to continue into 2011-12.

- Resolved:
- 1) *To note the content of the report and the verbal update provided by the Chief Constable.*
  - 2) *That the Chief Constable would identify whether any particular group of drivers were providing positive breath tests within the December Drink Drive campaign.*
  - 3) *To commend the Force on being the best performing Force in relation to the detection of violent crime during October to December 2010.*

9. **Revenue and Capital Budget Monitoring Statement** A statement covering the period 1<sup>st</sup> April to 31<sup>st</sup> December 2010 for both Revenue and Capital had been circulated. The Head of Finance reported that the Force was not currently recruiting Police Officers and only critical Police Staff vacancies were being filled. Both monitoring statements continued to be reviewed monthly by the Budget Action Group.

Members queried the size of the current vehicle fleet and the type of vehicles used. The Head of Finance stated that these matters were currently being considered as part of the Vision Wiltshire programme. The Director of Resources stated that this was work already planned by the Vision Wiltshire Programme and a report would be submitted to the Value and Productivity Group within the next three months for Members' consideration.

Resolved:

- 1) *To note the latest position for the revenue and capital budget.*
- 2) *To note that a report on vehicle fleet would be submitted to the Value and Productivity Group within the next three months.*

10. **Agenda Item Not Available**

11. **Budget 2011-12** A report by the Chief Constable had been circulated. The Head of Finance reminded Members that this was a reducing budget. The budget saving for 2011-12 was £4.634m. The budget had been risk assessed and the Force were confident that the savings could be achieved. The budget requirement was based on a 0% council tax increase, following the recommendation of the Strategy, Direction and Progress Committee meeting on 25<sup>th</sup> January 2011.

Members expressed concern about the capacity to deliver training to staff required for the restructuring changes under the Vision Wiltshire Programme. It was reported that an underspend of up to £200k was anticipated in the training budget for this financial year. This underspend would be ring fenced and available as a one-off cost to assist with the training programme. The Director of Resources stated he would be reporting on this further and on ICT matters at the Value and Productivity Group meeting on 16<sup>th</sup> February 2011.

The proposed establishment for 2011-12 showed the removal of six PCSO posts. The Head of Finance stated that 10 School PCSOs had been included in the establishment figures for 2010-11 on the basis that 50% funding would be provided by the schools. Only four schools had proceeded with this commitment so the proposal was to remove the six remaining posts which had never been filled. Mr Caswill raised his concerns that if schools wished to proceed with this in the future then the opportunity for collaboration would not be available due to the removal of the posts.

Mr Caswill sought an amendment to the resolution to note that there would be no actual reduction in PCSOs in the establishment figures at the present time and to agree that effort should be made to continue to secure joint funding from partners for the additional posts. This was seconded and a vote taken. Nine were in favour and four against. The amendment was carried.

The substantive recommendation was then voted on and unanimously agreed.

Resolved:

- 1) *To note that there would be no actual reduction in PCSOs in the establishment figures at the present time and to agree that effort should be made to continue to secure joint funding from partners for the additional posts.*
- 2) *To note the savings plan and support the approval of a budget requirement of £106.852million.*

12. **Precept and Council Tax 2011-12** A report by the Treasurer had been circulated.

Mr Fishlock sought confirmation from the Force that the Government grant for 2012-13 and 2013-14 had been confirmed. The Force stated that it had.

- Resolved:
- 1) *To approve the Treasurer's assessment of the robustness of the budget and the adequacy of reserves as described in Paragraphs 10 to 16 of the report.*
  - 2) *To approve the recommendation from Strategy, Direction and Progress Committee to comply with the council tax freeze in 2011-12.*
  - 3) *To agree that for 2011-12, the net revenue budget would be £106.852million which, after Government funding, means a precept of £39.622million 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 2010-11.*

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

- Resolved:
- 1) *To adopt the Prudential and Treasury Indicators set out in Appendix A of the report.*
  - 2) *To adopt the Investment Strategy set out in Appendix B of the report.*
  - 3) *To agree that operating leases of up to £0.5million can be used to assist in financing the Police Authority's 2011-12 capital plans where necessary.*
  - 4) *To agree that short term cash deficits and surpluses continue to be managed through temporary loans and deposits as detailed at Paragraphs 14 to 16 of the report.*
  - 5) *To agree that, for longer term cash balances, the Treasurer continues to have delegated authority to negotiate the terms and conditions of any external arrangement.*
  - 6) *To agree the increase in lending limits as detailed at Paragraph 19 of the report.*

14. **Audit Commission Annual Audit Letter 2009-10** Mr Fishlock reported that the Annual Audit Letter had been circulated to all Members for information and that the District Auditor had issued an unqualified opinion on the Authority's 2009-10 accounts.

Resolved: *To note the Annual Audit Letter 2009-10.*

15. **WPA Member Allowances** A report by the Chief Executive had been circulated. Ms Hillyer stated that a significant amount of work had been undertaken by Mrs Mortimer, as Human Resources Lead Member, since 1<sup>st</sup> September 2010 when she commenced the role and that this should be recognised by the Lead Member Allowance for Mrs Mortimer being backdated to that date.

Resolved: 1) *To adopt the proposed changes to the Members Allowances as detailed at Paragraphs 9 to 11 in the report.*

- 2) *To ask the Chief Executive to backdate the allowance for the Human Resources Lead Member role to 1<sup>st</sup> September 2010.*
  - 3) *To authorise the Chief Executive to amend the WPA Guide to Members' Allowances and Expenses to reflect the agreed changes from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2011.*
16. **WPA Annual Report on Custody Visiting** A report by the Chief Executive had been circulated. The Chief Executive reported that during 2010 567 detainees were available to custody visitors and of these, 527 (93%) accepted a visit. It was noted that custody visitors in all three custody suites had commented on the helpfulness of custody staff. The Melksham area had been operating without a Co-ordinator for 2010 but this matter was now being addressed.
- Resolved: *To note the content of the report and the update provided by the Chief Executive.*
17. **Update on Recruitment of Independent Members**
- Resolved: *To note the update provided by the Chief Executive.*
18. **Brunel Project** A report by the Chief Executive had been circulated. The Chief Executive confirmed that Officers would also attend meetings of the Brunel Joint Committee and that he would be attending for Wiltshire.
- Resolved:
- 1) *To nominate Mr Fishlock and Mrs Stafford to represent Wiltshire Police Authority on the Brunel Joint Committee.*
  - 2) *To delegate authority to Mr Fishlock and Mrs Stafford to represent Wiltshire Police Authority on the Brunel Joint Committee to make decisions on behalf of Wiltshire Police Authority.*
19. **Strategy, Direction and Progress**
- Resolved: *To agree that Strategy, Direction and Progress would always meet as a Committee in those months when no Police Authority meeting was held.*
20. **Police and Crime Commissioners: Transition Arrangements**
- Resolved: *That the Transitional Arrangements to a Police and Crime Commissioner would be considered by the Joint Strategic Board.*
21. **Police Roll of Honour** A report by the Chief Constable had been circulated. The ACC confirmed that all funds raised would be used to erect a national memorial. Some Forces had agreed to support the plans and others had declined to contribute.
- Resolved: *To support plans by the Police Roll of Honour Trust to build a permanent national monument.*
22. **Street Watch Scheme** A report by the Chief Constable had been circulated. The ACC stated that this was an independent fully registered community organisation that had been running for 2-3 years. Street Watch works closely with neighbourhood teams and actively engages with communities.
- Resolved:
- 1) *To support Street Watch as a fully regulated model for civilian street patrols.*

- 2) *To consider Street Watch with the police as a pioneering partnership and community empowerment initiative.*
- 3) *To support a Street watch pilot scheme to be implemented by Wiltshire Police in Salisbury.*
- 4) *For the Authority to write to the Wiltshire Association of Local Councils informing them of the Street Watch pilot and enclosing a briefing note on what Street Watch is.*
- 5) *For the Chief Executive to identify a suitably convenient date for a presentation to be made to Members, by the Force, providing further detail about the Street Watch initiative.*

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

<u>Meeting</u>	<u>Date</u>
Audit	6 <sup>th</sup> December 2010
Strategy, Direction and Progress	25 <sup>th</sup> January 2011

- Resolved:
- 1) *To note the above minutes.*
  - 2) *To ask the Chief Executive to ensure consideration is given to the content of Authority and Committee confidential minutes to ensure as much as possible is included in a public set of minutes.*
  - 3) *To note the verbal update provided by Mr Johns on the Professional Standards Committee meeting held on 27<sup>th</sup> January 2011.*

24. **Group Reports**

Ms Hillyer reported that the Value and Productivity Group were encouraged by the progress made by the Vision Wiltshire Programme. There were still some concerns with regard to other supporting elements such as IT, Estates, and Training but the Force were aware of these concerns.

Mr Macpherson stated that the Vision Wiltshire consultation closes on 11<sup>th</sup> February 2011. Meetings had been arranged with all Wiltshire MPs one exception. The next meeting was due to be held on 1<sup>st</sup> March 2011 at which the draft Policing Plan would be considered and all Members were invited to attend.

Resolved: *To note the verbal updates provided.*

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

Equality Act Briefing Event – 25<sup>th</sup> January 2011

Ms Tawiah attended this useful event and was due to meet with the ACC shortly to discuss the outcomes from it.

Future Leaders Event – 26<sup>th</sup>-28<sup>th</sup> January 2011

Ms Hillyer stated that this was a very useful event and would be circulating relevant information to all Members.

Organisational Restructuring Seminar – 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2011

Mrs Mortimer reported that she would be attending this event.

Resolved: *To note the updates provided.*

**26. Dates of Police Authority Meetings in 2011 and 2012**

<b>2011</b>	<b>2012</b>
7 <sup>th</sup> April	9 <sup>th</sup> February
16 <sup>th</sup> June	5 <sup>th</sup> April
21 <sup>st</sup> July	
22 <sup>nd</sup> September	
20 <sup>th</sup> October	
8 <sup>th</sup> December	

**27. Urgent Items** The Chairman agreed to consider the following as an urgent item:

i. Wiltshire Independent Advisory Group

The Chief Executive provided a verbal update to Members on the Wiltshire IAG. Recommendations had been made at the Community Engagement Working Group meeting held on 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2011 that Police Authority were asked to agree.

- Resolved:
- 1) *That the Authority and Force ensure that there is a list of lay advisors able to assist the Force in Gold Group meetings as required.*
  - 2) *Advertisements to be placed as required to ensure sufficient number of individuals in conjunction with MAPPA and Custody Visitor process if appropriate.*
  - 3) *To arrange training for suitably vetted individuals as required.*
  - 4) *To allocate funds to meet payment of allowances of vetted individuals attending Gold Groups or advising WPA on specific issues in accordance with current rates.*
  - 5) *To note that the Wiltshire Criminal Justice Board have withdrawn funding for 2011-12 and for the Authority to decline, with regret, to fund the IAG other than through allowances for individually vetted Gold Group members attending meetings or advising WPA.*

**28. 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 29 and 30 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 7 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Act.*

**29. Confidential Minutes of the Meeting held on 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2010**

Resolved: *To approve and sign the confidential minutes of the meeting held on 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2010.*

30. **Urgent Items** The Chairman agreed to accept the following as confidential urgent items:

- i. Strategy, Direction and Progress: Confidential Minutes of Meeting held on 25<sup>th</sup> January 2011

Mr Britton wished to express his view that it would be unacceptable if a renewed speed enforcement policy was not introduced because Swindon Borough Council did not agree to support the initiative. The Chief Constable stated that this would not be a Wiltshire Police lead venture, but that the Force would be happy to support Wiltshire Council in implementing a revised policy.

Resolved: *To note the above minutes.*

(Duration of Meeting: 10.30am to 1.50pm)