

## WILTSHIRE POLICE AUTHORITY

MINUTES of a MEETING held at POLICE HEADQUARTERS, LONDON ROAD, DEVIZES on THURSDAY 3<sup>RD</sup> DECEMBER 2009

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, Mr P Sample, Mrs C Soden, Mrs G Stafford, Ms G Tawiah

IN ATTENDANCE: Chief Constable B Moore, DCC D Ainsworth, A/ACC M Veale, Mr M Milton, Mr K Kilgallen, Mr M Prince and Miss S Kyte

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

Local Authority Members

*Conservative*

Mr R Bluh

Mr R Britton

Mr R Fisher

Mr B Ford

Mr C Humphries

Mrs C Soden

*Labour*

Mr R 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** There were no apologies for absence.
3. **Public Questions** There were none.
4. **Declarations of Interest** There was none.
5. **Chairman's Announcements**

Appointment of New Independent Member

The Chairman welcomed Mrs Mortimer to her first full Authority meeting as a Member since her appointment began on 15<sup>th</sup> October 2009.

Appointment of Acting Assistant Chief Constable and other Police Appointments

The Chairman congratulated Acting Assistant Chief Constable Mike Veale on his appointment to the role and welcomed him to the meeting. Chief Superintendent Julian Kirby had been successful in the recent Police National Assessment Centre (PNAC) course and would now go forward to the Strategic Command Course.

As a result, Temporary Chief Superintendent Steven Hedley had been appointed as Divisional Commander for County Division, Chief Superintendent James Vaughan had moved to Head of Protective Services, and Paul Williams had been appointed as Temporary Chief Superintendent for Citizen Focus. On behalf of the Authority, the Chairman congratulated those Officers concerned and wished them well in their new roles.

### Deaths in Service

The Chairman reported the deaths in service of Pc Bill Brown who was attached to the Roads Policing Unit, and police staff member Geoff Large, who was a member of the IT Department.

### 170<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Service

The recently held service at Salisbury Cathedral to celebrate 170 years of the Wiltshire Police service had been a major success for which the Force were to be congratulated.

## 6. **Minutes of the Previous Meeting (10<sup>th</sup> September 2009)**

- Resolved:
- 1) *To note that Mrs Stafford was due to attend the Flu Pandemic Exercise on 16<sup>th</sup> September 2009.*
  - 2) *With the above amendment, the minutes were approved and it was agreed that the Chairman may sign the minutes of the meeting held on 10<sup>th</sup> September 2009.*

## 7. **WPA Risk Register** A report by the Chief Executive had been circulated.

- Resolved:
- 1) *To approve the proposals in terms of the management of risks as set out in Paragraph 2 of the report.*
  - 2) *To ask the Audit and Risk Committee to consider further the adoption of the scoring mechanism used by the Force for its risk register.*
  - 3) *To consider the risks owned by the full Authority at its meeting in February.*

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

Mr Ford reported that he had attended a Neighbourhood Policing Workshop (11<sup>th</sup> November 2009) run by the National Policing Improvement Agency (NPIA) and the Association of Police Authorities (APA). A report on this event had been circulated.

Mrs Stafford stated that she had attended Operation Coldplay (16<sup>th</sup> September 2009) which was a partner agency event (Fire, Primary Care Trust, and Local Authorities were also in attendance) which reviewed the way the Force and others would maintain business continuity should the number of swine flu cases continue to rise. Mrs Stafford had also attended a 'Countering the Crooks' conference (9<sup>th</sup> October 2009) which focussed on the vulnerable members of the community and how they became victims of crime. Partner agencies were also in attendance and looked at what could be done through partnership working to prevent these incidents from occurring.

Ms Tawiah had recently attended the NPIA / APA Equality Conference (1<sup>st</sup> October 2009) which was a useful event providing a number of areas for consideration in Ms Tawiah's lead member role for Inclusivity. The APA had hosted a useful event on Human Rights (10<sup>th</sup> November 2009) which looked at how guidance produced by the APA could be implemented.

Mr Macpherson reported that he and Mr Britton had recently attended a conference on Tackling Crime (20<sup>th</sup> October 2009) the content of which proved to be disappointing. Mr Macpherson had also recently met with Dr Andrew Murrison MP, Anne Snelgrove MP, and Michael Wills MP, to discuss force performance. The one overwhelming theme which had arisen from these meetings was that neighbourhood policing appeared to be working.

The Chairman attended the national APA Conference (26<sup>th</sup> November 2009) whose speakers included Chris Grayling MP (Shadow Home Secretary), David Hanson MP (Policing Minister), Chris Huhne MP (Liberal Democrat Home Affairs Spokesman), Denis O'Connor (Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabularies), and Sir Hugh Orde (ACPO President). The main focus of the speeches centred around Police Authorities, and the role and the make up of them.

- Resolved:
- 1) *To note the content of the report by Mr Ford.*
  - 2) *To note the updates provided by Mrs Stafford, Ms Tawiah, Mr Macpherson, and the Chairman.*

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

<u>Meeting</u>	<u>Date (2008)</u>
Audit and Risk	21 <sup>st</sup> September 12 <sup>th</sup> October
Resources	23 <sup>rd</sup> September 4 <sup>th</sup> November
Standards	29 <sup>th</sup> September
Consultation and Public Focus	12 <sup>th</sup> October
Performance	4 <sup>th</sup> November
Human Resources and Professional Standards (HRPS)	5 <sup>th</sup> November

As the Chairman of the HRPS Committee, Ms Hillyer reported that at the last meeting, HRPS Members had agreed that the business of how the Committee was managed should be discussed at the December Strategy, Direction and Progress meeting. In order so that the issue were not delayed further, Ms Hillyer and Mr Johns had met with the Chairman and the Chief Executive to discuss this matter. The outcome was a proposal to split the Committee and to have a Human Resources Committee and a new Professional Standards Committee. Proposed terms of reference for the Professional Standards Committee had been circulated to Members.

- Resolved:
- 1) *To note the above minutes.*
  - 2) *To note that the next neighbourhood policing assessment would be conducted in the New Year.*
  - 3) *That the proposed Terms of Reference for the Professional Standards Committee would be distributed to the Force for comment and discussed further at the Strategy, Direction and Progress meeting on 10<sup>th</sup> December 2009.*

10. **Chief Constable's Performance Report 2009-10** A report by the Chief Constable covering the period 1<sup>st</sup> April to 31<sup>st</sup> October 2009 had been circulated.

The Chief Constable reported that:

- Of the 20 performance targets included in the Policing Plan, 15 were meeting or exceeding target, 4 were not achieving target, and 1 target was failing.
- Of those areas meeting or exceeding target:
  - Serious acquisitive crime – performance against Most Similar Forces (MSF) was good;
  - Satisfaction (overall satisfaction, satisfaction with follow up, and BME : White satisfaction gap) – all forces are looking to improve in this area hence performance across this area was improving across the whole of the MSF. Wiltshire were currently 4-5% points behind first position;
  - Confidence target – during the first quarter the Force was positioned first in its MSF;
  - Sickness absence – a lot of work has been put into improving performance in this area. The Force was confident that the year end target would be achieved.
- Of those areas not achieving target:
  - Violent crime – currently below target but still highly positioned in MSF at a time when most areas are facing an increase in violent crime;
  - Contacting Neighbourhood Policing Team – currently below the target of 55%. Police Authority Members are engaged in this process via the PACT (Police and Communities Together) process.
- The one area where the Force were failing to meet target was collaboration and percentage of identified efficiencies released. The Chief Constable reported that he and the Chairman were significantly engaged in the collaboration debate with regional forces and authorities.

The Chief Constable also spoke about the following:

- Death of Adrian Cooksey  
Two men were charged with the murder of Mr Cooksey and acquitted. Acting Assistant Chief Constable Veale had asked for Wiltshire's investigation into this to be reviewed by an outside Force to ensure that everything that could have been done had been done. This would be managed by Avon and Somerset Constabulary.
- Kate Walsh Inquest  
Vulnerable young adult found deceased in 2004 whose death was believed to have been from a heroin overdose. The inquest referred to weaknesses within the public sector to share information and that there was little communication between those local agencies which had contact with Ms Walsh.
- Murder of Antonietta Guarino  
One man has been found guilty of murder and obstructing the coroner and sentenced to 21 years, and another man found guilty of obstructing the coroner and sentenced to 6 years in a young offenders' institute.
- Michael Spencer Inquest  
The inquest commenced on 1<sup>st</sup> December 2009. Those members of staff involved in the incident had already been disciplined.

- Deaths in Service

The Chief Constable reported that the families of Pc Brown and Mr Large had both received reassurance from the support provided to them by the Force and the Authority.

- 170<sup>th</sup> Celebrations

The final part of the 170<sup>th</sup> celebrations would be the unveiling of a number of stained glass windows in the Bay Window. Funds had been raised by the Force and retired officers. The stained glass windows were being installed in memory of those Wiltshire officers who had died whilst on duty. There would be a small ceremony to commemorate this.

Members were then invited by the Chairman to comment or ask questions of the Chief Constable on his report.

- Mr Bluh asked that the data provided for the Force as a whole in the attachment to the report, could be reproduced based on the two divisions. He also stated that representations had recently been made to him about areas of Swindon that were felt to be 'unsafe' due to drunkenness and loutish behaviour and asked whether enough was being done through the licensing laws. The Deputy Chief Constable reported that the breakdown of information for the two Divisions is provided to an internal Force meeting on a regular basis and that he would discuss this further with Mr Bluh outside of the meeting. The Chief Constable stated that the Force was becoming aware of the evening economy spreading throughout the day. The Force would be re-establishing a Violence Management Board to consider these types of issue and to also be mindful of, and prepare for, the football World Cup to be held in June and July 2010.

Mr Macpherson responded to the Chief Constable's Performance report as follows:

- That some of the targets have been reviewed and raised, for example Satisfaction with Follow-Up was raised by 3% points to 71%;
- The Force and Authority will shortly be writing the Policing Plan 2010 and will need to ensure that it properly reflects those areas that are most important to the public.

Resolved: 1) *To note the content of the Chief Constable's report.*

2) *For the Deputy Chief Constable to discuss the breakdown of information per Division with Mr Bluh outside of the meeting.*

3) *To note the comments by Mr Macpherson.*

11. **Interim Treasury Management Report** A report by the Treasurer covering the period 1<sup>st</sup> April to 30<sup>th</sup> September 2009 had been circulated.

Resolved: 1) *To note the half year return from Investec is 0.96%.*

2) *To note the expected total return for 2009-10 of £0.300m.*

12. **Wiltshire Police Authority Inspection** The Chairman stated that the draft report is due to be sent to the Authority on 22<sup>nd</sup> December 2009 with the final report being published on 4<sup>th</sup> February 2010.

Resolved: *To note the update provided by the Chairman.*

13. **Comprehensive Area Assessments** The Chairman reported that embargoed copies of the Comprehensive Area Assessments (CAAs) for Wiltshire and Swindon had been received and that these would be discussed further at the forthcoming Audit and Risk meeting on 7<sup>th</sup> December 2009.

Resolved: *To note the update provided by the Chairman.*

14. **Vision Wiltshire** The Chief Constable reminded Members that this was a strategy for securing at least £5.6m in savings over the next three financial years. Senior management and Staff Associations were engaged with this with Swindon Borough Council providing assistance and advice to the Force over the shaping of the strategy. Chief Officer Roadshows would commence in January 2010 which would provide an opportunity to inform and communicate this strategy to all staff.

A Regional Chiefs and Chairs meeting would be taking place later in the month, the outcome of which would provide a more informed picture with regard to those within the region who would sign up to a Joint Committee.

Resolved: *To note the update provided.*

15. **Local Resolution of Crime** A report by the Chief Executive, incorporating the findings of the Authority's review panel, had been circulated.

Resolved: *For the matter to be discussed further with the Force, once they had had an opportunity to consider the findings, and to discuss how the matter is progressed along with the involvement of partner agencies.*

16. **Police Authority Joint Committee** As discussed at Agenda Item 14.

17. **Dates of Police Authority Meetings in 2009 and 2010**

2010	2011
11 <sup>th</sup> February	10 <sup>th</sup> February
10 <sup>th</sup> June	16 <sup>th</sup> June
16 <sup>th</sup> September	22 <sup>nd</sup> September
2 <sup>nd</sup> December	8 <sup>th</sup> December

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

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 Item 20 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 Paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Act.*

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

<u>Meeting</u>	<u>Date (2009)</u>
Resources	23 <sup>rd</sup> September

Resolved: *To note the above minutes.*

(Duration of Meeting: 10.30am to 12.55pm)