

MEMBER ACTIVITY SUMMARY 2008-2009

Dr. Shofiqul Islam Chowdhury

Member, Leicestershire Police Authority

Membership of Committees and Panels:

Human Resources Committee
Professional Standard Committee
Diversity Panel
Liaison Panel
Publications Panel

Attendance at Committee & Panel Meetings:

About 90%. Reasons for absence: Travel to Bangladesh for family reasons, most others-due to temporary sickness, once due to office commitment.

As a member of Professional Standard Committee I participated in two dip samplings at Tigers Road and one training event at PHQ. As a member of the Human Resources Committee I sat on an Employee Appeal Panel. In addition, I have attended meetings with Chief Superintendent Chris Garnham on neighbourhood policing and I have taken part in public consultation event organised by Welford Road LPU

Commitment given to duties as a Police Authority Member:

I have always given my full commitment to my duties as a Member of the Police Authority in terms of my attendance, perusing the Police Authority communications, Committee Papers/Reports etc received in particular for those committees/panel which I am a member of and contributing to the work of the Authority.

Police Authority Meetings /Police Authority Budget:

My attendance to Police Authority Meetings was 100%. I took part in two budget setting meetings. In the first of these, I was one of three members who voted against the proposed budget as I anticipated the possibility of being "capped". I felt that in that budget proposal the risk level rather than managing the risk over a longer period was presented as a critical factor for precept to be set.

Contributions to Committee & Panel Meetings

I have always read the committee and panel papers allowing sufficient time to peruse the issues therein prior to the meetings to the best of my ability. Given the complexities of issues around the whole spectrum of duties as a member of the police authority. I tried to contribute to the debate in the committee and panel meetings and give my opinions on issues and decisions. I brought in two perspectives to my role as a police authority member – firstly as a member of the ethnic minority with a good knowledge of the ethnic minority population their aspirations and barriers within the context of living as British Citizens and secondly long experience of working in the voluntary sector. My membership of the Diversity Panel and Professional Standard Committee in particular allowed me to speak from own experiences as a member of ethnic minority having lived in UK most of my adult life.

Concluding Remarks

I have had the privilege of meeting the Vice-Chair of the Authority for a personal review meeting where I was given the opportunity to submit a self assessment of my skills. There were no areas where I felt that I was weak to function as a member of the Police Authority, though there are some strategic areas I could endeavour to improve on. I felt that I have interacted well with fellow members and officers and staff members of the Authority and worked as part of a team.

Finally, I would say that I found my role as a member of the Authority, interesting and challenging opening up opportunities for me to continuously learn and being better prepared for the future work.